

## Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

April 16, 2021

- 1. Legislative Update** – Tuesday evening I attended, and the City was one of roughly a dozen sponsors of the Senate Judiciary Committee dinner. Aimee attended the House Judiciary Dinner Wednesday evening. Both committees were instrumental in passing HB578. I suspect we will need to work closely with them during upcoming legislative sessions.
  - SB 385 – I testified in opposition to the bill Tuesday morning. As currently written, PD1 will sunset in 2024 unless the voters extend the district for another 13 years. We will need to reconsider a mill levy vs PD1.
  - HB 701 – this is one of the marijuana bills that will be heavily debated during the final days of the session.
  - SB 388 – causes problems with the Lockwood TEDD and any future TEDD.
  - See Crowley Fleck update
- 2. 2022 Proposed Budget** – much of the week was spent balancing the budget.
- 3. Quarterly Reports** – Attached are the quarterly reports for Fire, Police, PCSD, Public Works, SBURA, DBP and council initiatives.

**Have a wonderful weekend!**



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**CITY OF BILLINGS  
2021 Montana Legislature  
Weekly Session Report – April 16, 2021**

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## WEEKLY SESSION REPORT

**City of Billings**  
**April 16, 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; all yellow shaded bills are dead

### City of Billings INTRODUCED BILL DRAFTS

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 18</a>  	LC0354	Geraldine Custer (R) HD 39	(H) Missed Deadline for Appropriation Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Appropriation for Local Government Center	Support
<a href="#">HB 32</a>  	LC0273	Sue Vinton (R) HD 56	Chapter Number Assigned	04/01/2021	Repeal ending fund balance limits for school district funds	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 50</a>  	LC0441	Frank Garner (R) HD 7	(H) Transmitted to Governor	04/09/2021	Redistribute 9-1-1 funding to state library	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 62</a>  	LC0358	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	Chapter Number Assigned	02/26/2021	Update water and wastewater revolving loan program	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 73</a>  	LC1315	Barry Usher (R) HD 40	(H) Sent to Enrolling	04/15/2021	Generally revise laws related to the criminal justice oversight council	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 86</a>  	LC0469	Mary Ann Dunwell (D) HD 84	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Allow the creation of regional fire protection authorities	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 97</a>  	LC0561	Wendy McKamey (R) HD 19	(H) Vetoed by Governor*	04/08/2021	Revise ethics laws regarding application to boards and commissions	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 102</a>  	LC1333	Seth Berglee (R) HD 58	Chapter Number Assigned	02/18/2021	Generally revise gun laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 107</a>  	LC1089	Ron Marshall (R) HD 87	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise mill levy election laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 115</a>  	LC0924	Bill Mercer (R) HD 46	(S) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (S) Finance and Claims	04/15/2021	Increase penalties for 5th and subsequent DUI	Support
<a href="#">HB 121</a>  	LC0578	David Bedey (R) HD 86	(H) Transmitted to Governor	04/06/2021	Require elected official approval of local health board and officer actions	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 123</a>  	LC0577	David Bedey (R) HD 86	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise laws regarding the stringency of local septic regulations	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 126</a>  	LC1450	Kathy Kelker (D) HD 47	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise laws concerning conduct of persons with alcoholism and drug addiction	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 132</a>  	LC1029	Fred Anderson (R) HD 20	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Require property tax bill to include comparison to prior year	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 134</a>  	LC0837	Danny Tenenbaum (D) HD 95	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Allow zoning for duplex, triplex, and fourplex housing in certain municipalities	Oppose through MLCT

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 137</a>  	LC1090	Ron Marshall (R) HD 87	(S) Tabled in Committee -- (S) Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs	03/17/2021	Generally revise vaping and alternative nicotine products laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 145</a>  	LC1567	Paul Fielder (R) HD 13	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Allow local boards of health and health officers to issue recommendations	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 154</a>  	LC1065	Dave Fern (D) HD 5	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise resort tax population limits	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 158</a>  	LC1510	Caleb Hinkle (R) HD 68	(S) Committee Report--Bill Concurred as Amended -- (S) Public Health, Welfare and Safety	04/01/2021	Create study commission to review covid-19 statute & rule suspensions	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 165</a>  	LC2177	Jeremy Trebas (R) HD 26	(H) Missed Deadline for Revenue Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Increase vehicle fees to reduce residential property taxes	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 169</a>  	LC2893	Steve Gist (R) HD 25	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Deter the fraudulent use or theft of taxpayer-funded resources	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 174</a>  	LC1174	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise winery laws	Oppose

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 187</a>  	LC1064	Dave Fern (D) HD 5	(H) Missed Deadline for Revenue Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Provide for local option sales tax	Support
<a href="#">HB 200</a>  	LC1175	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	Chapter Number Assigned	03/31/2021	Establish laws prohibiting sanctuary cities in Montana	Oppose through MLCT
<a href="#">HB 201</a>  	LC0738	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Transmitted to Governor	04/13/2021	Revise prevailing wage district laws and dispatch city designations	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 234</a>  	LC1326	Mallerie Stromswold (R) HD 50	Chapter Number Assigned	03/26/2021	Remove sunset on requirement that massage therapy businesses display licenses	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 243</a>  	LC0309	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(H) Signed by Governor	04/14/2021	Generally revise laws related to law enforcement officers	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 248</a>  	LC1537	Kelly Kortum (D) HD 65	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise the Montana primary election date	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 254</a>  	LC0645	Ross H Fitzgerald (R) HD 17	Chapter Number Assigned	04/01/2021	Revise the wrongful discharge act	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 255</a>  	LC1554	Larry Brewster (R) HD 44	(S) 2nd Reading Concurred as Amended	04/14/2021	Revising time period to protest sewer and/or water district assessments	Support w/amendments
<a href="#">HB 257</a>  	LC1436	Jedediah Hinkle (R) HD 67	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	04/14/2021	Revise laws relating to government mandates and businesses	Oppose through MLCT
<a href="#">HB 258</a>  	LC1467	Jedediah Hinkle (R) HD 67	(H) Transmitted to Governor	04/13/2021	Revise laws related to firearms, ammunition, and accessories	Oppose through MLCT

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 259</a>  	LC0304	Sue Vinton (R) HD 56	(H) Transmitted to Governor	04/09/2021	Revise property and zoning laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 264</a>  	LC0627	Ross H Fitzgerald (R) HD 17	(H) Returned from Enrolling	04/13/2021	Revise emergency vehicle passing laws	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 269</a>  	LC1810	Ron Marshall (R) HD 87	(S) Tabled in Committee -- (S) Local Government	03/26/2021	Require elected official approval of sanitation related local health board rules	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 327</a>  	LC0832	Julie Dooling (R) HD 70	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Provide default definitions for covenants limiting the use of real property	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 357</a>  	LC1563	Jim Hamilton (D) HD 61	(S) Hearing -- (S) Finance and Claims	04/12/2021; 9:00 AM, Rm 317	Revise property tax assistance program inflation adjustment laws	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 366</a>  	LC1535	Kelly Kortum (D) HD 65	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revising election terminology for mail and absentee ballots	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 391</a>  	LC1318	Frank Fleming (R) HD 51	(H) Sent to Enrolling	04/14/2021	Revise and enhance penalties for criminal distribution of dangerous drugs	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 395</a>  	LC2794	Julie Dooling (R) HD 70	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Prohibit the creation of new zoning districts during a state of emergency	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 420</a>  	LC2587	Scot Kerns (R) HD 23	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise bicycle laws	Oppose through MLCT

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 422</a>  	LC1539	Kelly Kortum (D) HD 65	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Authorize municipalities to operate broadband utilities	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 435</a>  	LC1264	Bill Mercer (R) HD 46	(S) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (S) Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs	03/22/2021	Generally revise civil liability laws for government	Support
<a href="#">HB 436</a>  	LC2594	Scot Kerns (R) HD 23	(S) Tabled in Committee -- (S) Judiciary	04/09/2021	Generally revise firearms laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 444</a>  	LC2755	Edward Buttrey (R) HD 21	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	04/15/2021	Revise subdivisions of land exempted from sanitation in subdivision review	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 450</a>  	LC3217	Steve Gunderson (R) HD 1	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	04/13/2021	Provide that exempt divisions of land must meet zoning regulations	Support through MLCT
<a href="#">HB 452</a>  	LC1540	Kelly Kortum (D) HD 65	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Permit local governments to use ranked choice voting in local elections	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 464</a>  	LC3168	Matt Regier (R) HD 4	(S) Committee Executive Action--Bill Concurred -- (S) Highways and Transportation	04/15/2021	Repeal local option gas tax	Oppose

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 470</a>  	LC3028	Marty Malone (R) HD 59	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Allow for a citizen initiated planning board and additional zoning criteria	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 496</a>  	LC2611	Bill Mercer (R) HD 46	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	03/26/2021	Remove prohibitions on county board of appeals re: property use and zoning	Monitor w/amendments
<a href="#">HB 504</a>  	LC1655	Casey Knudsen (R) HD 33	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	04/15/2021	Generally revise firearms and weapons laws	Oppose through MLCT
<a href="#">HB 527</a>  	LC2923	Fiona Nave (R) HD 57	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	04/08/2021	Require draft proposals before initiating a county zoning/planning board	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 528</a>  	LC2796	Julie Dooling (R) HD 70	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise county planning, zoning, and subdivision regulation laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 529</a>  	LC2797	Julie Dooling (R) HD 70	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise planning, zoning, and subdivision regulation laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 531</a>  	LC1327	Caleb Hinkle (R) HD 68	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise qualified immunity laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 561</a>  	LC1320	Jim Hamilton (D) HD 61	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise involuntary commitment hearing requirements	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 578</a>  	LC3268	Terry Moore (R) HD 54	(S) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (S) Finance and Claims	04/15/2021	Revise laws related to commitment of defendants	Support (City Bill)
<a href="#">HB 584</a>  	LC2853	Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R) HD 43	(H) Missed Deadline for Appropriation Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Requiring certain costs paid to detention center be based on actual costs	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 591</a>  	LC2829	Joe Read (R) HD 93	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise evidence laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 592</a>  	LC2828	Joe Read (R) HD 93	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise absolute liability laws	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 596</a>  	LC2830	Joe Read (R) HD 93	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise laws related to false arrest and imprisonment	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 615</a>  	LC2356	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise tax increment financing laws related to bonding	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 616</a>  	LC2355	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	04/01/2021	Revise laws related to the adoption of a tax increment provision	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 632</a>  	LC2555	Frank Garner (R) HD 7	(S) Returned to House with Amendments	04/15/2021	Implement receipt of and appropriate federal stimulus and COVID recovery funds	Support

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">HB 639</a>  	LC2272	Matt Regier (R) HD 4	(H) Missed Deadline for Appropriation Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Revise laws related to adoption of a tax increment provision	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 640</a>  	LC0478	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(S) 2nd Reading Concurred as Amended	04/14/2021	Generally revise marijuana laws	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 657</a>  	LC1548	Tyson T Running Wolf (D) HD 16	(H) Missed Deadline for Appropriation Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Establish the rural broadband revolving loan account	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 670</a>  	LC1779	Derek Skees (R) HD 11	(S) Hearing -- (S) Select Committee on Marijuana Law	04/12/2021; 3:30 PM, Rm 405	Generally revise laws to implement recreational marijuana program	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 683</a>  	LC0933	Bill Mercer (R) HD 46	(S) Tabled in Committee -- (S) Select Committee on Marijuana Law	04/12/2021	Distribute recreational marijuana revenue to unfunded pension liability	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 694</a>  	LC2135	Steve Gist (R) HD 25	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	04/14/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Revise laws related to special districts	Monitor
<a href="#">HB 701</a>  	LC2367	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(S) Hearing -- (S) Select Committee on Marijuana Law	04/14/2021; 3:30 PM, Rm 405	Generally revise marijuana laws	Monitor
<a href="#">HJ 30</a>  	LC3354	Larry Brewster (R) HD 44	(H) Committee Report--Bill Passed - (H) Local Government	04/09/2021	Interim study of county water and/or sewer districts	Support

