

CITY OF BOISE



2015 LIVABILITY REPORT





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LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



*You've heard me say it many times:
As Mayor, my goal is to make Boise
the most livable city in the country.*

Achieving that means protecting and enhancing our environment, our economy, and our community – what businesses sometimes call “triple-bottom-line sustainability.” I like to think of it as “triple-bottom-line *livability*,” because livability is our objective, and sustainability is at the very core of building a livable city.

Striving for livability is nothing new for the City. In 2005 and again in 2014, for example, I signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, resolving to reduce Boise's carbon footprint by, among many

other steps, developing an energy efficiency plan, adopting sustainable land-use policies, and promoting transportation alternatives. The City of Boise continues to move forward in all of the action areas defined in the agreement, and we'll benefit for years to come.

In recent years, though, we've expanded the concepts of sustainability and livability to encompass all of the things that make Boise great. One result is LIV Boise, our citywide effort to support livability throughout our community by promoting sustainable policies, practices, and partnerships. LIV Boise focuses on the three pillars of a Lasting, Innovative, Vibrant (LIV) city:

LASTING ENVIRONMENTS

Recognize, protect, and improve the health and sustainability of all our activities, our connections to one another, and our natural resources.

INNOVATIVE ENTERPRISES

Work with individuals, nonprofits, and businesses to encourage creativity and collaboration that will promote economic prosperity and improve lives.

VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Engage citizens and organizations to spark new connections, inspire cooperation, and strengthen Boise's rich, community-minded spirit.

This past year we made an even greater commitment to this mission by embracing it throughout our organization. Our employees contribute to this great city every day and their efforts lead to how we make Boise the most livable city in the country.

We hope the activities the City is pursuing will inspire you to make changes, small or large, in your home or business and throughout your daily life.

Sincerely,

*This livability report is supplemented by
a livability video available at livboise.org*

INTRODUCTION



The City of Boise has launched many strategic initiatives to advance the goal of livability for all Boise citizens. This report provides a summary of past activities and a snapshot of what we have planned in 2016 and beyond. It also provides a summary and action plan for our sustainability and livability efforts; you'll be able to see what we've identified as short- and long-term goals and to track our progress toward achieving those goals. We intend for this to be a living document that will reflect the dynamic nature of our community.

In parallel with LIV BOISE, the City is assessing how Boise ranks nationally in terms of our environment, economy, and citizen well-being. Using a rating system known as STAR Communities, designed by local governments to gauge how well a city is performing in seven goal areas, we'll be able to measure our livability efforts and identify gaps where more work is needed. Moving forward the livability goals will be informed by the results from the STAR Community Report and the recently completed 2016 citizen survey.

Here you'll find major sections structured to follow LIV BOISE's three key pillars; the topic areas within these sections align with the STAR Communities categories that we're using to measure and track livability.

Each topic area includes highlights from recent years, capturing projects, programs, and initiatives that make Boise great. We expect that as we gather more data and do more analysis, some of our goals will include numeric targets. These goals are listed in a table with actions that support the achievement of each goal.

The listed actions are shown as complete, ongoing, planned, or proposed. Complete actions are either projects that have been finalized or initiatives that have been implemented. Ongoing actions are either programs we are in the middle of or activities that we complete year after year. Planned projects are in the queue for 2016. Proposed projects are activities that we expect to occur after 2016.

LASTING ENVIRONMENTS



Creating lasting environments means recognizing, protecting, and improving the health and sustainability of all our activities, our connections to one another, and our natural resources. This has been a priority for the City of Boise for many years.

The goals and initiatives highlighted in the Lasting Environments sections show ongoing and planned work to support local actions in the areas of energy, air quality, water resources, and materials management. These programs focus not only on the resources we consume but on those we can recover and/or produce.

The City's recent focus has been on connecting environmental activities to social and economic benefits and showing how environmental improvements benefit livability for Boise.

In 2005 and again in 2014, Mayor Bieter signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. The agreement includes 10 actions to reduce energy use in our community and engage citizens in achieving those reductions. Among them:

Develop an energy plan that addresses water, wastewater, stormwater runoff, and preservation of open space, and includes reduction targets.

Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create walkable urban communities.

Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles.

Evaluate opportunities to increase methane use and production at wastewater treatment facilities.

Increase recycling rates in City operations and the community.

The City of Boise recognizes that climate change will impact our community and that climate adaptation is a critical part of creating a livable, resilient city. In 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, which includes Idaho, completed a climate adaptation plan focused on efforts to prepare for or adjust to future climate change. Key vulnerabilities for Idaho include increases in wildfire frequency and intensity, more frequent and severe drought, and higher intensity storms and flooding potential.

While the City of Boise has not completed a site specific climate adaptation plan, we are considering and including many of the components in our existing and future programs. Recent climate adaptation activities include multi-agency flood planning and wildfire mitigation efforts. A climate risk analysis will be completed in the future.

To learn more, visit:
www.boisepubliclibrary.org/bown

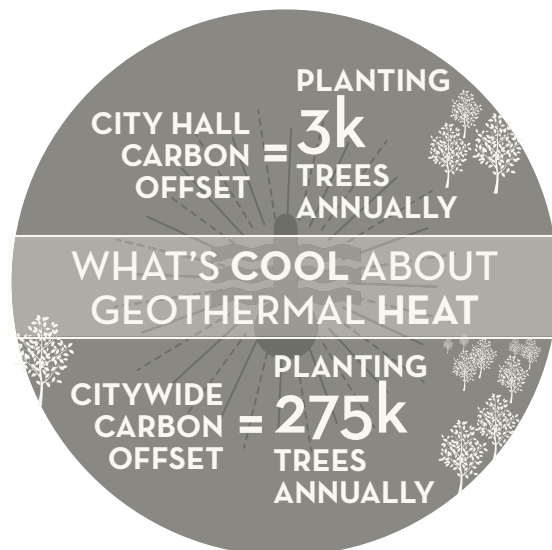


The City of Boise utilized biological control, in the form of goat grazing, to reduce noxious weeds and to selectively reduce fire fuel loads in targeted areas, with the goal of creating fuel breaks and sustainable native plant communities.



The City is seeking LEED Silver certification for the new Library! at Bown Crossing, which will feature 13,000 square feet of public space. Building design features include maximized daylighting, efficient energy and water use, water-wise landscaping, and inclusion of recycled and local materials in construction.

In 2015, the City made significant progress in assessing current energy use and setting specific reduction goals for municipal operations. This work, conducted with the assistance of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA), resulted in benchmarking more than 40 municipal buildings which included a detailed energy use data analysis for each. The result was a formal energy reduction plan for municipal facilities, a critical step toward a tangible framework to guide effective actions regarding energy use.



The City of Boise owns and operates the largest direct-use geothermal system in the country. The system provides clean energy that is produced locally and sustainably.



Two City buildings currently have solar panels to produce energy for the building and facilities. These panels can be seen at City Hall West and the Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING ENERGY GOALS

Design new buildings to meet a
NET-ZERO
energy goal and achieve
50% energy use reduction
in existing buildings by 2030

AIR QUALITY

Air quality is essential to our city's livability. Boise is located in a river valley that is subject to weather patterns that create conditions in which inversions occur. These inversions allow air pollutants to be trapped into the valley. The primary source of air pollution in Boise is vehicle emissions. The City is a major participant in regional community and transportation planning efforts that address transportation-related air quality issues. The City also leads or participates with other organizations to protect air quality. A few examples:

Support of alternative transportation efforts such as **Boise Green Bike** and a significant financial contribution to Valley Regional Transit.

Engaged the business community and residents in the **Idling Reduction Campaign**.

Participation in the **Treasure Valley Clean Cities Coalition**, a community effort to reduce petroleum fuel use in vehicles.

Conducted the **Treasure Valley Tree Canopy Study**, an inventory of needs and benefits of an expanded tree canopy.

Support Republic Services use of **compressed natural gas** (CNG) to make trash and recycling trucks cleaner and quieter.

Replacement of 12 aging lawnmowers in the Parks & Recreation Department with **propane lawnmowers**, with plans to purchase additional propane mowers as existing ones are retired.

