



Project Update | 2017

What's been done in the Vista Neighborhood so far? (2014-2017)

➤ Children & Youth Focus Area

- Boise Pre-K Project (expanded in 2016), provides early childhood education for 80 students at the two elementary schools in the neighborhood, Whitney and Hawthorne (program launched in Nov. 2015).
- Energizing Out of School Project: provides Hawthorne students with before & after school programs, in addition to summer-time programming at little-to-no cost through partnership between Parks & Recreation, YMCA, and Boys & Girls Club (launched in 2016).
- Van-Go Program at South Junior High – offers ~40 students/week an opportunity to engage in after school activities offered by the Sierra Club, local businesses, and other community partners at little-to-no cost (launched Jan. 2017).
- Native Plant Learning Center at Hawthorne Elementary, funded through NRG (Spring 2017).
- Expansion of the community garden at Whitney Elementary, funded through the Plan4Health Grant (summer 2016).

➤ Economic Development Focus Area: Vista Bench Business Association

- Formation of the Vista Bench Business Association, whose vision is to “protect the interests of its members, provide a larger regional voice in Boise City matters pertaining to the Vista Bench, and to support economic development on the Vista Bench.” (Summer 2016)
- Monthly First Friday Events sponsored by the VBBA (launched in Spring 2016), and bi-annual community events (Vista Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt held October 2016 and Vista Bench Summer Bash & Car Show held June 2017).
- Grant awarded to ULI for implementation of Healthy Corridors study recommendations (Spring 2017).

➤ Environment Focus Area

- NeighborWoods provided 118+ trees to Vista Neighborhood residents at no cost (2015).
- Grand Opening of the Atlantic Idea House, showcasing energy efficient and sustainable improvements that can be incorporated into any home (April 1, 2017).
- Atlantic Idea House tours will be available to the community (Spring 2017 – Fall 2017).

➤ Healthy Communities Focus Area

- The Healthy Communities Committee supported the VNA and local churches at the Whitney Block Party, 4th of July Celebrations, South Junior High Spring Fling, and other community events (2015, 2016, & 2017).
- Neighborhood Clean Up Day removed over 60 tons of debris from the Vista Neighborhood (May 2015).
- Walking path added at Hawthorne Elementary through NRG funding (2015).
- Mobile Farmers Market offered SNAP match & Mobile Rec programming at Vista apartments (2016).
- Plan4Health awarded \$125,000 in grant funds to develop a tool kit and set of recommendations for improving the health of Vista Neighborhood residents (2015-Fall 2016). The grant funding was also used to expand the community garden at Whitney Elementary.



- A shelter was installed at Shoshone Park, funded through a Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant awarded to the Vista Neighborhood Association in 2015 (Summer 2017).
- **Housing Focus Area**
- Housing Education Workshops offered hands-on opportunities to learn about care and maintenance of homes (Spring/Summer 2016).
 - \$8,000 in grant funds were awarded to Vista Neighborhood residents to make health, safety, accessibility, and energy efficiency improvements to their homes (2015).
- **Placemaking Arts & History Focus Area**
- The history of the Vista Neighborhood was compiled in a report available to the neighborhood (2015).
 - A series of walking tours highlighted unique and historic aspects of the neighborhood (Spring/Summer 2016).
 - A pop-up art gallery was showcased in the Vista Neighborhood, featuring art from BSU students (Fall 2016).
 - Three traffic boxes in the Vista Neighborhood had public art (wraps) added (Summer 2017).
 - Art wraps were included on new transit shelters installed at multiple locations along key bus routes throughout the Vista Neighborhood (Summer/Fall 2017).
 - Together Treasure Valley awarded a \$50,000 grant, matched by \$50,000 from City funding to bring a significant piece of gateway art to the median on Vista Ave. (funding awarded Spring 2017, art installation expected 2018).
 - A Creative Placemaking grant was awarded to ULI for a sidewalk activation project linking Hawthorne Elementary to Shoshone Park (Spring 2017).
- **Public Safety Focus Area**
- A Boise Police Sub-Station and Neighborhood Contact Officer were located in the Vista Neighborhood (2015).
 - Stop signs were installed at 17 uncontrolled intersections in the neighborhood (2015).
 - Public Safety workshops were offered on numerous topics, including self-defense, home security, code enforcement, and emergency preparedness (Spring/Summer 2016).
 - 260+ smoke alarms installed in Vista Neighborhood homes through a partnership with the American Red Cross, Air National Guard, United Way and community volunteers (March 2016).
 - Fire Station #8 opened in its new location (May 2017).
- **Transportation Focus Area**
- Pedestrian improvements (sidewalks, curb, & gutter) were installed near Hawthorne Elementary (on Targee) and Whitney Elementary (on Owyhee) (2015-2016).
 - Signage to Shoshone Park installed (2016).
 - ULI awarded a \$25,000 grant to study Vista Avenue and provided a set of recommendations for improving the health & economic vitality of the corridor (2015-Spring 2016).
 - Transit improvements (bike racks & new bus shelters featuring public art) were installed along Vista Avenue (Spring/Summer 2017).

