

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

June 24, 2022

- Community Input through National Citizen Survey (NCS)** – Billings is conducting its 3rd statistically valid NCS since 2012 (2012, 2016, 2022). Please spread the word that anyone who received this survey should take 15 minutes and provide the city with feedback. The City of Billings wants to hear feedback from residents on what it's like to live in the Magic City. Over the past four weeks, 2,800 residents from randomly selected households have received the National Citizen Survey in the mail.

Beginning **Tuesday, June 28, the survey will be open to all Billings residents** to fill out online at polco.us/billings2022open.

If anyone from the initially selected households would like to participate, they should fill out the survey they received in the mail and send it back in, or follow the link provided to them to complete the survey online. They do not need to do both. The mailed survey and online survey are the same and the entire survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. Answers are kept confidential and individual opinions are anonymous. Questions range from rating the quality of life in Billings, to Billings government services and sharing demographic information.

The survey will be open online through Tuesday, July 12. All mailed responses must be received by that date as well. When filling out the survey online, respondents will be asked to enter their email address and zip code. This reduces the chance someone completes the survey more than once, and it allows City staff to see broad demographic and geographic breakdowns.

A survey analysis and report will be available mid-August, which all residents will have access to on the City of Billings website.

- Legislation for Sober Living Homes** – The draft legislation and other meeting materials are posted to the legislative website: <https://leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/cjoc/meeting-info/> A PDF of the draft legislation for sober living homes is attached.

- Budget Perspective on Per Household Basis –**

1 mill costs the median home (\$228,000 value) nearly \$3.00/year (actually \$3.08). So the reduction of mills from 74 to 69 would save the median home \$15.39 /year on their property taxes. 1 mill is estimated to generate \$216,226 in property tax revenue in FY23. This 5 mill reduction would reduce property taxes by approximately \$1,081,130 to the General Fund.

Not assessing the 2 mills for BH would save the median home **\$6.16 /year**

The three positions are budgeted at the following amounts:

HR/Payroll \$74k/year or 0.34 mills or \$1.04 /year for the median home

Grants Coord \$89K/year or 0.40 mills or \$1.23 /year for the median home

Records Mgr \$74k/year or 0.34 mills or \$1.04 /year for the median home

Total potential reduction in property taxes by removing these positions is **\$3.31 /year** for the median home owner.

4. **Three General Fund Positions** – please see the attached descriptions of the three general fund position and the answers to “why is this position important this year?”
5. **City of Billings Logan International Airport (BIL) Ribbon Cutting for New Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**
-On the afternoon of Thursday, June 30, 2022, at 2:00PM the BIL will welcome members of the public and special guests for a ribbon cutting event to celebrate the commissioning of six (6) new Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) Stations located in the Express Parking lot across from the Terminal Building.

“Electric vehicles are becoming more popular, and we wanted to be able to offer this service to the traveling public should they drive their EV to the Billings Airport to catch a flight,” commented Kevin Ploehn, the City’s Director of Aviation and Transit.

The BIL would like to thank Pepsi Cola of Billings and the Dimich family for helping to sponsor this event with the provision of refreshments.

6. **Stillwater Building Update** – Our construction manager at risk (CMaR), Dick Anderson Construction and the design team, JLG, have been busy working on putting together a preliminary budget for the project. Below is the breakdown of estimated project costs:

	*Pre-Purchase Est.	CMaR/Design Est.	
Building Purchase	\$ 13,500,000	\$ 13,500,000	
Construction Costs	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 19,075,542	
Infrastructure Upgrades	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	
Soft Costs	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 4,673,674	
Contingency	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 2,119,505	
Est. Nat'l Historic Tax Credit	\$ -	\$ (2,332,323)	
Est. MT Historic Tax Credit	\$ -	\$ (583,081)	
Total Project Estimate	\$ 29,600,000	\$ 36,453,317	\$ 6,853,317

*Pre-Purchase Estimate did not include:

- FF&E – office and common area furniture/fixtures (estimated at \$2.1 million)
- National Historic Consultants – fees (\$37,700)
- City IT – costs (\$450,000)

We budgeted \$3.5 million for infrastructure upgrades; however, actual cost for mechanical systems upgrades are over \$4 million mostly due to higher material and labor costs than anticipated.