AIR QUALITY GOALS

REDUCE COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	PROPOSED	PLANNED 2016	ONGOING	COMPLETE
Install electric vehicle charging stations throughout the city	•	•	•	•
Provide incentives for commercial and residential energy use reduction	•	•	•	•
Align with current national building energy codes	•	•	•	•
Voluntary energy use disclosure in the Central Addition LIV District	•	•	•	•
Complete Atlantic Idea House energy efficiency demonstration home	•	•	•	•
Develop Voluntary Green Construction Code	•	•	•	•
Increase number of certified buildings (LEED, Green Globes, Voluntary Green Construction Code). Currently 32 LEED certified commercial buildings in Boise.	•	•	•	•

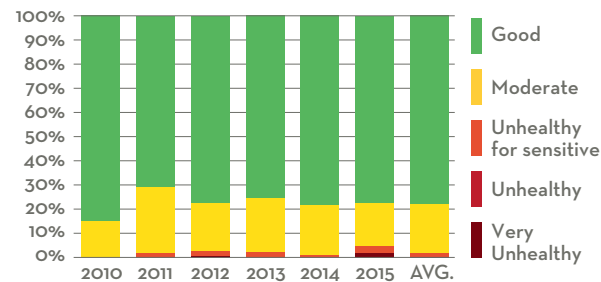
IMPROVE AIR QUALITY TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT AND MAINTAIN ATTAINMENT WITH NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

	PROPOSED	PLANNED 2016	ONGOING	COMPLETE
Support alternative transportation (Valley Regional Transit, Boise Green Bike, Treasure Valley Clean Cities Coalition)	•	•	•	•
Increase tree canopy through promotion of Community Forestry tree planting programs	•	•	•	•
Install pre-conditioned air units on passenger bridges at Boise Airport	•	•	•	•
Provide public education and outreach on air quality issues	•	•	•	•
Install and maintain the air quality camera	•	•	•	•
Convert Parks & Recreation Department lawn mowers to propane	•	•	•	•
Review and update a vehicle idling reduction campaign, "Be Idle Free Boise"	•	•	•	•



Republic Services, the trash and recycling hauler for the City of Boise, operates 90 compressed natural gas (CNG) trucks that are cleaner, quieter, and easier to maintain than diesel trucks. The fuel costs less too, saving rate payer dollars. In addition, the fueling station is publicly available and 30% of the CNG is now used by private fleets.

AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI) DAYS*



The daily AQI in the Boise Valley registers in the green “good” air quality category more than 75% of the time. The remaining 25% of days are mostly the yellow “moderate” category. The Boise Valley is impacted by external factors (i.e., vehicles, wildfire) and inversions, which affect air quality.

Ecosystem Sciences Foundation

URBAN TREES REMOVE
581 tons
 of air pollutants annually,
 reducing adverse human health
 impacts annually by more than
\$7 million

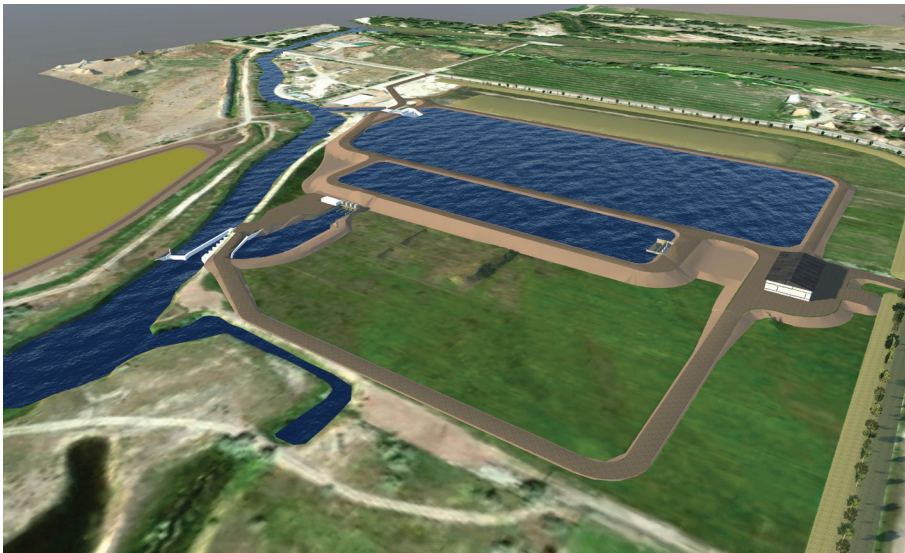
In Boise there are
60,737
 POTENTIAL PLANTING SITES
 along road corridors
 and parking lots

If all sites were planted, over a 50-year
 period urban trees would remove
1,708 tons
 of air pollutants valued at
\$21.5 million
 in HUMAN HEALTH BENEFITS

An area of emphasis in 2015 was resource recovery associated with our wastewater program. Among those efforts:

The City owns and operates two wastewater treatment facilities that give renewed life to nearly 30 million gallons of used water per day.

The solids (biosolids) generated by the treatment process are reused as fertilizer at a City-owned, 4,225-acre farm 20 miles south of the city. The farm produces forage crops, such as corn, alfalfa, and winter wheat.



The City recently started the nation's first **Class A fertilizer recovery** facility.

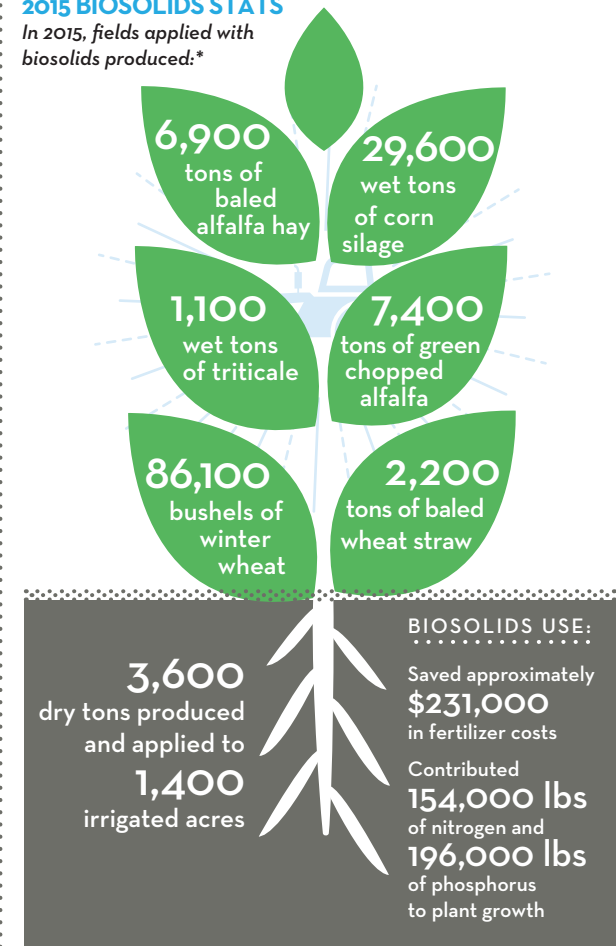
The City recovers methane produced in our treatment process for heating buildings and the digesters at the treatment plants.

The City initiated and continues to participate in the **Lower Boise Watershed Council**, which advises the state Department of Environmental Quality on water quality improvement plans, provides funding for innovative agricultural and stormwater management practices, and monitors progress toward meeting water quality targets.

The nationally precedent-setting Dixie Drain Phosphorus Removal Facility will result in a 25% greater reduction of phosphorus entering the Snake River than would be possible if the wastewater was treated in Boise with no localized impact to the Boise River. The project removes more phosphorus closer to the problem with smaller carbon footprint, lower cost per pound removed, and a far greater environmental outcome for the Boise and Snake Rivers.

2015 BIOSOLIDS STATS

*In 2015, fields applied with biosolids produced:**



*Some commercial fertilizer is added to fields to maximize crop yield. In no cases is the agronomic rate of the crop exceeded for nitrogen. The crops produced above are for the whole farm, not just the fields that received biosolids in 2015.



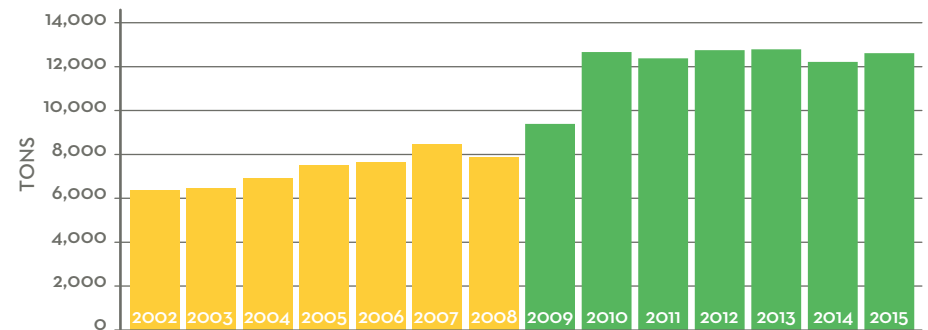
More than 25 years ago a small group of dedicated and inspired government employees created a household hazardous waste collection event in Ada County. The annual one-day event grew to become a year-round program.

Since 2002 the Ada County/Boise City Household Hazardous Waste program has collected more than 264,000 televisions and computer monitors totaling more than 12 million pounds. This year Boise provided services for more than 10,000 households, collecting 388,000 pounds of hazardous wastes and 49,000 pounds of electronic wastes. Ninety seven percent of the materials collected were recycled.



The City of Boise delivers collected glass to Environmental Abrasives Warehouse, a local company that makes industrial abrasive products.

