



July 3, 2018

**TO:** ACHD Board of Commissioners &  
Bruce S. Wong, Director

**FROM:** Scott Spears, Assistant General Counsel

**SUBJECT:** Resolution Number 2242 calling for a November 6, 2018 ballot measure to reauthorize and increase Ada County Vehicle Registration Fees

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEM – July 11, 2018 Commission Meeting**

---

The attached resolution and ballot language puts the question of the reauthorization and increase of Ada County's Vehicle Registration Fees before voters in the November General Election. The Commission must call for the election and set the exact amount of the fee for the voters to consider.

Idaho Code Section 40-1416 authorizes the voters of Ada County to approve a local vehicle registration fee. An election to approve or disapprove the adoption of a vehicle registration fee may be called by the adoption of a resolution by the ACHD Board of Commissioners.

Since 1990, Ada County voters have twice approved a local vehicle registration fee to increase transportation mobility and safety. The funds, generally matched with impact fees from development, underwrite projects to reduce traffic congestion and to build neighborhood-level improvements under the jurisdiction of the Ada County Highway District. Vehicle registration fees (currently \$40 maximum on a new vehicle, less for an older one) have not kept pace with growth and construction costs. This measure would reauthorize and increase the vehicle registration fees to *exclusively* provide additional congestion relief, to undertake major road improvements and other large mobility projects, and to continue the enhanced funding of neighborhood projects and Safe Routes to School.

The current vehicle registration fee approved in 2008 (\$40 on a new car, less for an older vehicle) is due to expire at the end of 2029. Resolution Number 2242 proposes maximum fee on a new vehicle of \$70, an increase of \$30 over the existing, maximum fee. Only vehicles one and two years old would be subject to the highest fee. The average vehicle in Ada County is nine years old and the owner would be subject to a \$42 fee under the ballot proposal.

Resolution Number 2242 proposes January 1, 2019 implementation date for the new fee to ensure that progress is made quickly on the following: 1. Capital projects, specifically those targeting the reduction of traffic congestion, such as improved signalization technology,

intersection improvements and enhancing mobility infrastructure; 2. Large-scale projects, such as the replacement of aging infrastructure and the improvement of key mobility corridors, such as Linder Road and State Street; and 3. Creation of new safe-routes-to-school, sidewalk and bicycle facilities within the Ada County Highway District's jurisdiction.

Because of inflation, the maximum fee of \$40 approved in 2008 now has a buying power of a little over \$32. As a result of inflation and due to project demands in excess of revenues, ACHD's current backlog of projects and unmet needs exceeds \$200 million dollars in Capital Projects, \$200 million dollars in Community Programs, and \$300 million in the Pedestrian & Bicycle Transition Plan.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The proposed Vehicle Registration Fee will result in an increase of Vehicle Registration Fees revenues of \$7.5 million dollars annually over current Vehicle Registration Fees revenues.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Approve and adopt Resolution Number **2242** (Attachment "1") calling for an election to reauthorize and increase the Ada County Vehicle Registration Fees.
2. Do not approve and adopt Resolution Number **2242** (Attachment "1") calling for an election to reauthorize and increase the Ada County Vehicle Registration Fees.
3. Revise Resolution Number **2242** (Attachment "1") calling for an election to reauthorize and increase the Ada County Vehicle Registration Fees and approve and adopt the revised resolution.

Attachment - 1  
Resolution Number **2242** w/ Exhibit "A"

# # #

RESOLUTION NO. 2242

BY THE ADA COUNTY HIGHWAY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:  
SARA M. BAKER, REBECCA W. ARNOLD, JIM D. HANSEN, KENT  
GOLDTHORPE, AND PAUL WOODS.

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION TO APPROVE OR  
DISAPPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION AND COLLECTION OF A LOCAL  
VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE IN ADA COUNTY, AND FOR APPROVAL OF  
THE PROPOSED GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT QUESTION.

WHEREAS, Idaho Code 40-1416 provides that countywide highway  
districts may adopt a resolution calling for an election to approve or disapprove  
the implementation and collection of a local vehicle registration fee for the  
purpose of generating funds to be used exclusively for the construction, repair,  
maintenance, and traffic supervision of the highways within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, said resolution may call for an election to approve or  
disapprove the implementation and collection of a local vehicle registration fee at  
a general election held in even numbered years;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners adopts the proposed General  
Election Ballot language, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and  
incorporated by reference.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED by a majority  
vote of the Board of Commissioners of the Ada County Highway District:

A. VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE

1. That the Commissioners of Ada County Highway District  
hereby call for an election to approve or disapprove the implementation  
and collection of a local vehicle registration fee at the general election to  
be held on November 6, 2018.

