



June 19, 2013

Contact:

Mark Carnopis

Community Relations Manager

(208) 258-2702

mcarnopis@valleyregionaltransit.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Valley Regional Transit will work with a citizens advisory group to gather input on how to best move forward with proposed downtown Boise multimodal center

BOISE – On Thursday, June 27, Valley Regional Transit (VRT) will hold the kick-off meeting with the Multimodal Advisory Committee – a group of local individuals and organizations who will give input on the design of the downtown Boise multimodal center, assist with public outreach, and help VRT move this project forward. The meeting will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Boise High School cafeteria and is open to the public.

When complete, the downtown Boise multimodal center will provide a central hub to park, ride ValleyRide buses, meet up with vanpool riders, access carpooling services, park and place bicycles in lockers, access shuttles and taxis, purchase bus passes and obtain information about public transportation services.

“Building a multimodal center in the heart of downtown Boise is fundamental to the Treasure Valley’s present and future regional transportation system,” said Kelli Fairless, VRT’s Executive Director. “We are now at a crucial juncture in this project and public involvement is more important than ever to making this center a reality.”

The downtown Boise multimodal center will be housed in a minimum four-story facility with approximately 11,000 square feet of mix-use space and at least two levels of public parking. The multimodal center will include an indoor passenger plaza, a staffed service counter to sell passes and provide route information, and around-the-clock security. A Boise City Police substation will also be located in the multimodal center.

“Working closely with a variety of people – including downtown business owners, elected officials, community leaders, bicycle and pedestrian groups, the City of Boise and our local transportation jurisdictions – will ensure this transportation facility contributes to the positive image of downtown Boise,” said Fairless. “The multimodal center will be a safe, clean public

space, as well as a visually attractive and architecturally significant facility that people will want to use and our community will be proud of.”

In 2012, VRT provided 1.4 million trips in the Treasure Valley, a 29 percent increase since 2005. The downtown Boise multimodal center, when combined with four other existing and planned regional transit and transfer centers, will complete VRT’s current network.

The Federal Transit Administration awarded VRT \$9.5 million in federal funds to build the downtown Boise multimodal center. VRE anticipates the multimodal center will cost \$11.9 million to build. Boise’s Capital City Development Corporation is providing an additional \$2.4 million in local funds.

For more information about this project visit <http://www.valleyregionaltransit.org/> and click on Projects/Studies at the top of the screen then select the header on the pull-down menu that says Downtown Boise Multimodal Center.

###