

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

February 5, 2021

1. **Billings National Police Services Survey** – following is the link for the Billings National Police Service survey results:

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/polco.nrc#/vizhome/Billings2020NPSS/About?publish=yes>

2. **Legislative Update –**

- HB255 – I spoke in favor of Representative Brewster's bill to improve accountability and transparency with utility district boards. If you want to get a flavor of just how bad the situation is with the Heights Water District listen to the hearing that was held yesterday in front Local Government Committee at 3:00. The testimony may be helpful to the city and our citizens to bring this situation under control.
- Wyeth testified on two land use bills to help retain local control over land use decisions.

3. **Legislative Video Conference – Thursday February 11th at Noon.** MSUB, College of Business MacDonald Hall, Room 163. The 2nd of 7 in a partnership between the City, Chamber and MSUB. Please RSVP through Wynnette.

Legislative Session – The latest list of bills we are tracking is attached.

4. **RiverStone Health and the Billings Public Library Partnership** – Please see page 4 of the attached RiverStone Health Employee Connect for a positive article regarding Billings library staff volunteers for public health.
5. **Big Sky Economic Development** – attached is the Annual Tax Abatement Report from Patrick Klugman. If you have any questions on the report please contact Patrick at (406) 869-8418 or klugman@bigskyeda.org

Have a good weekend!



**CITY OF BILLINGS
2021 Montana Legislature
Weekly Session Report – February 3, 2021**

WEEKLY SESSION REPORT

City of Billings
February 3, 2021

- * After the bill number denotes the bill is dead
- The governor must sign or veto a bill within 10 days of transmittal or it becomes law
- All green shaded bills have become law

City of Billings INTRODUCED BILL DRAFTS

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 18  	LC0354	Geraldine Custer (R) HD 39	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Appropriations	01/11/2021	Appropriation for Local Government Center	Support
HB 32  	LC0273	Sue Vinton (R) HD 56	(S) Hearing -- (S) Education and Cultural Resources	02/01/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 422	Repeal ending fund balance limits for school district funds	Monitor
HB 50  	LC0441	Frank Garner (R) HD 7	(H) Hearing -- (H) Energy, Technology and Federal Relations	01/11/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Redistribute 9-1-1 funding to state library	Monitor
HB 62  	LC0358	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(S) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (S) Finance and Claims	02/03/2021	Update water and wastewater revolving loan program	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 73  	LC1315	Barry Usher (R) HD 40	(S) Referred to Committee -- (S) Judiciary	02/02/2021	Generally revise laws related to the criminal justice oversight council	Monitor
HB 86  	LC0469	Mary Ann Dunwell (D) HD 84	(H) Committee Executive Action-- Bill Passed as Amended -- (H) Local Government	02/02/2021	Allow the creation of regional fire protection authorities	Monitor
HB 97  	LC0561	Wendy McKamey (R) HD 19	(S) Referred to Committee -- (S) State Administration	01/25/2021	Revise ethics laws regarding application to boards and commissions	Monitor
HB 102  	LC1333	Seth Berglee (R) HD 58	(H) Scheduled for 2nd Reading	02/04/2021	Generally revise gun laws	Oppose
HB 107  	LC1089	Ron Marshall (R) HD 87	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) State Administration	01/19/2021	Revise mill levy election laws	Oppose
HB 115  	LC0924	Bill Mercer (R) HD 46	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	01/22/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Increase penalties for 5th and subsequent DUI	Support
HB 121  	LC0578	David Bedey (R) HD 86	(H) Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended -- (H) Local Government	01/29/2021	Require elected official approval of local health board and officer actions	Monitor
HB 123  	LC0577	David Bedey (R) HD 86	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	01/26/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revise laws regarding the stringency of local septic regulations	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 126  	LC1450	Kathy Kelker (D) HD 47	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Judiciary	01/15/2021	Revise laws concerning conduct of persons with alcoholism and drug addiction	Monitor
HB 132  	LC1029	Fred Anderson (R) HD 20	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Taxation	01/22/2021	Require property tax bill to include comparison to prior year	Monitor
HB 134  	LC0837	Danny Tenenbaum (D) HD 95	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	01/26/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Allow zoning for duplex, triplex, and fourplex housing in certain municipalities	Oppose through MLCT
HB 145  	LC1567	Paul Fielder (R) HD 13	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Local Government	01/28/2021	Allow local boards of health and health officers to issue recommendations	Monitor
HB 154  	LC1065	Dave Fern (D) HD 5	(H) 2nd Reading Not Passed*	01/29/2021	Revise resort tax population limits	Monitor
HB 158  	LC1510	Caleb Hinkle (R) HD 68	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) State Administration	01/28/2021	Create study commission to review covid-19 statute & rule suspensions	Monitor
HB 165  	LC2177	Jeremy Trebas (R) HD 26	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Taxation	01/28/2021	Increase vehicle fees to reduce residential property taxes	Monitor
HB 169  	LC2893	Steve Gist (R) HD 25	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) State Administration	01/27/2021	Deter the fraudulent use or theft of taxpayer-funded resources	Monitor
HB 174  	LC1174	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Hearing -- (H) Agriculture	01/21/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 137	Generally revise winery laws	Oppose

