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JESS URRESTI

CANYON COUNTY RECORDER

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ORDINANCE

CANYON COUNTY

Canyon County
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ORDINANCE NO. 26-019

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CANYON COUNTY REQUESTED BY A MAJORITY OF THE HIGHWAY AGENCIES IN CANYON COUNTY CALLING FOR AN ELECTION TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION AND COLLECTION OF A LOCAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE IN CANYON COUNTY; ESTABLISHING THE RATES, DURATION, AND EXEMPTIONS THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR STATUTORY DEFAULT FUND DISTRIBUTION PURSUANT TO IDAHO CODE § 40-827(6); AND APPROVING THE PROPOSED GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT.

WHEREAS, the local highway jurisdictions within Canyon County—including the incorporated cities of Nampa, Caldwell, Middleton, Star, Greenleaf, Wilder, Notus, Parma, and Melba, and the highway districts of Nampa Highway District, Highway District 4, Notus Parma, Golden Gate (“Highway Agencies”)—face an estimated \$49 million collective annual transportation funding shortfall; and

WHEREAS, local option revenue tools are strictly limited under Idaho law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Idaho Code § 40-827, a voter-approved local vehicle registration fee is an available mechanism to generate local revenue for local roadway construction, repair, maintenance, and traffic supervision; and

WHEREAS, a local vehicle registration fee is paid by county residents registering motor vehicles within Canyon County, and all funds generated must remain within Canyon County to be used exclusively on local transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, elected officials and staff across Canyon County’s Highway Agencies have engaged in ongoing discussions for multiple years regarding regional transportation priorities and the necessity of dedicated local funding; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the governing boards of the Highway Agencies in Canyon County express support for a local vehicle registration fee, and continue to cultivate broader support from the remaining Highway Agencies, including an interlocal fund distribution agreement under Idaho Code § 40-827(6) if a local vehicle registration fee ballot initiative is approved by voters; and

WHEREAS, said majority of Highway Agencies have presented and advocated before the Canyon County Board of County Commissioners (“BOCC”) to call for an election of a local vehicle registration fee to be put on the November 3, 2026, general ballot; and

WHEREAS, local highway jurisdictions continue to build consensus toward a future written fund distribution agreement of 50% to cities and 50% to highway districts, but recognize

that pending such an agreement, the statutory default distribution formula under Idaho Code § 40827(6) provides a complete, clear, and legal framework for the allocation of fee proceeds; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 40-827(2) authorizes the BOCC to call for an election to approve or disapprove a vehicle registration fee increase upon its own volition via the adoption of an ordinance by majority vote; and

WHEREAS, the BOCC finds that placing the question before the voters at a general election is in the best interest of the safety, mobility, and public welfare of the citizens of Canyon County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED by a majority vote of the Board of County Commissioners of Canyon County, Idaho:

SECTION 1. VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE ELECTION

1. **Election Call:** The BOCC hereby calls for an election to approve or disapprove the implementation and collection of a local vehicle registration fee in Canyon County at the general election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.
2. **Voter Contingency:** Enactment and collection of the Fee shall be contingent upon approval by a simple majority (50% + 1) of the qualified electors voting on the question.
3. **Fee Rate:** The rate of the fee shall not exceed two (2) times the amount established in Idaho Code § 49-402, shall be in addition to statewide vehicle registration fees, and shall be established as follows:

Passenger motor vehicles, electric vehicles, and pickup trucks
(maximum gross weight not exceeding 8,000 lbs.) registered under
I.C. § 49-402(1): **\$20.00 annually.**

Motorcycles: **\$19.00 annually.**

Each motor vehicle, equipped to carry passengers and operate
primarily for hire and each school bus, identified in I.C. § 49-
402(2):..... **\$20.00 annually.**

4. **Duration:** The Fee shall be effective for a term of twenty (20) years, commencing January 1, 2027, and expiring December 31, 2046. The rate shall not be increased nor the duration extended without prior voter approval.
5. **Applicability & Statutory Exemptions:** The Fee shall apply to all non-exempt motor vehicles registered under Idaho Code § 49-402(1). Per Idaho Code § 49-426, the Fee

shall **not** apply to non-motorized utility or cargo trailers, boat trailers, vessels/boats, off-highway utility-type vehicles (UTVs/ATVs), implements of husbandry, or other vehicles exempt from statewide motor vehicle registration fees.

6. **Statutory Revenue Distribution:** Proceeds from the Fee shall be distributed pursuant to Idaho Code § 40-827(6). Deductions for actual costs of collection and administration incurred by ITD (not to exceed 1.5% per I.C. § 40-827(3)) and thereafter an additional 1% of the net funds for the County shall be expensed prior to net distribution to the Highway Agencies. The remaining net revenues shall be apportioned as follows:

a. **Thirty Percent (30%)** shall be apportioned among the incorporated cities within Canyon County, divided in the direct proportion that the population of each city bears to the total population of all incorporated cities in the county, according to the latest regular or special federal census.

b. **Seventy Percent (70%)** shall be apportioned among the highway districts as follows:

i. *Twenty Percent (20%)* divided equally among the entities; and

ii. *Eighty Percent (80%)* divided among the entities in proportion to the number of improved highway miles maintained within each system relative to total improved highway miles in the county.

c. *Provided, however,* that if all local highway jurisdictions within Canyon County approve a unanimous written interlocal fund distribution agreement pursuant to Idaho Code § 40-827(6) prior to or following the election, such executed agreement shall control the distribution of funds in place of the default statutory formula.