Construction estimates are about 42% over what was presented to council in October of 2021, when adding infrastructure upgrades and contingency to the total construction costs pre-purchase. Below is a link for construction inflation information that we have been using and tracking.

<https://edzarenski.com/2022/02/11/construction-inflation-2022/>

CMaR and the design team have been working on tightening up estimates and looking for value engineering items to reduce buildout costs. The team has also been investigating alternatives for revenue sources and alternatives to reduce buildout costs. This could include phasing certain areas of the buildout. Phasing buildout may add additional costs as there would be additional facilities that would need to remain operational or leases that would continue to accommodate staff, in addition to CMaR mobilization costs.

We plan on bringing additional revenue sources and potential alternatives to a city council work session in July or early August.

In the meantime, we are continuing in design development stage. We are working on a date to provide council with an update and layouts of the Council chambers as requested in the last user group meeting. We should be able to accomplish this via Zoom to share the design teams thoughts, ideas, and potential layouts. Another round of in person user groups is scheduled for July 19-20. Once those are finalized, we will provide council with the details.

7. **William Booth Village** – Please find the attached letter from the Salvation Army explaining their plans and needs, and a digital copy of the William Booth Village summary.
8. **Rimrock** – The Rimrock Executive Board of Directors has retracted their offer to participate in the proposed public/private partnership, see attached letter.
9. **From the PIO Desk**

FEMA administrator and Sen. Tester tour City of Billings water plant:

<https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2335>

From BIL – Billings Logan International Airport Ribbon Cutting for New Electric Vehicle Charging Stations:
<https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2336>

From MET – Public meeting planned for Billings MET Transit Development Plan:

<https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2338>

City of Billings in the news:

Billings water treatment plant damage could hit \$500K:

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/billings-water-treatment-plant-damage-could-hit-500k/article_36382666-f238-11ec-816d-f3c75dcf8e9c.html#tracking-source=home-top-story

Mental health and addiction recovery services make pitch for public safety money:

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/mental-health-and-addiction-recovery-services-make-pitch-for-public-safety-money/article_425a88a6-f0eb-11ec-9985-af04d2ec5a7a.html

Billings landfill sees spike in traffic from Carbon County flooding:

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-landfill-sees-spike-in-traffic-from-carbon-county-flooding>

City of Billings Logan Airport celebrates new electric vehicle chargers:

<https://newstalk955.com/city-of-billings-logan-airport-celebrates-new-electric-vehicle-chargers/>

Billings on list of best run cities in US:

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/local-news-2/billings-on-list-of-best-run-cities-in-us/>

Play Ball! Billings Police and Firefighters battle for a good cause:

<https://newstalk955.com/billings-police-and-firefighters-charity-softball-game/>

Officials tour Billings water plant after flood:

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/local-news-2/officials-tour-billings-water-plant-after-flood/>

FEMA director visits Montana communities in flood path:

<https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2022-06-18/fema-director-visits-montana-communities-in-flood-path>

Billings southside neighborhood floods again after storm drain backup:

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-southside-neighborhood-floods-again-after-storm-drain-backup>

Landon's Miracle Field opening soon:

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/local-news-2/landons-miracle-field-opening-soon/>

Hello Montana: Landon's Legacy Miracle League:

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/hello-montana/hello-montana-landons-legacy-miracle-league/>

Billings Airport – Leading the way:

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/billings-beat/billings-airport-leading-the-way/>

1 **** BILL NO. ****
2 INTRODUCED BY ****
3 BY REQUEST OF THE ****
4
5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITED
6 PRACTICES FOR RECOVERY RESIDENCES; CREATING A REGISTRY OF RECOVERY RESIDENCES IN
7 MONTANA; REQUIRING CERTIFICATION FOR A RECOVERY RESIDENCE TO RECEIVE RENTAL
8 VOUCHERS AND TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS;
9 PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 46-23-1041, MCA; PROVIDING A DELAYED EFFECTIVE
10 DATE."

11
12 WHEREAS, Montanans facing addiction deserve the highest quality of care and support;
13 WHEREAS, recovery residences can provide a healthy, sober living environment that helps individuals
14 with substance use disorder achieve and maintain sobriety;
15 WHEREAS, it is crucial that recovery residences implement best practices and sound operating
16 procedures that enable and empower residents to gain access to community supports, public services, and
17 therapeutic treatments to advance their recovery and develop independence.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

21 **NEW SECTION.** **Section 1. Definitions.** As used in this part, unless the context clearly indicates
22 otherwise, the following definitions apply:

23 (1) "Alcohol and drug prevention or treatment facility" means a recovery residence, hospital, health or
24 counseling center, or other entity providing alcohol and drug services.

