

# Northwest Foothills Transportation Study

ACHD Open House | November 13, 2008



## Project Description

In response to the influx of proposals for planned communities and future development in the Northwest Foothills, the Ada County Highway District (ACHD) has initiated a study to analyze future impacts to the regional transportation system.

The study will:

- Establish a future roadway network for the Northwest Foothills study area
- Identify projects for needed improvements on the ACHD road system
- Determine the size of roadways and intersections needed based on anticipated development
- Establish policies for improving the transportation system when development occurs

## Study Process

The Northwest Foothills area is being studied by:

- Utilizing approved and working land use plans (City of Eagle and Ada County)
- Establishing environmental conditions
- Gathering public input
- Evaluating existing and projected traffic



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: What has happened since the last open house?

**A:** Since the last open house, public input was compiled and presented during a meeting between ACHD, Ada County and City of Eagle elected officials on October 15, 2008. The elected officials ultimately determined that Alternative 4 should proceed as the preferred alternative for further analysis. The group also decided that an alternative connection of Willow Creek Road should include intended design measures for reducing traffic volumes and speed.

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**Q: Where is ACHD at with the study?**

**A:** The study is nearing completion, however, traffic analysis and evaluation of the regional impacts of the preferred roadway network are still in progress. The goal of tonight’s open house is to answer any questions you might have about the study and to get your input on suggested roadway and intersection improvements.

**Q: What is the difference between arterial roads and collector roads?**

**A: Arterials** are roadways that carry more traffic than collectors. They connect major transportation corridors and generally have higher traffic speeds than collectors. Arterials generally account for 6-12% of the roads. **Collector** roads provide connectivity between arterial roads and have lower traffic speeds than arterials. Collectors make up 20-25% of roads.

**Q: What’s next?**

**A:** Further analysis will be done on Alternative 4. A second meeting between ACHD, Ada County and City of Eagle elected officials is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the study. A public hearing will occur on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. ACHD Commissioners will decide whether to adopt the study’s recommendations at this hearing. There will be an opportunity for public comment. Details on these meetings can be found under “Important Dates,” below.

..... Important Dates ..... Contact .....

**ACHD Meeting #2  
Tuesday, December 2, 2008 • Noon**

ACHD Auditorium  
3775 Adams St., Garden City

Elected officials will discuss the study. Meeting is open to the public, but there will not be an opportunity to provide public comment.

**ACHD Public Hearing  
\* Monday, December 22, 2008 • 6 p.m.**

ACHD Auditorium  
3775 Adams St., Garden City

Commissioners will decide whether to adopt the study recommendations. Draft study recommendations will be posted to the ACHD web site prior to the public hearing. [www.achd.ada.id.us](http://www.achd.ada.id.us)

\* If you cannot attend the hearing and would like to submit **comments**, they must be received by **December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008** to ensure review and consideration by the ACHD Commission prior to the hearing.

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**Web:** [www.achd.ada.id.us/projects](http://www.achd.ada.id.us/projects)

**COMPASS:** [www.compassidaho.org](http://www.compassidaho.org)

**Idaho Transportation Department (ITD):**  
[www.itd.idaho.gov](http://www.itd.idaho.gov)

..... Comments .....

**Send to:**  
ACHD  
3775 Adams St., Garden City, ID 83714  
-or-  
[projects@achd.ada.id.us](mailto:projects@achd.ada.id.us)

Please submit comments following this open house by Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**All other written comments must be received by December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008.**