RECYCLING IS NOW THE NORM



Prior to Curb It, city residents recycled 19 pounds each month. When Curb It launched mid-2009 residents recycled 37 pounds on average from every household. Participation also increased substantially with about 70% of Boise households signed up for a recycling bin in 2008 compared to 97% in 2015 thereby exceeding participation goals.

An aerial photograph of Boise, Idaho, under a clear blue sky. A large white construction crane with 'EST' on its side dominates the foreground, extending from the bottom left towards the top right. In the background, a dense urban landscape is visible, including several multi-story buildings. Notable buildings include a white building with 'WELLS FARGO' signage, a glass-fronted building with 'ZIONS BANK' signage, and a building with 'HOLLAND & HART' signage. An American flag is visible on a pole in the distance. The overall scene depicts a city in active development.

INNOVATIVE ENTERPRISES

The City of Boise is focused on cultivating innovative enterprises through working with individuals, nonprofits, and businesses to encourage creativity and collaboration that will promote economic prosperity and improve lives.



The City of Boise is focused on the development of innovative enterprises through three primary focus areas:

Business expansion and relocation

Startups and entrepreneurs

Workforce development

In 2015, the City of Boise undertook its most ambitious economic development strategic planning process to date: Boise Competes. This assessment of Boise's economic competitiveness has helped to shape the focus areas and strategies for economic development. This effort will have a full public launch in Spring 2016.

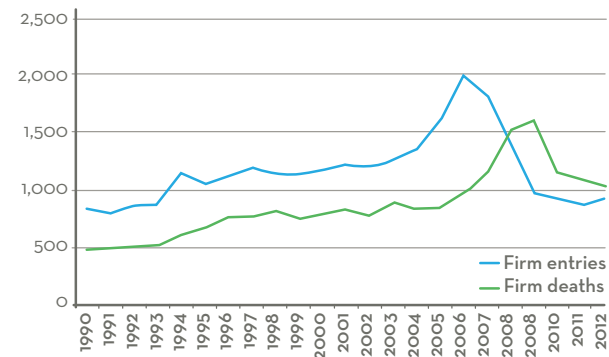


The \$19 million SkyWest facility has enough hangar space to fit eight regional jets inside and also boasts 35,000 square feet of office space. This project was the first to utilize Idaho's Tax Reimbursement Incentive and is expected to create up to 100 high-paying jobs for the Treasure Valley when fully staffed. A SkyWest spokesman stated that Boise was chosen because of the location, competitive costs, and connectivity across SkyWest's operation.



DECREASE IN BOISE BUSINESSES

Business Entries and Deaths, Boise MSA, 1990 to 2012



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Business Database

One way to measure entrepreneurial activity is to look at the number of new businesses. In Boise between 1990 and 2012, there was a precipitous decline in the number of startups. This data point was one factor that led to the formation of Trailhead.

STARTUPS AND ENTREPRENEURS

The City of Boise is highly supportive of the innovators and entrepreneurs who have chosen our community in which to start their businesses. We have partnered with numerous agencies—such as CCDC, Jannus, the Small Business Development Center, and Boise State University—to support our community’s startups. In March 2015, the City partnered with local entrepreneurs and companies to launch Trailhead, a co-working space that provides resources and connections to Boise’s entrepreneurs. Trailhead supports and builds upon the City’s partnership with the Small Business Development Center at the Greenhouse, an incubator that provides a formal program and office space to startups in Boise.

Hackfort, one of many ‘Forts’ hosted by Treefort (The City of Boise’s Cultural Ambassador), has formed a partnership with the City of Boise and Trailhead. This partnership will further the technology and innovation economy in Boise during Treefort, as well as throughout the year during Hackfort 365 events.

Boise Competes found that an immediate way to impact entrepreneurship was through the Startup In

STARTUPS AND ENTREPRENEURS GOALS

IMPROVE THE CITY OF BOISE’S PROCESSES FOR STARTING A BUSINESS

- Launch Startup in a Day Initiative
- Evaluate all business processes at the City for improvement

FOSTER A STRONG STARTUP COMMUNITY

- Launch Trailhead, a co-working space for early stage entrepreneurs
- Support Trailhead and entrepreneurs
- Work with the Small Business Development Center in support of Greenhouse, an incubation space for businesses
- Continue with Jannus to support immigrant entrepreneurs
- Support the College of Innovation and Design at Boise State University through City participation at Venture College, the Idaho Entrepreneur Challenge, and other partnerships

PROPOSED	PLANNED 2016	ONGOING	COMPLETE
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•

A Day initiative, an effort to evaluate and improve the City’s business processes. This aligns well with the City’s shared value of ‘Citizen Experience with Wow’ and has an immediate impact on local businesses. Boise Competes participants also stressed the importance of a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem, which Trailhead has coalesced.

Jack’s Urban Meeting Place (JUMP), opened in 2015, as one of the most anticipated events in recent Boise history. This “interactive, creative center and community gathering place” in the heart of downtown will help Boiseans become inspired to innovate and create what could be our next great dance troupe, film, or business.



Trailhead supports the development of Boise's entrepreneurial ecosystem by connecting entrepreneurs, innovators, and creative visionaries with the resources, people, and educational opportunities that can help them succeed.

More than 200 members have joined Trailhead, which in its first year has hosted 100-plus events attended by almost 4,000 people.



The Small Business Administration selected Boise, alongside 25 other U.S. cities, for the Startup In A Day grant. Startup In A Day will improve the City's business process, permit, and licensing issuance times, and help ensure that Boise remains a great place to do business.



The City of Boise names a cultural ambassador every two years, and in 2015, Treefort Music Festival was selected and received a grant from the City for the work it does to enhance the cultural lives of Boiseans. Treefort was one of the first Idaho companies, as well as the first music festival in the nation, to receive Benefit Corporation status.

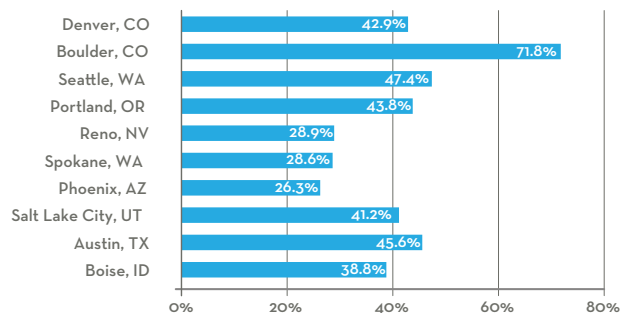
In 2015 Treefort had a festival attendance of 14,000, with 220 national and regional press and 500 local volunteers.

to the Clearwater Building at City Center Plaza. This element of education and learning will add to the vibrancy and activity of downtown Boise.

At 1,600 employees strong we are taking steps to make our own organization an employer of choice. The reason – as we attract the best and the brightest with a desire for public service, we can further positively influence workforce development activities in our community. To attract talented employees, we focus deliberately on our internal culture, which is based on three key values: One City, One Team – for the Greatest Good; Citizen Experience with Wow; and, There's Nothing We Can't Do Better. As we increase our talent density we can better serve Boise's citizens.

PEER CITY WORKFORCE EDUCATION

A talented and educated workforce is key to Boise's economic growth. One measure of that is the percent of population 25 years old and above that hold a bachelor's degree or higher. 38.3% of Boise's population has a Bachelor's degree or higher.

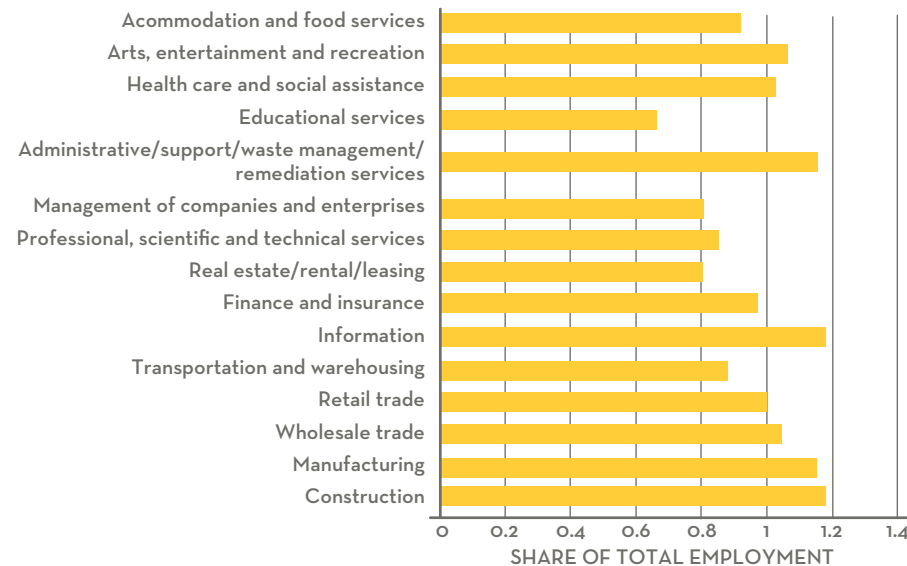


All of Boise's libraries offer 3-D printing. It provides a fun way for kids and teens to apply science, technology, and math concepts, and is also a great resource for adults.