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 187  	LC1064	Dave Fern (D) HD 5	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Taxation	01/29/2021	Provide for local option sales tax	Support
HB 200  	LC1175	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Transmitted to Senate	02/03/2021	Establish laws prohibiting sanctuary cities in Montana	Oppose through MLCT
HB 201  	LC0738	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Hearing -- (H) Business and Labor	02/11/2021; 08:30 AM, Rm 172	Revise prevailing wage district laws and dispatch city designations	Monitor
HB 234  	LC1326	Mallerie Stromswold (R) HD 50	(H) Transmitted to Senate	02/03/2021	Remove sunset on requirement that massage therapy businesses display licenses	Monitor
HB 243  	LC0309	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	02/03/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Generally revise laws related to law enforcement officers	Monitor
HB 248  	LC1537	Kelly Kortum (D) HD 65	(H) Hearing -- (H) State Administration	02/02/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 455	Revise the Montana primary election date	Monitor
HB 254  	LC0645	Ross H Fitzgerald (R) HD 17	(H) Hearing -- (H) Business and Labor	02/03/2021; 08:30 AM, Rm 172	Revise the wrongful discharge act	Monitor
HB 255  	LC1554	Larry Brewster (R) HD 44	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	02/04/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revising time period to protest sewer and/or water district assessments	Support
HB 257  	LC1436	Jedediah Hinkle (R) HD 67	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	02/02/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Revise laws relating to government mandates and businesses	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 259  	LC0304	Sue Vinton (R) HD 56	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	02/02/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revise property and zoning laws	Oppose
HB 264  	LC0627	Ross H Fitzgerald (R) HD 17	(H) Hearing -- (H) Transportation	02/03/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 455	Revise emergency vehicle passing laws	Monitor
HB 292  	LC3127	Geraldine Custer (R) HD 39	(H) Referred to Committee -- (H) Local Government	02/03/2021	Revise local subdivision review regarding title insurance procedure	Monitor
SB 23  	LC0274	Daniel R Salomon (R) SD 47	(H) Committee Executive Action-- Bill Concurred -- (H) Education	02/03/2021	Eliminate state school flexibility account	Support
SB 44  	LC0364	John Esp (R) SD 30	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	01/20/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Revise subdivision laws	Oppose
SB 47  	LC1314	Ryan Lynch (D) SD 37	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	02/04/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Generally revise laws related to DOC commits	Oppose
SB 48  	LC0295	Mike Fox (D) SD 16	(S) Tabled in Committee* -- (S) Highways and Transportation	01/19/2021	Allowing transfer of certain highway funding to tribes	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
SB 51  	LC0062	Jason W Ellsworth (R) SD 43	(S) Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended -- (S) Taxation	02/01/2021	Exempting certain fiber optic, coaxial cable from property taxation	Monitor
SB 65  	LC0901	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(S) Scheduled for 3rd Reading	02/04/2021	Revise civil liability laws	Monitor
SB 67  	LC0084	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(H) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (H) Judiciary	02/01/2021	Revise laws pertaining to law enforcement	Monitor
SB 73  	LC0802	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Tabled in Committee* -- (S) Taxation	01/29/2021	Provide for local distribution of lodging sales tax revenue	Support
SB 77  	LC0552	Tom McGillvray (R) SD 23	(S) Hearing -- (S) Taxation	01/15/2021; 08:00 AM, Rm 405	Revise special district financing and dissolution provisions	Oppose
SB 78  	LC0018	Douglas (Doug) Kary (R) SD 22	(S) Tabled in Committee* -- (S) Taxation	01/29/2021	Revise allowable special district assessment methods	Oppose
SB 80  	LC2959	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Transmitted to House	02/02/2021	Limit the duration of interlocal agreements	Monitor
SB 89  	LC0808	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Committee Executive Action--Bill Passed as Amended -- (S) State Administration	02/03/2021	Revise laws related to collection of union dues	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
SB 127  	LC2439	Chris Friedel (R) SD 26	(S) Transmitted to House	02/03/2021	Revise laws on the selection of municipal court judges	Monitor
SB 135  	LC0313	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	01/29/2021; 1:30 PM, Rm 405	Allow a county commission to hold certain zoning appeal hearings de novo	Monitor
SB 161  	LC1085	John Esp (R) SD 30	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	02/03/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Allow certain subdivisions to qualify for an expedited review	Oppose
SB 171  	LC0499	Chris Friedel (R) SD 26	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	02/03/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Increasing county procurement options with cooperative purchasing agreements	Monitor

