



**Lewiston City Council
WORK SESSION AGENDA
December 1, 2025 - 3:00 PM
Lewiston Bell Building – Second Floor Conference Room – 215 D Street
Lewiston, Idaho 83501**

Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. All others who wish to observe this meeting may watch and listen to the livestream on their own device(s) by visiting the City of Lewiston's website at cityoflewiston.org.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. CITIZENS COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for individuals wishing to comment on agenda items or other matters they wish to bring to the Council's attention, excluding those scheduled for a public hearing. As there may not be another opportunity to comment once an agenda item is addressed, individuals are encouraged to speak at this time. Individuals are encouraged to discuss operational issues in advance with the Mayor. In consideration of others wishing to speak, commentary is limited to three (3) minutes.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Please note that identifying an item as an "Action Item" does not require the City Council to vote on that item.

- A. **PRAYER AT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:** Discussion on opening City Council meetings with an invocation (prayer), as requested by Councilor Klein through a motion at the September 22, 2025 City Council meeting - Action Item (Councilor Klein)
- B. **TRANSPORTATION UPDATE:** Receiving an update on the City of Lewiston's Capital Transportation Projects for the 2026 Fiscal Year - Action Item (Public Works Director Johnson)
- C. **AMENDED NOTICE OF SEWER AVAILABILITY LETTER RE SUNSET ESTATES SUBDIVISION:** Consideration of City's willingness to extend City sewer services beyond city limits for proposed Sunset Estates Subdivision development in Nez Perce County - Action Item (City Attorney Tengono)

V. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. **CITY COUNCILOR COMMENTS:** Comments shall not be related to an item currently before the City Council or an item that may come before the City Council in the foreseeable future, and shall be limited to comments, not discussion.
- B. **CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS LIAISON UPDATES**
- C. **MAYOR COMMENTS**

D. AGENDA TOPICS: - Action Item

VI. ADJOURNMENT - Action Item

The City of Lewiston is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, and activities and encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided at this meeting, please contact Nikki Province, ADA Coordinator, at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting at 208-746-3671 x 6211.

Proposed Opening Invocation Led by Police Chaplain

REPORT TO THE LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

Re: Proposed Opening Invocation Led by Police Chaplain

Date: November 18, 2025

Prepared at the request of Council Member Jessica Klein

Purpose

To provide verifiable sources and data on the use of opening prayer or invocation in city council meetings across Idaho's largest cities so council members may independently evaluate the proposal.

Key Findings from Idaho Cities

(Sample = Top 15 cities by 2025 population estimates; represents the state's major urban centers and ~55 % of Idaho's city population)

Metric (November 2025)	Result
Cities with accessible online agendas/minutes	100 % (15 of 15)
Cities that include an opening prayer/invocation	67 % (10 of 15)
Cities that do not	33 % (5 of 15)

- Common formats: "Invocation" or "Opening Prayer" delivered by local clergy, guest faith leaders, citizen volunteers, or (in several cases) police/fire chaplains.
- Police or fire chaplains are used routinely or frequently in at least three of the "Yes" cities (Nampa, Caldwell, Eagle).
- No sampled city restricts the invocation **exclusively** to its police chaplain, but several designate the chaplain as the default or primary provider for consistency and decorum.

Legal Framework (unchanged since 2014)

Town of Greece v. Galloway (U.S. Supreme Court, 2014) permits legislative prayer, even sectarian, provided it is not used to proselytize or disparage and the selection process is nondiscriminatory. Courts have repeatedly upheld single-source models (including city-chaplain-only) when the policy is content-neutral and justified by administrative convenience and decorum.

Advantages of Using the Police Chaplain

- Guarantees a solemn, non-polemic, and reflective tone
- Eliminates volunteer scheduling challenges
- Provides a familiar and trusted community voice tied to public safety
- Significantly reduces risk of controversial or divisive content

Resources for Self-Verification (Top 15 Cities)

All links active November 18, 2025. Opening any September–November 2025 regular council agenda or packet will typically show the practice (or lack thereof).

