

## Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

October 13, 2023

1. **MLCT Conference** – several staff, council members and I will be in Helena late Wednesday afternoon until Friday at the annual MT Leagues of Cities and Towns conference.
2. **Budget and Finance Committee** – the committee had their first look at the DRAFT CIP (capital improvement plan). The agenda also included a discussion on cash reserves and the CoC (continuum of care) request for funding.
3. **Federal Grant Mtg** – Tuesday, Thorn Run connected our staff (+ Katy Easton) with Senator Testers team to review two recently submitted DOT grants.

Talking Points - NAE Grant for the 25<sup>th</sup> Street Overpass:

- Equity is the key word in the grant, South Side is a disadvantaged community that needs access to the services provided on the north side of the tracks;
- South Side is a USDA Food Desert, access to healthy foods with two options on the north side of the tracks is critical;
- Safety of crossing a large railroad crossing for pedestrians/bicyclists;
- The sustainability of the reuse of an American Steel bridge.

Safe Streets for All Grant:

- System-wide: request funding for projects across the City that will help children get to school more safely.
- High Injury Network: While 17 project sites account for just 1% of roadways, they produce 13% of all fatal crashes in the City, 19% of all serious crashes, and 20% of all pedestrian fatalities.
- Equity: 85% of federal project funding is reserved for projects in disadvantaged communities
- Cost effective: 17 project sites for total project cost of less than \$4.5 million
- Evidence based: Uses proven safety counter measures
- Supplemental Planning Activities: Includes funding request to study crossing location and to complete a three-year long Safe Routes to School education campaign.

4. **Parks, Recreation and Trails Bond Presentations** – public groups that were given educational presentations on the PRT Bond: Scott Fredricks Radio Show.
  - a. **Scott Fredricks Radio Interview**
  - b. **Forward Montana Podcast**
  - c.

### 5. **Next Week's Meetings/Task Forces**

- a. West End Neighborhood Task Force, Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM, Connections Church, 5554 Grand Avenue

- b. National Incident Management System (NMS) Training for Elected and Appointed Officials, BOCC Boardroom.
- c. Rimrock Neighborhood Task Force, Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM, Mayflower Church
- d. Central Terry Task Force, Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM, Topline Hair

**6. Park Bond Presentations** – Presentations were given to employees in the Water Reclamation, Planning and Community Services, Building and IT.

**7. From the PIO Desk –**

**City Council**

*Billings City Council hears a special presentation on refugee resettlement in Billings*

[https://www.kulr8.com/news/billings-city-council-hears-a-special-presentation-on-refugee-resettlement-in-billings/article\\_457cc4e8-671b-11ee-a934-0fd1e4ffb0e9.html](https://www.kulr8.com/news/billings-city-council-hears-a-special-presentation-on-refugee-resettlement-in-billings/article_457cc4e8-671b-11ee-a934-0fd1e4ffb0e9.html)

*City Council Candidate Forum*

<https://cloud.castus.tv/vod/comm7tv/video/6526e39f7c9b880008062804?page=HOME>

**PD**

*Local services contemplate new center for domestic violence survivors in Billings*

[https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/crime-courts/local-services-contemplate-new-center-for-domestic-violence-survivors-in-billings/article\\_c2016a38-63cd-11ee-8ed1-373c7402d8a4.html](https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/crime-courts/local-services-contemplate-new-center-for-domestic-violence-survivors-in-billings/article_c2016a38-63cd-11ee-8ed1-373c7402d8a4.html)

*Billings man arrested following massive search of Heights property*

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/crime-watch/billings-man-arrested-following-massive-search-of-heights-property>

*Billings man suspected of placing explosives on city streets*

[https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/crime-courts/billings-man-suspected-of-placing-explosives-on-the-citys-roads/article\\_9bc167a6-685a-11ee-bfc5-fbf49d6b7c3b.html](https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/crime-courts/billings-man-suspected-of-placing-explosives-on-the-citys-roads/article_9bc167a6-685a-11ee-bfc5-fbf49d6b7c3b.html)

