

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
RESOLUTION 5365**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, IDAHO, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO BE A JOINT SIGNATORY ON A LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT, REGARDING COMMENTS ON THE HIGHWAY 75 FINAL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT STATEMENT (FEIS) BELLEVUE TO TIMBER WAY, WITH THE CITY OF HAILEY, IDAHO, AND MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, IDAHO

WHEREAS, the City of Bellevue, Idaho, (City) is a duly organized municipal corporation of the State of Idaho; and,

WHEREAS, the City anticipates that the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) will commence a construction project in the Year 2025 on Highway 75, improving intersections, widening lanes, and addressing safety concerns for pedestrians and bicyclists; and,

WHEREAS, the City desires to be proactive, informed, and provide governmental and community input in order to achieve a desired outcome for the community and surrounding areas; and,

WHEREAS, the Council desires to authorize the Mayor to be a Joint Signatory, with the City of Hailey, Idaho and Mountain Rides Transportation Authority, on a letter addressed to ITD regarding comments on the Highway 75 Final Environmental Impact Statement on behalf of the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Bellevue, Idaho, as follows:

The Mayor is authorized to be a joint signatory on a letter addressed to ITD regarding comments on the Highway 75 Final Environmental Impact Statement on behalf of the City of Bellevue, Idaho.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council and signed by the Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Idaho, this 12th day of February 2024.

Chris Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle K. Vest Snarr, City Clerk

ROLL CALL

Council Member Carreiro
Council Member Giordani
Council Member Leahy
Council Member Mahone
Council Member Obenauf
Council Member Shay

AYE
X
X
X
X
X
X

NAY



February 12, 2024



Idaho Transportation Department

Via email: info@sh75.com

Re: Comments on the Highway 75 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) Bellevue to Timber Way

Dear Idaho Transportation Department:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment for the second time on the Bellevue to Timber Way FEIS. This letter is formalizing comments sent to the ITD on Tuesday January 2nd via email to Nathan Jerke, Jesse Barrus, Andrew Young, Scott Malone and Mark Campbell. We have also attached our comments from December 2022, where we raised many of the same issues, as well as the site plan we sent to you on January 2, 2024.

We understand that the majority of the Bellevue to Timber Way FEIS falls outside of Hailey municipal boundaries. We certainly would welcome discussion of intersection improvements within downtown Hailey, if possible. Absent that opportunity, we have focused our comments on transit improvements along the Highway 75 corridor between Bellevue and Hailey and in Hailey. Addressing future transit needs as traffic and development grow along Highway 75 is of top priority. Please note that transit planning is a very important consideration for Hailey, Mountain Rides, Bellevue and other valley cities up and down the Highway 75 corridor. We do not wish to miss the opportunity to plan for long-term transit opportunities in the highway corridor.

1. Planning for growth and transit between Hailey and Bellevue

The cities of Hailey and Bellevue anticipate significant growth and development over the next decade between the two towns on the east side of Highway 75 (referred to as Flying Hat Ranch East). While no formal plans have been submitted to either jurisdiction, we understand that the project will include a sports complex, up to 1600 units of residential development and light industrial uses adjacent to both Hailey and Bellevue. (Please note that this development was mentioned in Hailey's FEIS comments of December 2022, attached to this letter). The Flying Hat Ranch East development will encompass the entire area between Bellevue and Hailey and will likely result in at least one new signalized approach to Highway 75. Secondary road(s) within the development are planned to connect the development into Hailey and Bellevue for an off-highway street grid.

Karl Malone Motor Sports is planned on the north end of Bellevue on the west side of the highway within Bellevue City limits. Immediately north of Karl Malone, and presumably sharing a highway approach, is proposed additional commercial development in Bellevue.

The cities, Mountain Rides Transit Authority and the Flying Hat Ranch East development team envision a well-designed traffic signal at the entrance to Flying Hat Ranch East and Highway 75, such as shown on the attached concept plan. This intersection will serve as the primary entrance to the new development, Flying Hat Ranch East. We request planning and construction of an "on highway" transit stop at the new signalized intersection, which would

also serve Bellevue developments on the west side of Highway 75 (Karl Mallone Motor Sports and one additional commercial development). This new transit stop is planned to be in conjunction with an “off highway” park and ride area, likely to be located on the east side of SH 75 and a pedestrian underpass, as shown on the attached site plan. These improvements should be considered as a top-priority, “near term” improvements.

2. Transit: Highway 75 and Countryside Boulevard. Hailey and Mountain Rides request long term planning for a transit stop at the Highway 75 intersection and Countryside Boulevard, followed shortly thereafter by a transit stop at the intersection of Highway 75 and Woodside Boulevard. We request that the ITD illustratively lay out these future transit stops on planning documents to ensure that the pending highway design can physically accommodate these future needs.
3. Transit: Highway 75 and McKercher Boulevard. Hailey and Mountain Rides request long term planning and illustrative layout on planning documents for a transit stop north of Hailey near the McKercher Boulevard signal, with goals of a proximate park and ride lot that would serve north Hailey.
4. Transit: Highway 75 and the need for priority transit lanes. Long term planning and layout demonstrating the ability to accommodate north and south bound bus-priority lanes is very important as congestion increases along the Highway 75 corridor.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Highway 75 FEIS. We look forward to a continued collaborative partnership on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mayor Martha Burke, City of Hailey

Wally Morgus, Mountain Rides Transit Authority

Mayor Chris Johnson, City of Bellevue

