

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ITD Awards Two Grants to City of Hailey

(Hailey, Idaho) – The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) has awarded two grants to the City of Hailey for transportation infrastructure improvements. A \$57,500 ADA Curb Ramp Program grant will be used to improve nine ADA ramps along Main St. and a \$499,897 Transportation Alternatives Program grant will be used to construct bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure on Myrtle St.

The Idaho Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Curb Ramp Program is a state-administered program that provides funding for projects to address curb ramps on the state highway system. The goal of the program is to provide accessible facilities for pedestrians with disabilities while allowing local jurisdictions flexibility in meeting the required standards. The \$57,500 grant will be used to bring the following nine Main St. curb ramps up to ADA standards: the southwest and southeast corners of Elm St.; the northwest and northeast corners of Croy St., 3rd Ave., and 4th Ave.; and the southwest corner of Empty Saddle Trail. The ADA curb ramp grant does not require City matching funds, although the City will have some costs in bidding, construction inspections and contract administration.

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a federally funded program administered by ITD. The purpose of TAP is to provide for a variety of alternative transportation projects and to advance ITD's strategic goals of mobility, safety and economic opportunity. The \$499,897 TAP grant will be used to design and construct the Myrtle St. Connector as part of the City's Pathways for People initiative. The Myrtle St. Connector is a separated, shared-use path that will connect the Wood River Trail bike path to Main St. The project also includes improving the Main St. crossing at Myrtle St. When finished, the project will bring improved connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians accessing Hailey's north end commercial district, adjacent neighborhoods, and the Wood River Middle School. At 2nd Ave., the Myrtle St. Connector intersects with the 2nd Ave. dashed bicycle lanes, a Pathways for People project to be completed this summer. The 2nd Ave. bicycle lanes connect the Wood River Middle School and Hailey Elementary.

The Myrtle St. Connector is scheduled for design in 2018 and construction in 2019. The City will provide matching funding for this project from the Pathways for People levy funds. The preliminary estimated total project cost for the Myrtle St. Connector is approximately \$650,000. Depending on the final project design, and actual construction bidding results, this amount is likely to fluctuate from the early estimated cost.



The two grant awards come at an important time, because they help the City to retain capital funds for other projects. Over the next five years, numerous transportation infrastructure projects are either planned or under consideration, depending on funding availability. Some of these projects are part of Pathways for People, including the Croy St., 2nd Ave. and Myrtle St. bike routes (all funded). Additional, separately funded projects include the River St. reconstruction from Walnut to Galena, including bicycle and pedestrian improvements; and the Main St. resurfacing and/or reconstruction from Fox Acres to McKercher, including additional ADA upgrades along Main Street sidewalks.

Other projects being discussed include an improved crossing at Croy St. to connect the Croy St. bicycle route to the River St. bicycle facilities, and to replace the in-ground crossing lights currently at Croy St.; and modifications to the Cedar and Main St. intersection. These projects vary in terms of their current funding status; some projects may not be completed within five years unless additional funds are obtained.

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