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">SB 23</a>  	LC0274	Daniel R Salomon (R) SD 47	Chapter Number Assigned	02/23/2021	Eliminate state school flexibility account	Support
<a href="#">SB 44</a>  	LC0364	John Esp (R) SD 30	(H) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (H) Local Government	03/19/2021	Revise subdivision laws	Support w/amendments from MLCT
<a href="#">SB 47</a>  	LC1314	Ryan Lynch (D) SD 37	(S) Sent to Enrolling	04/13/2021	Generally revise laws related to DOC commits	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 48</a>  	LC0295	Mike Fox (D) SD 16	(S) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Allowing transfer of certain highway funding to tribes	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 51</a>  	LC0062	Jason W Ellsworth (R) SD 43	(H) Hearing -- (H) Appropriations	03/17/2021; 2:00 PM, Rm 102	Exempting certain fiber optic, coaxial cable from property taxation	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 65</a>  	LC0901	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	Chapter Number Assigned	02/11/2021	Revise civil liability laws	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 67</a>  	LC0084	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	Chapter Number Assigned	03/08/2021	Revise laws pertaining to law enforcement	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 73</a>  	LC0802	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Missed Deadline for Revenue Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Provide for local distribution of lodging sales tax revenue	Support
<a href="#">SB 77</a>  	LC0552	Tom McGillvray (R) SD 23	(S) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise special district financing and dissolution provisions	Oppose

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">SB 78</a>  	LC0018	Douglas (Doug) Kary (R) SD 22	(S) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise allowable special district assessment methods	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 80</a>  	LC2959	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	Chapter Number Assigned	03/26/2021	Limit the duration of interlocal agreements	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 89</a>  	LC0808	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Revise laws related to collection of union dues	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 127</a>  	LC2439	Chris Friedel (R) SD 26	Chapter Number Assigned	04/12/2021	Revise laws on the selection of municipal court judges	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 135</a>  	LC0313	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(S) Transmitted to Governor	04/13/2021	Allow a county commission to hold certain zoning appeal hearings de novo	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 161</a>  	LC1085	John Esp (R) SD 30	Chapter Number Assigned	04/12/2021	Allow certain subdivisions to qualify for an expedited review	Monitor as Amended
<a href="#">SB 165</a>  	LC0584	Carl Glimm (R) SD 2	(H) Returned to Senate with Amendments	04/15/2021	Generally revise laws related to the department of environmental quality	Oppose Through MLCT
<a href="#">SB 171</a>  	LC0499	Chris Friedel (R) SD 26	(S) Transmitted to Governor	04/13/2021	Increasing county procurement options with cooperative purchasing agreements	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 174</a>  	LC2326	Greg Hertz (R) SD 6	(S) Sent to Enrolling	04/15/2021	Revise laws related to local subdivision review	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 211</a>  	LC0882	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(S) Transmitted to Governor	04/13/2021	Revise local subdivision review criteria regarding agriculture	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">SB 215</a>  	LC2836	Carl Glimm (R) SD 2	(S) Transmitted to Governor	04/13/2021	Establish the religious freedom restoration act	Oppose through MLCT
<a href="#">SB 219</a>  	LC0310	David Howard (R) SD 29	(H) Scheduled for 3rd Reading	04/16/2021	Providing for release of call location to law enforcement in an emergency	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 228</a>  	LC1224	Greg Hertz (R) SD 6	(S) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise public employee union laws	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 231</a>  	LC0763	Mark Blasdel (R) SD 4	(H) Scheduled for 3rd Reading	04/16/2021	Revise exempt well laws related to family transfer parcels	Oppose through MLCT
<a href="#">SB 232</a>  	LC0311	Terry Gauthier (R) SD 40	(H) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (H) State Administration	04/13/2021	Revise laws related to highway patrol compensation	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 238</a>  	LC0312	Terry Gauthier (R) SD 40	(S) Returned from Enrolling	04/14/2021	Revise compensation for sheriffs, undersheriffs, and deputy sheriffs	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 257</a>  	LC0703	Jason D Small (R) SD 21	(S) Returned from Enrolling	04/15/2021	Prohibit local governments from imposing carbon penalties, fees, or taxes	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 260</a>  	LC2519	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(H) 2nd Reading Not Concurred as Amended*	04/14/2021	Generally revise related to property interests and transfer of businesses	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 268</a>  	LC1061	Brian Hoven (R) SD 13	(S) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Allow for the condemnation and reacquisition of a mobile home park	Support

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">SB 269</a>  	LC1062	Brian Hoven (R) SD 13	(H) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (H) Local Government	04/09/2021	Allow mobile home owners the option to purchase a mobile home park	Support
<a href="#">SB 286</a>  	LC2062	Steve Hinebauch (R) SD 18	(S) Returned from Enrolling	04/15/2021	Prohibit certain prescriptive easements in a platted subdivision	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 294</a>  	LC3041	John Esp (R) SD 30	(S) Sent to Enrolling	04/15/2021	Allow for a referendum to terminate a county zoning district	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 297</a>  	LC1529	Jason W Ellsworth (R) SD 43	(H) Referred to Committee -- (H) Energy, Technology and Federal Relations	03/17/2021	ConnectMT Act to establish broadband deployment	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 301</a>  	LC2058	Theresa Manzella (R) SD 44	(S) Sent to Enrolling	04/15/2021	Provide statewide uniformity regarding wages/benefits for political subdivisions	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 313</a>  	LC2411	Christopher Pope (D) SD 31	(S) Missed Deadline for Revenue Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Provide for local option tax: Montana Tax Fairness and Rural Revenue Initiative	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 333</a>  	LC0110	Brad Molnar (R) SD 28	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	04/20/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Generally revise drug and human trafficking laws	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 335</a>  	LC1920	Gordon Vance (R) SD 34	(S) Missed Deadline for Appropriation Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Prohibiting certain funding to be used for state or local elections	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 362</a>  	LC1060	Brian Hoven (R) SD 13	(S) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal*	03/02/2021	Generally revise the Residential Mobile Home Lot Rental Act	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
<a href="#">SB 375</a>  	LC0814	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Missed Deadline for Revenue Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Limit property tax increases for certain individuals	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 385</a>  	LC0729	Greg Hertz (R) SD 6	(H) Hearing -- (H) Taxation	04/13/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 152	Revise special district laws and provide time limit on property tax levies	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 388</a>  	LC0587	Greg Hertz (R) SD 6	(H) Hearing -- (H) Taxation	04/13/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 152	Provide for infrastructure through tax increment financing	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 393</a>  	LC3274	Bob Keenan (R) SD 5	(S) Missed Deadline for Revenue Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Generally revise laws related to public's right to know and participate	Support
<a href="#">SB 397</a>  	LC0872	Greg Hertz (R) SD 6	(S) Missed Deadline for Revenue Bill Transmittal*	04/08/2021	Generally revise laws related to accessory dwelling units	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 398</a>  	LC0019	Jason W Ellsworth (R) SD 43	(H) Hearing -- (H) Business and Labor	04/14/2021; 08:30 AM, Rm 172	Generally revise vaping laws	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 400</a>  	LC0951	Theresa Manzella (R) SD 44	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	04/14/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Restrict governmental entity from interfering with parental rights	Monitor
<a href="#">SB 403</a>  	LC0884	Bob Keenan (R) SD 5	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	04/13/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revise county water and/or sewer district rate notification laws	Monitor

**City of Billings**  
**UNINTRODUCED BILL DRAFTS**

<b>Bill Draft No. (LC No.)</b>	<b>Request Date</b>	<b>Primary Sponsor</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose</b>

# **BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Quarterly Report (January – March, 2021)**

### **FIRE ADMINISTRATION**

Quarter 1 of 2021 saw a bit of a reprieve from all of the COVID related issues. While some of the policies are still in place, the sick calls related to COVID have dramatically fallen off. Budget season started for the BFD around early February and while there is a bit of lull in the action, administration is still working with finance to fine tune the FY22 Preliminary Budget. We hope to receive three new full-time positions that we feel will help to alleviate a substantial amount of overtime and have the potential to generate revenue. Administration has also been in daily contact with our 911 Center in regards to SOGs, policy revision and implementation. The Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB) was able to use Cares Act funds to procure a new software platform that will modernize our way of doing business inspections. They have been diligently working with MobilEyz and the vendor to workout issues, integrate with our New World system and have the deputy fire marshals (DFM) up and running by May. If everything runs smoothly with the deputy fire marshals then we will roll the program out and train the suppression crews. Billings Fire received a generous donation from ACE hardware in the way of four new Traeger grills.

The 2021 Annual Report included several weeks of data analysis, article writing, and page design due to the incredible teamwork of Administration, Training, Operations, City/County 911 Center, and Fire Prevention Bureau. The report was published for public view on February 26<sup>th</sup> through the City Administrator's weekly report and is available on the Fire Department's website. The final product demonstrates the inspiring hard work of the men and women who contribute many unique and powerful skills to the Fire Department and City.

The administration's familiarization and use of the Decision Support System (DSS) have expanded reporting capabilities. The DSS extracts data from the New World database, providing large arrays of information gained by investigating specific data fields. One of many projects, administrative assistant Patrick Landry has developed is an interactive map overlay to identify the first responding units in fire station areas. Current projects include understanding 2020's first responding units within Station 6 and Station 7 areas. The map overlay illustrates all 2020 incidents in those specific areas. This mapping helps exemplify all responding units to filter and exclude the areas' respective unit, i.e., excluding Engine 6 from the analysis.

In another ongoing project, Patrick continues to develop planning for AMR response time analysis. Using the DSS, he has gained insight into shortfalls of standards in responses to EMS calls by AMR due to anomalies within New World and CAD.

Patrick presented his research to Executive leadership by giving examples of past reports and communication issues between 911's CAD and AMR's CAD. This research contributed to a vital part of the 2020 Annual Report goals, to continue evaluating EMS service delivery to ensure best practices utilization.

Patrick assisted Training Chief Biggins with instruction on National Fire Incidents Reporting System standards and New World navigation to the Officer Development Program. Patrick instructed the seven ODP candidates on general and specific coding topics to aid the candidates' future reporting when serving as Captain. Instruction included PowerPoint presentation, walk-through of New World, and incident reporting practice through the test server.

**First Quarter Response Data:**

Total Incidents: 4289

Incident Type Call Amount

100 - 199 Fire 95

200 - 299 Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat - No fire 2

300 - 399 Rescue AND Emergency Medical Service incidents 2095

400 - 499 Hazardous Conditions (No Fire) 79

500 - 599 Service Call 319

600 - 699 Good Intent Call 1463

700 - 799 False Alarm AND False Call 236

800 - 899 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster 0

900 - 999 Special Incident Type 0

COVID-19 Related EMS Calls 26

Firefighter Ambulance Ride-ins 63

Total Call Average Response time 00:06:44

Total Call 90th Percentile time 00:07:31

Total Estimated loss from fires: \$ 2,114,210.00

## **FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

During the first quarter of 2021, the Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB) remained very busy and conducted 36 fire origin and cause investigations. In a typical year, this milestone would be met in July, not March. Unfortunately, it appears the trend of increased fires during the pandemic has continued into this year. Annual school inspections began in February. All public and private K-12 schools are inspected by the FPB as required by state law. During the end of March, the FPB conducted a test burn in the training facility burn cell at the airport. The burn replicated a typical single room fire that entered the post flashover state. This was done as a training exercise for the Officer Development Program (ODP). The ODP candidates investigated the fire using the origin matrix method. This training was well received by the group of upcoming company officers and will surely benefit them in the future. The following are a few photos of the burn:



### **2021 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FPB Statistics:**

- 41 building plan reviews
- 231 fire inspections
- 20 pre-app/planning meetings
- 31 fire protection system reviews
- 36 fire origin and cause investigations
- 4 Red Cross smoke alarm installations
- 14 Knox Box installations/uploads
- 265 public record requests processed for 911 Center/BFD
- 140 Rural fire unit logs processed

## **OPERATIONS / TRAINING**

The operations division of the Billings Fire Department has had very busy quarter as we continue to implement the recently updated Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) that were finalized last year. We are also working on expanding on the current SOG's and broaden the spectrum of operational responses they cover.

Keeping up with the COVID-19 Pandemic continues to be very challenging as well as it has taken a lot of resources normally dedicated to other operations and training duties and shifted them to helping keep our employees healthy as well as continuing to keep training in the forefront. We have been diligently adapting to the “new normal”. Remaining prepared has been the ultimate goal amongst these very challenging times.