LIBRARY COMIC CON
SUPERHERO VIDEO:
boisepubliclibrary.org

LOCATION QUOTIENT AS COMPARED TO U.S. METRO AVERAGE, BOISE 2012

Location quotient measures the concentration of skills in a city relative to the U.S. average. While Boise's strongest occupations are in the IT and professional/technical services, overall, Boise's workforce offers a balanced skill set to meet the needs of all industries.



VIBRANT COMMUNITIES



The City of Boise is creating vibrant communities through engagement of citizens and organizations to spark new connections, inspire exploration, and strengthen Boise's rich, community-minded spirit.



In the City of Boise, building vibrant communities means focusing on:

Arts and culture

Housing and community development

Transportation choices

Safe communities

Healthy and caring communities

Children and youth

Parks and open space

We take strides to ensure access to a wide array of arts, culture events, and educational activities. Boiseans highly value the plethora of open space opportunities and the city has worked to ensure that every citizen is easily able to enjoy green spaces. This ease of access enhances the active lifestyle residents value and is a quality that truly sets Boise apart. As a community, we experience low crime rates and pride ourselves on maintaining safety for all residents. All of these qualities combine to create a healthy, connected community.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Since its creation in 2008, the Department of Arts & History (A&H) has carried out its mission to enhance the community's quality of life by providing leadership, advocacy, education, services, and support for arts and history.

By 2015, the City's public art collection grew to more than 450 works valued at \$5.5 million, with many large installations in progress. A&H also began the first citywide cultural plan to record current arts and history conditions, engage the community in inquiry, and evaluate how the City might best provide for the continued development of a vibrant arts and history culture.

ASK PAIGE

Ask Paige is a book recommendation service that customers can use to receive a list of books customized to their preferences.

[www.boisepubliclibrary.org/
books-movies-and-music/ask-paige](http://www.boisepubliclibrary.org/books-movies-and-music/ask-paige)

ARTS AND CULTURE GOALS

PROMOTE AND INTEGRATE ARTS AND HISTORY INTO EVERYDAY LIFE

- Developed and launched new blog and video series, Creators, Makers, & Doers, highlighting the lives and work of Boise artists and creative individuals
- Received from Driek and Michael Zirinsky a generous donation of art by 40 Idaho artists
- Develop first-ever citywide Cultural Plan

CREATE CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Utilize Arts & History Grant Program to support projects that make Boise a lasting, innovative, and vibrant city through arts and history engagement
- Present biennial Mayor's Awards for Excellence in Arts & History to organizations and individuals who enhance Boise's art, history, and culture
- Present History Education Workshops: "Save Your Stuff: How to Physically and Digitally Preserve Family Heirlooms," "Write Your Memoir," "Genealogy 101: How to Get Started with a Digital Family Tree," "Interview Your Family—Oral History Basics," "Writing Your Family Stories"

SUPPORT, DEVELOP, AND MAINTAIN CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE (I.E. FACILITIES, ORGANIZATION, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ART/ARTIFACTS/ARCHIVES)

- Present Public Art Academy for Boise artists to learn about how to compete in the public art arena
- Determine maintenance needs (preventative, corrective, and emergency) for 500-plus cultural assets.
- River Sculpture is most noted piece renovated in 2015
- Acquire and preserve the James Castle Home Site, the Castle family home, outbuildings, and landscape where one of Idaho's most notable visual artists lived and worked
- Plan documents: Taking Care of Boise's Art, Artifacts, and Archives, and Collections Policy Manual

BUILD AND MAINTAIN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS THAT REFLECT THE CREATIVITY, IMAGINATION, AND AMBITION OF OUR COMMUNITY

- Expand the Library's collection of print, digital, and audiovisual materials pertaining to creativity, coding, and "do-it-yourself" subjects for adults and children
- Expand and broaden the Library's collection of digital content
- Conduct a collection assessment and address gaps and other issues identified via collection development and maintenance
- Collaborate with Arts & History Department to make local history resources more accessible to the public

PROPOSED
PLANNED 2016
ONGOING
COMPLETE



"James Castle at desk in Dream Cottage." Image courtesy of the James Castle Collection and Archive, LP.

James Castle (1899-1977) is Idaho's most well-known visual artist. Castle's artworks were created almost exclusively with found materials, such as papers salvaged from common packaging, mail, and food containers. The City of Boise will preserve the James Castle Home Site including the family home, outbuildings, and landscape where James Castle lived and worked. Programing will include permanent and temporary exhibitions, an Artist-in-Residence program, and other engagement and educational opportunities.

Quick Facts About the Department of Arts & History

TWICE

honored (2013 and 2015) by the Ash Center for Innovation/Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University as a Semifinalist in the Innovations in American Government Awards Program (top 25, representing five percent of applicants nationwide)

\$901,710

Dollars awarded through the Arts and History Grant Fund since 1997

\$5.5 million

Overall value of City's art collection

355

Individuals and organizations received funding from the Arts & History Grant Fund since 1997

1,895

Historic documents and objects saved

66

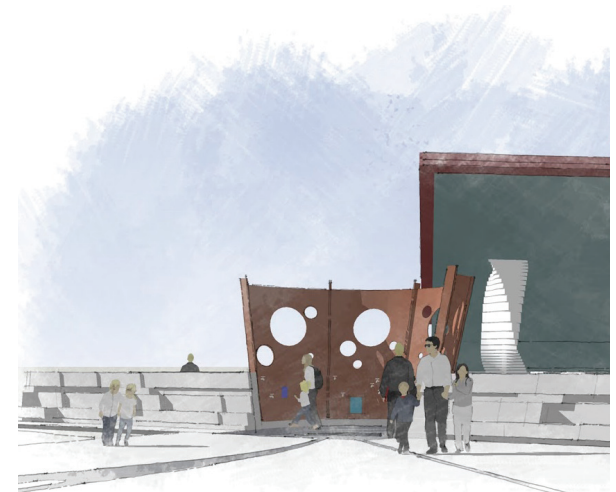
66 local contractors and

75

75 artists hired in FY15

112

Individuals and organizations honored with a Mayor's Award since 1986



The Percent for Art Ordinance has resulted in the development of significant public art projects in all new public buildings, including Boise Airport, City Hall, library branches, and the Boise WaterShed Environmental Education Center. Partnerships and citizen engagement are the cornerstone of this initiative.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A home in a safe neighborhood is an indicator of a livable community. The City of Boise invests local and federal funds to provide safe, affordable housing options for all citizens and supports housing choice through a progressive Fair Housing Action Plan. The City of Boise is one of a few municipalities across the United States to own and operate its own affordable rental housing. The City also offers affordable loans for homeownership and home improvement to income-qualified applicants.

The City of Boise collaborates with public and private partners to identify and implement sustainable permanent housing. In 2015, the City leveraged more than \$6.2 million (including \$1.8 million of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funds) to serve disadvantaged households within Boise and Ada County.



The City's rental housing portfolio includes properties in 46 locations. One of the properties, a Basque Boarding House on Franklin Street, was built in 1926.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GOALS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Create common language to explain complex affordable housing programs

Introduce flexible methods to access the City's affordable rental units and housing loan programs

PRESERVE AND INCREASE AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING CHOICES

Operate 304 units of City-owned affordable rental housing

Introduce Downtown Affordable Housing Incentive Program

Prevent homelessness by sponsoring emergency rental assistance

Finance evidence-based sustainable “Housing First” initiatives

Commit funds for construction of 200 units of affordable rental housing

SUPPORT HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Offer affordable loans for home ownership and home improvement.

INVEST IN CRITICAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

Support quality medical care for almost 5,000 citizens

Sponsor case management services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault

Provide childcare scholarships to households experiencing homelessness

[illegible]

MORE THAN 40

public and private partners participated in Mayor Bieter's Affordable Housing and Homelessness Roundtables and identified "Housing First" as a priority.

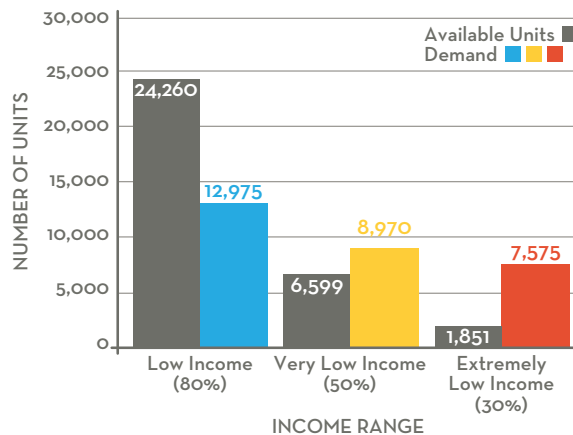


HOUSING FIRST

provides permanent supportive housing for households experiencing chronic homelessness and has been shown through national evidence to be an effective response to chronic homelessness.

