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Contact: Mark Carnopis
Community Relations Mgr.
Valley Regional Transit
(208) 846-8547 ext. 4215

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Valley Regional Transit recognized for environmental assessment work

BOISE – Valley Regional Transit (VRT) has been recognized by the Federal Transit Administration for the quality of its environmental assessment for the planned Downtown Boise multimodal transportation center.

VRT received the “*Outstanding Achievement Award for Excellence in Environmental Document Preparation*” at the American Public Transportation Association’s annual conference held earlier this month in Orlando, Fla. The award was created to showcase work by transit systems and their partners that is user-friendly and consistent with environmental law and regulations.

According to the FTA, the Boise center’s environmental assessment, which was prepared by URS Corp. of Portland, Ore., “*distinguishes itself in a number of ways, including the clarity of its plain language, use of graphics to provide the public with a tangible feel for how the facility will fit into the urban fabric, and the fact sheet summary right up front.*”

The multimodal center will be built on a half city-block on the east side of 11th Street between Bannock and Idaho streets. It is being built in large part to consolidate local and regional transit services. It will be built using federal and local monies. Negotiations are currently under way with the property owner.

VRT is the regional public transportation authority for Ada and Canyon counties. ValleyRide, the transportation division of VRT, provides fixed-line bus service in Boise, Garden City, Nampa and Caldwell, and intercounty service between Caldwell, Nampa, Meridian and Boise.

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