

Graham Christensen announces candidacy for East Side Highway District commission

I would like to announce that I am running for Commissioner of the East Side Highway District.

If elected commissioner, I would take an active role in the operations of the district and use my experience as a business owner and manager to make sure projects are on budget and meet the needs of the residents. Using my road maintenance and engineering background, I would work to identify improvements and cost savings in the current practices. As commissioner, I would also push for increased use of matching funds available to the district to save taxpayer money where possible. Finally, I would push for increased local control of Coeur d'Alene Lake Drive. Decisions about maintenance, permitting and future planning should be made locally, not in Boise with the ITD.

My experience includes working four summers as an engineering aide for the road maintenance department for Washington County, Oregon. As the engineering aide, I did everything from rating and marking roads to paving and repair contracts. After college, I worked as an engineer, engineering manager and consulting engineer and earned a secondary degree in Environmental Engineering. To add to that practical experience, I have owned a successful small business in the Coeur d'Alene area for 10 years now so I understand how to manage staff, budgets and keep costs under control.

I am passionate about these roads, I use them on a regular basis and know them well. If elected, I would use my experience in road maintenance and engineering to direct cost effective, long lasting management of our roads.