25 (2) "Alcohol and drug services" includes evaluation, treatment, residential personal care, habilitation,
26 rehabilitation, counseling, or supervision of persons with substance use disorder, or services to persons
27 designed to prevent substance use disorder that either receive funds from the department of health or assess
28 fees for services provided.

(3) "Certified recovery residence" means a recovery residence, as defined in subsection (7), that has certification or another form of approval from a certifying organization, as defined in subsection (4).

(4) "Certifying organization" means any nationally recognized recovery residence standards organization or any affiliate of a nationally recognized recovery residence standards organization.

(5) "Levels of care" means the continuum of support ranging from nonclinical recovery residences to clinical treatment.

(6) "Qualified health care provider" means a person licensed as a physician, psychologist, social clinical professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, addiction counselor, or another iate licensed health care practitioner.

(7) "Recovery residence" means a sober living home with a safe, family-like environment that promotes recovery from chemical dependency through services including, but not limited to, peer support, support groups, and recovery services.

(8) "Sober" means free of alcohol and drugs, except for prescription medications taken as directed by a licensed prescriber, including medications approved by the federal food and drug administration for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

(9) "Minor" means an individual under 18 years of age without regard to sex.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Recovery residence requirements. (1) Recovery residences must
with the department of health and human services

(2) Recovery residences may seek certification from a certifying organization.

(3) Recovery residences must have policies and protocols for the following:

(a) administrative oversight;

(b) quality standards;

(c) its residents;

(d) emergencies, including fire, natural disasters, and health emergencies including overdose;

(e) eviction of a resident, including the return of the resident's personal effects and property;

(f) [Reserved for direction regarding additional policies.]

(4) Recovery residences must meet state and municipal requirements, including but not limited to

1 safety requirements, building codes, zoning regulations, and local ordinance requirements, that apply to a
2 residence's dwelling size and occupancy.

3 (5) Recovery residences must keep opioid-overdose drugs on site in an easily accessible place, and
4 train staff and residents on the use of opioid-overdose drugs.

5 (6) Minor children of residents may reside with their parent in a certified recovery residence, if allowed
6 in the residence's policies and procedures and if the residence maintains an environment consistent with the
7 welfare of minors AND/OR the residence has family recovery residence approval from the department of
8 health and human services, pursuant to [section 4].

9 (a) The owner, operator, and staff of a recovery residence seeking family recovery residence approval
10 or certification shall give the department of health and human services any information that may be required
11 and afford the department every reasonable opportunity for observing the operation of recovery residence.

12 (7) The recovery residence may not limit a resident's duration of stay to an arbitrary or fixed amount
13 of time. Each resident's duration of stay is determined by the resident's needs, progress, and willingness to
14 abide by the recovery residence's protocols, in collaboration with the recovery housing's owner and operator,
15 and, if appropriate, in consultation with a qualified health provider.

16 (8) The recovery residence may permit residents to receive medication-assisted treatment.

17 (9) [Reserved for directions regarding enforcement, including penalties and enforcing agency or
18 department.]

19
20 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Recovery residence prohibitions.** (1) The operator of a recovery
21 residence may not:

22 (a) make a materially false or misleading statement or provide materially false or misleading
23 information about the residence's identity, products, goods, services, or geographical locations in its marketing
24 and advertising materials, media, and website;

25 (b) include on a website false information or electronic links, coding, or activation that provides false
26 information or that surreptitiously directs the reader to another website;

27 (c) solicit, receive, or make an attempt to solicit or receive a commission, benefit, rebate, kickback, or
28 bribe, directly or indirectly, in cash or in kind, in return for a referral or an acceptance or acknowledgement of

1 treatment from a qualified healthcare provider, provider of alcohol and drug services, or alcohol and drug
2 prevention and/or treatment facility;

3 (d) engage or make an attempt to engage in a split-fee arrangement in return for a referral or an
4 acceptance or acknowledgement of treatment from a qualified healthcare provider, provider of alcohol and drug
5 services, or alcohol and drug prevention and/or treatment facility;

6 (e) enter into a contract with a marketing provider who agrees to generate referrals or leads for the
7 placement of patients with a qualified healthcare provider, provider of alcohol and drug services, or alcohol and drug
8 prevention and/or treatment facility through a call center or a web-based presence, unless this contract is
9 disclosed to the prospective patient or resident.