February 2021

LeaderShip Connections

Just another step

BY JOHN FELTON

Life is a series of steps. The tapestry of our lives is the whole of our experiences – our dreams, our successes, our failures, our accomplishments, our decisions both good and bad, our relationships, and our wins and losses. Each decision we make and every action we take or do not take, is just another step on our life's journey. In the end, "good" and "bad" lose meaning as our tapestry grows and individual actions are subsumed by the wholeness of the journey.

Organizational journeys are much like our personal journeys. Every decision we make or do not make, and every action we take or do not take, represents another step in that organizational journey. The only real difference between a personal journey and an organizational journey is that the latter involves all of us. We are all affected by one another's actions. It is not any one of us individually, but rather all of us collectively that weave the tapestry that is RiverStone Health.

Every time a new person joins or leaves our organization, it changes just a little. No matter how good we are, RiverStone Health's goal cannot to be the same forever. Instead, we must strive to grow constantly, to get a little better every day. When someone

new joins our journey, we hope that person will bring us an idea, a belief, a passion or a perspective that helps us see the world a little differently and, as a result, to improve. When our colleagues leave us, we thank them for their contributions, wish them well, and recognize that each loss also represents an opportunity to grow, to become a little more than we were.

One of the characteristics of RiverStone Health is that we have an unusually tenured senior leadership team. Our "newbies" have been with us for about eight years. We are fortunate that all these leaders chose to work and make a career here. In most organizations, a leader with eight years of tenure would be the most senior member of the team, rather than the newest one!

We have also not experienced much CEO turnover (and I am certainly glad for that reality!). Since 1992 – nearly 30 years – we have only two CEOs.

Being the CEO of RiverStone Health is the most exciting, engaging, challenging, fun and rewarding job I have ever had. The last 17 years, including my appointment as your CEO in 2011, have added mightily to my personal tapestry.

Several years ago, I promised our governing boards that I would give them three years' notice when I was ready to retire. I gave that notice in December. Before we start celebrating my departure, let's remember that I gave three years' notice! I will retire at

the end of December 2023.

Why am I telling us this so early?" The answer is twofold: 1) I am a big believer in transparency; and 2) all of you have an important part to play in selecting your next CEO.

Over the next few months, a search committee organized by the Board of Health and the RiverStone Health Clinic Board will take the lead on this process. They will be asking you, in the form of a survey, what traits and characteristics are important to you in your new leader. Please participate and share your thoughts. Each of us contribute to the RiverStone Health tapestry so every perspective is important and valued.

The recruitment process will take time. The search committee would like to have your new CEO selected and here in early 2022. That person and I will overlap by a couple of years, during which time I will remain as your CEO and our successor will learn what it means to be part of and to lead RiverStone Health. When I retire at the end of 2023, you will enjoy a seamless transition to a leader you will know well.

