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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Highway 44 Express route to remain in operation

BOISE – The ValleyRide Highway 44 Express route, which provides commuter bus service to the cities of Caldwell, Middleton, Star, Eagle and Boise, will continue operating for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

The Highway 44 Express began operating in June 2007. The route could have ended Nov. 6 due to a funding shortfall caused by the Eagle City Council’s recent decision to not provide operating monies. But the City of Boise and Boise State University have agreed to provide the local funding necessary to keep the route running through Sept. 30, 2010.

“This is great news. We really appreciate the City of Boise and BSU stepping up to provide funding for the route,” Kelli Fairless, Executive Director of Valley Regional Transit (VRT), said Tuesday. “This route provides needed transportation services to many people who work in Boise, as well as university students, faculty and staff.”

“The City of Boise recognizes that public transportation is a critical component of our local economy, Boise City Council President Maryanne Jordan said. “This modest investment will allow continued access into Boise for workers and students and will demonstrate the city’s commitment to a broad regional transportation system.”

ValleyRide, the transit services division of VRT, provides 14 fixed-line bus routes in Boise/Garden City, four bus routes in and between Nampa and Caldwell, and five intercounty routes that provide service to Caldwell, Nampa, Meridian, Middleton, Star, Eagle and Boise. For more route information, visit www.valleyride.org.

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