DEPARTMENT UPDATE
PUBLIC WORKS

DATE:	2026-09-14
TO:	Board of County Commissioners
FROM:	Darryl Johnson, Public Works Director
ITEM TITLE:	**Report: Public Works Dept. Update**

The following items are for your review and discussion at the September 14, 2026 BoCC Meeting

Public Works:

SH33 Congestion Study – The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) has contracted with Horrocks Engineers to conduct a Congestion Study on the SH33 corridor through Teton County. Horrocks was in the valley late last week and through the Labor Day weekend taking traffic counts and observing traffic activity. Once data has been collected, ITD and Horrocks will invite County staff to participate in evaluating data and establishing recommendations. See the attached Whitepaper prepared by ITD.

SH33 Access Closure Plan – Attached is a closure plan that outlines access points along SH33 that will be eliminated. The plan includes a hyperlink to a map showing proposed removal locations. ITD would like to begin work in early October. Work is expected to be completed in May of 2027.

S5000W Road Reconstruction Update – Change Order No. 1 allowed for an additional 9 working days due to rain days and time for removing unsuitable material. The new substantial completion date is 9/16. Avail hopes to pave the first part of 9/14 week.

Public Works is looking into a more efficient way to construct phase II and reduce the amount of unsuitable material removal.

Road & Bridge:

Permazyme treatment on South Bates – Permazyme was applied to a corridor of South Bates the week of 9/8. Permazyme is a ground stabilization product that we agreed to try this year. Hopefully the product will firm up the road, eliminate soft spots in the spring and reduce grading/maintenance needs.

Solid Waste:

ISWA Fall Conference – The Idaho Solid Waste Association is holding their 2026 fall conference in October this year. The conference is scheduled to take place October 5 through October 7. The main focus of this year's conference is the INL. Participants will tour the Idaho CERCLA disposal Facility (Which stores radioactive and hazardous cleanup waste generated within the INL), tour the research facilities and participate in several presentations regarding characterization, decontamination, and sorting of INL waste.

On the last day of the conference (October 7), participants will tour the new Eastern Idaho Solid Waste District landfill outside of Newdale. Additionally, they plan to tour the Madison County transfer station and the Teton County Idaho solid waste facility.

The Teton County solid wates facility tour is scheduled to begin at 1:15, host approximately 40 visitors and take approximately forty-five minutes to one hour. The tour will be conducted by Solid Waste Supervisor Dann O'Donnell.

Facilities:

Bates Access Grant Award – Facilities Manager Suzanne Astle was successful in being awarded a $130,582 grant through the Idaho Departement of Parks and Recration for general parking lot maintenance and river enhancement at the Bates Access Park. See attached Grant Application form and site plan for additional information.

Weeds:

Drone Sprayer – Weeds recently received our drone sprayer. Weed Superintendent Cammeron Hyronemous is working toward acquiring required licenses and permits for use. We hope to be able to start using the drone for broadcast treatment later this fall.



Attachments:

SH33 Congestion Study Whitepaper
SH33 Access Closure Plan
IDPR Award Letter
RTP Grant Proposal
Site Plan