The Department continues to stay busy completing the long list of deferred maintenance projects such as:

- Completion of a new Stand-By Generator installation at Station 5
- Completion of major exterior repairs to the exterior of Station 6 due to damage sustained in past hailstorms
- Preparation for exterior repairs to be competed at Station 4 this spring and summer.
- Preparation for exterior repairs to be competed at Station 7 this summer.

During the pandemic of 2020, multi-company training in the BFD became almost nonexistent due to the need to socially distance, giving the organization the best possible chance to keep our members healthy. In 2021, our focus has developed into refreshing our members on topics that we missed in 2020 and refining ways to deliver training through other platforms.

In January 2021, the first two weeks of the year kicked off with Neo-natal Resuscitation Practices (NRP) offered via the Life-Size Cloud platform. This platform is similar to zoom and provided our first responders access to Billings Clinic L&D staff, also providing access to the most up to date science, which improves the quality of our training. The next few weeks of January was spent conducting the fit and flow tests on all 113 suppression firefighters. These tests are required annually and refreshes our members on the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) which is used while entering IDLH (immediately dangerous to life and Health) environments.

February of this year kicked off with a refresher of Left Ventricular Assist Devices (LVAD). Billings has roughly half a dozen citizens that are on a heart transplant list and utilize the LVAD to keep their failing heart pumping. The BFD teamed up with the University of Utah to provide this training to our members.

The second half of the month was filled with the OSHA required refresher training on hazardous materials operations. Our department through the utilization of our BFD Hazmat Technicians provided this training. The BFD hazardous materials team has members inside the team that serve as toxicological paramedics. These members are required every two (2) years to re-certify the license to practice as such and this was completed in February as well.

March kicked off with continued training for the BFD/State-wide Hazardous Materials Team Response Team. This training was provided by a few subject matter experts that were brought into Billings through a homeland security grant that was secured by the team to train on Rapid Threat Identification.

March 15<sup>th</sup> kicked off our Officer Development Program. During this four-week training, we assign upcoming officers to five (5) eight-hour days allowing the training division to provide department specific training to upcoming officers that will soon be filling the company officer seat on the fire apparatus. The information provided, provides a refresher and new training on incident command techniques, firefighting tactics/strategies, policies and procedures, writing skills, leadership skills and much more.

The firefighters that remained on shift during this time refreshed their skills on structural fire apparatus response to aircraft incidents. This training was offered to our organization through the Aircraft Rescue Department at the Billings Logan International Airport.

### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM**

This quarter, the fire department's hazmat team had two callouts, including a mutual-aid request to Lockwood for a severely damaged trailer likely due to a drug-related explosion. While on-scene, BFD hazmat technicians performed air monitoring, scene safety and used their advanced chemical analysis equipment to identify unknown products at the site. The hazmat team also participated in a grant-funded training opportunity with hazmat technicians from Bozeman, Great Falls, and Missoula fire departments and members of the Montana National Guard. This hands-on training focused on determining the nature of unknown substances through a series of tests and the application of hazmat chemistry. Three of our hazmat technicians were featured speakers at the Montana Narcotics Officers Association (MNOA) annual conference. The result of this training is improved collaboration between fire and law enforcement officers and enhanced officer safety. Members of the hazmat team continue to pursue our grant-funded hazmat Unmanned Aerial System project funded by Montana Disaster and Emergency Services and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

# ***Billings City-County Emergency Communications Center***

A Division of the City of Billings Fire Department

## ***Quarterly Report April, 2021***

The Billings City/County Emergency Communications Center (COMMCENTER) continues its 24/7/365 mission of connecting the public with their emergency responder functions.

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### ***Mission Scoping***

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Under new leadership, the COMMCENTER is in the beginning stages of entertaining a series of scoping sessions to create thoughtful time to consider the most appropriate role for the Center in the ever-changing world of emergency services and the public's growing need.

This includes time to review existing mission statements, policies, and protocols, and have constructive conversation related to the orientation of the Center. These conversations encompass employees, supervisors, management, and a vast array of emergency response organizations, numbering more than 30, which rely upon the COMMCENTER to initiate and facilitate varying degrees of their responder functions.

In just short time, it is apparent that the traditional role of the Center must change and become better positioned and more adaptable to increase its scope and color of assignment. The Center is currently working on constructing a vision and its implications to expand from a simpler call-taking and deployment model to also include a dedicated level of focus upon the coordination of resources and facilitation of rapidly emerging events in order to better allocate and utilize existing resources and become a force multiplier for the panel of different agency commanders which exist.

In simple form, the COMMCENTER is focused upon becoming a "one-stop shopping" resource for the needs of the Commanders of our Police and Fire Departments to complement their and better support their on-scene efforts.

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## 9-1-1 Center Technology

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The COMMCENTER is in the process of both reviewing our existing technologies capacity to adequately carry us into the future, and considering the implementation of several form of newer technology.

**PHONES**-The City of Billings was awarded a “911 Fund” grant by the State of Montana to upgrade its entire telephone system from analog operating mode to a more capable IP-based and digital “EsiNet” system. Planning has begun and requires continual coordination with numerous vendors and will eventually conclude with the installation of hardware within the Center and finally a “flash” rollover to the IP system. This will allow for an expanded caller profile to be sent to operator consoles complete with accurate and momentary updates to caller location, stored emergency medical information, and will sustain a connection under pre-emptive circumstances when prompted. In literal form, this will allow our operators and responders both to have an accurate (within 3 meters) and timely (updated every 5 seconds) profile of each caller. When you think of the Rims and/or the River, this is especially important information that would now be available to responders.

**RADOS**-The City of Billings’ 800 MHZ, Phase I Trunking, is coming to the end of life in in the Spring of 2023. This means that the entire city radio network used by the varying departments will no longer be supported by a maintenance contract, essentially meaning that it is “out of warranty”. Additionally, many integral parts of that radio system will no longer be technologically supported. Significant planning is underway to understand what options may exist to replace our current system, and what capacity the City would require for the next 10-15 years in a radio system. Ultimately, this will result in each and every radio user in the City being required to purchase new portable and mobile radios at the least. In addition, as the footprint of the City expands, a new system must be designed to provide radio coverage in areas such as Ironwood Estates, or the Alkali Creek and Billings Inner Belt-Loop areas, where now there exists little if any coverage.

**COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH**: Or “CAD” is the software system which records, deploys, and provides commonality to all responder forces directly with their dispatcher. In addition to CAD, the varying responder agencies employ a number of 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications for deployment of resources, organization of personnel, and varying degrees of notification. Our current software system is fully capable of delivering the same with lesser costs associated and more robust control of the delivery mechanisms. Efforts are underway to begin utilizing our existing system, a top-of-the-line product, to a higher level of functionality in order to reduce the need of replication by responder agencies to do the same.

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## **OPERATIONAL PLANNING w/ RESPONDER AGENCIES**

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As a facet of increasing the COMMCENTER's utility to responder agencies, and better serving the public, and in line with its future mission scope, the Center has begun a review of its dispatching protocols and available tools to include the use of expanded modules of its current CAD system to begin functioning more robustly in support of rapidly emerging incidents.

This process includes an evaluation of dispatching methodologies, cataloging resources, and reviewing responses plans associated with certain incidents types to enable CAD to bring forward organized lists of available resources and assets for deployment. Eventually, this function will support on-scene Commanders and Emergency Management personnel by displaying pre-planned assets and resources without further thought or manual deployment. As the City grows, acquires more resources, and experiences the changing needs of the public, this tool will allow both the Center and its responders to perform relative resources management techniques without question.

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## **RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**

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This subject is the #1 priority and area of concern for the Center Management

Recruitment of new employees and the retention of existing employees continues to be the single most complicating factor for the COMMCENTER. With an allocation of 31.5 operators within the bargaining unit, our current roster is holding steady at 24-26. This means that each week the Center is experiencing 20-30 extra (overtime) shifts per week with most employees working 80-100 hr. work weeks including 4-12/hr. days and 1-16/hr. day. The burn out rate is a concern, and the process intricate to the Center for hiring and training new employees is cumbersome at best.

Additionally, the current Collective Bargaining Agreement articles create rather tough circumstances for new employees which are nearly absurd. Combined with low pay, no career path, little to no continuing education, and workplace conditions commonly associated with this career, the retention of employees remains a limited prospect.

Without a considerable reconfiguration of our existing workforce and the cooperation of a willing bargaining unit, this single factor alone with create the most challenge to bringing the COMMCENTER to the place where it needs to be.

As the scoping and planning for the Center progresses, the Management continues to work with the Union in matter of configuration of existing staff and policies in order that it not impede the needs of the Center to fulfill the necessary role within the community.



## Billings Police Department Activity Jan. 1 to March 31, 2021 with Two-year Comparison

<b>Category</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Calls For Service	22,553	23,083	21,405
Cases	5,064	4,653	4,546
Arrests - Adult	3,366	3,363	3,215
Arrests - Juvenile	183	243	273
Citations	7,070 **	6,048	4,889

<b>Citation Types</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Animal Warning	56	123	105
City Ordinance	165	94	43
Criminal	17	19	11
MAAP	24	20	66
Municipal Infraction	1,300	1,257	1,044
Traffic	1,405	1,318	1,196
Warnings	4,103 **	3,224	2,525

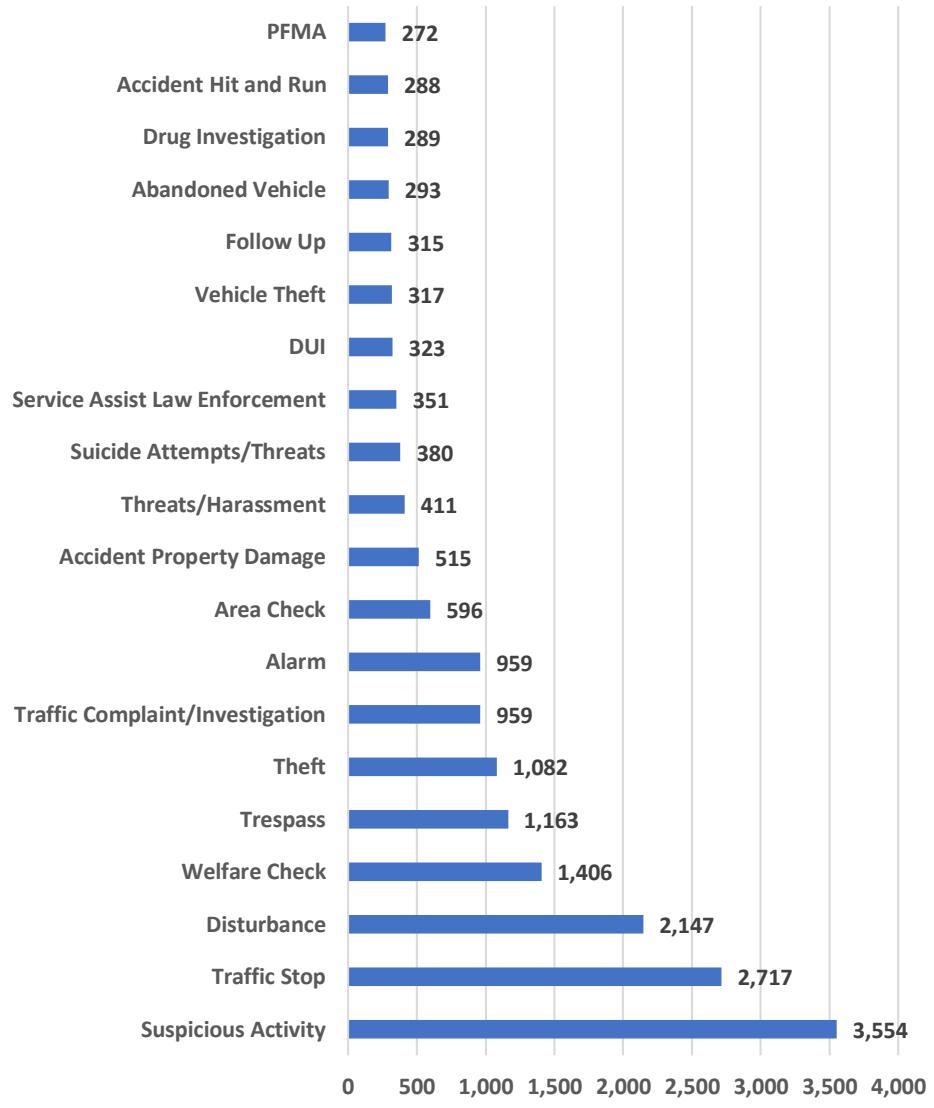
\*\* About 2,000 Warnings need entered

<b>Violent Crimes</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Homicide	4	2	1
Robbery	33	42	21
Forcible Rape	64	50	47
Assault - Aggravated	316	470	378

