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State Actions Affecting Middleton

The Highway 44 alternate route south of Middleton is still on the state's books, but continues to not be a state funding priority, so no one knows if or when it will be built.

Mountain Monitors reported 70% of the irrigation water needed for the year was in snowpack and, if no additional snow is received, the remaining 30% will be released from existing water stored at the three Boise River dams: Lucky Peak, Arrowrock, and Anderson Ranch.

Idaho is scheduled to take over from EPA the issuing and enforcing of Pollution Discharge Elimination System (called IPDES) starting in July 2018. Middleton's IPDES permits with new standards for wastewater and stormwater will probably be renewed in 2019 after the transition to the state.

A traffic study and computer modeling are underway, followed by an 18-month environmental analysis and federal approval, before widening I-84 to at least three lanes each direction between Midland (Exit with Costco) and at least Franklin Rd. in Caldwell (Exit with Flying J). Construction is estimated to begin in 2020.

Keeping Middleton's "Small Town Feel"

We forecast 2018 will be sunny and generous in Middleton. *Life is better here!* It started in January when we enjoyed several sunny weeks of blue skies with clusters of playful cumulus clouds. Temperatures reached the low-50s, plants budded, and snow was in the mountains.

Middleton is growing at a rate of about 175 individuals or 5% per year. The population in the city, valley, and state are anticipated to steadily increase for the next 20 years. Some lucky residents have spent their entire lives in Middleton, some of us chose to move to Middleton, but each of us calls Middleton "home."

Most if not all are grateful for the community we have, and really don't want it to change. It is safe, peaceful (very low crime rate), quiet (compared to Boise, Meridian, Eagle, Kuna, Nampa, and Caldwell). When asked why people moved to Middleton, they respond with one of the following – the schools are great, the people are friendly, more space, more property, less traffic, or I just want to live in a smaller town.

Idaho was ranked No. 1 by percentage of in-migration, people moving here from other states. Meridian was ranked the 15th fastest growing city in the nation. In 2017, Middleton's population increased at a higher percentage than any other city in the state.

A "small town feel" can best be described as: peace and safety, good schools, generous residents, more property/larger lots, no traffic congestion, and community activities. Middleton School District, the City of Middleton, Middleton Rural Fire District, and Middleton Parks and Recreation District are all working to maintain these attributes.

Drinking water quality and quantity in town is abundant without any fluoride and only minimal chlorine treatment.

Paving the parking lot in Piccadilly Park is scheduled for March/April 2018 as soon as asphalt plants open. Three pedestrian crossings between Cemetery Rd. and Piccadilly Ave will be consolidated into one across Highway 44 between the middle school and the park. In March 2018 Splash Zone LLC. will start construction of the splash pad in Piccadilly Park, which is scheduled to be open by Memorial Day in May 2018. The farmers market is scheduled to open in July.

Middleton School District and the City are coordinating to reduce the number of bus stops on Highway 44. The city is continuing to improve sidewalks to schools, pathways for exercise, parks for recreation, library programs for academic achievement and social interaction, and roads and intersections to relieve traffic congestion.

Preserving Middleton's "small town feel" is top of mind for city leaders. Growing the community based on residents' values is the key. Together, we are maintaining the small town feel. Thank you for being a friendly and generous resident.

Local Taxing Districts

The city is made up of many different governing districts. It is important to understand that different districts have different leadership, rules, regulations and taxing abilities. This information should help when you have questions. Each of these districts has open meetings that can be attended to understand issues and provide input.

City of Middleton **585-3133**

City Council meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., City Hall. The City owns and manages the building, planning and police departments, library, city water and sewer systems, streets and drains, and the following parks: Roadside Park, Centennial Grove, Middleton Place Park, and Piccadilly Park.

Cemetery District **585-9394**

Cemetery Board Meetings: 2nd Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the Cemetery District Office. Owns and manages the Middleton Cemetery.

Fire District **585-6650**

Fire District Meetings: 2nd Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station. Owns and manages Middleton Rural Fire District.

Greater Middleton Parks & Rec. District **585-3461**

Park & Rec. Board Meetings: 2nd Thursday at the Parks and Rec. office. Owns and manages Hawthorne Park, Foote Park, and Ed Payne Park.

School District **585-3027**

School Board Meetings: 2nd Monday at 6:15 p.m. at the School District Office. Owns and manages all public schools in the Middleton area.

Calendar

Planning and Zoning
Public Meeting Rm.
6 N. Dewey Ave. 7:00 p.m. February 12

City Hall Closed
President's Day February 19

City Council
Public Meeting Rm.
6 N. Dewey Ave. 6:30 p.m. February 21



New Library Programs

The Library has added some really fun programs and activities for adults and children. Classes are held in the LAB, 6 N Dewey!

- On the first and third Saturday of every month we invite children ages 3-10 to come to the Library for a free sack lunch and to make a fun craft. This is a DIY activity so parents or guardians will need to stay and assist their children.
- Small Scientists meets every Monday at 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. This is a drop off preschool program for children ages 3-5. Classes are \$5 per class with the purchase of a \$25 punch card from the Library.
- Thursdays at 10:00 am, the Middleton Yarn & Fiber Friends meet. This is a social group for yarn and fiber craft enthusiasts and is open to any skill level.
- Kristen is teaching a fabulous PIYO class on Saturday mornings at 9:00 am. Eden teaches a dynamic Cardio Kick class on Thursday evenings at 7:45 pm. Classes are \$5 per class and participants can either pay at the door or purchase a \$25 punch card from the library.
- Tuesday, February 13th we will be offering a free introductory class on the basics of essential oils.

For more information about any of the upcoming programs and events please visit the website:
www.mymiddletonlibrary.org



Emergency 911
Non-Emergency Phone
208-585-0008