University of Idaho

PREPARED BY CORE 175: EARTH AND OUT PLACE ON IT
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SPRING 2011

UI MOSCOW CAMPUS
SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

Transportation

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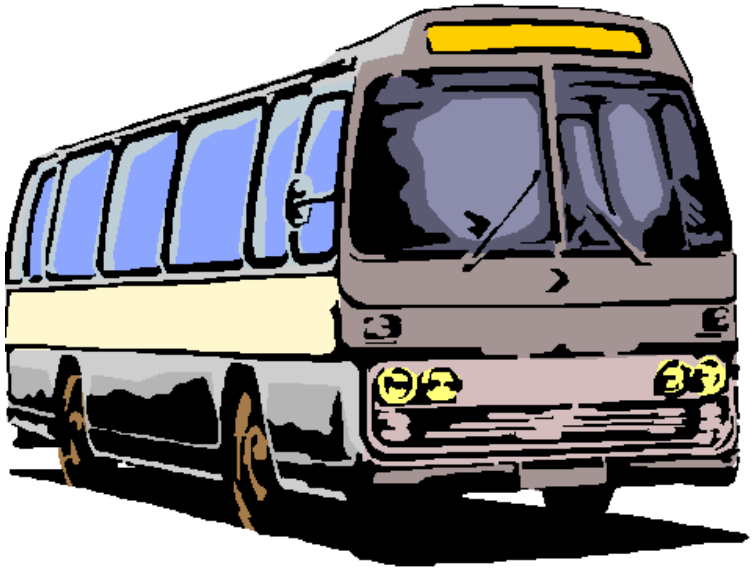
Trends in Transportation

"Public transportation trends are changing…and on the cusp of changing more dramatically when gas prices increase even higher. People are going to have a harder time being able to afford personal mobility, particularly in rural areas. The mobility needs of our citizens is going to be a challenge. Elderly and disabled who rely on public transportation are the biggest concern. Providing public transportation in rural areas, as I said earlier, for much of Idaho, are an even greater challenge. Regional transportation is likely to be motor-coaches until such time as rail becomes more cost-effective. I have no idea if and or when that would occur. Carpooling, vanpools, public transit, volunteer drivers providing mobility to elderly and disabled….are all working to some extent now. It all depends on Federal, State and local funding. Private funding is going to have to be sought out. Walking, as a local option is always a good one. Bicycle use will increase in communities and on college campuses. Transit is a crucial option but one that relies on funding subsidies."

-Carl Root, Director of University of Idaho Parking and Transportation Services



How often do University of Idaho students use Public Transportaiton?

21% Never use
1% Always
66% Sometimes

Student and Faculty Trends

CAMPUS TRANSPORTATION

Approximately **40%** of students and staff/faculty live on campus

- 100% walk on campus
- 32% will also ride bicycles

Approximately **60%** of students and staff/faculty live off campus

- 32% will commute to campus by bike
- 68% will commute by car
- 89% who park off campus will walk from parking spot to campus

How can we increase use in public transportation?

We can make public transportation more available to students, staff, and faculty.

78.4% of questioned individuals admitted they would seriously consider using public transportation for their commuting needs it were more readily available.

We can increase awareness.

Only 92.2% of individuals are aware of the bus service between Moscow and Pullman.

Only 54.7% of individuals are aware of the bus service between Moscow and Lewiston.

Only 90.1% of individuals are aware of the bus service in Moscow.

Did You Know?

The University of Idaho campus parking lots total to just over 44 acres

Automobile Transportation

AUTOMOBLIE TRENDS

Type of Automobile Used

68% of students, faculty, and staff travel to campus and to other destinations on the Palouse by automobile. A survey by the U of I Sustainability department and students concluded which vehicles were most common.

17%-SUV
5%-Minivan
16%-Pickup
7%-Full-size
22%-Midsize
31%-Compact
2%-Motorcycle or Scooter

Only 7% of surveyed individuals' automobiles can also be classified as hybrid or fuel-economy.

83% of students,faculty, and staff own a UI parking permit.

The Univeristy of Idaho Parking and Transportation Department reported sales in 2010 of just over 6,000 annual parking permits and 5,000 daily visitor permits.

Reasons for Personal Automobile Transportation

Students, faculty, and staff choose to travel by automobile for a variety of reasons.

22% of those individuals do not live in Moscow city limits which corresponds to the **22%** who choose to travel by car due to distance from campus

28% commute to car due to weather conditions

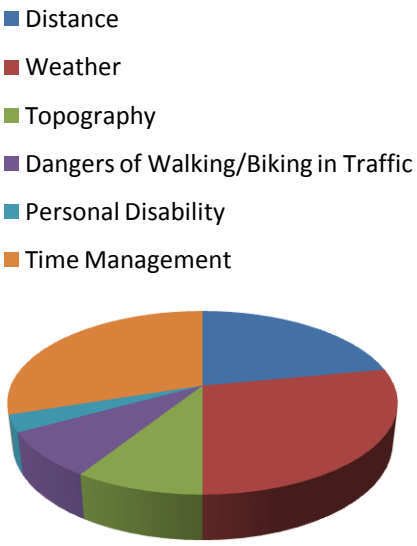
9% commute due to Topography of route

8% are worried of the dangers of traffic

3% have Personal Disabilities

30% use automobiles for Time Management reasons

Reasons for Travel



Alternate Transportation

TRENDS IN ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION

On Campus

WHICH MODE OF ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION IS MOST COMMON?