10 (2) In addition to any other punishment authorized by law, a recovery residence that knowingly
11 violates this section is subject to prosecution and penalties pursuant to the Montana Consumer Protection Act,
12 Title 30, Chapter 14, Part 1.

13

14 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Powers and duties of the department of health and human services.**

15 (1) The department of health and human services must:

16 (a) maintain a registry of recovery residences in Montana;

17 (b) include on its website a public-facing list of certifying organizations;

18 (c) include on its website a public-facing list of recovery residences in Montana, indicating which are
19 certified recovery residences.

20 (2) The department of health and human services may:

21 (a) issue family recovery residence approval to recovery residences that permit minors to live with
22 parents per [section 2(5)];

23 (b) prescribe the conditions upon which family recovery residence approval may be issued;

24 (c) make rules necessary for the approval, operation, and regulation of these residences that are
25 consistent with the welfare of minor residents;

26 (d) inspect recovery residences seeking family residential approval and, as appropriate, undertake
27 action, including but not limited to the revocation of approval.

1 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Preferential placement at and referral to certified recovery**

2 **residences.**

3 (1) The department of corrections shall establish a preference for certified recovery residences by
4 encouraging and assisting appropriate individuals seek placements in the residences.

5 (2) (a) A qualified health care provider, judge, justice of the peace, or magistrate may not refer an
6 individual to an uncertified recovery residence.

7 (b) When referring an individual to a recovery residence, a qualified health care provider, judge,
8 justice of the peace, or magistrate shall consider the:

9 (i) culture of the recovery residence, including, but not limited to, the permissiveness of unhealthy
10 behaviors, current residents' commitment to recovery and support of other residents, requirements and support
11 to attend and seek clinical treatment and outside non-clinical sobriety support, and the general living
12 environment;

13 (ii) levels of care the recovery residence provides, including the type, nature, and intensity of the
14 therapeutic services and recovery supports provided, and the ability to meet the referee's specific needs;

15 (iii) utilization of certified or appropriately trained peers with relevant lived experience;

16 (iv) geographic area, neighborhood, or external surrounding environment of the recovery residence;

17 (v) physical living environment of the recovery residence;

18 (vi) use of medicated assisted treatment in the recovery residence, including the:

19 (A) operator and other staff support for medicated assisted treatment;

20 (B) proper monitoring of the use of medicated assisted treatment;

21 (C) other residents' support of medicated assisted treatment; and

22 (D) availability of peers with medicated assisted treatment experience for residents with severe opioid
23 use disorder.

24 (vii) level of training and professionalism of residence staff;

25 (viii) recovery residence's reputation regarding ethical business practices, which may include, but is not
26 limited to, fraud and abuse of residents;

27 (ix) recovery residence's relapse policy; and

28 (x) availability of opioid-overdose reversal drugs.

67th Legislature

(4) Any qualified health provider that violates subsection (3)(a) is subject to the suspension or revocation of the provider's license or certificate by the appropriate licensing or certification board and the imposition of civil penalties pursuant to the relevant chapter of Title 37.

4 (5) Any judge, magistrate, or justice of the peace who violates subsection (3)(a) is subject to
5 disciplinary action by the judicial standards commission pursuant to Title 3, Chapter 1, Part 11.

(6) Subsection (3)(a) does not otherwise limit the referral options available for a person in recovery from a substance use disorder to any other appropriate placements or services.

9 Section 6. Section 46-23-1041, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"46-23-1041. Rental vouchers.** (1) If the department does not approve an offender's parole plan
11 because the offender is unable to secure suitable living arrangements, the department may provide rental
12 vouchers to the offender for a period not to exceed 3 months if the rental assistance will result in an approved
13 parole plan.

14 (2) The department shall provide a rental voucher to a claimant if required by 46-32-106(7).]

15 (3) The voucher [provided pursuant to subsection (1)] must be provided in conjunction with additional
16 transition support that enables the offender to participate in programs and services, including but not limited to
17 substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, sex offender treatment, educational programming, or
18 employment programming." (Bracketed language terminates June 30, 2023--sec. 15, Ch. 574, L. 2021.)"