The City also provides administrative support and facilitation to the Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care, which is the community's plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are experiencing homelessness.

BOISE HOUSING SUPPLY & DEMAND



Source: Housing Needs Analysis (Agnew Beck, 2015)

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

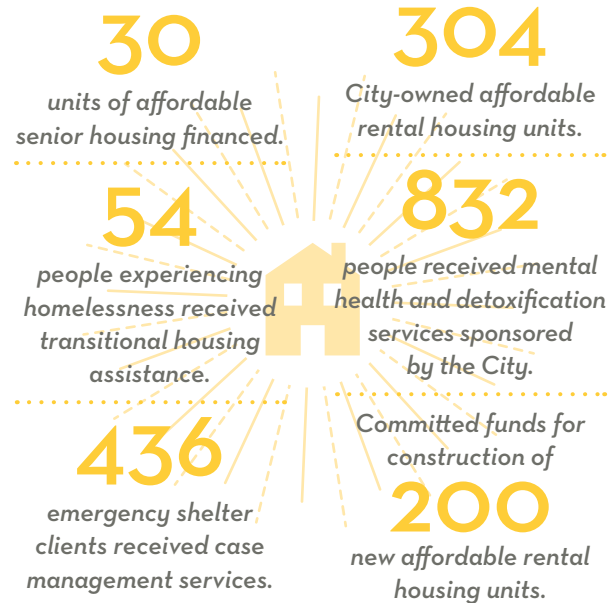


Photo courtesy of New Beginnings, Inc.

The City of Boise collaborated with the Idaho Housing and Finance Association to invest \$250,000 in the construction of 30 units of affordable senior rental housing. The units, which are already rented, will debut in May 2016.

TRANSPORTATION CHOICES

The public right-of-way is one of our most significant public assets in terms of land area, investment, and impact on the wellbeing of the city and its citizens. Most of our significant roadways have been expanded to their practical maximum, and we can no longer afford the costs associated with continuously expanding and maintaining an ever-growing system of roads largely dedicated to a single mode of travel. Finally, no city has yet been able to build its way out of traffic congestion.

These facts make clear that our existing public rights-of-way must do much more than cater to cars. We need a modern, well-balanced transportation system that prioritizes citizen mobility and choice in transportation, which is the intent of the Boise Transportation Action Plan (TAP).

Initiated in 2015 and set for completion in 2016, the TAP will present strategies for achieving a transportation system that offers all citizens real mobility choices. It will emphasize safe and comfortable opportunities to walk, bike, and ride transit, and it will create a framework for evaluating and prioritizing transportation projects.

Rather than focusing on traffic congestion, the approach articulated within the TAP can be summed up as “moving people first.” By providing more mobility options to more people, this approach has the

TRANSPORTATION CHOICES GOALS

TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

	PROPOSED	PLANNED 2016	ONGOING	COMPLETE
Safety for all
Walk or bike to the store
Park once
Active school routes
Low stress bike network
Three best-in-class transit routes



SOUTHSIDE GREENBELT: Construction began in late 2015 on the final .8-mile stretch of Greenbelt. This project will fill the final gap in the 25-plus-mile pathway that runs the length of the city along both sides of the Boise River.

After years of planning, bike share became a reality in 2015. Administered by Valley Regional Transit,

BOISE GREEN BIKE

launched in the spring and now has over

3,300

active members who, along with visitors, took over

10,000

trips for a total of

26,749

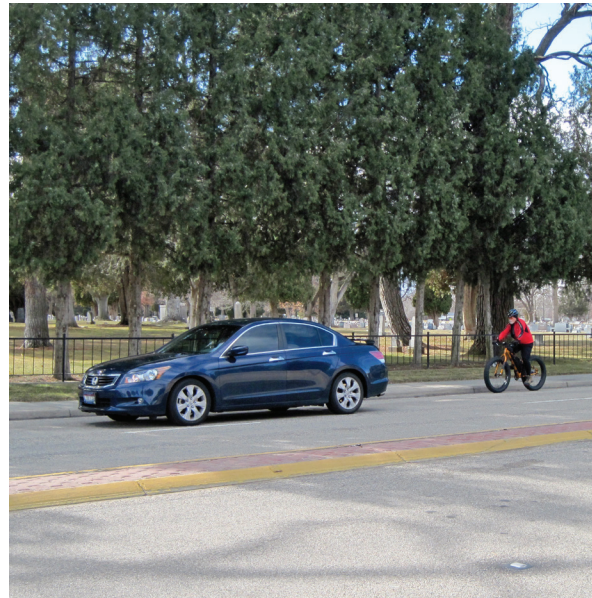
miles traveled in less than one year. In 2016 we anticipate the expansion of the system through a drive to increase membership.

potential to create significant budget, environmental, and health benefits throughout the city.

Six high-level initiatives, which the TAP calls “moves,” address particular travel modes and locations to provide a framework for prioritizing transportation investment. The six initiatives are listed in the goals table.



27TH STREET CONVERSION: Rebuilding 27th Street between State and Main streets as a “complete street” was identified in the 30th Street Master Plan, which envisioned conversion of the five-lane arterial into a three-lane road with bike lanes, on-street parking, and enhanced pedestrian facilities. In partnership with Ada County Highway District (ACHD), the road was converted in spring 2014 and was awarded a Smart Growth Award in 2015.



EMERALD / AMERICANA SIDEWALKS & BIKE LANES: At the City’s request, ACHD is designing a lane reconfiguration on Emerald Street and Americana Boulevard from North Orchard Street to the Boise River. Once completed in 2017, this project will provide nearly continuous dedicated bike facilities between Downtown Meridian and Downtown Boise and will greatly improve bicycle and pedestrian connectivity between the Central Bench and Downtown.

Boise Greenbike riders kept

20,000 lbs.

*of carbon out of the atmosphere
IN ONE YEAR*

Boise was named a

**“Bicycle-friendly
Community”**

by the League of American Cyclists.

SAFE COMMUNITIES

Providing and supporting safe communities is a primary role of the City. Our police and fire departments are primarily responsible for providing these public-safety services.

The Boise Police Department (BPD) is made up of nearly 400 dedicated people, an authorized 302 sworn police officers and 82 civilian support staff. During 2015, the Boise Police Department continued to partner with other City departments and community stakeholders to fulfill our mission to Protect, Serve, and Lead our Community to a Safer Tomorrow.

Boise Fire Department (BFD) serves a population of nearly 250,000 residents in Idaho's largest city. Emergency response services are delivered from 17 fire stations strategically located throughout the city to cover a response area that is more than 130 square miles. The department employs nearly 300 full time employees within the three divisions: Administration, Operations, and Fire Prevention.



SAFE COMMUNITIES GOALS

BUILD LONG LASTING RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE BOISE POLICE DEPARTMENT, BOISE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND OUR COMMUNITY

Create the downtown micro-district

Implement Coffee with A Cop

Introduce Boise Police Department K9 Mascot: Scout

Engage with all local junior and senior high schools through our School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

DEVELOP PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND STRATEGIES TO SERVE GROUPS WITH THE HIGHEST RISK TO BE DISENFRANCHISED, TARGETS OF CRIME, OR MORE VULNERABLE TO CRIMINAL ACTS

Train officers in de-escalation to resolve violent altercations without unnecessary force

Staff BPD with a mental health coordinator who collaborates with officers and community service providers to assist citizens in need

Implement on-body cameras for continued transparency of our officers and community

- Provide Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training to all officers

Partner on a multi-agency shared technology system for improved information-led policing and officer safety

MEET THE SERVICE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY BY PRIORITIZING TRAINING AND MOST EFFECTIVELY DEPLOYING FIRE DEPARTMENT RESOURCES

Continue to collaborate with all Ada County EMS providers to provide citizens with the highest level of patient care

Collaborate with Public Works to ensure that Fire Bond projects are lasting, innovative, and sustainable

Ensure preparedness for large-scale emergency events

Ensure our current service model is adequately meeting citizen needs

	PROPOSED	PLANNED 2016	ONGOING	COMPLETE
1.1				
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Coffee with a Cop gives neighbors an opportunity to meet with officers in a comfortable, casual setting, share thoughts, ask questions, and just get to know each other. When neighbors get to know officers, it makes for safer, friendlier communities. We also want to answer questions and learn about potential issues so we can work together to solve and prevent problems.

*In November 2014,
an unprecedented*
76%
*of Boise voters
said "YES"*
to a public safety bond measure

Our downtown Boise policing model will focus on delivering citizen-centric police services from a

MICRO-DISTRICT STATION

located in the downtown core. The station will provide a more tailored police response to the downtown area to meet the unique needs of special events, entertainment, parks, transportation, conventions, mixed-use business, residential, educational, social, cultural, and the substantial increase in our day-time commuting population.

