

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HAILEY BEGINS STREET IMPROVEMENT MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

(Hailey, Idaho) – The Hailey Planning Department and Public Works Department has begun work on a sidewalk master plan which has conceptually evolved into a comprehensive street improvement plan. On December 15, a public workshop with the Planning and Zoning Commission and a citizen’s advisory group will be held to brainstorm and gather input for the plan. The citizen’s advisory group will include residents of Hailey who have expressed interest in pedestrian and bicycle safety or other issues related to current development requirements or past project implementation. Anyone interested in participating should contact the Hailey Planning Director or City Engineer.

The purpose of the plan is to comprehensively design Hailey streets to properly address multi-modal needs, enabling safe access for all users; pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders. At the workshop staff will introduce the basic elements of the plan including the principles of a Complete Streets policy. Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. A good Complete Streets policy aims to create a comprehensive, integrated, connected network and includes the following elements:

- Recognizes the need for flexibility: that all streets are different and user needs will be balanced.
- Is adoptable by all agencies to cover all roads.
- Applies to both new and retrofit projects, including design, planning, maintenance, and operations, for the entire right of way.
- Makes any exceptions specific and sets a clear procedure that requires high-level approval of exceptions.
- Directs the use of the latest and best design standards.
- Directs that complete streets solutions fit in with context of the community.

The plan will tie directly to ordinance amendments to clarify street improvement requirements and provide more flexibility to address areas of Hailey with unique characteristics.

In 2005 the city completed its Comprehensive Plan which included a Transportation Chapter. Following adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, the city identified the need to build on and expand the Transportation Chapter to include a more thorough assessment and consideration for pedestrian and bicycle system needs and amenities in and throughout Hailey.

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