

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

August 18, 2023

1. **Comanche Park Basketball Court Mural** – Community Development and Parks & Rec Department staff are asking for neighborhood / public input on the mural design for the Comanche Park basketball court via the [Parks Department Facebook page](#). Please feel free to vote! Staff will also be walking the neighborhood distributing the following postcard.



2. **PRPL Billings Community and Senior Center News** – The Billings Community and Senior Center is currently wrapping up the summer sessions for our Recreation and Wellness programs. While many places that offer wellness programming find a decline during the summer months our programming tends to stay steady in participation. For seniors having a place to stay fit inside with temperature-controlled environment can help elevate the tendency to get heat related illness which many seniors have lower threshold for.

Group wellness programs also offer many of our seniors a community of peers who are all focusing on staying healthy and helping with decreasing social isolation. Our community Tai Chi Class started a beginner class and is averaging 20-30 each week. Like many of our other classes this helps senior work on balance and stability.

On average we have around 350 plus seniors a week come through to utilize the facility along with another 120 participating every week in our programming hosted at the ARA, Adult Resource Alliance facilities. Overall, we have around 100 seniors daily participating in our wellness programming. In our congregate meal site, we have around 60 plus seniors receiving meals every week. Our Recreation and Wellness Specialist has been working with the ARA, to bring more programming out to the west end location as there is a significant need for wellness programming that meets the needs of Seniors. This expansion was put on hold as the facility who was willing to host had flooding issues. We are tentatively looking to expand in the fall/winter sessions.

During the summer months we also had several kids' camps, keyboarding camp, rocket camp, aviation camp and character design camp. Being able to have kids camps while our seniors also have their wellness programs is a great way to promote intergenerational programming. Many of our seniors were excited to see what the kids were doing in their camps, some wishing they could attend as well. It truly was a great way to continue to activate our Community and Senior Center with all ages and stages.



3. **Board & Commission Annual Reports** – Please see the attached annual reports for the Animal Control Board and the Aviation and Transit Board.
4. **Park & Recreation News** – The Parks and Recreation Department is holding its annual Dog Days of



Summer event at Rose Park Pool on Sunday, August 20th from 12-3 PM! Admission fee is \$4 per dog. Pet owners are required to supervise their dogs but will not be charged an entrance fee. We ask that all owners be responsible for cleaning up after their dogs on the pool deck and grass areas. Water-friendly toys and life jackets are allowed, and lifeguards will be on duty. All dogs must be up to date with rabies shots and vaccinations.

With school back in session next week, all summer camps and activities have ended for the season. Due to the loss of seasonal aquatic staff, South Pool closed for the summer on Thursday, August 17th.

Season passes from South Pool are excepted at Rose Pool through the end of the swim season on Saturday the 19th.

NFL Flag Football registration is being accepted through the start of practice on August 28th. Practice locations include Optimist, Castle Rock, Veteran's, and Country Manor Parks. Games will be held on Saturday mornings beginning September 16th at Centennial Park.



The new playground at Commanche opened on Thursday, August 17th. (Please see the attached Parks Project Progress report.)





5. **New City Hall Update** - It was a good productive week at the new city hall project. Wall framing continued on the 2nd floor. Backing for cabinets and other wall mounted equipment was being installed on the 4th and 5th floors. Started hanging sheetrock at the north and west walls of council chambers where additional framing must take place. Electrical wall rough in on 5th and 4th floors continues and looks good. VAV's on the 5th floor are all in and have started to be installed on the 4th floor. Duct work is being put up on the 4th floor as well. Fire sprinkler rough in on the 4th floor wrapped up today and 2nd floor will start next week. Plumbing wall rough in on the 5th floor made good progress this week. The 4" main hydronic lines are being welded and placed. Finished installing the first shipment of hollow metal door frames.