7. **Authorized Uses:** In accordance with Idaho Code § 40-827(4), funds derived from the Fee shall be used exclusively by the receiving highway jurisdictions for capital projects, construction, repair, and maintenance, of local highways, roads, and bridges (including traffic congestion relief, safety improvements, and safe routes to schools) and for the payment of interest and principal on obligations incurred for such purposes.

8. **Administration:** Canyon County shall contract with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for the administration, collection, and monthly remittance of the Fee pursuant to Idaho Code § 40-827(3). The Fee shall not become part of the state highway account or state highway distribution account.

SECTION 2. GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT & NOTICE

- 1. Approval of Ballot:** The **Exhibit-A** General Election Ballot Form set forth herein is hereby approved and certified to the County Clerk for inclusion on the November 3, 2026, General Election Ballot.
- 2. Administration:** The County Clerk shall administer the election pursuant to Title 34 and Title 40, Idaho Code.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

1. That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and publication as provided by law; provided, however, that the implementation and collection of the Fee authorized herein is contingent upon voter approval November 3, 2026.

ADOPTED this 25th day of August, 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CANYON COUNTY

1 Motion Carried Unanimously
 Motion Carried/Split Vote Below
 Motion Defeated/Split Vote Below

Commissioner Leslie Van Beek

Commissioner Brad Holton

Commissioner Zach Brooks

Yes

No

Did Not Vote

ATTEST: JESS URRESTI, CLERK

By: D. Hogg Deputy Clerk



EXHIBIT-A

Section 1. That a fee adoption election be held, and the same is hereby called to be held, in Canyon County on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of Canyon County the question set out in the Form of Ballot appearing in Section 3 below.

Section 2. That pursuant to Title 34, Idaho Code, the County Clerk of Canyon County, Idaho shall administer the ballot measure, including, but not limited to, designating the polling places, scheduling the polling times; preparing and printing the ballots; publishing the notice of the ballot measure and sample ballot; and conducting the election.

Section 3. That the ballot will be in substantially the following form:

*****FORM OF BALLOT*** OFFICIAL BALLOT**

“Shall the Board of County Commissioners of Canyon County, as requested by the majority of highway agencies in Canyon County, be authorized to implement a local vehicle registration fee of \$20.00 per motor and electric vehicle (\$19.00 for motorcycles) for a period of twenty (20) years, commencing January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2046, to be used exclusively for capital projects, construction, financing, repair, and maintenance, of local highways, roads, and bridges (including traffic congestion relief, safety improvements, and safe routes to schools)?”

This measure authorizes a local vehicle registration fee of \$20.00 per eligible motor vehicle (\$19.00 for motorcycles) in addition to current state registration fees. The fee is estimated to generate approximately \$4.4 million annually to address an estimated \$49 million collective annual transportation funding shortfall among local highway jurisdictions in Canyon County. A list of projects that cities and highway districts have committed to construct in the first three years can be found on the City of Nampa website.

All revenue collected will remain in Canyon County. In accordance with Idaho Code § 40-827(6), proceeds will be distributed among local cities and highway districts under the statutory default formula (30% divided among incorporated cities based on population; 70% divided among highway districts/county road system based on road mileage and equal splits), unless modified by a future written fund distribution agreement for 50% cities and 50% highway districts executed unanimously by the cities and highway districts.

The fee applies annually to passenger automobiles, pickup trucks (under 8,000 lbs. gross weight), electric vehicles, and commercial passenger vehicles registered under Idaho Code § 49-402(1). The fee does not apply to trailers, boat trailers, boats/vessels, off-highway UTVs/ATVs, or vehicles exempt from statewide registration under Idaho Code § 49-426.

 IN FAVOR of the \$20 local non-exempt vehicle fee (\$19 for motorcycles) for 20 years.

___ **AGAINST** the \$20 local non-exempt vehicle fee (\$19 for motorcycles) for 20 years.

*****END OF FORM OF BALLOT*****

Section 4. The Notice of Fee Adoption Election shall be substantially in the following form:

*****FORM OF NOTICE OF FEE ADOPTION ELECTION*****

NOTICE OF FEE ADOPTION ELECTION PER IDAHO CODE §§ 34-1406, 34-914, AND 40-827

“Shall the Board of County Commissioners of Canyon County, as requested by the majority of highway agencies in Canyon County, be authorized to implement a local vehicle registration fee of \$20.00 per motor and electric vehicle (\$19.00 for motorcycles) for a period of twenty (20) years, commencing January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2046, to be used exclusively for capital projects, construction, financing, repair, and maintenance, of local highways, roads, and bridges (including traffic congestion relief, safety improvements, and safe routes to schools)?”

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The fee applies annually to passenger automobiles, pickup trucks (under 8,000 lbs. gross weight), electric vehicles, and commercial passenger vehicles registered under Idaho Code § 49402(1). The fee does not apply to trailers, boat trailers, boats/vessels, off-highway UTVs/ATVs, or vehicles exempt from statewide registration under Idaho Code § 49-426.

Said election shall be conducted pursuant to Title 34, Idaho Code.

*****END OF FORM OF NOTICE OF FEE ADOPTION ELECTION*****

Section 5. That the County Clerk use the Form of Ballot and Form of Notice of

Fee Adoption Election, as set forth in Sections 3 and 4 herein, for election preparation and publication pursuant to Idaho Code.

Section 6. That the County Commissioners of Canyon County, Idaho, will act as the canvassing board pursuant to Idaho Code and convey the election results to each of the cities and highway districts in the County.

Section 7. That if the ballot question is approved by a simple majority (50% + 1 vote) of the qualified electors voting on the question, the fee increase shall be approved pursuant to Idaho Code § 40-827.