



Governor Brad Little

State Capitol :: Boise, Idaho 83720
(208) 334-2100 :: gov.idaho.gov

June 29, 2022

Bill Moad, Chairman, Idaho Board of Transportation
Scott Stokes, Director, Idaho Department of Transportation
11331 W. Chinden Blvd.
Boise, ID 83714

Dear Chairman Moad and Director Stokes:

News reporting web site BoiseDev published an investigative article titled “‘Getting dangerous’: ITD knew of Idaho 55 issues before major slide that narrowly missed a driver. Now it’s millions over budget” on the afternoon on Tuesday, June 28, 2022. The article details the contents of Idaho Transportation Department (“Department”) public records obtained by BoiseDev related to major slides in the project area along Idaho Highway 55.

Public safety is my top priority. It is paramount that travelers are safe on all Idaho roadways, especially areas under construction.

My office had no knowledge of the magnitude of the alleged safety concerns outlined in the article, nor did my office know about the BoiseDev public records requests and inquiries into these important issues, which date back to January of this year.

Idaho Code § 67-802(11) authorizes the Governor to require “any officer to make special reports to him in writing on demand.”

I hereby request that you provide my office with a special report no later than 5 p.m. Mountain Time tomorrow, Thursday, June 30, 2022, containing the following:

1. An assessment of the project’s current risk to public safety, including the driving public and project workforce. Is it the Department’s expert opinion that the project poses an extraordinary risk to public safety, warranting road closure or other risk mitigation strategies?
2. A Department review of the BoiseDev article referenced and the Department’s responses to information contained in the article.
3. A summary of all media inquiries received by the Department since the beginning of the year about this project, including public records requests and questions received, and the Department’s responses to the same.



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I will review your report before considering an outside third-party review into the safety concerns raised in the article. I have not ruled out an outside review of the project to ensure public safety and the public's confidence, which are my top priorities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brad Little", written in a cursive style.

Brad Little
Governor of Idaho