24%
of calls for service come from the
micro-district area, which includes just
5.6%
of Boise's geographical area.

Police received
10,572
calls for service in the downtown area during 2014.

The micro-district will be staffed by
18 officers,
two sergeants, and one lieutenant.

HEALTHY AND CARING COMMUNITIES

The City of Boise strives to support and develop healthy and caring communities. Improving access to healthful food and supporting healthy physical environments through recreation are two ways in which we are focusing our efforts.

During the past year, the City worked with the community to create and implement a new Community Garden Policy and corresponding Community Garden Manual to help residents, neighborhoods, and schools build and maintain community gardens.

In 2015 the City of Boise
was recognized as a
“Welcoming City”
by the White House Task Force
on New Americans for our efforts
to successfully integrate refugees
into our community through
Neighbors United.

HEALTHY AND CARING COMMUNITIES GOALS

IMPROVE ACCESS TO LOCAL, FRESH, HEALTHY PRODUCE

Mobile Farmers Market to bring fresh, local produce to neighborhoods. Program also accepts SNAP benefits with a partial City of Boise match

Increase number of community gardens on City property

Review ordinance and zoning requirements, including updating community garden policy and removing barriers for urban agriculture

Continue to grow access and participation in the Boise Urban Garden School (BUGS), which teaches youth and adults the fundamentals of gardening

FACILITATE CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL COORDINATION TO PROVIDE LIVABILITY FOR BOISE CITIZENS

Organize and facilitate the Housing and Homelessness roundtables

Refine and implement the Neighbors United Refugee Community Plan

Lead the multi-jurisdictional partnership that governs Allumbaugh House

BOISE PARKS & RECREATION ENHANCES QUALITY OF LIFE BY PARTNERING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO FOSTER AND SUPPORT CITIZEN WELL-BEING AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTS

Add a second municipal golf course (Quail Hollow)

Build a robust skating program for adults at Idaho Ice World, including opportunities for youth and adults

Maintain and grow the largest adult sports program in the state

[illegible]

Zoo Boise was the first zoo in the country to add a conservation fee to its admission charge. Through this program, Zoo Boise commits more than \$250,000 each year to protect wildlife.



Parks & Recreation staff partnered with the SAGE International High School to design and engineer a recycle bin that is less costly to install and more efficient to maintain than commercially available bins. SAGE manufactured the bins and will give the City 12 bins in Spring 2016 as a trial in various parks.



Quail Hollow Golf Course is the City of Boise's second municipal golf course, providing increased recreational access to the community.



Boise Urban Garden School's mission is to grow healthy communities and inquiring minds. Members of a local community garden maintain their garden plot, and work the soil each spring. Boise Parks & Recreation currently facilitates five gardens on City-owned land.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

One of the City of Boise's goals is to provide services and amenities that enable youth to reach their fullest potential. We accomplish this through capital investment, such as parks, and through services such as recreation, environmental education, and library programming that help children and youth to develop their academic, social, and physical abilities.

Through the **Energize Our Neighborhoods** initiative, early childhood education was identified as an opportunity for improvement. Initiated by the City of Boise, the Boise Pre-K Project brings together community partners to provide high-quality preschool at Whitney and Hawthorne elementary schools.

Boise Parks & Recreation and the **Boise Library** offer a multitude of programs for children and youth.



The City of Boise supports five school-based and three neighborhood community centers that have free programming for participants throughout the year. These centers host an average of 500 people per day.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH GOALS

DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP AND EFFECTIVENESS OF EARLY-CHILDHOOD INVESTMENTS

Initiate Boise Pre-K Project as a part of the Vista Project

PROVIDE A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT THAT ENRICHES CHILDREN'S LIVES THROUGH PROGRAMMING, MENTORSHIP, AND EDUCATION.

Offer opportunities for youth fitness programming including aquatics, tennis, golf, skating, mountain bike riding, and other activities that encourage a healthy lifestyle

Offer myriad visual and performing art programming opportunities as well as non-traditional sports & experiences

Through outreach programs, provide after-school recreational classes and activities to youth and teens

Support school-based and neighborhood community centers as well as a mobile recreation system to provide recreational programming and food distribution (USDA Supper Program)

Boise Fire visits second grade children at Boise elementary schools every March to educate about fire safety

DEVELOP LIBRARY PROGRAMS TO PREPARE YOUNG PEOPLE FOR SUCCESSFUL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Partner with the Discovery Center of Idaho to deliver science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) programs at branch library locations, including Lego building, technology, and science experiments

Actively distribute library cards to non-users and introduce new, more convenient card activation procedures

Support early childhood literacy programming including Every Child Ready to Read concepts, Play Literacy Station, and music

PROVIDE EVERY K-12 STUDENT IN BOISE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE SCIENCE-BASED LEARNING TO PROMOTE HEALTH AND THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH BOISE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Build environmental stewardship and ecological awareness by offering outdoor learning for children and families at the Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center (JHFLC)

Promote water protection and conservation by offering exhibits, lessons, tours, and events for all ages at the Boise WaterShed Environmental Education Center

Increase community's knowledge of local food production and gardening through science, health, and environmental based lesson plans that encourage students to value locally grown, organic produce (BUGS)

Increase funding for Boise Environmental Education programming

Grow program offerings to include activities like overnight camps and adult classes

Provide citizen science opportunities (i.e., Watershed Watch)

Partner with Boise State University and the University of Idaho to integrate students in STEM fields in local education centers

	PROPOSED	PLANNED 2016	ONGOING	COMPLETE
1. Develop a business plan for the program				
2. Develop a budget for the program				
3. Develop a marketing plan for the program				
4. Develop a recruitment plan for the program				
5. Develop a retention plan for the program				
6. Develop a graduation plan for the program				
7. Develop a program evaluation plan				
8. Develop a program monitoring plan				
9. Develop a program reporting plan				
10. Develop a program communication plan				
11. Develop a program partnership plan				
12. Develop a program sustainability plan				
13. Develop a program impact plan				
14. Develop a program accountability plan				
15. Develop a program transparency plan				
16. Develop a program integrity plan				
17. Develop a program ethics plan				
18. Develop a program quality plan				
19. Develop a program excellence plan				
20. Develop a program innovation plan				
21. Develop a program leadership plan				
22. Develop a program management plan				
23. Develop a program operations plan				
24. Develop a program technology plan				
25. Develop a program data plan				
26. Develop a program security plan				
27. Develop a program risk plan				
28. Develop a program compliance plan				
29. Develop a program legal plan				
30. Develop a program financial plan				
31. Develop a program human resources plan				
32. Develop a program information technology plan				
33. Develop a program facilities plan				
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83. Develop a program transportation plan				
84. Develop a program food and beverage plan				
85. Develop a program entertainment plan				
86. Develop a program merchandise plan				
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88.				



These programs provide safe avenues for creativity and learning.

The **Boise WaterShed Environmental Education Center** promotes water stewardship through high-tech, hands-on exhibits. In 2015, two new exhibits and two new art installations were added. Coming in 2017, the center's River Campus will add interactive water features and a simulated walk-through-your-watershed experience.

The **Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center** (JHFLC) is dedicated to offering environmental education opportunities that connect children and the young at heart to Boise's wildlife and natural landscapes. The JHFLC seeks to serve as the outdoor classroom for the Treasure Valley, tracking more than 10,000 visits each year from Boise's children and families. In 2015, the JHFLC continued to expand educational offerings, including a year-long weeknight series offering free environmental education opportunities.

In 2014, the **Boise Urban Garden School** (BUGS) entered into a partnership with the City to



become a program of the Boise Parks & Recreation Department. BUGS provides intensive, hands-on garden education, including school-based garden workshops that provide educators with knowledge and skills to start or expand garden programs. In 2015, BUGS took on the management and curriculum implementation at three City of Boise community centers, spending an afternoon each week at each garden working with the community center youth.



Boise Pre-K

seeks to:

REDUCE ACHIEVEMENT GAPS
for incoming kindergartners.

Follow participants through 3rd grade to

**ASSESS THE
INVESTMENT'S IMPACT.**

**ENHANCE NEIGHBORHOOD
LIVABILITY**

through education investments.

Use project results to

SPARK DISCUSSIONS
about early childhood investments.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Boise's unique quality of life arises, in large part, from the variety of available outdoor recreation opportunities. The Department of Parks & Recreation is committed to offering outdoor experiences—from playing in a neighborhood park to hiking a trail in the Foothills—that allow us all to enjoy the City of Trees.

