



December 2021

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

A monthly newsletter from the Ada County Board of Commissioners

Welcome to the monthly newsletter from the Ada County Board of Commissioners. We are happy to share with you information on significant news and events happening in Ada County.

BOARD OBJECTIVES FOR 2022



Rod Beck
Ada County
Commissioner
Chairman

I want to thank my commission colleagues and the Ada County staff across all departments for their incredible work and dedication

during 2021. Despite obvious challenges, each rose to the occasion to ensure we could deliver for the residents of Ada County. Because of the individual and collective efforts of our county staff and the valuable input and participation from residents across Ada County, the commission was able to:

- Reduce property taxes by \$21 million
- Collaborate with the Ada County Assessor to reduce wait times for residents to obtain registration and/or licensing of their vehicles
- Appoint a new Ada County Sheriff
- Reduce county zoning regulations for property owners seeking variances
- Appoint two Central District Health board members focused on securing public health and safety with minimal conflict
- Secure commitments to keep the Western Idaho Fair at the current EXPO site

- Develop a plan to relocate EXPO Idaho's Lady Bird Park adjacent to the greenbelt and
- Approve a balanced budget

As we enter 2022, the commission remains focused on identifying methods to ease the property tax burden on Ada county homeowners. While the county collects the taxes, the monies are distributed to various special districts, school districts and cities. The county retains a small portion to fund the Ada County Sheriff's Office, the county jail, the court system, and other essential services.

Providing meaningful relief to homeowners will require a joint effort between the commission and city and state leaders. The commission will be a robust and willing partner in these efforts.

Ada County is experiencing tremendous growth as people from around the country have discovered our quality of life in Idaho. It's increasingly important that we responsibly manage and allocate our county resources and that the commission remains committed to doing so in a collaborative and convivial manner.

May you and your family have a safe, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Rod Beck, Chairman Ada County Board of Commissioners



Ryan Davidson
Ada County
Commissioner

Going into 2022
I want to make
sure everyone
who lives or works
in Ada County

knows that if you come to our office, call, or email – you will be heard.

I will continue to advocate for a night court system that serves the needs of working families who cannot simply take time off to come to the courthouse. I will also continue to advocate for property tax relief, and budget savings where possible.

If you look at your property tax bill, you'll notice that Ada County receives a relative sliver compared to cities and schools. While the county cannot control how much cities

raise your taxes, we can make sure the public understands the value of services you receive from Ada county and how we control the cost of those services in a fiscally responsible manner; services such as EMS, the Courts, DMV, Parks & Waterways, the Ada County Sheriff's Office, the Coroner, Mosquito Abatement, EXPO and the Ada County Landfill (both of which are enterprise funds and receive no taxpayer funds.)

When I was elected to a four-year term on the Ada County Board of Commissioners, my goal was to be an advocate and a voice for people who have traditionally felt silenced. I believe in personal liberties, fewer restrictions, and individual rights and will continue to make decisions that reinforce these core values that make our country great.

Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!

Ryan Davidson, Ada County Commissioner



Kendra Kenyon
Ada County
Commissioner

Being an Idaho native holds special meaning for me as your Ada County commissioner. Growing up in the Treasure Valley I have learned to value everything

that makes this place so special: the mountains, the river that runs through it, the wide-open spaces, and our safe and healthy community. Just three years ago when I took office, I would have added affordability to the list, but times have changed, and we find ourselves struggling to pay taxes or even provide adequate housing.

My priorities for 2022 are to explore all possibilities and partnerships to leverage county resources and assets to help build workforce

housing, protect our environment, lower taxes, and begin the revitalization process for the Expo property to create a legacy community gathering place for generations to come.

Another priority is the thoughtful investment of American Rescue Planning Act funds that will provide critical infrastructure and facilities that will serve our citizens long into the future, like bringing Broadband to our rural communities. I want to also provide premium pay to help support our brave employees that are most impacted by COVID-19.