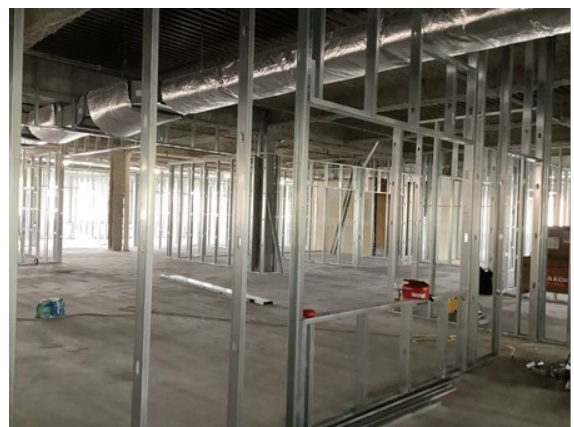
5th Floor Bathroom



West Wall City Council Chambers



Backing



6. **Montana Property Tax Rebate-** Please see the attached 2023 Property Tax Rebate Flyer for what you need to file your claim for the 2022 tax year.
7. **Next Week's Meetings/Task Forces**
 - a. Heights Task Force, Tuesday, August 22nd 7:00 pm, Oasis Water Park, 943 Aronson.
8. **From the PIO Desk:**

Airshow coverage

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/somewhere-up-high-billings-residents-getting-creative-to-watch-sold-out-air-show>

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/yellowstone-international-airshow-blue-angels-pilots-airport/article_10a7ef12-3959-11ee-8795-8722e86575eb.html

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-air-show-things-to-know>

Fire

Fire destroys several campers at Billings RV dealership

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/fire-destroys-several-campers-at-billings-rv-dealership>

BIL

Billings airport ready for winter with \$2.9 million of new equipment

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-airport-ready-for-winter-with-2-9-million-dollars-of-new-equipment>

Water Tower Fire coverage

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/fire-watch/wildfire-prompts-evacuation-order-for-neighborhood-north-of-billings>

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/firefighters-mopping-up-water-tower-fire-east-of-billings/article_4677a168-3c48-11ee-a0e9-974dd7878aa8.html

https://www.kulr8.com/news/grass-fire-near-hawthorn-causing-evacuations/article_96de1798-3bc3-11ee-8050-67f17c53055d.html

Golden Meadow shooting coverage

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/billings-beat/billings-police-release-information-about-shooting-in-golden-meadows-trailer-park-man-charged-with-attempted-deliberate-homicide/>

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/golden-meadows-shooting-billings-police-three-shot/article_bc90ce2e-3c2a-11ee-bae4-7b96071aa921.html

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/3-injured-in-billings-shooting-suspect-barricaded-in-residence>

https://www.kulr8.com/news/billings-police-share-more-details-on-early-morning-weapons-complaint-that-led-to-standoff/article_8179ca40-3c28-11ee-bfa9-574f11353526.html

In other news...

West Nile Virus detected in Yellowstone County

https://billingsgazette.com/news/state-regional/west-nile-virus-discovered-montana-counties-yellowstone/article_01491686-3d37-11ee-a00c-df3da712e638.html

Board & Commission Annual Report to City Council

Purpose: The annual report is to make a written report of a board or commission activity to the mayor and city council as authorized by majority vote of the entire membership of the board or commission.

Name of Board or Commission: Animal Control board

Name of Presiding Officer: Tom Stinchfield

Name of Person or Persons filling out report: Tom Stinchfield

Meeting schedule: Feb 6, 2023 / Next meeting TBD this year. Waiting on Board agenda items.

Major Board or Commission accomplishments of the preceding year: Covid Shut down.

Major Board or Commission challenges of the preceding year: Covid shut down and lack of board members.

Major Board or Commission goals for the upcoming year: Getting the board staffed and working on community issues as they arise. Board is finally staffed. Working on educating Board members on city ordinances and how they are enforced.

Requests for staff or city council: None

Changes to city ordinance or state law affecting the board or commission that should be considered:

None

Anything else that board, commission or presiding officer want to comment on: Not at this time.

Board & Commission Annual Report to City Council

Purpose: The annual report is to make a written report of a board or commission activity to the mayor and city council as authorized by majority vote of the entire membership of the board or commission.

Name of Board or Commission: Aviation and Transit Board

Name of Presiding Officer: Dan Farmer

Name of Person or Persons filling out report: Jeff Roach, A.A.E

Meeting schedule: 1st Wednesday of the Month @ 4:00 pm

Major Board or Commission accomplishments of the preceding year: The airport is continuing to move forward with the terminal construction project. Long-term land use planning for increased aeronautical and non-aeronautical development continues. The BIL has begun an aggressive air service development effort to increase flights.