Three years will go by quickly, but bear in mind that it is a long time. Nothing will change other than the boards will eventually select and we will get to know a new person. Please don't think that I am disengaging or backing out. I am simply keeping my commitment to our boards to provide this notice and my commitment to you to always be honest.

COVID-19 vaccination ramps up



Chris Hunter, top left, gets vaccinated by Karmen Hammermeister. The morning after this January 20 employee clinic, the same team was conducting RiverStone Health's first community COVID-19 vaccination clinic in the same space.



Our vaccine team, from left: Erin Tracy (inset photo), Karmen Hammermeister, Janice Van Alstine, Brenda Koch, Sheri Pope, Mary Hunt, Eden Sowards, Keely Ehmann and Sarah Music.



Surveillance testing finishes

On January 20, their final **testing day**, some members of the asymptomatic employee surveillance testing team paused for a photo. Because of ongoing staff vaccinations and lower positivity rates in the community, this testing project has been discontinued. Ray Ezell, preparedness specialist, reports that 1,035 BinaxNOW tests were completed in the weekly sessions with no positive results. Thanks to all who participated as well as those who helped out with the testing.

Who won the Most Improved Award in the clean desk contest? See the winners on the next page.



Before



After

February 2021

January cleaning

LEAN SIX SIGMA by Judy Stewart

Monday, January 11, was National Clean Off Your Desk Day, Organizational Innovation (OI) challenged RiverStone Health employees to participate by cleaning up your work area and to apply one or more of the components of a 7S to the area: Sort, straighten, shine, standardize, sustain, safety or security.

The winners of the challenge are:

First Submission Received: **Keely Ehmann**

Best Group submission AND Most Improved: **Pharmacy**

New category: Cutest dog in before and after pictures: **Kira Flagstead**

Congratulations to everyone who participated. Prizes will be delivered to the winners.

Walk With Ease report

Walking is good exercise, but how much difference can it really make? **Keely Ehmann**, prevention health specialist, found answers by analyzing data from the Walk With Ease program.

Sixty-eight RiverStone Health employees started the six-week program last fall and 48 completed. Upon completion, participants reported decreased levels of pain and fatigue on a scale of 1-10. For example, participants with arthritis reported an average pain level of 4.2 before the walking program and a level of 3.6 after.

To read Keely's report [go to this link](#) or email Keely Ehmann.

Clinics named 1st Age-Friendly system in MT

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement recently recognized RiverStone Health Clinics in Billings, Bridger, Joliet and Worden as the first Level 1 Age-Friendly Health System in Montana. The Institute, along with the John A. Hartford Foundation, the American Hospital Association and the Catholic Health Association of the United States started collaborating on the initiative in 2017.

RiverStone Health Clinics are among several hundred U.S. hospitals, medical practices and long-term care

communities working to reliably deliver this evidence-based care to older adults on every patient visit. For patients age 65 and older, the Age-Friendly Health System focuses on:

- What matters to patients
- Medication that doesn't interfere with patient goals
- Mental health
- Mobility

The Age-Friendly Health System recognition reflects a tremendous amount of hard work by clinic staff and by **Linda Roers**, geriatric education program manager.

Clinics commended for patient-centered care

RiverStone Health Clinics in Billings, Bridger, Joliet and Worden have, once again, been recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance for systematic use of patient-centered care.

"I am truly humbled by all the wonderful care our providers and care team deliver to our patients," said **Breann Streck**, senior director

of clinical operations. "The number of services we offer in addition to our care coordination is like none other I have seen. I appreciate that we have a team that is committed to quality and continuing to improve the care we deliver. Dream team!"

The Clinics also earned the Behavioral Health Integration Distinction.

Congratulations to ...

New parents **Melissa Henderson**, Community Health Improvement manager, and **Chris Caruso**, PA-C, welcomed Joseph Augustine "Auggie" Caruso on Christmas Eve. Auggie was born a 6:12 a.m. on Dec. 24, weighing 7 pounds and measuring 19.5 inches long. The family is well and parents are in love with their new son.

Geriatrics educator **Linda Roers** has been recertified as an independent trainer by A Positive Approach to Care www.TeepeSnow.com.