In 2015, development began on 89 acres of additional neighborhood and regional parks, including Esther Simplot, Molenaar, Magnolia, and Boise Hills parks and the Boise River Greenbelt. With more than



The Cancer Survivor Plaza serves as an inspirational, spiritual, and motivational place for people to learn about surviving cancer.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE GOALS

MAINTAIN EXISTING PARK PROPERTIES AND DEVELOP NEW PARKS TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS

Phase 1 construction of Molenaar Park	
Construction of Esther Simplot Park	
Green-up phase of Boise Hills Park	
CREATE A CONNECTED SYSTEM OF TRAILS THROUGH THE BOISE FOOTHILLS AND IMPROVE ACCESS FROM THE URBAN CORE	
Finalize a 10-Year Plan to guide decisions that enhance the Ridge to Rivers trail network	
Integrate land acquisition efforts to promote trail connectivity	
Continue to support and lead the Ridge to Rivers partnership	
Further engage partners and volunteers in trail support	
IMPLEMENT THE BOISE RIVER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND THE BOISE RIVER RIPARIAN STEWARDSHIP PLAN	
Develop new river access at Willow Lane	
Increase and protect the “no mow” zones along the river Greenbelt	
Develop a portage river plan for the irrigation diversions between Barber and Ann Morrison Parks	
DEVELOP LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS TO ENHANCE NATIVE HABITAT IN THE FOOTHILLS AND WITHIN THE BOISE RIVER WATERSHED	
Implement the strategies set forth in the Boise Open Space Reserve & Boise River Resource Management Plans	
Expand efforts to reduce the spread of nonnative species throughout open space and natural areas, and fire risk at the wildland-urban interface	
IMPROVE THE URBAN TREE CANOPY TO INCREASE SHADE AND IMPROVE AIR QUALITY	
Conduct urban tree canopy assessment, including land area covered by tree canopy and quantified environmental and economic benefits	
Plant more than one new tree for every tree that is removed annually	
Enhance efforts to engage community members in programs that increase tree cover (ReLeaf Boise, NeighborWoods, Idaho Power partnership)	

180 miles of trails (30 of which were added to the Ridge to Rivers system in 2015) and more than 1,600 acres of parks throughout the city, Boise's effort to offer world-class outdoor opportunities will only grow in the coming years.

The Department utilizes two programs, Idaho Master Naturalists and Park Ambassadors, to engage volunteers who possess a wide range of expertise, enhancing the department's ability to offer more activities that inspire the community. Free tours are now available at the Boise Depot, City cemeteries, and Kathryn Albertson Park. Volunteers have brought ideas and helped develop programs such as the Monarch Project, being launched in 2016, as well.

The Department is also developing publications and programs to encourage the community to explore their natural environment in Boise's parks. This includes development of the Field Guide to Boise Birds, which highlights 99 birds commonly seen in Boise's parks. The Department is installing bird boxes in parks and is recruiting citizens to monitor them for activity and ongoing maintenance. Finally, beginning in 2016, the Department will launch a program to engage the community in monitoring the health of milkweed patches and activity from breeding Monarch butterflies.



In addition to managing storm water on the West Bench, the 44-acre Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve is an urban refuge for a variety of waterfowl, birds, small mammals, and fish. It also serves as an education tool for visitors, hosting walking paths with interpretive signs.



74% of voters
approved the 2015 Open Space
and Boise River Levy.

3,000 people
took part in Ridge to Rivers survey.

Thousands of volunteers
contributed approximately
61,592 hours
to Parks & Recreation in 2015.
These hours translate into approximately
\$1.2 million
in labor costs – an amount equivalent
to 30 full time employees



LIV IN ACTION



It's one thing to create an initiative like LIV Boise. It's another thing to actually use it to guide our day-to-day work in creating lasting environments, cultivating innovative enterprises, and building vibrant communities. We are excited and proud of the projects, programs, and departments in the City that embody all of LIV. This section highlights three of the many examples of LIV in action.

CENTRAL ADDITION

A LIV District

The Central Addition is an urban neighborhood near the core of downtown Boise, composed of residential, commercial, and institutional uses. This area is primed for redevelopment. It is adjacent to Julia Davis Park and the Greenbelt, is close to downtown, and has an abundance of surface parking and resources such as downtown jobs, grocery stores, and health care. In short, it's an ideal location for urban redevelopment.

In 2014, the City of Boise was invited to participate in a three-day workshop, hosted by EcoDistricts in Portland, Ore., designed to generate innovative ideas related to urban regeneration. About the same time, the City was completing a Master Plan for the Central Addition neighborhood. The combination of these two activities highlighted the tremendous potential to advance livability in this area of downtown Boise.

The result is the creation of a Central Addition LIV District, a neighborhood where focused public and private investment and stakeholder engagement

is coming together to create the city's first ecodistrict. The goal is to promote innovation within the District, creating a neighborhood committed to achieving ambitious and specific performance goals.

In 2016, construction will get under way on a key project that will help transform the Central Addition LIV District. The Broad Street Infrastructure Improvement Project, led by urban renewal agency, Capital City Development Corporation (CCDC), is primarily focused on the construction of green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) along Broad Street when the roadway is reconstructed. GSI will help improve water quality and stormwater management while utilizing public right-of-way for stormwater capture, which will in turn allow for larger building footprints—a plus in terms of economic development. The GSI project will also give the area a distinctive look through a dramatic change in the streetscape that also improves walkability and bikeability.



The Broad Street Infrastructure Improvement Project will transform the public right of way along Broad Street to help promote green turnkey development and create an urban 'living room' for the residents and employees in the Central Addition LIV District.



Green stormwater infrastructure



Geothermal



Energy

Housing

Mobility



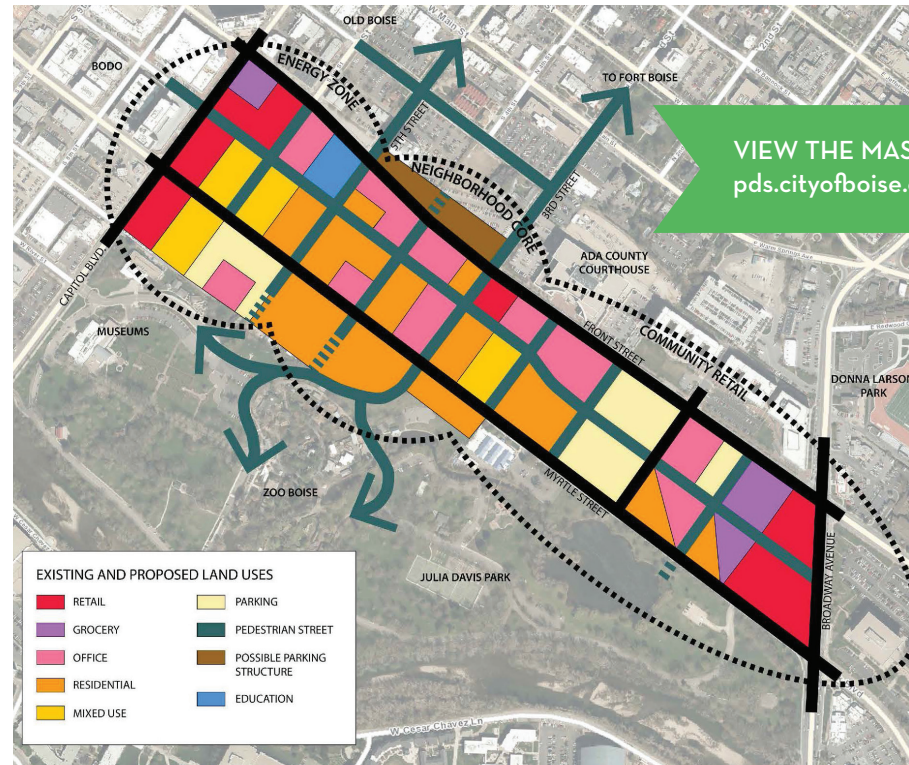
Placemaking



Economic Development

In conjunction with the reconstruction, the City's geothermal system will be expanded within the District, access to Julia Davis Park will be improved for bicyclists and pedestrians, and fiber optic conduit may be added. Taken as a whole, this project will promote "green turnkey development," giving developers and businesses the opportunity to connect to existing systems that reduce carbon footprint and impacts on water quality.

Private investment for new construction includes two hotels and a multi-family residence. Other investment ranges from complete remodel of an existing structure for two new businesses and the potential addition of external business space in the right-of-way to add patio space at a brewery. These changes will all spur continued activity and development in the District.



The Central Addition LIV District is bordered to the south by Myrtle Street and the edge of Julia Davis Park, to the east by Broadway Avenue, to the west by Capitol Boulevard, and to the north by Front Street, extended to include the University of Idaho and Ada County Courthouse.

The owners and interested parties in the Central Addition are critical to the success of the LIV District. The projects that are underway and planned are great examples of public-private partnerships and engagement with non-governmental organizations.



A primary goal of the Central Addition LIV District is to improve pedestrian and bicycle mobility and to provide a connection from Boise State University through the District to the Downtown core. Increased access to and use of the Boise Green Bike program aligns well with this goal.

ENERGIZE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Energize Our Neighborhoods is a long-term strategy for keeping Boise unique and vibrant. This innovative program to improve livability at the neighborhood level is a collaboration between Boise's residents, public and private partners, and the City. Together we are identifying opportunities to align resources to make measurable change and create more vibrant and connected neighborhoods. The program is focused on neighborhood level citizen engagement around projects designed to increase livability.