<b>Property Crimes</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Burglary	164	143	151
Theft	982	887	828
Motor Vehicle Theft	261	151	148
Arson	10	2	1

<b>Partner or Family Member Assault</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Non-Aggravated	287	226	207
Serious Injury	22	26	14
Strangulation	28	44	39
Total	337	296	260

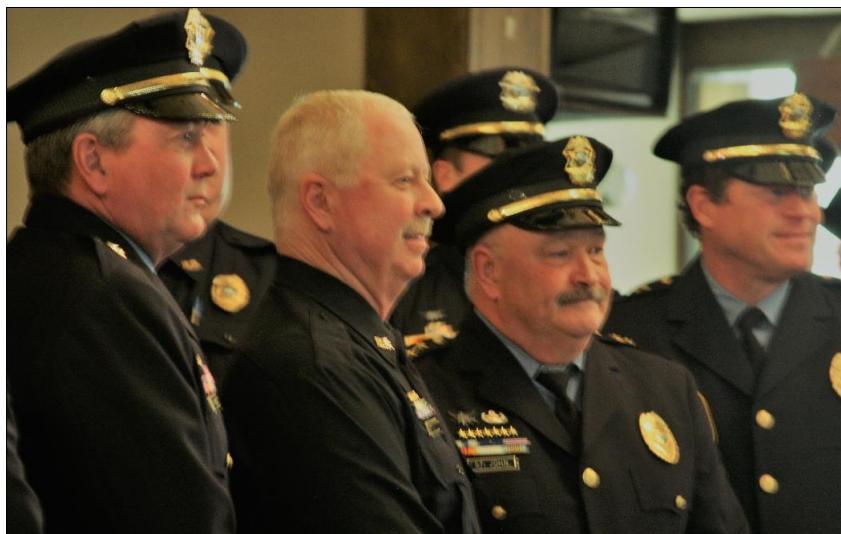
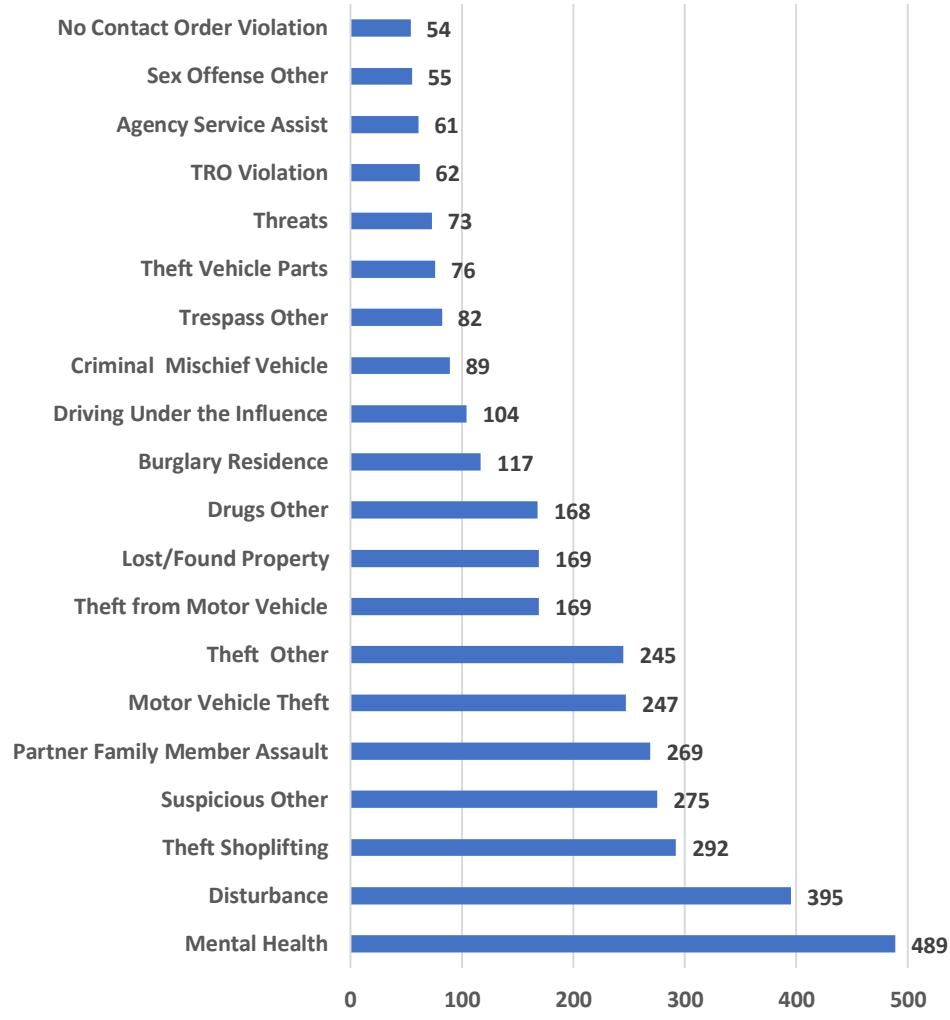
## 20 Most Frequent Call for Service Types



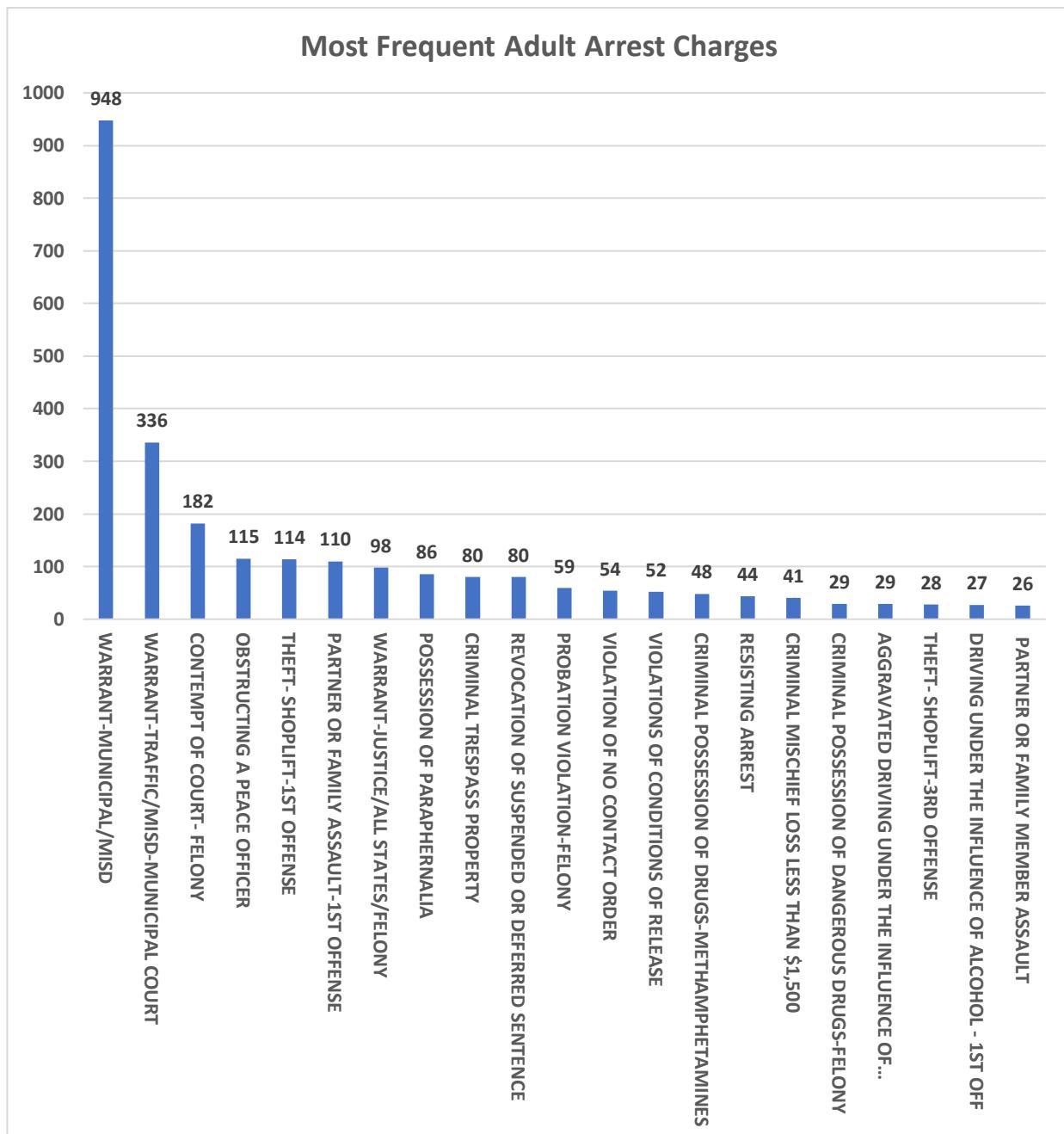
Calls For Service are created when officers are dispatched to, or locate, an incident.

Not all incidents require that officers create a case, but if they do the offense listed in the case is used to determine the case type and is used for state and federal crime reporting.

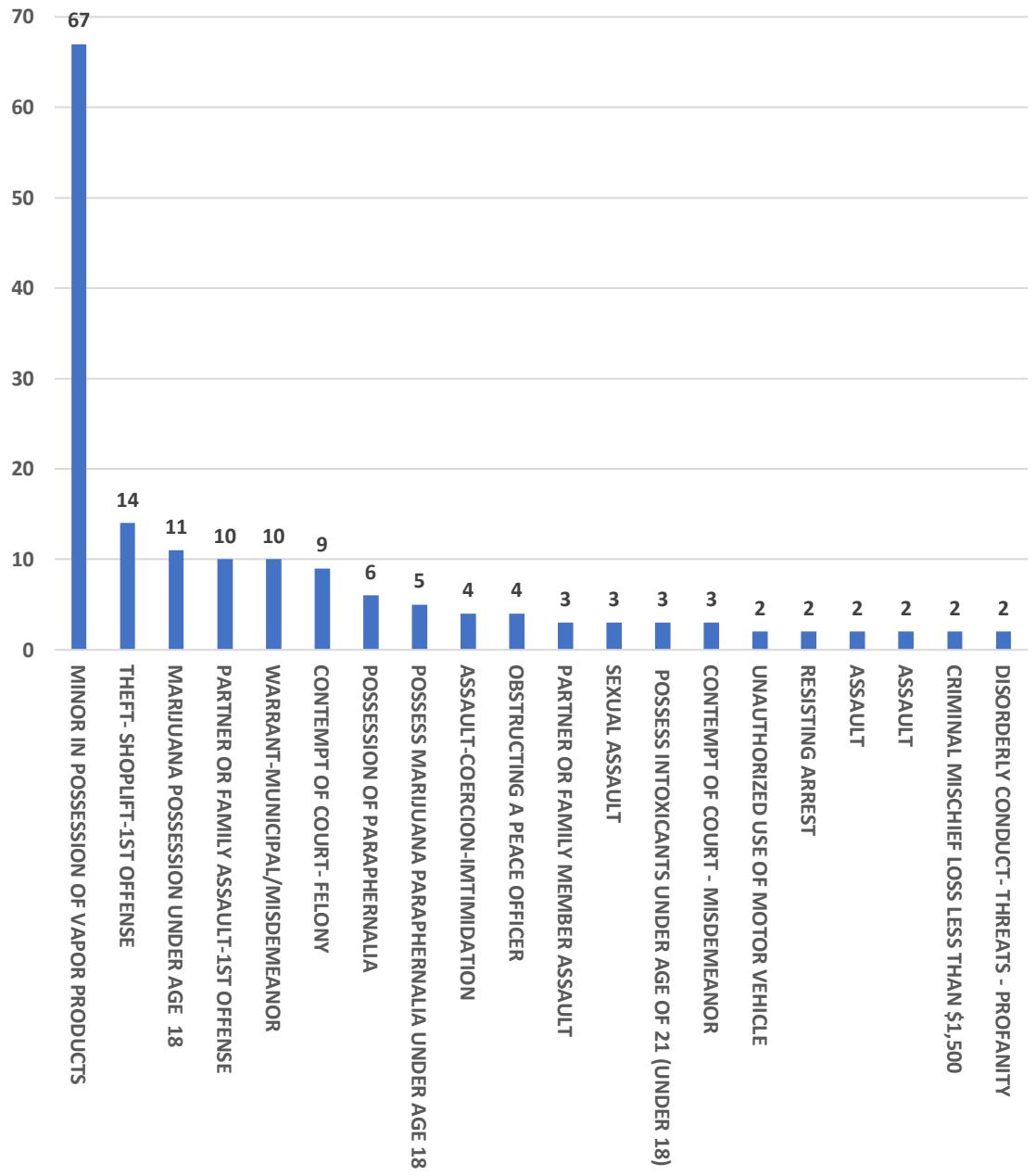
## 20 Most Frequent Case Types



Officer Dan Brown, second from left, retired from Billings Police Department in February after 27 years of service. The commanders honoring him included, from left, Assistant Chief of Police House, Chief of Police St. John and Capt. RD Harper.



