



FOR RELEASE May 17, 2000

**For More Information Contact:
Pat Wynn, Department of Administration, 332-1827
Chairman Roy Lewis Eiguren, 388-1313**

**DRAFT MASTER PLAN FOR STATE CAPITOL RESTORATION AVAILABLE
FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT, TOWN HALL MEETINGS SLATED**

The draft Idaho State Capitol Master Plan for the preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of Idaho's State Capitol Building will be made available in hard copy for public review and comment at statewide university, college, and public libraries beginning May 17th.

In addition, Idahoans will have the opportunity to personally hear more about the ambitious restoration project at public town hall meetings to be held across the state beginning in Boise on June 1 and continuing in Pocatello and Idaho Falls on June 5th, according to Roy Lewis Eiguren, Commission Chairman.

"This is the People's House of the State of Idaho, and in our Commission role as stewards of this magnificent building, we want to share with our fellow citizen-owners what the draft plan recommendations are, and most importantly, listen to their comments and ideas on our planning efforts, and encourage and welcome their involvement," Eiguren said.

In conjunction with soliciting public comments now through June 30 on the draft Plan, the Capitol Commission and the architects who helped draft the Plan, will visit the various areas of the state to conduct the public meetings. Key legislators and community leaders will also be on hand in each area to answer questions, Eiguren explained.

The town hall meeting schedule is as follows: Boise, June 1, Statehouse House Chambers 3rd Floor, 7 p.m.; Pocatello, June 5, ISU Student Union Building, Wood River Room, 12 noon; Idaho Falls, June 5, Eastern Idaho Technical College, Creek Building, Room 541, 7 p.m.; Sun Valley, June 6th (time, location to be determined); Burley, June 6th, Burley City Hall, 12 noon; Twin Falls, June 6th, Cavanaugh's Canyon Springs Inn, 7 p.m.; Coeur d'Alene, June 7th, North Idaho College Student Union Building, Main Floor, Driftwood Bay Room, 12 noon; Lewiston, June 7th, Lewis-Clark State College Williams Conference Center, Clearwater-Snake Room, 7 p.m.; and, Nampa, June 8th City Hall Council Chambers, 12:30 p.m.

The comprehensive plan document on display at libraries outlines the draft plan's many recommendations such as critical infrastructure needs to bring the Statehouse up to minimum

safety codes by upgrading very old heating and air conditioning, plumbing and electrical systems. The plan thoroughly explains with photographs and building blueprints other recommendations covering architectural, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation approaches to returning the Capitol to its architectural integrity and significance, Eiguren explained.

In addition, the 86-page, easy to read document, prepared by CSHQA Architects of Boise and Isthmus Architecture, Inc., Madison, WI, is informational as well about the 80 year-old Capitol building's history, unique interior and exterior building features, and the role of the Capitol Commission.

The draft plan, along with funding for the project, estimated to cost at least \$40 million, must still be approved by Governor Dirk Kempthorne and the Idaho Legislature. Funding will also come from public and private sources. The amount of funding needed is dependent upon what elements of the plan are actually implemented by the Governor and Legislature. The Commission wants to complete the restoration and rehabilitation work by the summer of 2005, when the state will observe the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the construction of the Capitol.

Comments on the plan, requested by June 30th, can be submitted to Jerry Lowe, CSHQA Architects at jerry.lowe@cshqa.com; via telephone at 343-4635, FAX at 343-1858, or by writing to him in care of CSHQA Architects, 250 S. 5th St., Boise, ID 83702.

Location and participating libraries include:

Caldwell: Albertson College of Idaho; Nampa: Northwest Nazarene University; Boise: Boise State University, State of Idaho Law Library; Twin Falls: College of Southern Idaho; Pocatello: Idaho State University and Marshall Public Library; Idaho Falls: Idaho Falls Public Library; Rexburg: Ricks College; Moscow: University of Idaho; Lewiston: Lewis-Clark State College and Lewiston City Library; Coeur d'Alene: North Idaho College; Sandpoint: East Bonner County Library.

The draft Master Plan executive Summary can be reviewed and comments offered, on the Capitol Commissions official website at www.idahocapitol.org