Victor White, Ph.D, RT (R) has written a book, "The Fundamentals of Imaging Physics and Radiobiology", which has been published by Thomas Books. Victor

is one of the instructors for the Basic X-Ray Techniques Workshop coordinated by Eastern Montana AHEC. In addition to lecturing at RiverStone Health, he is the Radiologic Technology Program director and instructor at Montana State University Billings, and a radiographer at Advanced Care Hospital in Billings.

Morgan Miller, prevention health specialist, has been working with the Cross Community Reconciliation Project for building peace between Native and non-Native community members. Mike Yakawich, project leader, praised Morgan's work: "She has been a great asset to our team offering insights, inspiration, key leadership and just a great attitude."

Billings library staff volunteers for public health

For the past six months, Billings Public Library staff members have been redeployed to support our contact tracing and case investigation efforts at RiverStone Health. This was made possible by Library Director Gavin Woltjer with approval from the city.

On January 18, library staff teamed up with RiverStone Health contact tracers to finish filing thousands of hard copy COVID 19 case files. Our case investigation team and information support had devised an innovative computer-based information system in the midst of pandemic backlogs. The CIS tremendously increased speed and efficiency in contact tracing and made paperwork obsolete. But after transitioning to the CIS, we still had 11,042 COVID-19 cases on paper, all of which have to be filed and preserved. That paperwork filled 81 volumes in two floor-to-ceiling

cabinets. Law requires these records to be preserved for several years.

Library employee Mary Leichner took the lead on this project and ensured that the data was correctly filed. Every case had to be indexed so reports can be located by name and number.

This big paper project was accomplished with the help of Billings Public Library employees **Victoria Coassou**, **Mary Leichner** and **Brenda Reiland**, and RiverStone Health employees **Cathy Grott**, **Danny Hawbaker**, **Mack Kautzman**, **Sydney Kern**, **Morgan Maus**, **Jana Richter** and **Christine Walker**.

In addition to working on the filing project, Mary Leichner and Victoria Coassou have been working part time on weekends doing case investigation and contact tracing. Library employees **Barbara Riebe**, **Carla Nordlund**, **Vanessa Justice** and **Tammie Peterson** also have assisted



with contact tracing.

Thanks to all the Billings Public Library employees who aided our community pandemic response.

Celebrate school clinics

February is National School-Based Health Care Awareness Month, an annual effort to increase awareness about how school-based health centers (SBHCs) transform children's access to and delivery of comprehensive health services.

RiverStone Health Clinics at Orchard Elementary and Medicine Crow Middle School are available to all Billings Public Schools students and their family members. These school-based clinics offer families primary care, behavioral health and access to dental care. Our school-based clinic staff does a tremendous job of reaching out to students and families with timely, convenient healthcare every school day.

Call 406.247.3210 for enrollment

Daffodil Days fight cancer

The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days are coming. Mary Helgeson is coordinating sales. Order forms are in break rooms. The last day to order is

February 25 for daffodil delivery the week of March 25.

Proceeds will go to Mayflower Church American Cancer Society Relay for Life team.

YHP Board

John Dorr, MD
Jim Harris
John Felton
Shelli Ritz

Clinic Board

Tom Singer
Florence Garcia, EdD
Lionel Tapia, MD
Dale Anderson
Phyllis Crawford
Merritt Davis
Jeff Johnson
Art Lyle
Alexander Martin
Benjamin Rangel
Bob Reed
Greg Upham

Foundation Board

Ryan Nordlund
Debra Jones, MD
Greg Wing
John Felton
Dan Carter
John Dorr, MD
Drew Hedrick
Alexander Martin
David Mitchell
Bill Royer
Bill Underriner

Board of Health

John Dorr, MD
Jim Harris
Norma Cleveland
Brent Cromley
Deborah Davis
Michael Dennis, Ph.D
Anne Giuliano, MD
John Hedge
Don Jones
Ryan Nordlund
Amy MacKenzie Sanders
Lionel Tapia, MD
Joan Thullberg
Steve Wahrlich
K.C. Williams

BUILD BEYOND

Building
REMARKABLE

**TAX
ABATEMENT
PROGRAM**
YELLOWSTONE COUNTY |
CITY OF BILLINGS



**BIG SKY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY | CITY OF BILLINGS

In 1988 the State of Montana gave local governments authority to implement tax abatement programs. Since then, Yellowstone County and the City of Billings have successfully used the program to attract new businesses and grow existing businesses.