## Most Frequent Juvenile Arrest Charges



## March 2021 Covid Overtime Report

March 2021 Covid Overtime Report	
<b>Number of 6 hour Details worked</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Number of Officers</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Number of overtime hours</b>	<b>245</b>
Felony arrests	3
Misdemeanor arrests	10
Stolen vehicles recovered	7
Stolen property recovered	0
Suspicious reports generated	27
Quality of life reports (trespass, public urination, jaywalking, etc)	27
Eluding/Fleeing vehicle reports	0
Weapons complaints	0
Traffic citations	92
Traffic warnings	126
DUI	0
Fictitious plates recovered	0
Open container citations	26
PFMA case follow-ups completed	4
<b>Total number of reports/contacts</b>	<b>322</b>

These numbers represent the contacts and calls for service created during the overtime details throughout the month focusing on pro-active policing and crime prevention throughout the City. The details this month were as follows:

**Downtown Patrol:** This detail was created to coincide with the presence and enforcement action taken by the DBA Officers. These shifts are scheduled to start at the end of the DBA Officers shift in an effort to extend the amount of coverage the downtown area receives. The Officers are asked to focus on quality of life issues such as open container, trespassing, jaywalking, ect.

**Proactive Theft Patrol:** This detail is city wide and focuses on putting Officers in both residential and commercial areas of the City with the goal of having a presence and deterring theft, recovering stolen property, and/or making arrests of suspects engaged in this behavior. Officers are encouraged to utilize street crimes and crime mapping to determine areas to focus on.

**Traffic detail:** This detail is city wide and was created to focus on targeted traffic enforcement specifically at and around the ten (10) intersections within the city which have the highest traffic collisions. Officers are asked to pick times with high traffic flow.

**Domestic Violence follow-up:** This detail is to assist the department's Domestic Violence Investigator in conducting essential follow-up on already charged cases. This follow-up focuses on keeping the victims safe after the initial arrest and holding defendants accountable to victim intimidation and violations of no contact orders.



## QUARTERLY REPORT



### AT A GLANCE



GOOD NEWS! 7 OF 17  
DEMOLITIONS IN THE  
PAST 6 MONTHS WERE  
FOR DANGEROUS  
BUILDINGS CITED



EXTENSIVE REHABILITATION  
WORK ON THE **NORTH PARK**  
AREA PROPERTY IS NEARLY  
COMPLETE



178 NEW BUILDING LOTS  
PROPOSED IN SUBDIVISION  
PREAPPLICATION MEETINGS  
SINCE JANUARY 2021

## Planning Implements Electronic Review of Certificates of Surveys and Subdivision

As of April 5<sup>th</sup> the Planning Division implemented the use of Electronic Plan Review (EPR). This has been a service the division has been working hard to achieve over the course of the last three years. This is a new technology that many users across the City and County will need to get used to. The ultimate goal in implementing this technology is to speed up the review times for our customers submitting Certificates of Surveys and Subdivision Plats. Until this point, our review process has included a physical routing process that can takes weeks and only allows for sequential reviews. The addition of EPR allows for concurrent digital review. The initial rollout of EPR only focuses on COS's. Once our users and customers have mastered this we will move towards implementing this process for subdivision. The Division is offering this service in coordination with the Building Division as they are utilizing the same software to serve customers by digitally reviewing building plans.



VISTA volunteers assembling food boxes.

### MLK – Food Box VISTAs

In January, AmeriCorps VISTA Members serving with the Billings Metro VISTA Project (MVP) organized and participated in the annual MLK Day of Service, a nationwide event for service members. The MVP partnered with various community organizations to make the day a success. VISTA Members installed signage at local parks that increase awareness of free, on site, fruit gleaning options; assembled over 80 food boxes; and wrote and distributed approximately 250 cards for local seniors through a letter writing campaign.

## Project Re:Code Implementation

On February 25 Project Re:Code became effective in the City of Billings. Now the hard work on implementation begins. Staff is busy making changes to our application packets and online application services to accommodate new processes and procedures. We greatly appreciate your patience as we work through this. In addition to setting up new applications and procedures staff is trying to make the new codes for both the City and County available online in an easy way. Both codes can be found on the City of Billings Zoning Information Webpage. Additionally, the MuniCode will soon electronically codify the new zoning ordinances allowing customers to do interactive searches, key word searches and more.

[billingsmt.gov › Services › Planning › Zoning Information](http://billingsmt.gov/Services/Planning/Zoning-Information)

### Zoning Information

#### Overview

The city and some areas of Yellowstone County are divided into zoning districts. Zoning districts are used to control the use, placement, spacing and size of land and buildings. The city and county Zoning Regulations outline the requirements for each zoning district. We oversee The Billings Zoning Regulations and Yellowstone County Zoning Regulations. We also administer Special Zoning Districts in Yellowstone County.

The Planning Division also reviews Fence Permit, Zoning Clarification requests, Master Site Plan, Temporary Use Permits, County Zoning Compliance Permits and Sign Permits. Planning staff also checks all new building permits within the city for conformance with zoning.

# QUARTERLY REPORT



## Code Enforcement Properties, Before and After



46 Washington

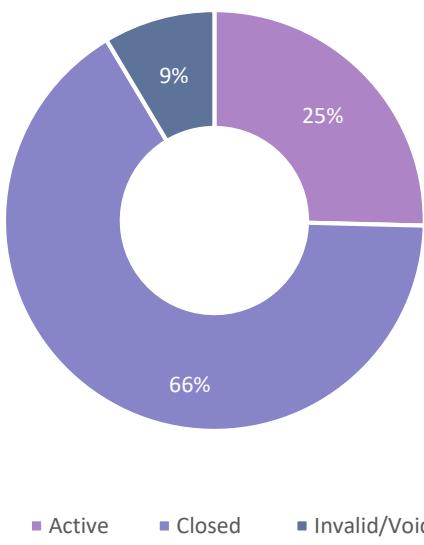


2225 Yellowstone

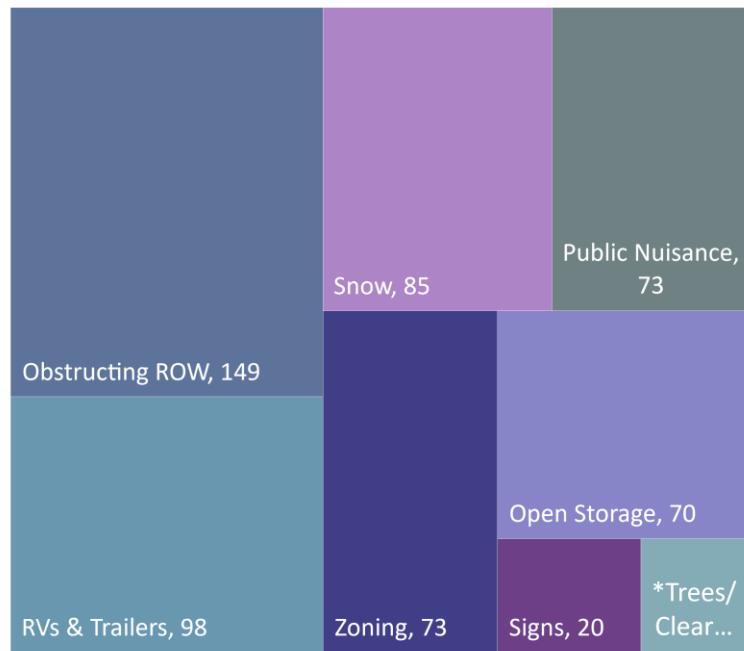


CODE ENFORCEMENT

### 1st Quarter 2021 Total Cases



### 1st Quarter 2021 Types of Cases



\*Trees/Clear Vision, 15

# QUARTERLY REPORT



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Foreclosure Acquisition / Rehab Project News:

Extensive rehabilitation work on the North Park area property is nearly complete. This 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom house will soon be made available for sale to City-approved First Time Home Buyer applicants. More information on the application process is available [here](#).

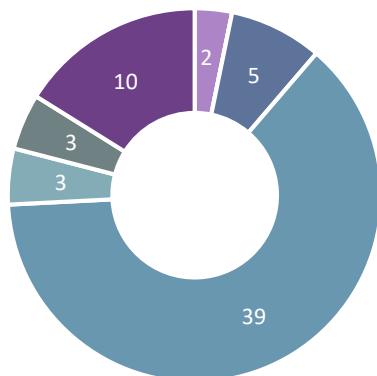


North Park rehabilitation project



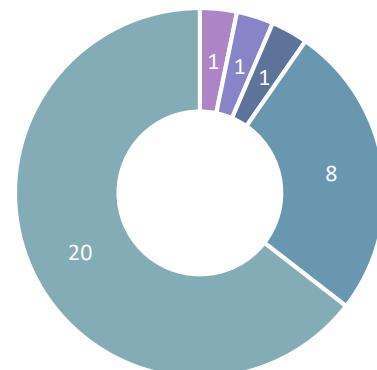
PLANNING

## Subdivision Submittals Q1 2021



- Annexation
- Master Site Plan
- Exempt Plat
- Expedited Subdivision
- Minor Subdivision
- Major Subdivision

## Zoning Submittals Q1 2021



- Variance
- Special Review
- Zone Change
- Zoning Compliance
- Zoning Clarification

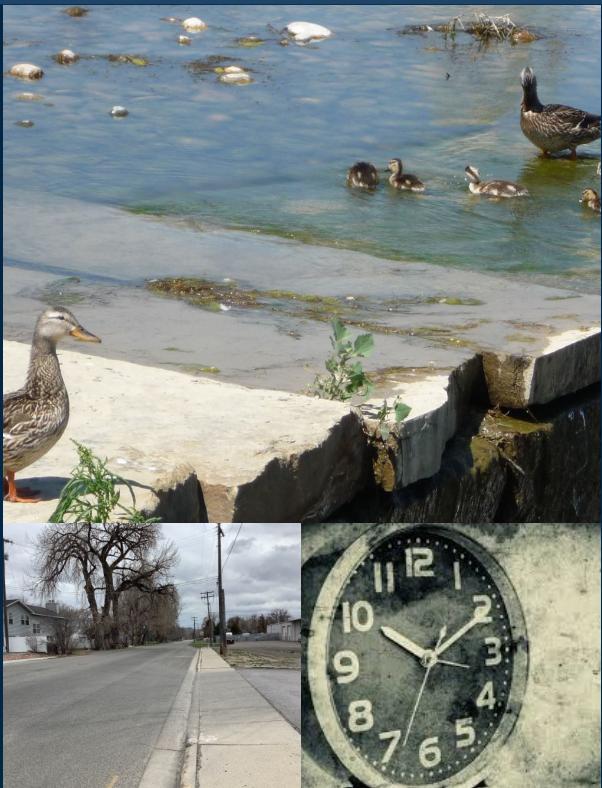


# APRIL 2021 QUARTERLY REPORT



*"Exceed expectations through  
innovation, integrity, and  
service to the community."*

**DEPARTMENT VISION STATEMENT**



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**Spring is here!** We are getting the pavers and sweepers out but we are still keeping the plows handy – it is Montana after all! We had a great winter in Public Works. The mild winter meant fewer water main breaks, an easier time collecting garbage, not much snow plowing, and construction continued for most of the winter. We were even able to get a jump on work that we normally do in the spring and summer like cleaning storm drain inlets, maintaining drains, and inspecting hydrants. The nice thing about Public Works is that there is no problem finding work to do even when Mother Nature doesn't provide it.