*Suspect in bomb squad investigation on Highway 312 in Billings ID'd*

[https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/suspect-in-bomb-squad-investigation-on-highway-312-in-billings-idd/article\\_7a22e94f-7a78-53c7-8109-4dadc34d1014.html](https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/suspect-in-bomb-squad-investigation-on-highway-312-in-billings-idd/article_7a22e94f-7a78-53c7-8109-4dadc34d1014.html)

**BPL**

*Young Thunder Ramblers drum group will perform Saturday at Billings Library*

[https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/young-thunder-ramblers-drum-group-billings-library/article\\_e35adf9c-677f-11ee-9515-9b182f4c87f4.html](https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/young-thunder-ramblers-drum-group-billings-library/article_e35adf9c-677f-11ee-9515-9b182f4c87f4.html)

**PW**

*Billings leaf collection program is back for 2023*

[https://www.kulr8.com/billings-leaf-collection-program-is-back-for-2023/article\\_150b9530-63b2-11ee-8ad0-cbbb635b7e45.html](https://www.kulr8.com/billings-leaf-collection-program-is-back-for-2023/article_150b9530-63b2-11ee-8ad0-cbbb635b7e45.html)

## **PRPL**

*Annual Refresh the Rims this Saturday*

[https://www.kulr8.com/news/msu-billings-outdoor-adventure-leadership-to-host-annual-refresh-the-rims-event-this-saturday/article\\_22fb22d6-66ec-11ee-9b47-873462e8902d.html](https://www.kulr8.com/news/msu-billings-outdoor-adventure-leadership-to-host-annual-refresh-the-rims-event-this-saturday/article_22fb22d6-66ec-11ee-9b47-873462e8902d.html)

## **BIL**

*Riding the headwinds; Billings Logan International Airport has a clear path ahead*

<https://www.businessviewmagazine.com/digital-magazines/sept-2023/249/>

## **In other news...**

*MSU Billings hosts eclipse watch party*

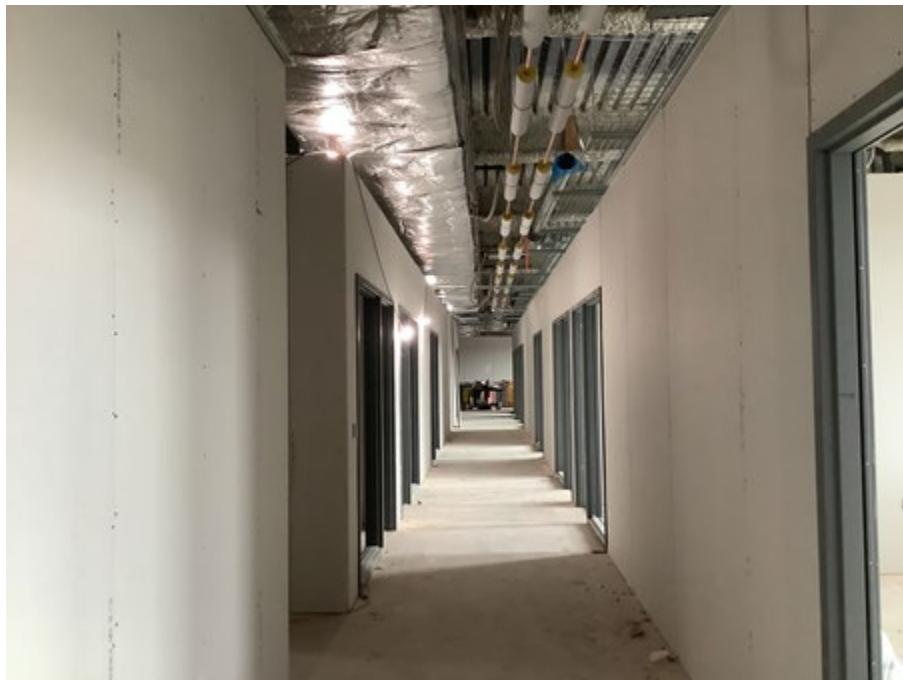
<https://www.ypradio.org/regional-news/2023-10-11/msu-billings-hosts-eclipse-watch-party>