What's coming in 2017/18?

- **Children & Youth Focus Area**
- Students at Whitney, Hawthorne, and South will have the opportunity to create signage/art pieces to be placed around school zones reminding drivers to slow down (Fall 2017).
- **Economic Development Focus Area: Vista Bench Business Association**
- Continuation of First Fridays on the Bench (monthly).



➤ **Healthy Communities Focus Area**

- The Healthy Communities Committee will continue to partner with community organizations to support events, festivals, and resource dissemination in the area.

➤ **Housing Focus Area**

- The Ormond Street development will provide home ownership opportunities to income-qualified families (Fall/Winter 2017/18).
- Grants for safety, accessibility, and energy efficiency improvements continue to be available to Vista Neighborhood residents (ongoing).
- Home Ownership programs continue to be available to assist potential buyers in purchasing a home (ongoing).

➤ **Placemaking Arts & History Focus Area**

- The Pop-Up Art Gallery will return to Vista.
- Gateway art will be installed in the median on Vista Avenue, funded by Together Treasure Valley and the City of Boise.

➤ **Public Safety Focus Area**

- Mobile radar units will be used to slow traffic throughout the neighborhood (ongoing).
- Public safety information will be provided to the neighborhood through the Vista Neighborhood Association newsletter (Fall 2017).

➤ **Transportation Focus Area**

- Additional transit improvement (bus shelters featuring public art and bike racks) will be installed along key bus routes in the Vista Neighborhood.
- A sidewalk will be added on Canal Street, connecting Vista Avenue to Shoshone Park, funded by the City of Boise (Fall/Winter 2017).
- ACHD will install street lighting at Vista & Overland to improve safety (construction planned for 2017 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 77).
- ACHD will install sidewalks & bike lanes on Kootenai, Vista to Federal Way (construction planned 2017 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 122).
- ACHD will install sidewalks on Overland, Columbus to Federal Way (construction planned for 2018 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 125).
- ACHD will install sidewalks on Targee, Owyhee to Shoshone (construction planned for 2018 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 128).

➤ **Energize Program**

- Continuation of Energize Hour Workshops, featuring new topics each month.
- Case study on Energize presented at 4 conferences- 3 national, 1 international (Spring 2017).
- Energize Boise Celebration and Good Neighbor Awards Ceremony (September 28, 2017).
- Boise Neighborhood Interactive community conference (October 14, 2017).
- Awarding of capital investments through Neighborhood Investment Program annually.
- Expansion of the Energize program to multiple new neighborhoods.

What long-term projects are planned? (2019-2021)

➤ **2019**

- Completion of the Ormond Street Development (est. 2019).
- Sidewalks on Columbus, Overland to Kootenai (construction planned for 2019 - ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 116).
- Pavement rehabilitation & upgrade of pedestrian ramps on multiple arterials and collector streets (construction planned for 2019 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 87).



➤ **2020**

- Pedestrian crossing beacon w/ bike push buttons on Vista at Spaulding (construction planned for 2020 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 129).
- Owyhee St. improved as a bike way, Elder St. to Alpine St. (construction planned for 2020 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 133).
- Shoshone St. improved as bike way, Canal St. to Greenbelt (construction planned for 2020 – ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 133).
- Sidewalks on Cherry Lane, Owyhee to Vista (RW acquisition planned for 2021 - ACHD 2017-2021 Five Year Plan pg. 114).



What's Been Happening in the Depot Bench Neighborhood?

➤ **New Committees Formed**

- Park Rangers
- Clean Up
- Historian
- Terry Day House
- Community Garden
- School Liaisons
- Community Arts and Shared Spaces
- Vista Bench Business Association Liaison

➤ **Projects**

- New playground at Jefferson Elementary, funded through a Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant awarded to the Depot Bench Neighborhood Association (Summer 2017)
- New Depot Hill signage installed (2016)
- Ridenbaugh Canal clean up (Fall 2016)
- Developed a 'Welcome Kit' for new neighbors (2016)
- Currently collaborating with the City of Boise to cultivate a new community garden space (2017)
- Collaborating with Boise State on two neighborhood art projects (Fall 2017)
- Collaborating with Boise State to develop a historical walking tour of the Depot Bench area (Fall 2017)
- Working with local businesses to install art murals (Fall 2017)
- Neighborhood graffiti and weed clean up event (Summer 2017)
- Continued collaboration with the City and partner organizations to renew the Terry Day House
- Collecting oral history accounts for neighbors
- Raising awareness about Little Free Libraries

➤ **Events**

- Movie night at South Junior High (Summer 2017)
- Hosted seed sharing event at the DBNA quarterly meeting (2017)