**DEBI MELING, PE**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

Public Works has had a lot of retirements over the last year and while we are struggling to fill many positions, we have been lucky to get some very talented people on board. Within the management team, we have a new City Engineer and a new Street/Traffic Superintendent. Hopefully by the time this goes to print, we will have a new Solid Waste Superintendent as well. With a team of eight, having three new managers gives us a lot of new energy and ideas!

In our Distribution/Collection division, we have over 80% of the people on the crews that have been hired within the last 5 years. It may take a bit of time to get the crews trained to the level of expertise that we lost over the last few years, but once that is done, we will be a force to be reckoned with! Our Environmental Division has had a 75% turnover this year. Again, we sure miss the expertise we had in our retirees, but we have been able to hire some amazing replacements. We have not been as lucky in our seasonal hires. The fact is, most of what we do requires people and we have not come even close to filling our seasonal vacancies. Last year, we hired 1 out of 10 for Street/Traffic, 4 out of 6 in Distribution/Collection, and 8 out of 13 in Solid Waste. If we can't find qualified people, we can't provide the service we want to provide so please encourage people to apply for these positions if you know anyone!

Since starting this position last year, I have been able to spend time with each division and I will tell you that this city is fortunate to have the expertise, dedication, and talent that we have in PW. I wish the entire city could see how hard everyone works in often thankless jobs. Public Works week is May 16-22 and if you see a city employee out working hard, think about stopping (in a safe place) and telling them thank you. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter to see what we are doing for PW week!

# Help Keep Billings Ditches Beautiful and Healthy



As a resident of Billings driving through town, you have likely crossed an open ditch to get to your destination. Some may be dry depending on the time of year, while others may have water year round. These ditches have several benefits such as providing water from the Yellowstone River for irrigation needs, recharging the area aquifer, and providing groundwater and agricultural discharge. Another crucial role is providing a discharge for rainwater and snowmelt collected on our City streets. Because the ditches provide these benefits, it is critical they are free of debris to remain flowing, which will minimize potential flooding and reduce impacts to the Yellowstone River water quality.

The City, in cooperation with the ditch companies, would like your help to maintain ditch sections through or adjacent to your property. Because of the interconnection between the ditches and the City stormwater system, dumping of debris violates Section 28 of the City Code and State Law 75-5-605 - Prohibitive Activity. Water from the ditches discharge into the City's stormwater system at several locations before eventually releasing into the Yellowstone River. This discharge is currently not treated by the City; unlike the sanitary sewer system which is treated at the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) before discharging into the river. Homeowners and landscaping crews working near or adjacent to these ditches should not dump or throw anything into them. Any dumping of yard wastes, chemicals, pet waste, trash or even loose dirt on either the ditch bank or within the ditch, can potentially cause water quality issues. Another major concern is blockages in the City stormwater system, which can increase the potential for flooding, causing the ditch banks to overflow.

The ditches and drains are controlled and maintained either through ditch easements or prescriptive rights by private ditch companies. Please remember permission from the ditch companies is required to divert or alter the course of the ditches, construct ditch crossings (i.e. fences and bridges), discharge stormwater, and to use ditch water. In most cases, the City of Billings does not have any ownership or maintenance responsibility relating to the ditch system, other than repair and replacement of street culvert crossings.

For more information about the ditches and drains, illicit discharge, permits and regulations, ditch maintenance contacts, and the Shiloh Conservation Area visit our dedicated Stormwater Systems page at [billingsmtpublicworks.gov](http://billingsmtpublicworks.gov).

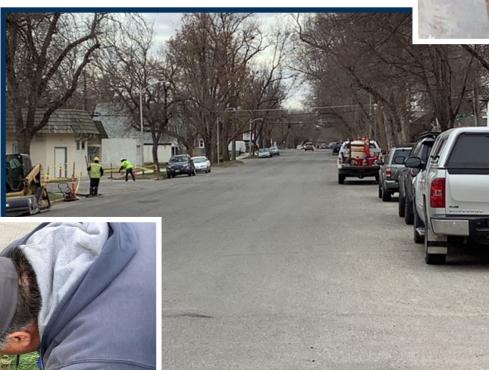
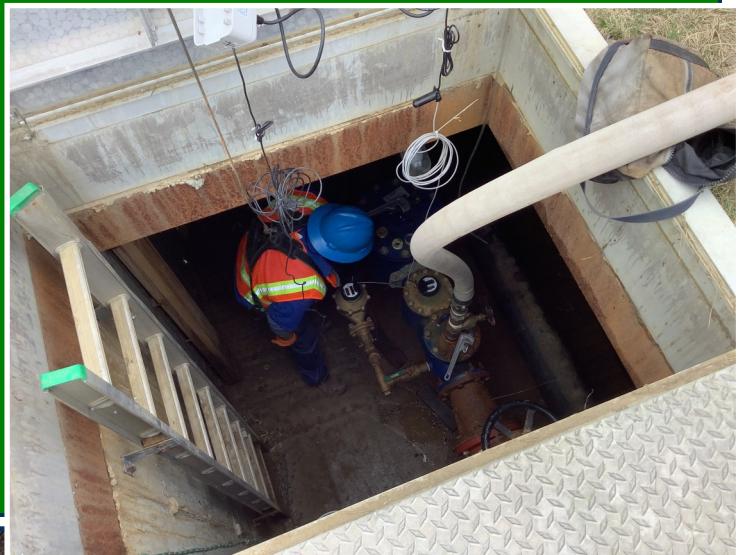
## ***Things you can do as a homeowner or landscaping crew working adjacent to a ditch:***

1. Keep ditch easement area free of yard waste and grass clippings
2. Do not divert the water in any way unless you have confirmed permission
3. Only remove water from of a ditch if you have rights or shares in a ditch that allow such
4. Remember that owners of a ditch have right-of-way that are relevant to cleaning & repairing the ditch
5. Avoid building permanent structures near ditches for ease of maintenance

# WORKING SMART DURING THE PANDEMIC

For most of the Public Works Department it was 'business as usual' during the pandemic. However, COVID-19 posed some challenges when trying to limit unnecessary contact and potential exposures to staff and the public while still maintaining service and efficiency levels.

Our spirit of Innovation kicked-in to high gear, a prime example was made by our Distribution & Collection Division's Meter Service work-group. Faced with the inability to continue the replacement plan for aging meters, a task which in most cases requires entry to homes, they shifted their focus to updating meters in meter-boxes. There are 400 meter boxes and vaults in service and about 250 have been inspected already, with repairs or replacements taking place as needed.



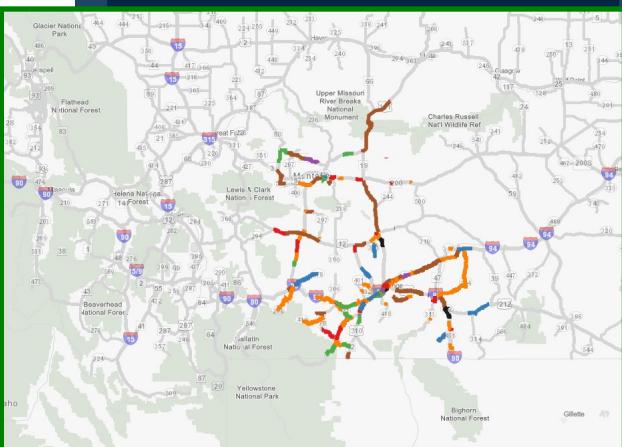
*Additional work addressed included curb box and curb valve location and condition assessment.*

*This covered inspection of completed projects and in preparation of up-coming projects.*

# CONSTRUCTION SEASON

Some of the projects you will see around town this summer will be managed by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT). Information and updates are available through their website at [mdt.mt.gov](http://mdt.mt.gov).

- **Main Street:** This project will resurface Main Street located in the Billings heights between 1st Ave N and Pemberton lane. Additional work will include replacement of the raised median, upgrades to the traffic signals, new ADA compliant sidewalk corners, and LED heads installed on the existing street lights. Electrical work has already started and the concrete work will begin mid-April. The paving will start in July and be completed in the fall.
- There will be some cleanup work on S. and N. 27th Street West this summer.



## Annual Spring and Summer Paver Program

The Paver Program identifies and provides necessary asphalt repairs to streets throughout the City. The City uses three methods to repair paving: crack seal, chip seal, and overlay. In addition, some spot damage is repaired by digging out the poor soil, adding gravel, and re-paving. The method used is based on the degree of damage being addressed.

The crack seal process prevents additional cracks in the street surface. The cracks are caused as asphalt ages and the freeze/thaw cycle occurs, leaving hairline cracks which can spread and deepen allowing water to infiltrate and freeze. The crack seal process fills narrow cracks in previously overlaid streets. Filling a few cracks now with molten rubber will ensure that the surface is sealed and help to extend the serviceable life of the pavement. In addition to the hot rubber application, the City will be using a mastic product to fill some of the larger cracks, potholes, and low spots. The mastic product adds a structural element back to the road, which a traditional crack seal cannot provide to streets. The City will be using mastic on sections of Moon Valley Road, Ironwood Subdivision, Lampman Subdivision, and St. Andres Drive.

The chip seal process actually begins with "dig-outs", which are areas of a street that have failed, have sinking sections, or large pot holes. Crews dig up part of the street and then replace the section with 2-3 inches of asphalt depending on the road type. The City identifies failed sections of roadway every year.

The overlay process replaces deteriorated asphalt surfaces with new asphalt. Generally, the top two inches of the road is milled out, but if problem areas are exposed, another few inches of asphalt is milled and the area is repaired. The surface is prepared and a new layer of asphalt paving is placed.

This year, the City will be overlaying King Avenue West from 31st Street West to Shiloh Road, Rimrock Road from 27th Street to Virginia, 4th avenue North from Division to 27th Street, and South Billings Boulevard from King Avenue East to Underpass. Each location will typically take about a week to complete the pavement overlay, weather permitting.

If you have questions about the 2021 Paver project, please call the Engineering Services Division at 406-657-8231.



# CONSTRUCTION SEASON - 2021 SUMMER PROJECTS

## **The following projects will be undertaken by the City this year:**

For more information on any of these projects, contact the Engineering Services Division at 406-657-8231

- **New street construction** of Songbird Drive, a local commercial street, to allow additional connectivity from Josephine Crossing Subdivision and Riverfront Pointe Subdivision to Midland Road.
- **Reconstruction** of Hallowell Lane from State Avenue to King Avenue East, to add parking, sidewalk, storm improvement, and water main replacement. This project is slated to begin in May and be completed in September.
- **Reconstruction** to about 1,000 feet of Harrow Drive including water main replacement north of Rimrock Road.
- **Reconstruction** of Park Lane, Highwood Drive from Rimrock Road to Poly Drive, Highland Park Place, Circle Drive, and Highwood Circle, for widening, replacement of deteriorating roadways, and water main replacement.
- **Reconstruction** of 32nd Street West from King Avenue to Gabel Road. This important connector road will be widened to increased traffic capacity and provide safety improvements.
- **Reconstruction** of Wicks Lane includes widening from Bench Boulevard to Hawthorne Lane, and on-street bike lanes on each side. Other improvements are new curb and gutter, sidewalk on both sides, driveway approaches, ADA ramps, and storm drain improvements. Work will generally start around June 7 and be complete by September 1, 2021. The street will be under a full road closure, with residential access being maintained. The Kiwanis Trail will remain open.
- **Annual Lead Services Replacement Project.** In combination with the annual water replacement project, this project will remove approximately 145 lead services from the system. This project will occur along Lewis Street from Division to 8th Street West, Clark Avenue from Division to 7th Street West, the College Streets from Wisconsin to 13th Street West, North 15th and 16th Street north of 6th Avenue, Avenue B from 1st Street to 3rd Street West, and a portion of Burlington at 7th Street West.

*Continued on next page...*



# CONSTRUCTION SEASON - 2021 SUMMER PROJECTS

*Continued from previous page...*

- **Annual Water Replacement Project.** Aging water mains will be replaced in the Pioneer Park area along the following streets:
  - 1) 2nd Street West from Grand Ave to Burlington Ave.,
  - 2) Burlington Ave. from 2nd Street West to Division Street, 3) Avenues B through E, from 3rd Street West to North 32nd Street,
  - 4) 1st Street West from Avenue C to Grand Avenue.In addition, a section of water main within 12th Avenue from 27th Street east to North 22nd Street will be replaced, budget allowing. This annual project will replace up to 8800 lineal feet of water main, 92 lead services, and will take much of the summer to complete. Residential homes will have temporary water connected to continue water service while the water pipe is being replaced.
- **A new traffic signal** is planned for the intersection of Virginia Land and Rimrock Road, and is expected to be completed by the end of summer 2021.
- **Water mains** will be replaced in the vicinity of Normal Avenue and Rimrock Road over the period of about a month, west of the MSU-Billings campus, starting at the end of May.
- **A new 60-inch diameter sewer interceptor** pipe will be constructed parallel to the Yellowstone River on the eastern side of the Metra Park facility to expand sewage flow capacity and redundancy.
- **A new sewage lift station** will be constructed on the west side of Alkali Creek to improve the efficiency of the Wastewater Reclamation Facility. This project will also improve flow characteristics by reducing sedimentation and back-up within the existing sanitary sewer system.
- **The Annual Missing Sidewalk and Miscellaneous Sidewalk Program** will replace and complete sidewalk throughout the City. The three main work areas include 24th Street West from Grand to Broadwater, 11th Avenue North from N. 22nd to N. 27th, and Aronson Avenue from Nutter to Governors. Work has started and is close to being finished on 11th Street, and will then proceed to Aronson Avenue, with an estimated time of 4 weeks to complete. The remainder of the project will be completed by October 31st.



# CONSTRUCTION SEASON

## Downtown Two-Way Conversion

A City project to convert North 29th Street and North 30th Street from one-way to two-way traffic is anticipated to start the week of April 12, 2021.

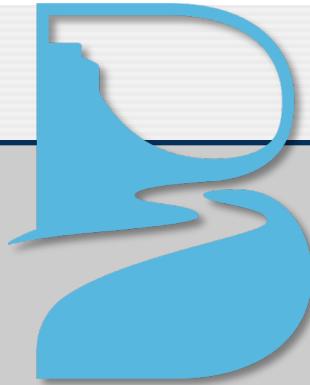
Contractors will work to modify traffic signals at 12 intersections to accommodate the change, as well as resigning and restriping the corridors from Montana Ave. to 6th Ave. N. The project has generated positive feedback from both the public and businesses, and will provide numerous benefits to the downtown commercial corridors.

- Two-way streets offer important advantages in commercial corridors:
  - They facilitate an appropriate amount of traffic
  - Provide a safe environment for pedestrians
  - Support a good location for small business
  - Property values tend to rise at a faster rate on two-way streets than one-way streets
  - It is on these slower-paced, two-way commercial streets that pedestrian shoppers, diners, and downtown visitors feel the safest and most comfortable.



### CONSIDERATIONS

- Most on-street parking
- Bicycle connectivity
- Less comfort for cyclists
- Low cost



## Paying your utility bill with the City of Billings just got even easier!

Devices with a Microsoft operating system, such as an Android cell phone or desktop computers have the option to make a payment using Google pay.

Devices using a Macintosh operating system, like an iPhone or from a MAC computer are able to make a payment using Apple or Google pay.

Convenient and easy payment options are available anytime online and by phone:  
[billingsmtpublicworks.gov](http://billingsmtpublicworks.gov)  
406-657-8315

City of Billings water utility customers also have the WaterSmart app, which features a variety of consumer tools including account alerts and money saving tips.





## AN EARLY START

With the mild winter, the Street-Traffic Division has been able to get a jump on its summer maintenance projects. Paving crews have been tackling asphalt repairs and sweeping crews are progressing quickly through their routes.

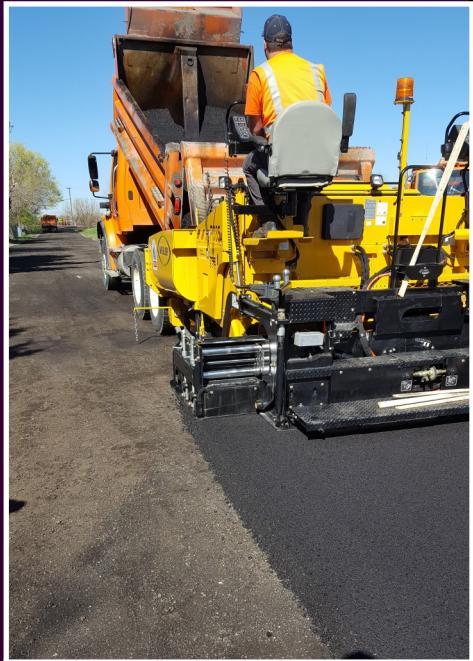
Ditch & drain maintenance has already removed approximately 200,000 cubic feet of material from the Shiloh drain & Shiloh Conservation area.

Public Works was also able to make repairs to a washout on the Hogan Slough, pictured below and right.

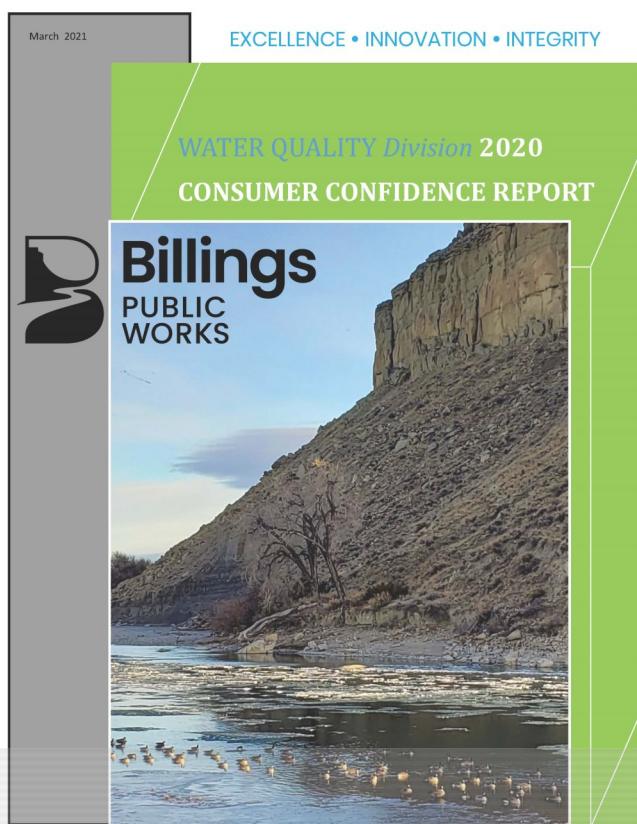
The winter storms we did have were conquered with the help from Solid Waste and Distribution & Collections equipment operators. Also, the residential plowing contract was activated to clear the roads during the most significant storm.



*SUMMER MAINTENANCE IS ALREADY IN FULL-SWING*



# 2020 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



The Water Quality Division takes your water on a long journey starting and ending at the Yellowstone River.

Your water is carefully treated, reclaimed, monitored and tested along the way by a team of highly-skilled professionals. Their dedication and hard-work is shared in our annual Consumer Confidence & Water Quality Report (CCR), which is available now on our website, or check out the report using the link below:

<https://www.billingsmtpublicworks.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/205>



## CARES ACT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE

COVID HAS BEEN  
HARD ON EVERYONE



HRDC 7 CAN HELP

Contact our community partners at HRDC to obtain an application or to learn more about the Application for Essential Services (COVID-19) and funding available to assist with utility services. The local District 7 office may be reached at (406) 869-2593, or find more information online at [hrdc7.org](http://hrdc7.org) .

An informational flyer will be delivered to all City of Billings utility customers in their billing statement starting on Friday, April 9.



# SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Green barrel yard waste service begins the first full week of April and runs through the last full week of November.

Call 406-657-8285 for more information, or to request a container. Place your yard waste out for pick-up by 7:00 AM on your collection day and remove from the street after collection has been made.

## Acceptable Yard Waste

Types of yard waste to place in your container include:

- Garden waste
- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Shrub pruning
- Smaller branches or twigs
- Weeds

## Branches Code Requirements

Billings Code 21-205 requires the following for branch yard waste collection:

- Limit all pieces to 4 feet in length and 6 inches in diameter.
- Tie pieces in bundles and limit bundles to 75 pounds in weight and 2 feet in diameter.
- Place bundles near designated collection site at curb or in alley.

## Non-Acceptable Yard Waste

Do not place dirt, sod, rocks, animal droppings, or any other refuse in your yard waste container. **DO NOT BAG YARD WASTE, place it directly in the container.**

## Lawn Services

If you have a lawn service doing your yard work they are required to haul off the yard waste that they generate.

## ANNUAL HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAY	DATE	COLLECTION	LANDFILL
Independence Day	Monday, July 5 (observed)	On Schedule	Open
Labor Day	Monday, September 6	Delayed one day	Closed
Veteran's Day	Thursday, November 11	On Schedule	Open
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 25	Delayed one day	Closed
Day After Thanksgiving	Friday, November 26	Delayed one day	Open
Christmas	Friday, December 24 (observed)	On Schedule	Closed
New Year's Day	Friday, December 31 (observed)	On Schedule	Closed



**The new drop-off facility at the Landfill is open to the public!**

**Design concept pictured above and the completed building is pictured below.**

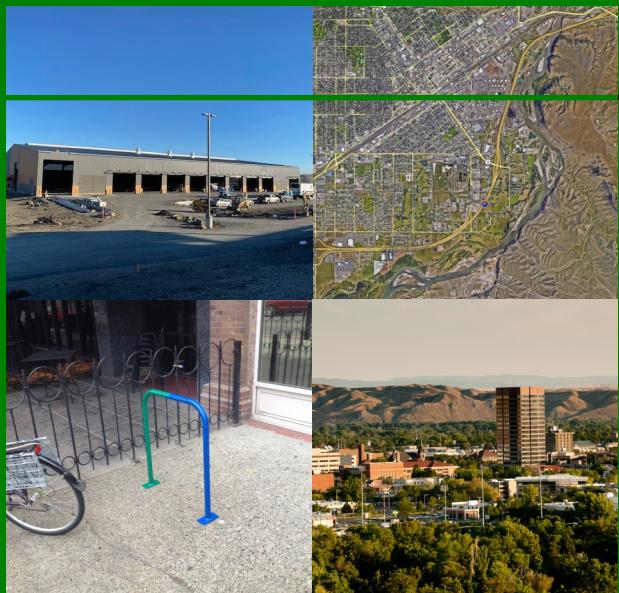
## SOLID WASTE SERVICES... *continued*

The new Drop-Off Building at the Billings Landfill is a fully enclosed, 60,000 sq ft building with large overhead doors, for commercial and residential customers to enter and unload garbage and typical household waste—without having to access other areas of the landfill.

Upon entering the Landfill, customers will drive up the hill, cross the scales, and follow signs to the Drop-Off Building. Solid Waste staff will give directions to a designated area inside the building where waste can be unloaded directly onto the concrete “tipping” floor, then workers will push the waste through openings of the floor into large transfer trailers in the tunnel below. When filled, staff will haul the trailers to the active face for landfilling. This will greatly reduce the amount of potential blowing trash outside, reduce impact to neighboring properties and enhance the overall customer service experience.

There are also dedicated areas outside the building where recyclables, construction debris, branches, large bulky items, and household hazardous waste can be dropped off. The facility began operation March 16, 2021 and provides a safer environment for both workers and customers.





## IN THE NEWS

You may have seen Public Works in the news this year, including stories like the ribbon cutting at the new Landfill facilities. Find service updates on our website and social media outlets anytime.

We share televised and digital messaging through our partners at KTVQ-Q2 and their affiliates all year.