When asked what mode of transportation they would use to travel to campus without the use of their personal vehicle the results were:

- **33%-Bicycle**
- **23%-Walking**
- **17%-Carpooling**
- **26%-Bus Service**

As bicycling is the most common form of alternate transportation to, from, and on campus, aside from walking, we have examined the availability and safety of bike services on campus.

There are:

- **120 bicycle rack locations**
  - **2-3 covered**
- **2 bike air stations**
  - **Commons and UI Steam plant**
- **Bike lane on 6th Street from Line to Deakin Avenue**

Based off of bike lane condition, pavement smoothness, and shoulder width **93%** of bicycle riders feel safe.

To Place of Permanent Residence

WHICH METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION DO STUDENTS USE TO TRAVEL HOME?

Distance is a key factor when students determine the most cost effective and fuel efficient method to travel home.

106 students were surveyed to find the distance from the University of Idaho campus to their place of permanent residence.

7% live 10-50 miles away
16% live 50-100 miles away
56% live 250-500 miles away
15% live 500-1000 miles away
5% live over 1000 away

The same students were asked which method of transportation they used to travel home.

48% Drive or Carpool

However, 52% of travelers use an alternate mode of transportation.

38% Travel by Plane
14% Travel by Public Transportation

Frequency of Transportation

FREQUENCY

Students, Faculty, and Staff travel to and from campus during the day and travel back and forth from their permanent place of residence throughout the year.

On average, those who travel to and from campus daily make less than 2 trips

Those who travel to and from campus daily drive an average of 4 miles or less

Students that do not permanently live in Moscow or the surrounding areas make an average of 3 trips home throughout the year

How Are We Doing?

Students, Faculty, and Staff are traveling to and from campus multiple times per day and only a small portion of the general population utilizes alternative forms of transportation or owns a hybrid or fuel-efficient automobile.

Surveyed individuals expressed their need for improvements on the UI campus in terms of alternate transportation.

As gas prices continue to climb , the number of those using public transportation increases.

Students would like to see more covered bicycle racks. 35% of bicycle riders still travel in rain and snow.

Specific improvements for the Moscow Bus Service were surveyed:

20%-Want stops more convenient to residence

29%-Want Evening Service*

19%-Want more covered bus shelters

21%-Want more frequent bus stops**

11%-Want Weekend Service

With these improvements to the current UI and Moscow Public Transportation systems we can increase interest and hopefully usage of these systems.

By decreasing our use of gasoline-guzzling automobiles and increasing our use of alternate transportation we can greatly reduce the University of Idaho carbon footprint.

* -Current Service stops at 5 pm
**-Current Service stops Twice per hour

Did You Know?

For fiscal year 2008, revenues collected by the Moscow Police Department for parking fines and vehicle boots totaled $155,351.63

What Options Are There?

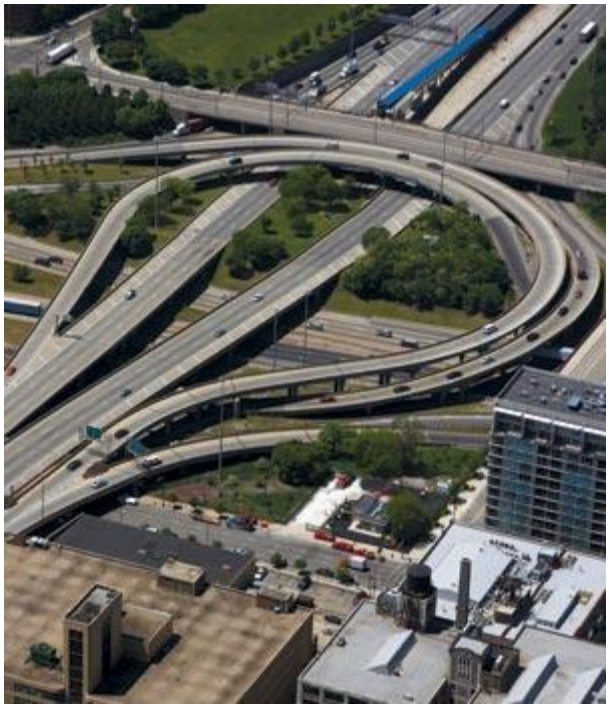
ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Public Transportation Options for Students, Staff, and Faculty

- Transit service within the city and connecting to the University of Idaho campus is provided by Moscow Valley Transit
- Inter-campus transportation between the University of Idaho and Washington State University is provided by Wheatland Express
- On-campus transportation for individuals with disabilities is provided by the Vandal Access Shuttle
- Regional transportation service (Boise, Coeur d'Alene) is provided by Northwestern Trailways
- A vanpool program is provided through the City of Moscow

Other alternative transportation options include:

- Zimride - a private ridesharing network for affiliates of the University of Idaho
- Palouse Rideshare - a ridesharing program for non-University of Idaho affiliates
- Holiday Break Bus - provides students rides to destinations in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington for academic breaks (fall, winter, and spring break)



Transportation

TRANSPORTATION NOTES

Staff interviewed in the assessment of this system (bold indicates primary contributors):

NAME	CAMPUS ROLE	INDICATOR(S) OF RELEVANCE
Carl Root	Director of UI Parking and Transportation Services	Trends in Transportation
Darin Saul	Sustainability Coordinator	Overall Guidance

REFERENCES

1. Daniel Jewel
2. Grady Shalz
3. Rebecca Capione
4. Kyle Ray
5. Beth Whitfield
6. Amanda Wilder

Statistical Information was collected from two surveys:

1) Survey done by Daniel, Grady, Rebecca, Kyle, Beth and Amanda in March/April 2011
2) Survey done by Sustainability Center in 2008