19 (4) To receive rental vouchers and transitional assistance funds from the department of corrections, a
20 recovery residence must:

21 (a) have certification or approval from a certifying organization, as defined in [section 1 (4)]; and

22 (b) notify a resident's probation or parole officer within 24 hours of a resident moving out, if the
23 resident is on probation or parole when the resident vacates.

25 **NEW SECTION. Section 7. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 through 6] are intended to be
26 codified as an integral part of Title 53, chapter 24, part 3, and the provisions of Title 53, chapter 24, part 3,
27 apply to [sections 1 through 6].

2 - END -

At the City Council work session, it was requested that a narrative of the three general fund positions be provided to City Council. Staff has provided a brief description of the position below, as well as answer the question "why is this position important this year?"

Human Resources Payroll Position

This position has been needed for several years, and has voluntarily taken the backseat to Public Safety and other needs of the City. Growth and the need to proactively train employees throughout the organization are primary drivers in adding this position now. It is especially critical this year with the hiring so many public safety positions. In the past 7 years, 126 positions have been approved, without an increase to Human Resources' staff. If the Council is inclined to eliminate this position, consider adding it mid-year (cutting the cost in FY 2023 by ~\$30k).

Policy development, employee and supervisory training, and policy review have lagged considerably, and both are critical to mitigate risk. At times, payroll staff has struggled to complete the process and nearly missed Direct Deposit deadlines.

Although some policies have been updated, the Human Resources policy manual is in dire need of revisions, and is dated 2005. Drafts have been attempted over the years, but staff has been unable to dedicate the time needed for completion.

Employee and supervisor training is needed and critical to mitigate risk. Some training needs include:

- Reasonable Suspicion Drug and Alcohol
- Ethics
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Mutual Respect and Harassment
- Active Shooter
- FMLA
- Safety

If approved, Payroll staff will benefit from an additional employee who can assist them with deadlines and will allow a current employee to transition into training, employment investigations, policy review, and assist other staff when needed.

The staff is loyal and dedicated to their positions, but are experiencing burnout, and three of the six employees are eligible for retirement, but would like to continue working, if additional staff is approved. Bloomberg HR's staff benchmark is 1.4 FTE per 100 employees. This statistic does not include an HR department who handles payroll. City HR serves over 1,000 fulltime employees and approximately 300 seasonal employees. Two of our six positions are in payroll, therefore, HR's staff ratio is 1 HR staff member to 255 fulltime employees. We need to become more proactive and not just reactive. In comparison, the city of Missoula has 672 employees with nine HR staff members, and they do not administer payroll.

Records Manager

Over the past few years we have had a concerted effort to improve our record system. We've selected and purchased software and have team across the organization making progress. The timing is partially tied to moving city hall. We have a basement full of records that need to be dealt with. In the end the proper digitization, and disposition of these records will save time and money and improve access by the public and staff.

As movement to the Stillwater Building is approaching, decisions on what to do with the historical records needs to be made. They can either be digitized and stored electronically, or we can build out space in the new building and pay to have the records moved over. There are significant benefits to electronically storing records beyond just saving space. Public records request can occupy a significant amount of time of the City Clerk. When records are available electronically, staff is able to spend much less time finding the record and fulfilling the request. This position will decrease the costs needed for permanent paper records storage and management of future records as they continue to be created.

The sooner a records manager is hired, the sooner the City can move towards the goal of becoming paperless and increase efficiencies. If the Council is inclined to eliminate this position, consider adding it mid-year (cutting the cost in FY 2023 by ~\$30k).

Grants Coordinator

The timing of this position is directly tied to opportunities to receive federal, state, and other (foundation, private etc) grants to help fund capital improvements and public services. Grant opportunities have increased substantially over the past few years.

A Grants Coordinator will identify and apply for various grants that meet the City's needs, overseeing the grant application process from beginning to end. This position would work closely with the City's lobbyist Thorn Run. Since 2020, a significant increase in federal funding has been made available, the City of Billings has received or applied for \$140,000,000 in federal funding. The City has recognized this and pursued some opportunities (BUILD, BRIC, ARPA, CARES, etc.) However, due to limited knowledge and capacity, current staff are only available to pursue grants as they are aware of them.

