# Foundation for Ada/Canyon Trail Systems (F.A.C.T.S.)
# (Recorded) Minutes of July 23, 2025
# Meeting called for 3:00 PM

In attendance:
Officers: Bill Gigray, President, Bill Mullane, Vice President and Sharon Hubler, Secretary
Directors: Mark Eubank, Robert Minch, Gary Payne, Paul Mann, Wava Kaufman and Will Anderson
Agency "ex officio": Cody Swander Parks & Recreation Director Nampa, Meg McCarthy, Bike/Ped Program Coordinator ACHD and Robin Camp, Program & Education Specialist, Ada County Parks & Waterways

Call to Order — Vice Pres. Bill Mullane

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 MDT by VP Bill Mullane.

Approve Agenda – Move to Approve, Additions/Reorder

*It was moved by Mark Eubank, seconded by Will Anderson to approve the Agenda. All voted in favor. Motion carried.*

Officers' Reports

1. Secretary's Report — Sharon Hubler, Secretary
   *It was moved by Sharon Hubler, seconded by Mark Eubank to approve the Minutes of June 25, 2025. All voted in favor. Motion carried.*
2. Treasurer's Report — Phil Peterson, Treasurer
   As of July 23, 2025, the Bank Balance is $11,039.06 at D.L. Evans Bank. *It was moved by Robert Minch, seconded by Mark Eubank to accept the Treasurer's Report. All voted in favor. Motion carried.*

AGENCY Reports (if applicable, where are agencies in budget process? Budgets planned for next year, publication and appropriation)

CITY of NAMPA – Cody Swander – City of Nampa is enjoying a grant from LHTAC for design and I think I've talked on it before, but it's because it's been a long time coming. We're in design process now for the Orr pathway, which is a north-south connection between the Wilson pathway and the Edwards pathway. Council voted to approve the grant for FY '26, which has a public hearing August 18 representing a large fiscal commitment to pathways from the city of Nampa.

CITY of KUNA – Wava Kaufman – She emailed Doug Hanson for budget information but has not heard back. Kuna lost its Parks & Recreation Director Bobby Withrow, age 40, July 1 after he had battled cancer for 11 years. Betwixt and between right now.

ADA COUNTY PARKS & WATERWAYS – Robin Camp – Commissioners have tentatively approved budget for FY'26 with the highest priority given the Barber Park Greenbelt proposal. Full approval will take place in August.

CITY of GARDEN CITY – Bill Mullane – He's not intimately involved in the Garden City budget process and kind of on the sidelines as Parks and Waterways committee member. But I have looked at the budget and it pretty much proceeds in a standard fashion every year, and there are not many changes, you know, up or down a little, maybe percentages here and there unless there would be a big initiative.

3. Vice President's Report — Bill Mullane, Vice President
   a) 52nd Street Bridge – nexus of Boise, Garden City, Ada County and points West and Plantation Island and Idaho Department of Lands as well. And, as you all know, we've been working diligently to find a solution to the impassable gap on 52nd Street.
   b) Meetings with COMPASS and Tommy Ahlquist – Sharon and Bill M. in person with Craig Raborn, COMPASS Executive Director and Bill G. on Zoom June 24. Gave Craig background on FACTS; coming from Houston, TX Craig has a lot of