Major Board or Commission challenges of the preceding year: January 2023, Kevin Ploehn retired leading to an executive search for a new Director, Jeff Roach, A.A.E began on January 16, 2023. Jeff came to BIL from Nashville, TN after four years with the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority (MNA) as the Assistant Vice President for strategic planning and the Executive Director of the John C. Tune Airport (JWN). Prior to that Jeff was the airport manager at Fairbanks International Airport (FAI) when he retired from the State of Alaska DOT&PF in July 2018.

Major Board or Commission goals for the upcoming year: Planning an event to commemorate the final project completion of the airport terminal, expected in the Spring of 2024, (with the opening of the B Concourse, which will allow four new jet bridge gates for large commercial service aircraft.) Initiating the MET Transit's Transit Development Plan for FY'23. MET Transit ordered four electric buses, the buses are expected to arrive in late FY'24 and the new systems will need to be integrated into the fleet and utilized effectively.

Requests for staff or city council: There are no requests at this time.

Changes to city ordinance or state law affecting the board or commission that should be considered:

There are no changes at this time.

Anything else that board, commission or presiding officer want to comment on: _____

August 18, 2023 progress report

Park	Progress	Project	Status
	Started -----> Completed		
Arrowhead playground replacement	<div></div>		Play equipment was delivered and ready to be installed by contractor
Castle Rock playground addition	<div></div>		Playground open, waiting on delivery of final pieces to complete
Castle Rock parking lot & restroom	<div></div>		Design work with consultant underway
Central tennis courts replacement	<div></div>		Courts open to the public, substantial completion awarded to contractor, final punch list in progress
*Comanche playground replacement	<div></div>		*Playground complete and open to the public
*Cottonwood Park masterplan	<div></div>		*Second public meeting completed, public input being compiled by consultant
Gorham irrigation automation	<div></div>		Pre-construction meeting scheduled for Wednesday 8/23 with contractor
Grandview irrigation automation	<div></div>		Advertised twice, no bids both times, rebid at a later date
Highland playground replacement	<div></div>		Playground equipment was delivered, installer under contract for Fall completion
Millice irrigation automation	<div></div>		Sealed bids opened, project over budget, rebid at a later date
North Park adult exercise & shelter	<div></div>		Adult exercise equipment delivered, shelter in production, installer under contract for later Summer completion
*North Park playground replacement	<div></div>		*Received Council's consent on 8/14, contract completed and ready to order play equipment
North Park restroom replacement	<div></div>		CXT pre-fabbed concrete restroom in production, late Summer delivery date, under contract for site work
*Pioneer Park tennis courts replacement	<div></div>		*Direct solicitation for Design/Engineering consultants underway
Ponderosa irrigation automation	<div></div>		New pump station and irrigation system operational, final punch list by contractor
Skypoint sail replacement	<div></div>		Contract signed for sail replacement, request for quotes to paint structure sent out

MONTANA PROPERTY TAX REBATE

What you need to file your claim for your Property Tax Rebate for Tax Year 2022:

1. Physical address of your principal residence in 2022
2. Geocode of your principal residence in 2022, which can be found at cadastral.mt.gov
3. Amount of property taxes paid as reflected on the 2022 principal residence's tax bill which can also be found at: <https://www.yellowstonecountymt.gov/treasurer/PropertySearch>
4. Names and Social Security Numbers of you, your spouse, and dependents as reflected on your 2022 Montana income tax return
5. Current mailing address
6. Direct deposit information, if requesting rebate to be sent electronically
7. If available, the Letter ID on the Montana Property Tax Rebate letter sent by Montana Department of Revenue in August of 2023 (for identity verification purposes)

LEARN MORE AT
GETMYREBATE.MT.GOV



NEED ASSISTANCE APPLYING FOR THE MT PROPERTY TAX REBATE? WE ARE HERE TO HELP! UTILIZE A COMPUTER, OR ATTEND ONE OF OUR GUIDED CLASSES FOR INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR REBATE.

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Tax Rebate Help!

Need assistance with applying for your Montana Property Tax Rebate? We are here to help you! Utilize a computer or attend one of our guided classes for individual assistance with your rebate.

Class Schedule:

- 10am and 4pm, September 1, 2, 15, 16 & 29
- 5:30–7pm, September 6 & 13
in the computer classroom



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