This position would actively monitor funding opportunities for the City that will align with adopted projects and goals. If this position is delayed or removed, City staff would continue to pursue grants as time and availability allows. It is very likely that the City would receive more grant funding if a dedicated position were available.



DOING THE MOST GOODSM

General Brian Peddle *International Leader*
Commissioner Kenneth G. Hodder *Territorial Commander*

Divisional Commander Major Michael Dickinson
Corps Officers Lieutenants Colin and Felecia Pederson

June 23, 2022

Dear City Council,

The Salvation Army is planning the construction of the William Booth Village that will be in the field next to our main building across from North Park. The village will include 28 individual sleeping cabins that will provide a safe place to sleep and live 24 hours/day. Seven of the units will be wheel-chair accessible.

The village aims to cater specifically to the chronically homeless population who are literally living outside in Billings, MT. We realize that this population is difficult to serve, and many of these individuals have chronic issues with mental health and addiction. As the city has sought out a solution for rising crime, the William Booth Village will strive to alleviate the number of calls that law enforcement receives regarding the mentally ill and addicted homeless in Billings. The village will work closely with the MRM, Crisis Center, law enforcement and other helping organizations to house the chronically homeless that need a higher level of care. This program is unique to this community, as most congregant and non-congregant shelters require others to share their space. The village will allow each person to have their own space, creating a safe place to get well.

The Salvation Army has served the city of Billings for the past 125 years, and pioneered the shelter that is now in the location of the Montana Rescue Mission as well as running the Gateway Shelter that the YWCA currently operates for domestic violence survivors. Over the past decade, the Salvation Army has provided over 80,000 lodging nights through emergency motel assistance.

We have raised and committed \$700,000 of the \$900,000 needed to get the first phase of this project going. We are hoping the City of Billings would consider partnering with us for the final \$200,000 that is needed to break ground. Please let us know if you have any questions or if you would like us to come and share more about how this project can improve our community.

Sincerely,

Colin Pederson
Lieutenant
colin.pederson@usw.salvationarmy.org
406.281.7432

Attachments: William Booth Village Proposal

The Salvation Army of Billings, Montana
2100 6th Avenue North
406-245-4659
"Heart to God, Hand to Man"



THE SALVATION ARMY William Booth Village

Location: 2012-2018 6th Avenue North, Billings, MT 59101



Need in our community: The cost for serving one chronically homeless person in Billings has been estimated at \$115,000 per year. With nearly 2,400 people experiencing homelessness annually, the cost to the city is over \$54 million per year (*according to the City of Billings*.) A chronically homeless person is described as a person experiencing homelessness for at least a year-or repeatedly, while struggling with a disabling condition such as a serious mental illness, substance use disorder, or physical disability. Generally, this population has been the most difficult to assist, as they have multiple barriers impeding permanent secure housing not limited to bad credit, indebtedness to past landlords, criminal background, lack of income, lack of health insurance, lack of legal identification, and substance abuse problems.

Non-Congregant solution: The *William Booth Village* is named after the founder of The Salvation Army, who challenged his son to “do something” for those he saw struggling without housing. This spurred his son, Bramwell Booth, into action and The Salvation Army launched its first shelter. The *William Booth Village* in Billings, Montana will be a supportive housing program that will provide each program participant an individual, safe, and peaceful sleeping cabin. By providing this community asset coupled with intensive case management and other targeted and customized supports, we plan to help these individuals overcome the barriers that have kept them from accessing affordable and safe permanent housing. The *William Booth Village* is a village for the community, and with the support and collaboration of other organizations and agencies, it will benefit all of Yellowstone County. Through this program, The Salvation Army will prioritize serving the chronically homeless and the most vulnerable.

The Salvation Army William Booth Village Proposal

The *William Booth Village* is a non-congregant solution to a growing problem which is not being addressed by other programs in the community.

- Residents will not be required to pass a breathalyzer and urinalysis test for admission.
- Service/emotional support animals will be allowed on a case-by-case basis.
- There will be handicap accessible units available.
- Individuals with legal barriers that have kept them from obtaining housing in the past will be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis.