Rank	City	Official Website	Agendas/Minutes Link	Prayer/Invocation
1	Boise	https://www.cityofboise.org	https://www.cityofboise.org/departments/city-clerk/city-council-meetings/	Yes
2	Meridian	https://meridiancity.org	https://meridiancity.org/government/city-council/	Yes
3	Nampa	https://www.cityofnampa.us	https://www.cityofnampa.us/94/City-Government	Yes (Chaplain frequent)
4	Caldwell	https://www.cityofcaldwell.org	https://www.cityofcaldwell.org/Government/City-Council/Council-Meetings	Yes (Chaplain/clergy)
5	Idaho Falls	https://www.idahofallsidaho.gov	https://www.idahofallsidaho.gov/AgendaCenter/City-Council-2	No
6	Pocatello	https://pocatello.gov	https://pocatello.gov/AgendaCenter/City-Council-1	Yes
7	Coeur d'Alene	https://www.cdaid.org	https://www.cdaid.org/government/city-council/agendas-minutes	Yes (lottery system)
8	Twin Falls	https://www.tfid.org	https://www.tfid.org/AgendaCenter/City-Council-1	Yes
9	Post Falls	https://www.postfalls.gov	https://www.postfalls.gov/agendacenter	No
10	Rexburg	https://www.rexburg.org	https://www.rexburg.org/government/city-council	No
11	Lewiston	https://www.cityoflewiston.org	https://www.cityoflewiston.org/720/Agendas-Minutes	No (current)
12	Eagle	https://www.cityofeagle.org	https://www.cityofeagle.org/312/City-Council	Yes (Chaplain frequent)
13	Kuna	https://www.kunacity.id.gov	https://www.kunacity.id.gov/AgendaCenter/	Yes
14	Moscow	https://www.ci.moscow.id.us	https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/314/City-Council	No
15	Ammon	https://cityofammon.us	https://cityofammon.us/departments/administration/city-council/	Yes

Summary

Opening prayer or invocation is used by two-thirds (67 %) of Idaho's fifteen largest cities. Designating the Lewiston Police Chaplain as the regular provider would place Lewiston squarely within established statewide practice among comparable communities, while offering maximum control over tone and content—all fully consistent with federal constitutional standards.

Respectfully submitted for the Council's consideration.

Additional verification or expansion to more cities available upon request.



CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

ITEM TITLE TRANSPORTATION UPDATE	AGENDA NO. IV. B. AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2025
ITEM SUMMARY (Background, Discussion, Key Points, Recommendations, etc.) An update from Public Works on Capital Transportation Projects for FY 2026.	
BUDGET IMPACT (Identify any or all impacts this proposed action would have on the City budget and/or personnel resources) There is approximately \$8.8 million dollars programmed for Transportation capital improvement projects in FY 2026.	
ACTION PROPOSED Staff requests City Council consideration of the information presented in the prepared memo and during the meeting to provide direction for Capital Transportation projects.	



Memo

To: Lewiston City Council

From: Dustin Johnson, PE, Public Works Director

Copy: Shannon Grow, Community Development Director
Jason Kuzik, Lewiston Chief of Police
Luke Antonich, PE, City Engineer
Alannah Bailey, PE, Project Supervisor - Transportation & Water

Date: November 21, 2025

Subject: **2026 Transportation - City Council Update**

The City of Lewiston has kicked off their annual Transportation Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) update process. This process is intended to collect feedback from the public regarding how the City should invest in their transportation infrastructure. Included with this memo is an exhibit that outlines the schedule and key dates for submitting feedback.

With the recent failure of the Main Street bond, the City of Lewiston will continue to evaluate the direction and priorities of its capital transportation program. The City Council has continued to dedicate significant funding each year to improve the principal arterials. The funding levels are now nearing a point to where significant projects can be considered. Major arterials such as Bryden, Thain, and Main Street all face unique challenges that will need to be addressed in the near future.

For FY 2026 the City of Lewiston has roughly \$8.8 million dollars programmed for transportation capital construction or preservation. \$6 million dollars of this is the reconstruction of Snake River Avenue from Southway Avenue to 11th Avenue. The typical funding sources for transportation projects vary from grants, Federal allocations, local dollars, and gas tax. At the December 1st work session City staff will walk through the various types of funding and the types of projects that would qualify for funding. Included with this memo is the transportation 5-year funding forecast.

One grant that the City has had success with in the past is the Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (LHSIP). There are currently two LHSIP projects programmed, 8th Street Safety Improvements (construction in FY 2027) and Bryden Canyon Overlay (construction in FY 2028). The total value of these two projects is roughly \$3.8 million dollars. The criteria for receiving LHSIP funding is tied to multiple serious injury accidents or a fatality. Included with this memo is a map of the qualifying fatalities within Lewiston's street network.

Moving forward with the City's next LHSIP application, staff will focus on the area of Thain and Bryden. This area has a qualifying fatality and a history of accidents. The basis of the application will be taken from the Thain Corridor Study. At the time of the adoption of the Thain Corridor Study, the City Council voiced concerns over some of the recommendations within the plan. The study included potential improvements to the intersection of Thain and Bryden. City staff would like to have a deeper conversation with the council as it relates to future transportation improvements along the Thain Road corridor, the pattern of significant accidents, and how best to move forward. The Lewiston Police Department will be at the work session to speak to their first hand experience in responding to accidents in this corridor.

