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FTA issues FONSI on Environmental Assessment for proposed Downtown Boise multimodal center

BOISE – The Federal Transit Administration has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) after reviewing the environmental assessment submitted for the proposed Downtown Boise multimodal center, Valley Regional Transit (VRT) announced Thursday (April 24).

A FONSI is issued when it is determined that a project or action will have no significant effect on the environment.

“This is wonderful news,” said Rhonda Jalbert, VRT Development Director. “The FONSI is a big step in clearing the way for the construction of this much-needed multimodal transit center in downtown Boise.”

VRT is working with Gardner Company to develop the downtown Boise multimodal center as part of a mixed-use project near the corner of Capitol Boulevard and Main Street on the west side of the U.S. Bank Building. The center, which will be built underground, will provide a hub for buses, bicyclists and pedestrians; access to shuttles and taxis; and a place to purchase bus passes and find information about public transportation services.

ValleyRide buses currently stage along a five-block area on Main and Idaho Streets in downtown Boise.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded Valley Regional Transit \$9.5 million in federal funds to build the downtown Boise multimodal center in 2006. VRT 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.

To learn more about the multimodal center project, visit:

<http://www.valleyregionaltransit.com/PROJECTSSTUDIES/BOISEMULTIMODALCENTER.aspx>