

ANSWERING THE GROWTH CHALLENGE

Idaho is the fastest growing state in the U.S. and with that growth comes significant challenges. This growth, if properly addressed, presents tremendous opportunities for job growth, new businesses and an expanded tax base to support facility improvements, education and other government priorities.

To accommodate this growth and remain competitive, cities must revitalize and expand basic infrastructure and amenities. The ability to use tax increment revenue and financing is often the only tool available to cities to meet these needs.

- Improve public infrastructure
- Redevelop deteriorating areas
- Encourage economic development & new jobs

Every Idaho city is unique and has different challenges and opportunities, making the versatility of urban renewal crucial to their success. Regardless of the public facility need, urban renewal allows cities to fund improvements that could not be made without it. Whether it is replacing an ageing water line or adding more inviting streetscapes, urban renewal is a vital tool to capitalize on economic development opportunities, resulting in revitalized and re-energized communities. This publication illustrates just a few of the hundreds of urban renewal projects that have been and are moving our cities forward. Urban Renewal remains a key component in making Idaho the most desired state in the country.



WHO WE ARE

The Redevelopment Association of Idaho, Inc. (RAI) is composed of urban renewal agencies and affiliated organizations from across the state of Idaho. The Association has no paid staff and is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors composed of local urban renewal agency members.

ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES

- To create a forum to facilitate communications between and among Idaho redevelopment practitioners and to facilitate compliance with applicable state laws and regulations.
- To collect and organize information to facilitate public understanding of urban renewal activities and practices in the state.
- To improve accountability and advance the effectiveness of the redevelopment tool through the proper formation and management of urban renewal agencies throughout the state.

RAI MEMBERS

Thirty-one (of the 44) urban renewal agencies from across the state are RAI members, representing cities ranging in size from Riggins (population 406) to Boise (population 223,154) and every size in between. These agencies have different missions that are specific to their own community needs. In addition, there are also ten affiliate members, organizations that support and participate in urban renewal activities.

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REDEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF IDAHO



CREATING NEW JOBS

Creating new jobs during revitalization efforts is a significant and ongoing goal of urban renewal agencies.

In Coeur d'Alene, the City, Ignite CDA and U.S. Bank joined together to create 500+ jobs at a new U.S. Bank service center on a former abandoned mill property. Ignite CDA funded the basic public infrastructure without which the project could not have been completed.



DOWNTOWN REVIVAL

Revitalizing downtown cores through infrastructure and streetscape improvements stimulates new development, renovations and new businesses.

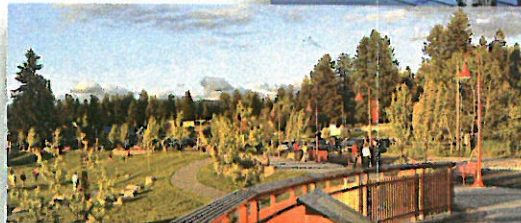
Twin Falls Urban Renewal Agency funded several key infrastructure improvements in downtown Twin Falls as part of a broad community planning effort to revitalize the downtown core. The project brings the Main Avenue up to ADA standards, improves visibility and access to local businesses and gives the community the ability to host large scale community events.

WELCOME TO IDAHO!

Tourism is a \$3.4 billion industry in Idaho, supporting 26,000 jobs. Gateway and resort cities must continually improve their amenities to remain competitive.

The Driggs Urban Renewal Agency worked with the City and the Idaho Dept. of Transportation to revitalize and create a more welcoming and pedestrian-friendly Main Street, a gateway to the Grand Targhee, Grand Teton and Yellowstone regions. Buried power lines, lighting improvements and extensive streetscaping led the effort.

One of McCall Redevelopment Agency's most dramatic projects has been the redevelopment of Legacy Park, creating a highly popular park for public access to Payette Lake, community and tourist events, street fairs and connections to the core business district.



A NEW VISION. A NEW OPPORTUNITY.

Improving underutilized property into new projects creates new businesses, new jobs and new growth opportunities.

The Moscow Urban Renewal Agency partnered with the developer of a new \$24 million multi-use development in a highly visible location near an entrance to the University of Idaho. Under an Owner Participation Agreement, the Agency will reimburse up to \$350,000 in environmental remediation and highway access improvements.

