

## Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

June 23, 2023

1. **Castle Rock Playground Ribbon Cutting** – Mark your calendars for 10:00 - noon on July 6<sup>th</sup> to join our celebration opening the new destination playground and upgrades at Castle Rock Park.
2. **SAC & CoC Joint Meeting** – The joint meeting between Substance Abuse Connect (SAC) and Continuum of Care (CoC) boards took place on Monday. The purpose of the meeting was to address the issues that have hindered the development of a strong partnership between the two (2) coalitions and find ways to improve collaboration in the future.
3. **Internal Discussion on Misdemeanor Holds** - Gina, Chief St John, councilmembers Owen and Boyett and I met to share ideas and any legal hurdles to working with the Sheriff and County Commissioners to develop a max 72 misdemeanor hold facility. The details of an inter-local agreement will be critical, but we do not see anything in the law that prevents us from pursuing this solution. As you are aware our police officers interact with individuals who understand the community does not have appropriate options to incarcerate and therefore, unless they commit a violent crime, they are not likely to see any immediate consequence for their behavior. Thank you for budgeting \$500,000 to move forward to address this problem.
4. **FJC Steering Committee** – the Family Justice Center (FJC) Steering Committee held its first meeting this week. The city hall conference room was packed full of stakeholders including representatives from the city and county. During Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup> evening city council meeting the FJC Alliance will be introduced to the council. They are conducting their on-site visits next week with all the key stakeholders in preparation of their analysis to Billings. A big thank you to our VISTA volunteer Ellie Stanton and officer Katie Nash, Domestic Violence Investigator for all of their excellent work to bring forward this opportunity to reduce family violence in Billings.
5. **PRT Bond** – Director Mike Pigg and I participated in several meetings this week in preparation of our July 10<sup>th</sup> city council discussion. Answers to questions from Monday will be included in the July 10<sup>th</sup> council packet and possibly next week's Weekly.
6. **Hoodies for Hero's** - this group approached the city to develop a memorial and world class space for all Montana soldiers who have served around the world since Vietnam ended. They have a proven track record with a beautiful memorial in Williston, ND. They are not looking for any public funding. Our partnership is to provide the right park type space for this important project.
7. **New City Hall Update** - Another good week at the new city hall project. HVAC demo in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor fan is progressing well. Layout for new duct work continued on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and the install of new duct got started the middle of the week on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. The floor leveling on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor was completed and looks good. Framing layout on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor was completed and the 1<sup>st</sup> floor has very little left to complete. Plumbing demo of old restroom locations on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floor got started along with the patching of these penetrations. Electrical work in the parking garage continued with a couple of deliveries of material for the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. Layout for electrical chases that run from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> floor was started.





## 8. Next Week's Meetings/Task Forces

- a. Family Justice Center Community Forum, Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM, Rock 31
- b. Family Justice Center "City Administration: Roundtable, Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM, Rock 31
- c. Council Operations Committee, Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM, City Hall Conference Room

## 9. From the PIO Desk:

Mike Pigg named new director of Billings Parks and Recreation, launches free summer program for kids

<https://www.billingsmt.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2492>

Check out the New City Hall page on our website – updated weekly!  
BillingsMT.gov/NewCityHall

### **Mobilize the MAGIC City**

‘A new kind of public art;’ Billings’ first artist-in-residence is ready to get to work

[https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/a-new-kind-of-public-art-billings-first-artist-in-residence-is-ready-to-get/article\\_0a5beafa-0eb6-11ee-ad74-67797684594e.html](https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/a-new-kind-of-public-art-billings-first-artist-in-residence-is-ready-to-get/article_0a5beafa-0eb6-11ee-ad74-67797684594e.html)

### **Code Enforcement**

Billings graffiti artist drawing the line between craft and vandalism

<https://montanafreepress.org/2023/06/19/billings-graffiti-artist-drawing-the-line-between-craft-and-vandalism/>

### **Council**

Billings Charter coming up for consideration

<http://bigskybusinessjournal.com/2023/06/19/billings-charter-coming-up-for-consideration/>

### **PRPL**

City of Billings announces new director of Parks, Recreation and Public Lands

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/billings-beat/city-of-billings-announces-new-director-of-parks-recreation-and-public-lands/>

Billings Parks and Rec asking City Council for a \$142 million bond to improve parks and trails, and build a rec center

[https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/billings-parks-and-rec-asking-city-council-for-a-142-million-bond-to-improve-parks/article\\_e74ae09d-42db-5037-a15d-de749f6d1bbf.html](https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/billings-parks-and-rec-asking-city-council-for-a-142-million-bond-to-improve-parks/article_e74ae09d-42db-5037-a15d-de749f6d1bbf.html)

Billings recreation center part of potential \$142 million parks bond issue

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-recreation-center-part-of-potential-142-million-parks-bond-issue>

### **Attorney**

Family Justice Center Alliance in Billings to talk development of a center in the Magic City

[https://www.kulr8.com/news/family-justice-center-alliance-in-billings-to-talk-development-of-a-center-in-the-magic/article\\_b7829074-0bcf-11ee-9247-5b0f94564456.html](https://www.kulr8.com/news/family-justice-center-alliance-in-billings-to-talk-development-of-a-center-in-the-magic/article_b7829074-0bcf-11ee-9247-5b0f94564456.html)

### **BIL**

Rosy, a robot, joins the serving staff at the Billings Logan International Airport food court

[https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/rosy-a-robot-joins-the-serving-staff-at-the-billings-logan-international-airport-food-court/article\\_411c5b6c-318e-5237-9604-45ebacdb1627.html](https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/rosy-a-robot-joins-the-serving-staff-at-the-billings-logan-international-airport-food-court/article_411c5b6c-318e-5237-9604-45ebacdb1627.html)

**In other news...**

Billings Clinic laying off several employees among “restructuring”

[https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/billings-clinic-laying-off-several-employees-among-restructuring/article\\_836905b9-5901-5877-9c92-467e5189ce7e.html](https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/billings-clinic-laying-off-several-employees-among-restructuring/article_836905b9-5901-5877-9c92-467e5189ce7e.html)