- **October 1994** | The 10-year incentive (MCA 15-24-1401/1402) was adopted in by the Yellowstone County Commissioners. **December 2005** | the City of Billings adopted the 10-year program
- **August 2002** | Yellowstone County Commissioners adopted the five-year tax incentive for remodel, expansion, and reconstruction (MCA 15-24-1501). **December 2005** | The City of Billings adopted the program.

TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAMS

5-YEAR PROGRAM

- Allows **tax reductions** on remodeling, reconstruction, and/or expansion of existing real property when a project makes improvements exceeding \$500,000 to the property.
- **Tax relief** is received only on the incremental increase in taxable valuation of the existing property.
- Under the Remodeling, Reconstruction or Expansion Tax Incentive Program, the property taxes levied on the value of the improvements may be **reduced by 100%** for the first 5 years of the project.
- After the 5th year, the property would return to its **full taxable value**.
- A **leased building** is typically not eligible for this tax incentive program as the owner of the property typically applies.

Applied 5-Year Savings

1st Year Following Construction: 0% Taxable Value
(100% Savings)

2nd Year Following Construction: 0% Taxable Value
(100% Savings)

3rd Year Following Construction: 0% Taxable Value
(100% Savings)

4th Year Following Construction: 0% Taxable Value
(100% Savings)

5th Year Following Construction: 0% Taxable value
(100% Savings)

Following Years: 100% Taxable Value (0% Savings)

TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAMS

10 YEAR PROGRAM

Allows tax reductions under the New & Expanding Industry Tax Incentive Program, the taxable value of the real property can be reduced by 50% in the first 5 years. In years 6-10, the tax obligation gradually increases and the savings decreases until the full 100% liability is required and the abatement expires in year 10. Increase in years 6-10 is 10%. The 2017 MT Legislature passed House Bill 226 providing discretion to governing bodies to increase the application of tax savings regarding the 10-year program. Taxable value of the incremental increase in valuation can be reduced by 75% in years 1-5, then increased by 15% years 6-10. As with the 5-year program, this is for businesses owning the building as the owner applies. There are certain criteria; primarily that 50% of the company's revenues are generated from out of state. Job creation is also strongly encouraged for both programs.

Taxed at 25% of business's taxable value

Years 1-5 - 25% taxable value (75% savings)
Year 6 – 40% taxable value (60% savings)
Year 7 – 55% taxable value (45% savings)
Year 8 – 70% taxable value (30% savings)
Year 9 – 85% taxable value (15% savings)
Year 10 – 100% taxable value (0% savings)

Taxed at 50% of business's taxable value

Years 1-5 - 50% taxable value (50% savings)
Year 6 – 60% taxable value (40% savings)
Year 7 – 70% taxable value (30% savings)
Year 8 – 80% taxable value (20% savings)
Year 9 – 90% taxable value (10% savings)
Year 10 – 100% taxable value (0% savings)

