
"Partnering to promote, protect and preserve health in our community."

NEWS

Date: February 19, 2014

Contact: Christine Myron, Public Information Officer
(208) 327-8639 / Cell: (208) 871-1712

Grant Will Allow CDHD to Continue Mountain Home Complete Streets Initiative

Improving walking, cycling and transit options – these are the goals of creating a Complete Streets policy for the city of Mountain Home. A \$1,500 grant from the Idaho Community Foundation (ICF) will help the Central District Health Department (CDHD) continue the development of a policy that aims to provide all citizens, regardless of age or ability, the opportunity to be more physically active in Mountain Home. The policy will identify features such as the addition of bike lanes and sidewalk in the built environment that would help promote walking, cycling and transit use – elements beyond building solely for the automobile. Studies have shown that having a Complete Streets policy increases residents' use of active transportation, thereby reducing the likelihood of obesity.

"This grant from ICF will allow us to continue the important work of creating a plan for Mountain Home that will help encourage healthy habits of walking, biking or taking transit rather than driving a single occupancy vehicle to get to and from a destination. We are excited about what the future holds in Mountain Home with a Complete Streets policy in place," said Betty Ann Nettleton, Vice Chair of the CDHD Board of Health.

In May 2013, CDHD received a \$20,000 Childhood Obesity Prevention grant from the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health. To date, the grant has allowed an *Active Living Task Force* comprised of local stakeholders, to develop infrastructure recommendations that will be considered by Mountain Home City Council as part of the draft policy.

It is anticipated the Mountain Home City Council will consider the Complete Streets policy for adoption sometime this spring.

CDHD is working with local planner, Chris Danley of Vitruvian Planning, to guide the community through the Complete Streets project, which began in June 2013.

#