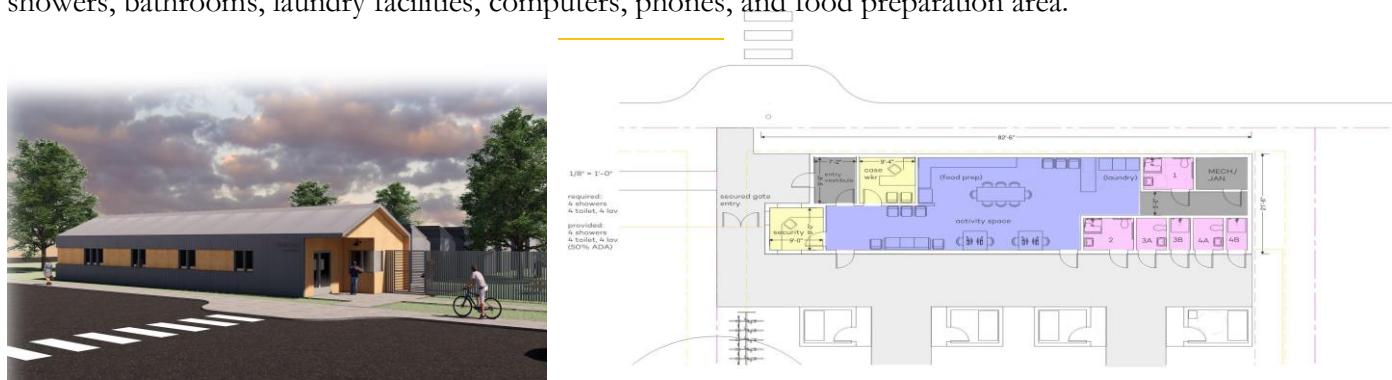
Four Pillars of the *William Booth Village*:

The *William Booth Village* is a community that is based on four basic values/character qualities:

Community – give back to the community by learning these qualities for myself and others.

1. **Respect** (being respectful to myself, others, and towards things)
 - ✓ *Treat others the way you want to be treated* by being a caring and gentle person.
2. **Honesty** (being honest with myself and others)
 - ✓ *Tell the truth, even when it hurts* and be a genuine and open person.
3. **Responsibility** (being responsible for my actions and decisions)
 - ✓ *Clean up your own messes, do what you say you're going to do* and be a dependable and trustworthy person.
4. **Humility** (being humble in my approach towards myself, others, and life)
 - ✓ *Admit when you're wrong or don't know* and be a teachable and “others-oriented” person.

Services that will be available to program participants, in addition to case management, will include showers, bathrooms, laundry facilities, computers, phones, and food preparation area.



Partnering Agencies: Through one-on-one case management, we will be able to understand the unique needs of each individual and refer him or her to our partner agencies for job training, physical and mental health care, and other needs.

Pastoral Care: The Corps officers and staff will offer chaplaincy (PCR) services to meet spiritual needs, which could include connecting them to Corps activities/community or other local church bodies. (Please see attached Pastoral Care Plan).

Safety / Security: There will be 24-hour security and staff working with participants throughout the week. Program participants will be encouraged to engage in keeping the village safe, clean, and well-maintained, which allows for personal growth opportunities.

The *William Booth Village* will be built and established in two phases.