Finally, I promise to continue to help shape the culture of organizational excellence here at Ada County by empowering and supporting our fantastic employees and leadership team. The more effective, efficient, and satisfied we are as a team, the better the service and associated costs are for our citizens.

Kendra Kenyon, Ada County Commissioner



Do you know anyone who could qualify for property tax relief?

Did you know that these programs exist?

All of the listed programs, with the exception of the Homestead Exemption, must be applied for each year with the County Assessor's Office.

Homestead Exemption

Available to those who own and occupy their home as their primary residence, and make application prior to December 31, to the Assessor's Office to qualify for that specific tax year.

Property Tax Deferral Program

This program defers the taxes on the home and up to one acre of land for qualified applicants. The deferred taxes become a lien on the property and have to be repaid to the State of Idaho. The applicant must meet one of the requirements of the Property Tax Reduction Program and have a combined income of \$50,650 or less for 2021.

Property Tax Reduction

Available to those who own and occupy their home as their primary residence by April 15, and meet one of the following qualifying statuses below:

- Over the age of 65
- Widow(er) of any age (not remarried)
- Legally blind (any age)
- Disabled through Social Security, Railroad or VA
- Former POW/Hostage
- Fatherless or motherless child under the age of 18

Income for this program cannot exceed \$32,230 after deducting unreimbursed medical expenses and the property must have a Homestead Exemption in place.

Veterans Property Tax Reduction

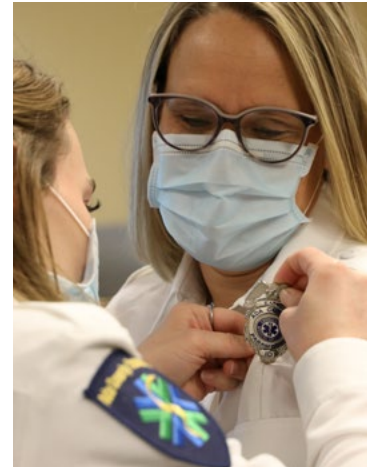
Available to those that meet the following:

- Applicant is recognized as 100% service-connected disabled or receive 100% compensation due to individual unemployability by the US Department of Veterans Affairs as of January 1, 2022
- Owned and lived in your primary residence before April 15, 2022
- Property must have a Homestead Exemption



EMS - New Hire Academy Graduates & Reserve Academy Members Receive Badges

Congratulations to the newest members of Ada County Paramedics who received their badges earlier this month. These Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics are recent graduates of the new-hire academy, and members of the reserve academy, who earned full time positions based on their exceptional performance.



“The board spent an afternoon at EMS back in October and we can attest to the fact that this is not at all an easy job – especially during COVID. Responding to calls and being geared up in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) makes an already stressful job even more so. We are truly fortunate to have dedicated staff who make it their mission to save lives every single day often under extremely trying circumstances.”

- Rod Beck, Ada County Commission Chair

ATTENTION SENIORS – YOU GET A TRASH BILLING PRICE BREAK



**Do you live in Unincorporated Ada County?
Are you over 65?**

If so, you are eligible for a reduced trash pickup rate!

Remember, you must live outside the city limits (see the map) and you'll need to show proof of your age. Take advantage of this benefit for Ada County residents!

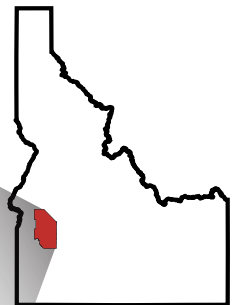
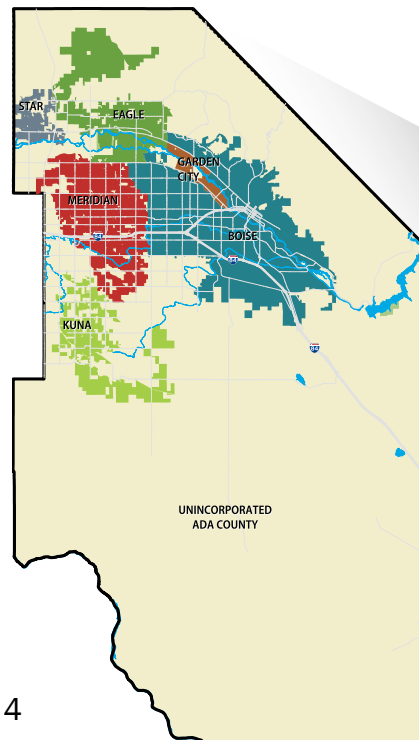
Proof of age can be submitted by email to: acbs@adacounty.id.gov or by mail to:

**Ada County Trash Billing
PO Box 2780
Boise, ID 83701**



Please reference your six-digit trash account number or your property address to ensure proper processing of your discounted service.

Note: Residents of Ada County who live outside city limits are serviced by Hardin Sanitation.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AWESOME STAFF AT THE ADA COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE FOR AN OUTSTANDING FOOD COLLECTION DRIVE.

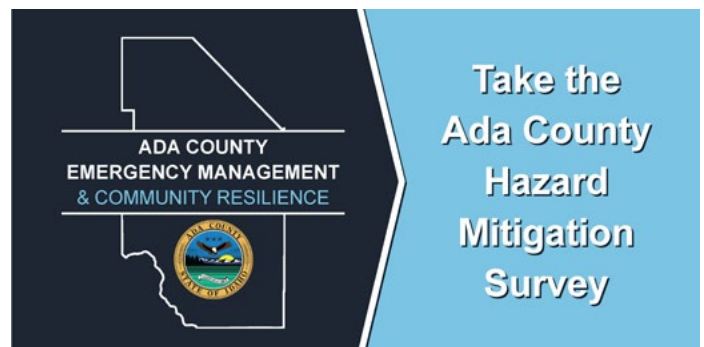


Each year the office collects donations and provides them to a local group or organization that makes a difference in so many people's lives. This year the **Boise Rescue Mission** was chosen due to their variety of out-reach services; River of Life Rescue Mission, City Light Home for Women and Children, Valley Women and Children's Shelter, The Lighthouse and Rescue Mission Recovery Lodge. The office started gathering food November 22 and ended on December 21 with an Advent Calendar theme.

ADA COUNTY LAUNCHES HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE SURVEY

A coalition of local governments and other stakeholders in Ada County are working together to update the Ada County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

This survey helps local government better understand the public's view of our most prevalent hazards, community preparedness, and risk exposure. The online survey runs through Feb. 1st.



TAKE THE SURVEY

EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ERAP)

By January 1, 2022 the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) will likely have paid out in excess of \$20M to help eligible Ada County families whose livelihoods have been adversely affected by COVID-19. The ERAP program is a rent, and utility assistance program covered by funds from the Federal Government as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. If you know someone who may qualify due to a reduction in hours, reassignment, job loss or other issues related to COVID-19 here's how to apply

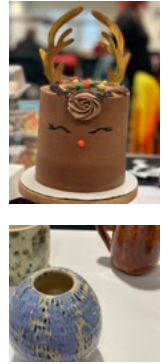
<https://erap.bcacha.org/>



ANNUAL ADA COUNTY HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Ada County Commissioners Rod Beck, Ryan Davidson and Kendra Kenyon browse the locally sourced arts and crafts at the annual Ada County Holiday Bazaar. Each year Ada County employees showcase their creative ventures and hobbies. Everything from pies, cakes, homemade cheese, quilts, carved wood benches, jewelry and more are on display for purchasing

The Holiday Bazaar has been going on for 33 years!



COMING UP!

You can watch the Ada County Board of Commissioner's weekly Open Business Meeting on YouTube.

WATCH NOW

Want to see what's on the Agenda?

LEARN MORE



Make sure you're following us on



Ryan Davidson - Commissioner
Rod Beck - Commissioner Chairman
Kendra Kenyon - Commissioner