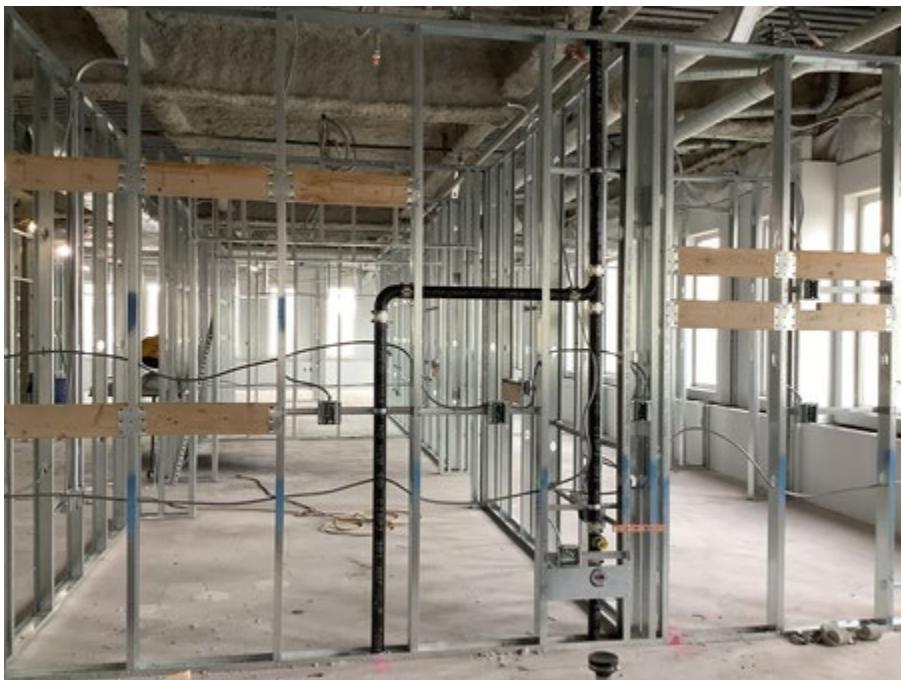
*Work on I-90 construction project between Laurel and Billings wraps up for the season*

[https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/i-90-construction-laurel-billings-roadwork-mdt/article\\_4cdf7cd6-6922-11ee-aeaf-af0cbff6183.html](https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/i-90-construction-laurel-billings-roadwork-mdt/article_4cdf7cd6-6922-11ee-aeaf-af0cbff6183.html)

## **City Hall Update:**

This week at the new city hall project work on finishing the sheetrock on the north half of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor continued and should be complete by end of day Monday. Sheetrock hanging of the second side of the walls on 4<sup>th</sup> floor was being worked on. Worked on some metal stud framing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor as well as some misc framing on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors. Plumbing overhead and wall rough in was wrapped up and the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor was started. Hydronic piping on 5<sup>th</sup> floor is close to being done while 4<sup>th</sup> floor copper hydronic piping is in progress. Electrical overhead work continues on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floor. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor wall rough in is moving right along. Electrical buss duct work on the north end of the building was worked on this week. The demo of the second air handler in the 5<sup>th</sup> floor fan room was completed this week. VAV and new duct work on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor is close to being complete. Demo of the sheetrock and metal stud on the exterior walls for window replacement continues. Painting on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor is coming along. If there are any questions let me know. Have a good weekend! Thanks, Rick.





**RICK CORTEZ**

**Superintendent**

O: [406-248-3700](tel:406-248-3700)

C: [406-671-7127](tel:406-671-7127)

**DICK ANDERSON  
CONSTRUCTION**  
ALWAYS PART OF THE SOLUTION