The annual transportation CIP process allows City staff, the City Council, and the public to discuss where they want the City to invest in the major transportation network. City staff hopes the December 1st work session will be the beginning of this larger conversation that will lead into a consensus regarding which projects should be prioritized moving forward.

Enclosed:

- Transportation CIP Process Flyer
- 5-Year Transportation Budget
- Screenshot of fatalities in the right-of-way



Transportation Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Annual Update Process



Updated to reflect progress from prior years, adjust ongoing projects with new data or needs, and integrate fresh initiatives.

A vital guide, prioritizing major transportation improvements like roadway reconstruction, overlay, sidewalk infill, traffic signal upgrades, etc. based on the following criteria:

MOBILITY

- Connectivity
- Transportation Choices
- Reduces Congestion
- Level of Road Classification

LIVABILITY

- Accessibility
- Improves Access to Transit Routes
- Improves Bike Access
- Compatibility with Nearby Land Use

SAFETY

- Pedestrian Safety
- Bike Safety
- Vehicle Safety

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE

- Pavement Condition
- Improves Priority Spot / Corridor
- Identified in Existing Plan / Study

ECONOMIC VITALITY

- Re / Development Potential
- Freight

Visit our website to learn more!

cityoflewiston.org/masterplans

EXPENDITURES

PROJECT SUMMARY - TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS - PROGRAMMED OR OBLIGATED FUNDING											
CIP#	PROJECT NAME	FUNDING SOURCE	TOTAL 5-YEAR COST	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	AFTER 2030	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FY26 BUDGET USE
P-001	Annual Street Preservation	Gas Tax / Property Tax	\$6,109,650	\$1,221,930	\$1,221,930	\$1,221,930	\$1,221,930	\$1,221,930	\$1,221,930	Annual Street Preservation Projects (slurry seal, seal & fog coat, other)	Construction
	MPO Membership	Local	\$47,500	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$9,500	Annual Lewis Clark Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (LCVMPO) Membership Dues	Dues
	ADA Improvements	FILO	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Annual Unknown / Unscheduled but Necessary ADA Improvement	Construction
	Infill Paving		\$750,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000		
	Sidewalk Master Plan	Property Tax	\$250,000	\$250,000							Design / Construction
	Main Street		\$100,000	\$100,000							
2020-098	Snake River Ave; Southway to 11th Reconstriontion (TR023)	FHWA & SI	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000						Reconstruct to 3-lane section, install sidewalk on east side, improve 11th Ave intersection, install sidewalk on the south side of 11th Ave to Prospect Ave, add NBR at Southway Roundabout.	Construction
2020-111	9th Street Grade Reconstruction (TR040)	FHWA	\$3,743,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$3,643,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	Reconstruction of failing retaining wall, sidewalk, and roadway.	Update PS&E
2020-120	Burrell Ave Sidewalk Infill; Thain to 14th (TR070)	Carbon Reduction	\$502,000	\$502,000						Installation of sidewalk, curb, gutter and pavement on the south side of Burrell Ave.	Construction
2020-122	Bryden Avenue Reconstruction - Phase I (TR036)	FHWA & URA / IMPACT / TBD	\$3,128,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,128,000	\$14,145,000	Reconstruct to 5 Lane Section, Sidewalk Both Sides, New Traffic Signals, Pedestrian Signal at 6th St, Stormwater System	
2020-134	Bryden Canyon Rd Overlay	LHSIP	\$2,081,000	\$348,000		\$1,733,000				Mill and overlay Bryden Canyon Rd from Southway Bridge to 8th Street on / off ramps, install warning signs, curve advanced warning signs, and / or dynamic speed warning with flashing beacons, install of signs and reflectors for freezing temperatures warning, potential speed limit flashing LED signs, potential rumble strips, and the reconstruction of pedestrian ramps at Southway Bridge.	
2020-140	8th Street Bike/Ped Improvements	TAP	\$560,000	\$91,000	\$469,000					Replace sidewalk between 10th Ave and 11th Ave, pedestrian ramps from 7th Ave to 11th Ave, new bicycle route from 5th Ave to 11th Ave.	Design
2020-140	8th Street Safety Improvements	LHSIP	\$1,769,000		\$1,769,000					Design corridor lighting, install new illumination from Vineyard Drive to Main Street. Restripe between 7th Ave and 5th Ave to add a 2-way left-turn lane.	
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$25,090,150	\$8,782,430	\$3,629,430	\$6,767,430	\$1,391,430	\$4,519,430	\$15,536,430		

Fatalities in the Right-of-Way

