

RESOLUTION NO. 24-006

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CANYON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OPPOSING LEVY AND GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDING AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES IN IDAHO**

The following resolution and order was considered and adopted by the Canyon County, Idaho Board of Commissioners ("Board") on this 20th day of January, 2026.

**WHEREAS**, Canyon and Ada Counties share a Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) called Valley Regional Transit (VRT); and

**WHEREAS**, Canyon County participates in the governance of VRT with two county representatives serving on the Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization formed to create an association of local governments to work together and plan for the future; and

**WHEREAS**, Canyon County participates in the governance of COMPASS with all three county commissioners serving on the Board of Directors, and currently one is on the Executive Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, The VRT Board of Directors, at their meeting January 5, 2026, voted to approve the Executive Director of VRT speaking with Legislators during the 2026 legislative session about draft legislation to provide RPTAs with authority to ask voters to approve a property tax levy and for the issuance of general obligation bonds to further the purposes of RPTAs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Canyon County representative on the Board of Directors present for the vote on this matter voted in opposition to VRT pursuing legislation to obtain levy and general obligation bonding authority; and

**WHEREAS**, The COMPASS Board of Directors voted at their meeting of October 20, 2025, to approve their state legislative positions, which included language supporting enhanced revenue for public transportation, ostensibly the legislation being pursued by VRT; and

**WHEREAS**, Canyon County Commissioners support a public transportation system funded by federal grant dollars, user fees, and contributions from public and private partners as contemplated by the Idaho Legislature in 1994 when RPTAs were authorized in Title 40, Chapter 21, Idaho Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated revenue which would be collected if the current draft of the VRT legislation was approved by the Legislature, in Canyon County, using 2025 values, would be \$41,552,381, or \$100 per \$100,000 of taxable value on homeowners.

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**IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the Canyon County Board of Commissioners supports the current local process which allows public partners to balance VRT's annual performance and budget request with all other public agency needs and required public services. The Canyon County Board of Commissioners opposes legislation that would authorize RPTAs like VRT to request voter approval to levy and issue general obligation bonds for transit purposes.

That Regional Public Transportation Authorities should continue to secure federal funding for transportation and pursue their statutory purpose in partnership with local elected officials and private partners to meet the needs in the communities they serve, using the financial resource options the Legislature provided in creating RPTAs in 1994.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE BOARD**, that this resolution shall be effective this 20th day of January 2026.

X Motion Carried Unanimously  
\_\_\_\_ Motion Carried/Split Vote Below  
\_\_\_\_ Motion Defeated/Split Vote Below

	Yes	No	Did Not Vote
 _____ Commissioner Leslie Van Beek	<u>✓</u>	____	____
 _____ Commissioner Brad Holton	<u>X</u>	____	____
 _____ Commissioner Zach Brooks	<u>X</u>	____	____

ATTEST: JESS URRESTI, CLERK

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk