

CH2M HILL, WGI to manage Idaho infrastructure program

In January, the Idaho Transportation Department Board selected Connecting Idaho Partners, a joint venture of Washington Group International and CH2M HILL, for the \$1.2 billion, six-year "Connecting Idaho-GARVEE Bond" transportation program.

"This selection allows our companies to continue our commitment to deliver high-quality and cost-effective transportation infrastructure to the citizens of Idaho," said Mike Kennedy, president of CH2M HILL's Transportation Business Group.

The proposed 250 miles of roadways will be funded using a Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle (often referred to as a GARVEE bond) that allows states to issue bonds to build highway projects and pay off the bonds using its future federal highway payments. Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne announced the GARVEE

program in April 2005 in his state of the state address to improve highway safety and expand commerce throughout the state.

In March, the state of Idaho's Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee approved the issuance of the initial \$200 million in GARVEE bonds for fiscal years 2006-2007. The motion also listed six corridors throughout the state that are approved for funding, giving the transportation board the authority and flexibility to determine the appropriate spending for each project. The corridors are:

- **U.S. 95, Worley to Setters:** This will involve a 28-mile, four-lane, divided highway except in areas where topography or environmental concerns require the lanes to run adjacent.
- **Interstate 84, Caldwell to Meridian:** This project will involve upgrades to the existing interstate and interchanges to accommodate growth in the Treasure Valley. Lanes will be added from the Meridian Interchange to the Franklin Interchange in Caldwell, as well as new interchanges and several possible connections to State Highway 16.
- **U.S. 30, McCammon to Soda Springs:** This segment will involve a series of projects completing a 33-mile, four-lane roadway from I-15 at McCammon to Soda Springs.

Connecting Idaho Partners

The Washington Group and CH2M HILL team is ideally suited for the statewide initiative. Together, both firms:

- bring the management experience and technical strengths of two of the nation's largest program management, design, and construction firms—the nation's No. 1 (CH2M HILL) and No. 4 (Washington Group) program managers as ranked by Engineering News-Record in 2005
- provide local experience and roots deep in Idaho and, as residents, have a vested interest in the success of the GARVEE program
- draw upon an unparalleled understanding of the Idaho transportation network and the GARVEE program—the companies have successfully completed more than 100 transportation projects in Idaho and are at work on projects within eight of the GARVEE corridors
- maximize opportunities for local, small Idaho businesses
- bring innovation and efficiencies to accelerate the schedule, improve project delivery and provide new practices to build and sustain long-term efficiencies



The roadway near Sandpoint is typical of many projects that will be completed under the GARVEE program.



The Connecting Idaho Vision reviewed the 2,076-mile network of multi-lane, high performance roadways, and identified six key corridors to be completed under the GARVEE program. Additional projects may be approved after 2007.

IN THE NORTHWEST



- **SH 16, I-84 to South Emmett:** This project will connect I-84 between Nampa and Meridian with SH 16, proceeding to the bottom of Freezeout Hill through a controlled access, four-lane, divided highway.
- **U.S. 95, Garwood to Sagle:** This project will create a 52-mile, four-lane, divided highway between Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint, with full access control requiring several interchanges.
- **I-84, Orchard to Isaacs Canyon:** This segment will upgrade the existing interchanges to accommodate rapid growth in Boise.

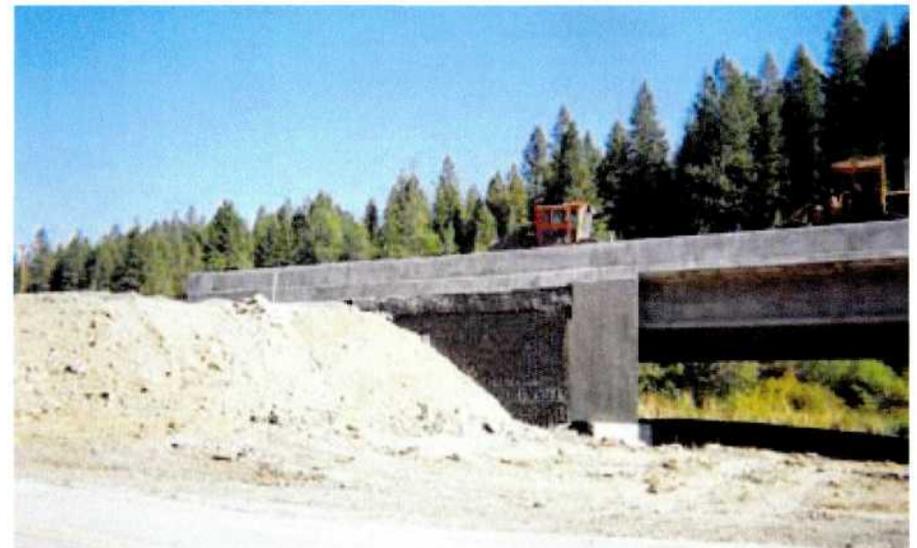
This landmark transportation program for Idaho continues a record of success for the firm in Idaho. CH2M HILL and the Washington Group have successfully completed more than 100 transportation projects throughout Idaho in the past 10 years. Key CH2M HILL project team members include Dick Jacobson, David Bennion and Bryan Nicol.

"As companies with deep roots in Idaho, Washington Group and CH2M HILL are delighted to apply our program management experience and technical strengths to an effort that will make our roads safer and more efficient," said Stephen G. Hanks, Washington Group president and chief executive officer.

Both firms will manage and staff the Connecting Idaho program from Boise, while maximizing opportunities for disadvantaged and

women-owned business enterprises and Idaho-based consultants and contractors. More than 100 engineering and construction contracts could be awarded during the life of the program.

For more information on this significant win for the firm, go to www.connectingidahopartners.com.  



The CH2M HILL team is already at work on numerous roadway sites in Idaho, such as the Worley Mica Creek project.