ABATEMENT SAVINGS

CAPITAL INVESTMENT & ACTIVE TAX

Date Approved	Term	Company	Capital Investment	2018 Yearly Payroll	Tax Savings in 2018	2019 Yearly Payroll	Tax Savings in 2019
11/23/2010	10yr	American Steel	\$ 3,832,109	\$ 2,500,009	\$ 1,042	\$ 2,561,385	\$ 1,789
7/5/2013	5yr	Aspen Air	\$ 7,156,703	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 44,112	\$ 1,078,579	\$ 23,770
12/27/2016	10yr	Billings Flying Service	\$ 2,200,000	\$ 8,392,434	\$ 10,003	\$ 8,086,127	\$ 13,846
2/23/2016	10yr	CHS Inc., Laurel, MT Refinery	\$ 13,000,000	\$ 57,000,000	\$ 581,779	\$ 59,772,773	\$ 557,925
6/26/2018	10yr	CHS Inc., Laurel, MT Refinery	\$ 99,028,042	Included above	Included above	Included above	Included above
11/17/2009	10yr	Dalco Industries dba Teton Steel	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 623,505	\$ 2,969	\$ 781,641	\$ 1,976
6/23/2015	10yr	D&M Enterprises (Auto Trim Design)	\$ 4,400,000	\$ 765,000	\$ 21,925	\$ 712,315	\$ 21,541
11/14/2016	5yr	Heights Eyecare (Linde Properties)	\$ 1,050,788	\$ 2,237,072	\$ 8,297	\$ 2,274,003	\$ 8,310
4/11/2017	5yr	Home2 Suites by Hilton	\$ 12,773,000	\$ 499,976	\$ 64,860	\$ 633,605	\$ 65,962
2/23/2016	5yr	Home Science Tools	\$ 1,838,000	\$ 1,490,733	\$ 11,772	\$ 1,535,175	\$ 8,326
2/23/2016	5yr	Jefferson Lines	\$ 850,000	\$ 1,282,426	\$ 2,648	\$ 392,674	\$ 2,784
10/25/2011	10yr	Mercedes Benz of Billings	\$ 2,150,000	\$ 1,179,884	\$ 1,842	\$ 1,135,013	\$ 1,198
11/19/2013	10yr	Montana Peterbilt	\$ 5,600,000	\$ 6,600,000	\$ 21,286	\$ 6,649,827	\$ 16,705
5/18/2010	10yr	Motor Power Equipment	\$ 2,530,000	\$ 4,630,992	\$ 1,950	\$ 4,879,463	Expired
11/19/2013	10yr	Northwest Scientific	\$ 2,122,328	\$ 1,047,195	\$ 6,769	\$ 1,053,424	\$ 4,859
11/14/2017	10yr	Phillips 66	\$ 298,803,000	\$ 48,000,000	\$ 4,389,261	\$ 48,000,000	\$ 3,031,263
12/23/2014	10yr	Summit Resource International	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 579,756	\$ 11,333	\$ 707,726	\$ 10,133
6/23/2015	5yr	Shipton's Big R	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 755,285	\$ 47,624	\$ 750,128	\$ 42,433
4/16/2013	5yr	TrueNorth Steel	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 5,693,145	\$ 9,050	\$ 5,598,756	Expired
2/23/2016	5yr	Woods Powr Grip	\$ 1,375,428	\$ 7,011,418	\$ 13,946	\$ 6,854,531	\$ 10,997
3/23/2010	10yr	Zoot Properties (formerly GE Capital)	\$ 9,287,865	\$ 293,019	\$ 12,447	\$ 312,706	Expired
Total			\$ 481,802,745	\$ 151,581,849	\$ 5,264,915	\$ 153,769,851	\$3,823,817

2019 Active Tax Abatements

TOTAL CAPITAL	TOTAL PAYROLL	TOTAL TAX SAVINGS OF ALL PARTICIPANTS
\$468,784,880	\$153,769,851	\$3,823,817
Investment of all active (18) abatements	For all businesses receiving a tax abatement or expired in 2019	Businesses in 2019

ABATEMENTS EXCLUDING P66 & CHS

TOTAL CAPITAL	TOTAL PAYROLL	TOTAL TAX SAVINGS OF ALL PARTICIPANTS
\$70,971,703	\$45,997,078	\$234,629

- **2019 City of Billings tax savings provided to active abatements: \$55,317**

HIGHLIGHT OF AN EXPIRED '19 ABATEMENT

COMPANY	CAPITAL INVESTMENT	BEGINNING MARKET VALUE	ENDING MARKET VALUE	INCREASE IN MARKET VALUE	BEGINNING GENERAL TAX BILL	ENDING GENERAL TAX BILL	INCREASE IN GENERAL TAXES
Motor Power Equipment	\$2,530,000	\$1,900,000	\$5,400,400	\$3,500,400	\$42,555	\$75,319	\$32,764
Totals	\$2,530,000	\$1,900,000	\$5,400,40	\$3,500,400	\$42,555	\$75,319	\$32,764



BIG SKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THE MISSION

Focused on sustaining and growing our region's vibrant economy and outstanding quality of life, Big Sky Economic Development provides leadership and resources for business creation, expansion, retention, new business recruitment and community development.

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ACTIVE CLIENTS IN THE BILLINGS SERVICE AREA



Building
REMARKABLE