

# Presentation Proposal

## Title: Scenario Planning for Idaho's 30-Year Transportation Vision

Topic Areas: Scenario Planning, Public Involvement, Simulation Tools, and Data Visualization

Presenter:

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Description: This presentation will describe how the Idaho Transportation Department utilized state-of-the-art scenario planning techniques to engage a diverse set of stakeholders in the creation of a 30-year vision for Idaho's transportation system. The project used the MetroQuest software tool to allow stakeholders to create, visualize and evaluate forty-year future scenarios on the fly in workshops.

The MetroQuest software ([www.QuestForTheFuture.com](http://www.QuestForTheFuture.com)) was the highest ranked tool in a recent study conducted by the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) in an 18-month study of the best tools to assist in transportation decision-making. Additionally the Idaho project was one of three case studies featured in the Scenario Planning Peer Workshop organized by the Federal Highways Administration in Orlando, Florida. It was also featured in the March 3, 2005 web broadcast on "Scenario Planning for Better Transportation Decision Making" organized by the Centre for Transportation and the Environment.

The presentation will demonstrate how electronic town hall polling techniques was combined with MetroQuest simulation modeling to allow workshop participants to explore 'what if' scenarios on the fly. Participants will learn about the benefits and challenges associated with the use of these technical planning tools. The lessons learned in this case study will help other MPO's understand how they can make use of today's leading technologies to improve their long range planning projects.

Specifically, the presentation will describe how the project:

- o engaged stakeholders in scenario planning;
- o fostered dialog on values and priorities;
- o educated on the costs & benefits of options;
- o gathered feedback on desired futures & acceptable tradeoffs; and
- o built consensus on a 30-year vision.