background in trail development, pathway development and how all that interacts with road and street systems. The next day, June 25 Judy Peavey-Derr had put a meeting together with Tommy Ahlquist at his office in Meridian along with Craig Raborn, Toni Tisdale, Bill M. and some of Tommy's staff. Tommy is doing a big development in the Boise area along the green belt for the College of Western Idaho taking place on Main Street where it crosses the Boise River (formerly Bob Rice Ford property.) Judy's thought was to get a meeting arranged with Tommy, tell him more about FACTS and the work being done on the 52nd Street Bridge project. The thinking is with the College of Western Idaho going in, there'll be even more pressure on the green belt with users and students and staff and faculty. 52nd Street suddenly becomes not that far away. Tommy looked at the big picture and saw some different shortcuts that could be made over-land rather than the bridge and promised to make some calls. It's great that somebody of his prominence is willing to do that follow-up. Judy mentioned some changes that are taking place. Even though Plantation Island is in Garden City's jurisdiction, it is owned by the Idaho Foundation for Parks & Lands. Garden City would like to transfer responsibility for maintenance and law enforcement by de-annexing Plantation Island and making it part of unincorporated Ada County. A letter from Garden City Mayor Evans went to Ada County Commission July 22nd acknowledging the significant gap in the greenbelt, FACTS involvement, the $2,000,000 grant request received by Garden City for construction of the bridge and the disappointment that $2m would not be enough to complete the bridge. These federal funds could be lost if not utilized by FY'27. Potentially, the administration and completion of the bridge project could be positive in Ada County's hands given its expertise and resources so Bill M. sees it as a hopeful? development. Robert Minch had to be away for a while. He asked whether Ahlquist did express a preference for a land route as the key pathway on the south side of the river? Bill M. responded easement ownerships are still in the Floodway but did not try to dissuade Tommy from exploring.

Bill Gigray joined the meeting displaying the Côte d'Ivoire flag and apologized for being late.

4. President's Report — Bill Gigray, President
   a) Plantation Island – Bill had a phone communication with Kendra Kenyon, Executive Director of the Idaho Foundation for Parks & Lands, which owns Plantation Island regarding the 52nd Street Bridge Project. The Foundation has trouble getting a commitment from city of Boise, city of Garden City, county or anyone else to maintain the pathways and the two bridges on the island. She had tried to negotiate with the city of Boise couple years ago. It seemed okay for a while, but nothing has happened so far. If IFP&L were to transfer Plantation Island to the FACTS board Bill's recommendation would be to make a request to the city of Garden city, the county as well as Boise; that if we don't get a commitment or we don't have a donor that would donate enough money for us to maintain the bridges and the pathways the FACTS board would close it off and there will be a dead end on the Boise side as well as anyone going west, and they're all going to
   have to go through Remington, or whatever's left there and meander around to get farther west, and in his mind there'd be an outrage over that, and I think it would probably provide enough public momentum for getting some kind of commitment out of one of these agencies to do this. Board of IFP&L likely would

not do that because of fundraising and the basic neutrality that a Land Trust maintains in political matters. No vote today but President Bill just wanted to test the waters to see if the IFP&L board would have an interest or appetite for ownership of Plantation Island.
Bill asked Gary Payne to respond; Gary said that FACTS does not have the management style or history to take on additional responsibilities nor a board that has so far galvanized and able to raise money. Until a government entity assumes such a responsibility he would not be in favor of FACTS' owning Plantation Island.
Bill M. traverses the island all the time throughout the year. Though city of Boise does a great job ploughing the greenbelt, Boise goes only as far as the bridge and pulls up the plow and turns back. What would be the true cost of contracting with Boise to plow another quarter mile on the pathways? Bill G. admitted that maintenance is a problem with deteriorating asphalt and planks on the bridges. Bill G. asked permission to proceed with talking to Kendra and see if the talks with city of Boise are moving forward. This has to be figured out, one way or another. 52nd Street Bridge draws our attention and perhaps coalesces the divisions existing between and among the cities and county. Mark Eubank would like to see Jimmy Hallyburton, Boise City Council, drawn into the big picture of this jurisdictional and geographical dilemma. Gary P. said he assails Garden City's sitting out its responsibilities and, frankly, it's someone else's, not FACTS problem.