2. That the costs incurred, if any, to conduct the election for the  
District shall be charged against the District, and shall be paid by the  
District.

3. That the exact rate of the local vehicle registration fees  
implemented and collected for the various classifications of vehicles will  
not exceed two times the amount which the County Assessor currently  
collects pursuant to Idaho Code 49-402, will be in addition to those vehicle  
registration fees currently collected by the County Assessor, and will be as  
follows:

a. Each pickup truck and each other motor vehicle having a maximum gross weight not in excess of eight thousand (8,000) pounds, designed for the purpose of carrying passengers, and not used for hire:

Vehicles seven (7) or more years old .....	\$42.00
Vehicles three (3) to six (6) years old .....	\$63.00
Vehicles one (1) and two (2) years old .....	\$70.00

b. Each motor vehicle, equipped to carry passengers and operate primarily for hire and each school bus, identified in I.C. 49-402(2) ..... \$28.00

c. Each motorcycle and terrain vehicle ..... \$14.00

4. That the duration of the local vehicle registration fees implemented and collected will continue until altered or repealed by voters. Upon approval of the electors, the existing 2008 authorization of the local vehicle registration fees shall be repealed on January 1, 2019.

5. That the above referenced local vehicle registration fees shall not be increased without the subsequent approval of the voters.

6. That those funds generated by the local vehicle registration fees will be used exclusively for:

- I. Capital projects, specifically those targeting the reduction of traffic congestion, such as improved signalization technology, intersection improvements and enhancing mobility infrastructure;
- II. Large-scale projects, such as the replacement of aging infrastructure and the improvement of key mobility corridors, such as Linder Road and State Street;
- III. Creation of new safe-routes-to-school, sidewalk and bicycle facilities within the Ada County Highway District's jurisdiction.

7. That the Ada County Highway District shall contract with the State of Idaho for the collection, distribution, and administration of the fee and under the definitions, rules, and regulations for the collection and administration of other registration fees as set forth in Chapter 4, Title 49, Idaho Code.

8. That the vehicle registration fee shall not become part of the state highway account or state highway distribution account.

B. GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

1. That the Exhibit "A" General Election Ballot is hereby approved and shall be forwarded to the Ada County Board of Elections to be placed on the November 6, 2018 General Election Ballot.

ADOPTED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

BOARD OF HIGHWAY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS OF ADA COUNTY,  
IDAHO:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara M. Baker, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca W. Arnold, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim D. Hansen, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kent Goldthorpe, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Woods, Commissioner

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Since 1990, Ada County voters have twice approved a local vehicle registration fee to increase transportation mobility and safety. The funds, generally matched with impact fees from development, underwrite projects to reduce traffic congestion and to build neighborhood-level improvements under the jurisdiction of the Ada County Highway District. Registration fees (currently \$40 maximum on a new vehicle, less for an older one) have not kept pace with growth and construction costs. This measure would reauthorize and increase the fees to exclusively provide additional congestion relief, to undertake major road improvements and other large mobility projects, and to continue the enhanced funding of neighborhood projects and safe routes to school.

RATE OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES

- a. Each automobile, pickup truck or other motor vehicle having a maximum gross weight not exceeding eight thousand (8,000) pounds, designed for the purpose of carrying passengers, and not used for hire:
  - Vehicles seven (7) or more years old -----\$42.00
  - Vehicles three (3) to six (6) years old -----\$63.00
  - Vehicles one (1) and two (2) years old -----\$70.00
- b. Each motor vehicle, equipped to carry passengers and operate primarily for hire and each school bus, identified in I.C. 49-402(2)-----\$28.00
- c. Each motorcycle and terrain vehicle-----\$14.00

LENGTH OF TIME

This annual vehicle registration fee will start January 1, 2019 and will be in effect until altered by voters.

- o A YES (approve) vote will reauthorize the local vehicle registration fees.
- o A NO (disapprove) vote will retain the existing fees.