



**SOUTHERN IDAHO**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SOUTHERN IDAHO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES  
2019 OPERATION FACELIFT WINNERS**

*Fairfield, Glens Ferry and Rupert take home awards in the annual downtown revitalization project*

MAGIC VALLEY, ID – August 13, 2019 – Southern Idaho Economic Development is proud to announce the winners of Operation Facelift 2019. The annual region-wide community revitalization project encourages Magic Valley cities to complete projects big and small to build community pride, inspire new business development and revitalize downtown areas. Operation Facelift 2019 winners include:

- **City of Glens Ferry: “Best Community Art Facelift”** – The city of Glens Ferry completed a series of projects, including installation of metal fish sculptures at the boat launch and waterway overlook and painting picnic tables in the city park. Volunteers also painted trimming, restored historic street-level windows and made other façade improvements at the Penner & Fink Insurance Building. The city is in the process of restoring a mural on the side of the building as well.
- **City of Fairfield: “Best Placemaking Facelift”** – Fairfield restored the train car information center, located along Main St. in Fairfield. The project included restoring the deck on the train car with composite decking, planting and restoring flower beds, and replacing a portion of the gravel road with pavement. Visitors can find maps, informational packets and brochures at the train car to inspire their trip in and around Fairfield.
- **City of Rupert: “Best Small Business Facelift”** – The city of Rupert completed 20 projects in public spaces and businesses around town. The improvements include replacing or updating signs of businesses around the Rupert Square, adding a zip line at Lincoln Park, cleaning and weeding parks and business fronts, painting building facades, painting and adding new picnic tables and garbage receptacles around town, planting trees, new concrete and painting at the basketball court, and other projects. The new Rupert Square was also part of Operation Facelift, with a Gazebo extension, land and streetscaping, as well as adding ADA accessible sidewalks, new pavers on business sidewalks, new benches, trash receptacles, storm drainage pits and a medallion on the

Veteran's Entryway. The projects also included improvements to the Senior Center, adding new doors, windows, and safety ramps, as well as façade, landscaping and parking lot improvements.

"We want to thank all of the communities who participated in this year's Operation Facelift. Each year we're amazed at what Southern Idaho communities come together to accomplish, completing projects that make their communities stronger, more creative and more business friendly," said Connie Stopher, Executive Director of Southern Idaho Economic Development.

The winners will be presented with the awards at Southern Idaho Economic Development's Annual Summit in October.

Communities across the Magic Valley were invited to participate in a project(s) of their choice between April and July. Operation Facelift 2019 was proudly sponsored by [First Federal Savings Bank](#) and [KMVT](#). Operation Facelift is primarily funded through gifts from community corporate donors, businesses and citizens adding to the city's project funding. To participate in or sponsor the next Operation Facelift, contact Connie Stopher at [connies@southernidaho.org](mailto:connies@southernidaho.org)

To learn more about Southern Idaho Economic Development and the Southern Idaho region, please visit us online at [southernidaho.org](http://southernidaho.org).

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#### **About Southern Idaho Economic Development**

Southern Idaho Economic Development is a joint venture of public and private sectors throughout the Magic Valley, formed to help diversify and strengthen the local economy by retaining and attracting business to the Southern Idaho region. Southern Idaho Economic Development works closely with communities throughout the region to promote economic development through expansion of existing business and to implement a focused consistent program to attract new businesses and talent to the region. For more information about Southern Idaho Economic Development and/or the Southern Idaho region, please visit [southernidaho.org](http://southernidaho.org).