## WANT MORE?

Find detailed information about all aspects of the Public Works Department online at [billingsmtpublicworks.gov](http://billingsmtpublicworks.gov)

Stay informed with frequent updates, alerts and notices on construction projects, utility services, holiday schedules, job opportunities as well as helpful information like water saving tips by following us on your favorite social media outlet:  
**facebook • instagram • twitter**  
**@billingsmtpublicworks**



Pictured above and right is the King Avenue East Reconstruction and Improvement Project





**EXCELLENCE • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY**

## **CONTACT US**

<u>Administration</u>	406-657-8230
<u>Engineering Services</u>	406-657-8231
<u>Environmental Affairs</u>	406-247-8663
<u>Solid Waste Services</u>	406-657-8285
<u>Street-Traffic Maintenance</u>	406-657-8250
<u>Utilities Customer Service</u>	406-657-8315
<u>Utility Emergency (After Hours)</u>	406-657-8353

<b>Community Partners</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Billings Heights Water District	406-252-0539
Montana-Dakota Utilities	406-896-4250
Northwestern Energy	888-467-2669



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
ADMINISTRATION  
2224 Montana Ave  
Billings, MT. 59101  
P 406.657.8230  
billingsmtpublicworks.gov**

## INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

**Date:** April 5, 2021  
**To:** Billings City Council  
**From:** Jim Tevlin  
**Subject:** SBURA report for the period January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021

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The following is a report from the South Billings Urban Renewal Association (SBURA) related to activities in the South Billings Boulevard Urban Renewal District ("the District") for the period January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021.

### **Administrative**

Carolyn Rukstad's term as SBURA board President as one of three bylaw-mandated "Enterprise" directors (i.e., the board member must own a business in the District) ended on February 1, 2021. The SBURA published three weekly public notices requesting volunteers for this position during December 2020. Carolyn Rukstad was the lone applicant for this position and was voted in unanimously at the February 2, 2021 board meeting.

### **Expansion of South Billings Boulevard Urban Renewal District**

On December 21, 2020, Wyeth Friday, City Planning Director, and I presented to City Council our initial research concerning the possible annexation of properties into the District. We identified three properties located south of I-90 along the Frontage Rd, a single property at the intersection of Jackson Ave and King Avenue East and two City-owned properties as being logical candidates for annexation. After much deliberation, the City Council voted 8-3 to authorize Wyeth and I to continue our efforts for expansion.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, the City withdrew its intention to annex one of its properties in the District, namely the land purchased for expansion of the Billings Operation Center. At present, the property at the intersection of Jackson Ave and King Avenue East has submitted a request for annexation into the City. One of the properties along the South Frontage Rd is expected to change ownership in May and will likely be annexed into the City shortly thereafter.

I have drafted SBURA's Statement of Position regarding expansion of the District. The board is expected to adopt the Statement at its April 6 board meeting. Following this, Wyeth and I will present the afore-mentioned Statement of Position to the City Council at a date to be determined. The Council will then decide to approve a Resolution of Intent and set a public hearing date.

### **CLDI Tax Increment Application**

On November 10, 2020, Eric Basye of Billings Community Leadership & Development Inc. (CLDI) presented an application for \$58,100 of tax increment assistance to build a home on Viceroy Lane for resale to qualified low-income applicants. These funds effectively reduce the debt service required of CLDI-vetted home purchasers who have overcome significant adverse life events and seek home ownership. The SBURA board approved their application to move forward to City Council. After SBURA's approval, I became aware of certain aspects (e.g., sale of the property & composition of estimated project costs) of the award that would likely face

significant City Council opposition. I contacted Mr. Basye and was able to address these concerns. In addressing these concerns, I believed we had materially changed CLDI's application and would require CLDI to reapply for assistance. The SBURA board intends to re-hear CLDI's request for tax increment assistance at its April 6, 2021 board meeting.

### **Newman Elementary Tax Increment Application**

At SBURA's March 2, 2021 board meeting, the Newman Elementary PTA presented an application for \$61,200 of tax increment assistance for improvements (e.g., trees, benches, shelter) along Newman Lane where parents pick up/drop off their children for school. These improvements will help beautify the neighborhood and provide community amenities adjacent to the open grassy areas that are used by a host of organizations. The SBURA board tabled the application pending additional information about the PTA's intentions for additional improvements beyond the ones mentioned above. The SBURA board will continue hearing the PTA's application at its April 6, 2021 meeting.

### **Capital Projects**

- **Optimist Park** – \$304,986 of TIF funding is included in the Parks & Recreation FY21 budget for the installation of a picnic shelter, picnic tables, park benches, disc golf and lighting. Per Parks & Recreation Planner Mark Jarvis, the Parks & Recreation Department:
  1. Has picnic tables on hand and ready for installation.
  2. Will be bidding the shelter at the end of April.
  3. Has benches on order.
  4. Is coordinating with Northwestern Energy to install security lighting.
- **King Ave East** – This project is complete.
- **South Billings Recreation Center** – During the quarter, the SBURA entertained the possibility of incorporating a football/track stadium on land adjacent to Amend Park. The Yellowstone County Commissioner's decision to not build a stadium to host School District 2 athletic events at MetraPark precipitated this possibility. After discussion with School District 2 officials, the School District elected to focus their resources on redeveloping Daylis Stadium.

Concurrent with the above activity, SBURA created a separate committee consisting of three board members and myself to take ownership of developing a recreation center. This committee will use the Victus and A&E studies as well as input from prospective user groups to develop a specific concept plan for presentation to City Council.

- **Hallowell Lane** – WWC Engineering and Sanderson Stewart have finished their design works for the sewer and water main systems, respectively. Public Works has received bids which indicate approximately \$1,000,000 of unforeseen construction costs, mainly attributable to labor and concrete costs. The SBURA board believes these additional costs can be managed within its current cast forecast. Construction is planned for the period May to September.



Downtown Billings Partnership, Inc.  
Part of the Downtown Billings Alliance

Main Office Hours: M-F 9am to 4pm

## Quarterly Report to Billings City Council

3rd Quarter FY 21

Thursday, April 6, 2021

- Status of the N27th/Downtown Tax Increment Fund for FY 21 - Quarter Ending, March 31, 2021
  - see attached spreadsheet with fund line items
- DBP Highlights and other work in the N27th Street Urban Renewal District
  - Continuous follow up with Downtown establishments impacted by COVID-19
  - Providing guidance on CPTED reimbursements to establishments with certified evaluations
  - Continuing to field inquiries about future projects and TIF applications
  - Communicate regularly with City Government and news outlets
  - Launch a Pedlet/Parklet application process
  - Continue efforts to gather professional photography for downtown marketing
  - Process sign grant applications
  - Field inquiries from outside investors who are pursuing downtown properties
  - Network with new businesses moving into downtown
  - New Businesses
    - Billings House of Prayer at 2700 2nd Ave N
    - Billings Symphony relocated to 2820 2nd Ave N
    - Made-Up With Moxie opened in the Grand Building above Downtown Jake's (2701 1st Ave N)
    - Undamned Distilling Co opened at 2123 First Ave N
    - Dress for Success relocated to 333 N 31st Street
    - Response Design Architects relocated to 2702 Montana Ave
    - The Marble Table opened for business at 2515 Montana Ave
- General Alliance Work
  - Remove winter decorations
  - Continue distribution of the Downtown Visitor Guides
  - Continue service on the Yellowstone County Economic Recovery Taskforce
  - Created a new successful event "Mug Crawl"
  - Distribute Giving Boxes for Spare Change for Real Change
  - Distribute downtown gift card troubleshooting cards and window decals

- Development Project Incentives (TIF grant projects)
  - Completed
    - Edam's Tires Sign
    - Billings Depot Banners
    - Alberta Bair Theater (ongoing reimbursements thru FY24)
    - 704 Properties/Wise Wonders Museum (scheduling reimbursement)
    - Billings Symphony/Montana Development Company, LLC (collecting receipts)
  - In Progress
    - Art House Cinema, reimbursement is pending completion of improvements
    - Downtown Properties, LLC/Stone Building - Development agreements signed
    - Halsten Holdings, LLC/Burger Dive - Development agreements delivered
    - R&K Designs, LLC/Kibler & Kirch - Development agreements delivered
    - 123 N Broadway LLC - Awaiting receipts
  - On Deck
    - Montana Rescue Mission - Council April 26th
  - TIF inquiries
    - 14 new TIF inquiries (large developments, facade improvements, signage, CPTED, energy efficiency, streetscaping and landscaping, change of use, housing)

**COUNCIL INITIATIVES**  
**APPROVED SINCE FEBRUARY 18, 2020**

Date	Sponsor/Initiative	Action	Resolved	Assigned To
02/08/16	COUNCILMEMBER SULLIVAN: Made a motion to instruct Public Works to lead the Police Department, downtown businesses and the Traffic Control Board to propose improvements to downtown intersections to increase pedestrian and vehicle safety; the group shall discuss and suggest improvements to signage, signals, enforcement and traffic flow and bring forth an implementable plan to Council, seconded by Councilmember Brewster. APPROVED.	Phase 1 was presented to council on 9/3/2019. Phase II was initiated by the Planning Division through the Billings MPO in March 2020. It includes public outreach, alternative prioritization and identifying funding sources for street improvements and one-way to two-way street conversions. The Phase II project will be ongoing through summer 2020.	Completed	Debi Meling Wyeth Friday
02/08/16	COUNCILMEMBER SULLIVAN: Made a motion to review all ordinances over four years with the opportunity to fast track any ordinances to match citizen/council needs, seconded by Councilmember McFadden. APPROVED.	Departments are reviewing Municode comments, questions and recommendations and adding those of their own. Zoning Code was amended on 1/25/2021 by Ord. 21-5748. More work to be done on other sections of the Code.	In Progress	Gina Dahl Denise Bohlman
07/24/17	COUNCILMEMBER CLARK: Moved to direct staff to provide Council with financing options for Centennial, Castle Rock and Optimist Parks toward completion of their projects at a work session prior to January pre-budgeting sessions, seconded by Councilmember Friedel. APPROVED.	City Administration and Parks presented funding options at the 3/15/2021 City Council Work Session.	Completed	Mike Whitaker Andy Zoeller
11/27/17	COUNCILMEMBER SULLIVAN: Directed staff to research developing an ordinance eliminating spas and massage parlors that contribute to human trafficking, seconded by Councilmember Yakawich. APPROVED.	Staff in coordination with a City Council subcommittee and after multiple public meetings has prepared a spa ordinance scheduled for First Reading at the 4/12/2021 Council Meeting.	In Progress	Gina Dahl Rich St. John Wyeth Friday Andy Zoeller
01/27/20	COUNCILMEMBER NEESE: Moved for an initiative to accelerate the Castle Rock Master Plan to allow staff more time to finish the master plan before replacing playground equipment in the Parks Department CIP to FY20, instead of FY21, seconded by Councilmember Yakawich. APPROVED.	The master plan process is under way. A contract has been signed and our consultant, Cushing Terrell	Completed	Mike Whitaker Kevin Ifland

Date	Sponsor/Initiative	Action	Resolved	Assigned To
		of Billings has completed the survey and is moving forward with stakeholder and user group interviews. Once they finish their initial assessments and interviews, they will begin work on developing concepts and holding meetings to get public input and ideas.		
09/14/20	Direct staff to prepare MOU with Downtown Billings Partnership (DBP) to keep proceeds from Yesteryear's building in the 203 fund and return MOU to Council for approval. APPROVED.	MOU approved by City Council at the 11/9/2020 City Council meeting.	Completed	Gina Dahl
12/21/20	COUNCILMEMBER CHORIKI: Moved to direct staff to put the flowing issues on future work sessions. Staff will inform the council of any existing work on the issue and for the council to "brainstorm" possible solutions to these issues: 1) Staff and the Parks Board provide an informational presentation to council at their earliest convenience on their work identifying possible funding for the operations and maintenance of parks, including new capital projects, seconded by Councilmember Neese. APPROVED 2) Discussion of a policy and a funding source for completing the sidewalks and trails, including safe routes to schools; and 3) Staff provide a detailed cost of services report by March 15 <sup>th</sup> , seconded by Councilmember Neese. APPROVED>	1) City Administration and Parks presented funding options at the 3/15/21 City Council Work Session. 2) Presentation on Trail Funding is scheduled for the 4/19/21 Work Session.	1) Completed	
02/22/21	COUNCILMEMBER SHAW: Moved that the City Administrator direct staff to develop best-practice regulations and ordinance language to regulate (not prohibit) medical marijuana dispensaries and/or storefronts in Billings City limits; present proposed regulations to council at a works session to facilitate feedback and give notice of a public hearing and first reading for ordinance adoption, seconded by Choriki. APPROVED.		In Progress	

Date	Sponsor/Initiative	Action	Resolved	Assigned To