Who is Energize?

RESIDENTS!

Residents provide feedback regarding projects they would like to see in their neighborhood, serve on committees and in leadership, provide

recommendations, lead neighborhood projects, and participate in community meetings and events.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Commitment from businesses, non-profits, public agencies, and schools is a key to accessing additional resources and multiplying the effects and reach of projects. Community leaders from these organizations have championed the program, raised awareness, leveraged internal resources, and adopted initiatives within their own agencies.

CITY OF BOISE

Employees from every City department have been engaged in Energize Our Neighborhoods. By working together across disciplines, resources, projects, and investments/ can be aligned to address specific livability indicators on the neighborhood level.

Photo: Guy Hand

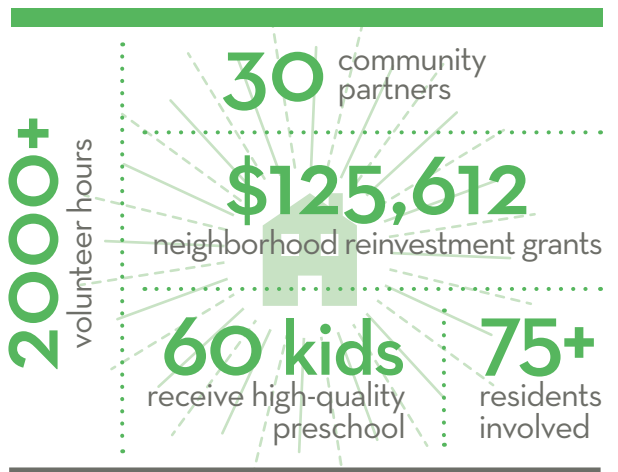


The Idaho Plan4Health Coalition received a \$125,000 grant to focus on increasing access to nutritious foods and physical activity in the Vista Neighborhood.

What's Next?

The City will continue to support livability through the annual Neighborhood Reinvestment Program (NRP). In 2014 and 2015, the NRP funded 48 neighborhood requests including 12 parks and playground projects, 10 arts and history activities and community garden, transportation and safety projects.

Energize Our Neighborhoods will continue to act as a catalyst for civic engagement, leveraging awareness and utilization of City and community partner services, and aligning those resources within specific neighborhoods. Based on the framework developed through the initial program in Vista, the eight Energize Focus Areas are flexible enough to incorporate any activity, and can be scaled for any project – which will allow the City to continue to celebrate its diverse and vibrant neighborhoods.



What's Been Done to Address the Indicators?



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- Numerous community partners provided support for the Boise Pre-K Project, the first City-sponsored pre-kindergarten program in the state, offering **high-quality early childhood education to 60 students** in the Vista neighborhood.
- In partnership with the Treasure Valley YMCA and the Boys & Girls Club, Hawthorne Elementary added and expanded **programs for students before and after school, as well as through the summer months.**
- The City's Neighborhood Reinvestment Program funded walking paths at Grace Jordan and Hawthorne Elementary and playground equipment at Cynthia Mann Elementary.



PUBLIC SAFETY

- Based on citizen feedback, the Boise Police Department designated a **neighborhood contact officer and located a police substation** in the Vista neighborhood.
- In partnership with the Ada County Highway District, stop signs were placed at **17 previously uncontrolled intersections.**
- Two neighborhoods received funds to reduce hazardous fuels in wildland urban interface zones.



HOUSING

- Through its Home Improvement Loan Program, the City provided two Vista residents with **\$8,500 in Home Improvement Grants** to make improvements to their homes' energy efficiency, safety, accessibility, and appearance.



SUSTAINABILITY

- The Atlantic Idea House is being remodeled to demonstrate how energy efficiency can be incorporated into home improvements.
- **The city's forestry division gave 137 trees to City of Boise residents** through the NeighborWoods program, to increase the percentage of tree canopy.



HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

- In partnership with Republic Services, the city sponsored a clean-up day in the neighborhood, resulting in **more than 60 tons of garbage collected by 50-plus volunteers.**



TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The Urban Land Institute designated Vista Avenue as a **Demonstration Corridor** and awarded a grant to study how the avenue could be improved to promote health, vibrancy, and economic vitality.

- Targee Street saw completion of much-needed sidewalks, curbs, and gutters from Columbus to Annett, improving safety and aesthetics in the neighborhood.
- Three foothills trail projects improved surfaces and trail head information.



PLACEMAKING, ARTS, AND HISTORY

- The City's Department of Arts & History compiled a history of the Vista neighborhood, which will be used to identify historic points of interest and opportunities to enhance the neighborhood.
- The popular traffic box art wrap program expanded in five City neighborhood associations at 14 locations.
- Two history and on sculpture projects were funded through the City's Neighborhood Reinvestment Program.

WATCH A VIDEO ABOUT VISTA SELECTION:
energizeourneighborhoods.org/video

To learn more about ENERGIZE OUR
 NEIGHBORHOODS visit: energize.cityofboise.org

HEALTHY CORRIDORS ARTICLE:
urbanland.uli.org/sustainability/creating-healthier-commercial-corridor-along-boises-vista-avenue

AIRPORT

The original Boise Airport was built in 1926 where Boise State University's campus now stands. In 1936, it was moved south to its current site at Gowen Field. It became a department of the City of Boise in 1946 and operates as an enterprise fund, meaning that it is financially self-supporting, with no local tax dollars used to support the operation.

The Boise Airport is often the first impression visitors and travelers have of our city. This is why the City and the airport have prioritized livability in operations and amenities at the airport. Ideas for improving energy and water efficiency are encouraged and welcomed from staff to leadership, and these ideas are often implemented. This culture

of innovation and efficiency has produced a staff of 100 that takes pride in increasing the sustainability of the airport, which benefits all of us.

The Boise Airport is a unique City operation because much of the activity is performed by tenants, including airlines and companies that provide services in the terminal. The airport continues to develop these partnerships to improve efficiency across all parts of the operation.



On average, each day nearly
120
 commercial arrivals and departures
 bring around
8,150 passengers
 to the Boise Airport.

While only around 100 City of Boise
 employees work at the airport, the latest
 economic study shows approximately

15,000 jobs
 are created because of the Boise Airport,
 generating around
\$1.3 billion
 in annual economic activity.

Lasting Environments

Over the last several years, the airport has initiated several projects to promote energy use reductions through efficiency and to reduce the carbon footprint of airport operations:

AIRLINE ELECTRIC VEHICLES

One airline recently converted its fleet of 11 diesel-fueled service vehicles to an all-electric fleet. The fleet conversion will reduce both fossil fuel consumption and emissions.

PRE-CONDITIONED AIR UNITS

Through a Federal Aviation Administration grant, the airport installed pre-conditioned air units on nine passenger loading bridges. This allows the airlines to avoid running the aircraft engine or portable diesel powered units to heat or cool aircraft parked at the gates.

Innovative Enterprises

SKYWEST MAINTENANCE FACILITY

In 2015 SkyWest Airlines opened a new maintenance hangar at the Boise Airport (see *Business Expansion and Relocation* section on page 18).

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Boise Airport plays a large role in the economy, not just for our city but for all of Southwest Idaho. An average of almost 120 arrivals and departures daily bring about 8,150 passengers to the airport, generating approximately 15,000 jobs and around \$1.3 billion in annual economic activity in the region.

Vibrant Communities

NEW CONCESSIONS

The airport is typically the first and last impression of Boise, which is why the customer experience is a major focal point. The new concession program was created to enhance the traveling experience by providing airport users with food, beverage, and news and gift options that mirror what is available in Idaho's capital city. Airport Director Rebecca Hupp stated, "We wanted to create a sense of place that celebrates the essence of Boise. To say I'm happy with our new concession program would be an understatement; I'm thrilled. Our terrific partners, Paradies and Delaware North, have truly captured what makes Boise one of the most livable cities in the country."

eLIBRARY & PUBLIC ART

The airport is fortunate to have great partnerships with other City of Boise departments, including Boise Arts and History and the Boise Library. In late 2014, the airport partnered with the library to create a digital library experience in the terminal building. The library includes six touchscreen monitors where



travelers can access books, magazines, and music. They also receive instruction on how to download free reading material for their flight directly to their own device.

In 2015, the airport added two new pieces of public art. "Contrails" is located in the sky bridge that connects the parking garage to the terminal, and the Wildland Firefighter Monument was reinstalled in its former location below the sky bridge. The Boise Airport currently hosts the greatest number of public art in any public facility in Idaho.

NEW CONCESSIONS: *The Idaho Statesman Shop, 94.9 The River Store, Greenbelt Magazine Marketplace, 13th Street Pub, Bardenay, Parrilla Grill, and River City Coffee. The locations also carry local products such as Idaho made wine, beer and candies.*





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