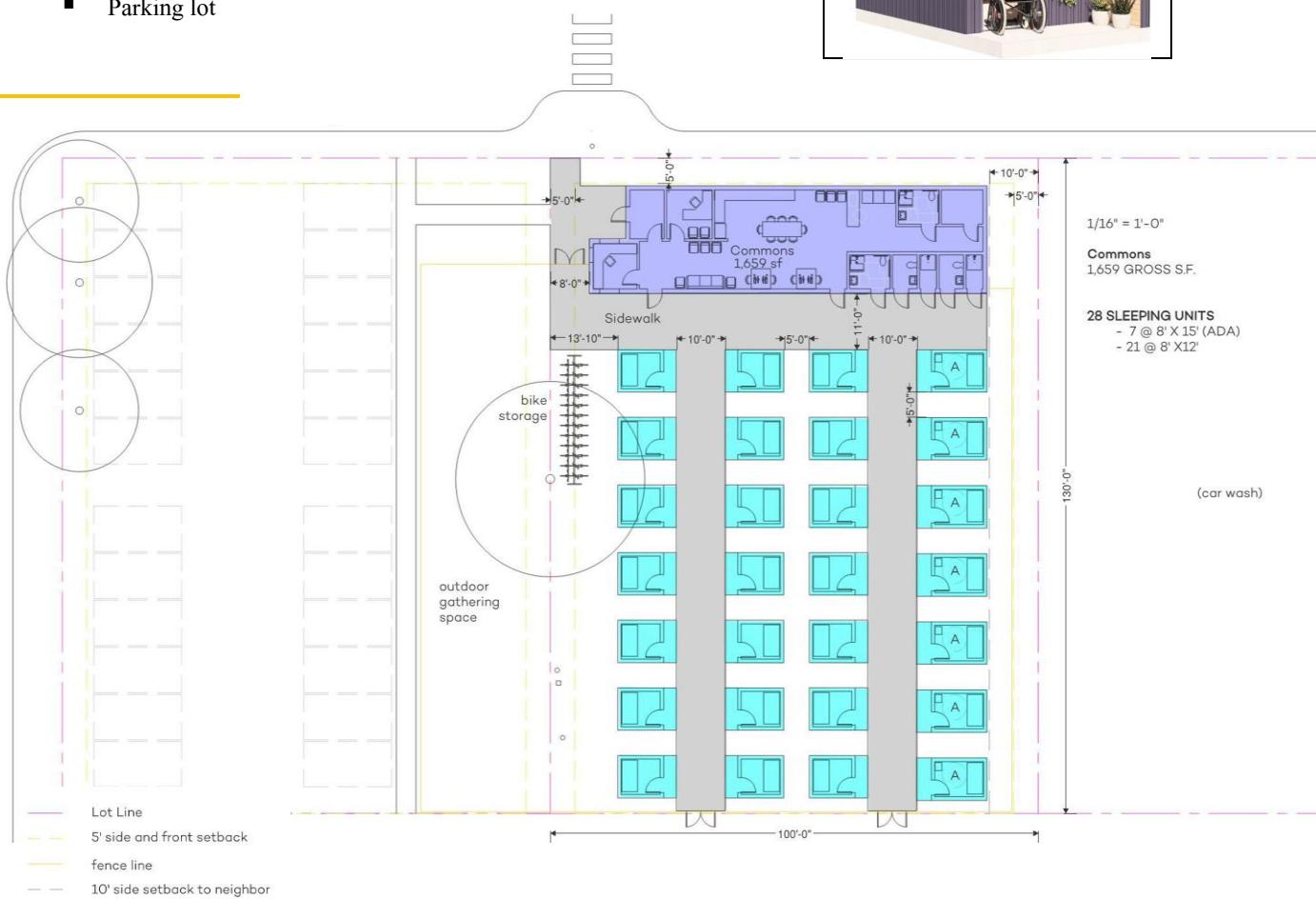
Unit Composition: Each cabin unit will include heat, lighting, and electricity. They will be individual sleeping cabins with a basic bed and space for personal belongings. They may include a chair / end table.

Phase 1:

- Community Center – the “Commons” building
- 7 handicapped units (sleeping cabins)
- Fencing to surround village
- Walkways

Phase 2:

- 21 additional units
- Parking lot



Total project budget for both phases: \$1,680,000, Total units = 28 units

Total cost to build one cabin = approximately \$15,000 per cabin

Total cost per year to run the village after Phase 2 = \$335,000/yearly



Chris Kukulski
City Administrator
210 N. 27th St.
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Chris,

It has been decided, after discussion with Rimrock's Executive Board of Directors, that Rimrock will retract our offer to participation in the proposed public/private partnership with the City of Billings' Fire Department to provide Crisis Response Services for our community. Instead, Rimrock, will be resetting our priorities to focus on the Mission of our core SUD and mental health programming which we have successfully provided to this region over the last 54 years. We will continue to participate as a member of the Substance Abuse Coalition as well as provide services, on our own, or with willing partners, through outreach and community-based programs with sustainable funding sources.

Chris, I have appreciated your participation in SAC and your dedication in considering innovative solutions to address our community's long-standing challenges. We fully support the CRU concept but given the recent experience with the City Council and its response to Rimrock's role, it would be a distraction to its ultimate success.

Sincerely,

Lenette Kosovich, RN, MHA
CEO Rimrock

cc: Bill Cole

"Power is not in control, power is in ideas". Former Governor Marc Racicot – June 2022