b) Idaho Department of Lands Easement expires this year - Bill G. will not apply for an extension at this time because the bridge is maybe not in the right alignment and no funding has been secured other than the $2m, so he'll let it sunset.
c) Plantation Island naming opportunity – done in consultation with IFP&L of course but what about another addition to the string of pearls parks named after women; i.e., Katherine Albertson, Julia Davis, Kristen Armstrong, Ann Morrison and see if Ahlquist would like the island named after a female member of his family? Will Anderson thought it was kind of a cool concept and good riddance to the Plantation nomenclature. Judy Peavey-Derr may want to mention that to Tommy. Bill M. will follow-up with Judy. On a more positive note, Gary P. added The Park at EXPO development is going to change the dynamic considerably. People are going to be spending more time there. They're going to perhaps be more inclined to invest in a connection between the North and the South side. So, it may be we're just at the wrong time. Let's let The Park at EXPO develop and then have the conversation about who's going to maintain the island and what kind of connections are needed between the two sides of the river.
d) Standards Committee Staffing – Co-opt and work with staff at COMPASS to obtain similar design and classification and maintenance standards for pathways. Bill attended a meeting at which Crystal Craig, PE, Director of Transportation for the city of Nampa was present. There's talk of a bridge over the Boise River aligning with Franklin Road. Crystal could be a good person to help staff the Standards Committee. Bill G. shared Google Earth adroitly and it helps a lot to capture the mind-boggling growth that is occurring in the valley. It's truly important to have in mind among and between the various jurisdictions the dead-set goal of having pathways on both sides of the river all the way from Boise to Caldwell with the attendant river crossings/bridges noted. Five lanes on

Hwy. 20/26 all the way between Star Road/Hwy. 16 to Middleton. Cody will email Crystal Criag's contact information.

e) Recruitment of FACTS board members – start thinking of persons you might think could be new members, particularly from Nampa and Meridian. Bill G. thought FACTS should be part of Idaho Gives a statewide nonprofits fundraiser.

AGENCY Reports (con't)

CITY of CALDWELL – Paul Mann – Parks & Recreation Director rewriting the ordinance for the P&R Commission subsequent to which there will be a meeting with Planning & Zoning Commission August 11. Paul noticed a pathway on Hwy. 55 heading west off to the left to Middleton Road from Home Depot. Will Anderson has promised Roger Brooks, Destination Caldwell a bike ride along the Wilson Pathways which dead ends at Lone Star and Middleton Roads. It can be accessed all the way to the former D & B site on Nampa-Caldwell Blvd. in Caldwell, then getting across to Griffiths Park would present some problems with ownership but Roger has good standing with mayor and council. Again, Bill G. was successful in uploading Google Earth and going forward on the canal service roads it goes under the Phyllis Canal to Caldwell. Will Anderson said it could be phenomenal if co-operation from canal companies were arranged.

ACHD – Meg McCarthy – about to release 'draft' Five-Year Plan, not online yet but still in revision. We have shifted our priorities to cities or our partners' agencies' top community projects. Eagle submitted a pretty high priority on Linder from Chinden to Hwy. 44 moving it up in construction and design. ITD has a survey asking for feedback on Chinden and Meg suggested everyone take the survey about how important pathways and sidewalk and bike connections and crossings are across Chinden as well. The service area is Garden City from Five Mile to where Main and Fairview split. The survey is open until August 1. The Linder overpass connecting to Kuna gives a timeframe of 2026 for its construction. Wava was asked about Kuna and she reported that they recently did a bike "Safe Routes to Schools", which they had to abandon since it was unsafe for bicyclists. There are no bike lanes and Linder is single lane all the way out to Swan Falls High School; it's not a friendly road at all. Bill G. asked Wava if she knew where the transmission lines for these new data centers were going underneath which pathways and parks can be located. Not known right now. Since Meg is familiar as she rides the route on Glenwood was asked about what improvements there are. There's no construction happening. They're looking at putting a pathway on the west side of the bridge, which is great, but not the other side was her response. As to the unimproved side path close to EXPO they did not widen it but smoothed it, ridding some goat heads and making it less treacherous.

OUTREACH – Mark Eubank and Patty had the FACTS Information table 3x, the last time at Baggley Park on the south side since the north side trail had been cut off. The trail goes right up into the Warm Springs Golf Club House, grand opening 7/31. The Club House is open to the public and welcomes bikers. Caldwellites should co-ordinate with Mark on having the FACTS information booth at the Indian Creek Festival slated for September.

The Next Meeting of FACTS will be Wednesday, August 27th.

The meeting stood Adjourned at 4:42 MDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hubler, Secretary