

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

December 1, 2023

- 1. Investor Meeting** – BSED hosted a meeting with CR- Builders, MSUB, Intermountain Health and the city to discuss development opportunities along the medical corridor. The discussion focused on high-density, mixed-use projects connecting the medical and education investments that are currently taking place.
- 2. Family Justice Center Steering Committee** – This afternoon's meeting included a tour of the YWCA's facilities. The YW and HRDC spaces have been offered up as locations to start our FJC within the next six months. We are also working on the contract between the City and YW to share costs for a full-time FJC coordinator. Sadly, Ellie's awesome service to our community will come to an end in February 2024. We can't afford to lose momentum on this critical project.
- 3. Substance Abuse Connect** – SAC hosted a full day of stakeholders to update our Sequential Intercept Map tracking processes individuals struggling with substance abuse and working their way through our service providers and the criminal justice system face.
- 4. Costco Traffic** - PW has received concerns from citizens regarding the traffic around Costco at Zoo Drive. This is a state route, so we contacted MDT and they have an internal meeting set for December 6th to go over the issue. The short-term solution is to evaluate traffic and likely add protected-permissive (green arrow) turning movements east bound, west bound, and potentially northbound at Gabel Road and Zoo Drive. We will ask for an update after that meeting and keep the City Council informed. Longer term, MDT has a project scheduled to improve Zoo Drive.

On a side note, we have had many instances of congestion and traffic impacts after a business opens but then it settles down after a time – alternatively, we have seen some traffic impacts that were unanticipated during the traffic study. The traffic studies are based on data and expectations of driver behavior which can sometimes be inaccurate. So, the way we address these is to continue to observe them to find out if and how it is changing and then respond accordingly when we think the initial phase is over. That being said, with Christmas coming, this is one of the busiest (if not the busiest) times for businesses like Costco so 1) even at the existing location it would have been worse than normal and 2) we need to do what we can, even temporarily, to try to help the situation. So, neither the city or MDT will likely require the developer to do anything permanent until after the holidays and the traffic settles so we can assess it, but we will try to improve the traffic flow as much as we can now.

- 5. Parks News** - Please see the attached Parks Progress Report.
- 6. Next Week's Meetings/Task Forces**
 - a. North Park Task Force – Wednesday, December 6th 7:00 PM, North Park Community Center.
 - b. Skyline Trail Ribbon Cutting – Thursday, December 7th 2:00 PM, .
 - c. Council Operations Committee – Thursday, December 7th 4:00 PM, City Hall Conference Room.

7. New City Hall Update –

5th floor

Panel work in north & central electrical rooms
Started installing light fixtures
AV rough in @ hard lids
Linear diffuser in council chambers
Started placing ceiling registers
Coiling doors installed
Paint touch ups
Restroom tile started
Roof drain in council chambers replaced

2nd floor

HVAC overhead rough in
Plumbing wall rough in
Plumbing waste and vent
Hydronic piping
Wall insulation completed
Second side sheetrock started
Cable tray, overhead conduit



4th floor

Air handler demo completed
Misc. fan room demo
Taping walls and head of wall spraying
Lighting control and overhead power
Priming walls got started
Panel install south electrical room

1st floor

Metal stud wall framing
Soffit framing layout
New 6" gas line install and welding
Stock glass for windows





8. **City Communications** - (NOTE: Traditionally, only things the PIO works on have been included in this section. But we have an excellent team of communicators across our city government, and from now on, I will include communication highlights from all departments. -Victoria)

Graffiti at Pioneer Park gets a quick clean up by Parks and Rec crew

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=743826647779516&set=a.222453499916836>

Free holiday parking downtown

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=737191795122306&set=a.245649937609830>

PD partners with St. Pius

<https://www.facebook.com/CityofBillings/posts/pfbid02UKuG3Ri4dqifo4V8ACUDn8xuYf65Po5g2aDtbojBjc2RZcUCvzYW678vzevkv4tsl>

Billings PD swears in two new officers

<https://www.facebook.com/BillingsPD/posts/pfbid02x5YqCYkHsjLA9aDpriKxSK3c2aThh4YKBE3LUe14DtXLBRjQvJ4dfDqQZBB31xdfI>

Billings PD weekly brief

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=735887505239697&set=a.226302889531497>

BIL new Service Animal Relief Area

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=735887505239697&set=a.226302889531497>

Cardboard dos and don'ts

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=674632831508817&set=a.189637030008402>

PW water operators & electrician responds quickly to power outage

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=673998184905615&set=a.189637030008402>

New river intake gate system

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=670594975245936&set=a.189637030008402>

Allynne recognized with Awesome Library Award

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=745669980921473&set=a.551966893625117>

Mayor, Council & Admin

B.I.R.D. presents updated master plan for North Park

https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/b-i-r-d-presents-updated-master-plan-for-north-park/article_059d4772-71bd-5d44-b2b1-ffdaefda7587.html

City of Billings, FWP offer tips on how to deal with urban turkey conflicts

https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/city-of-billings-fwp-offer-tips-on-how-to-deal-with-urban-turkey-conflicts/article_af287448-99eb-537a-8f43-33fa65c04fad.html

BPL

Billings Public Library holding Catch a Pet with a Book photo contest

https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/billings-public-library-holding-catch-a-pet-with-a-book-photo-contest/video_5ca76b25-ebe5-514d-a995-5f2379dc6abb.html

PCSD

City of Billings seeking public input on pedestrian, cycling, master plan

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/billings-area-pedestrian-and-bicycle-master-plan/article_590fff1a-8d7d-11ee-a2d2-3fc716b20395.html

PD

City and county consider measures to curb gang and gun violence in Billings

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/billings-and-yellowstone-county-work-on-crime-rich-stjohn-gangs-billings/article_b4fa165c-88ce-11ee-90a3-9324f27013e5.html

Police warn new IOS update could pose security risk

https://www.nonstoplocal.com/billings/news/police-warn-new-ios-update-could-pose-security-risk/video_7be0f4f8-e089-5ddb-977a-86735b303113.html

In other news...

Photo: 6th Street West underpass opens

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/underpass-opening/article_8c4c51ea-8d54-11ee-847a-d341f8852d05.html

Billings nonprofit offers shelter for sex trafficking survivors

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/crime-courts/billings-non-profit-offers-shelter-for-sex-trafficking-survivors/article_b07b1c14-88a3-11ee-aa3b-d7bf4023f8a1.html

12-story tower proposed in downtown Billings

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/12-story-tower-proposed-in-downtown-billings>

Driver busts through barricade during Downtown Billings Holiday Parade

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/driver-busts-through-barricade-during-downtown-billings-holiday-parade>

December 1st, 2023 progress report

Park	Progress	Project	Status	*updated information for this week
	Started	> Completed		
Arrowhead playground replacement	<div style="width: 80%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Playground punch list in progress	
Castle Rock playground addition	<div style="width: 70%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Slide replacement parts installed and completed, manufacture warranty work on going for swings and zip line	
Castle Rock parking lot & restroom	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #666666;"></div>		Design work with consultant underway	
Central tennis courts replacement	<div style="width: 100%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Submitting LWCF paperwork for project reimbursement	
Comanche playground replacement	<div style="width: 100%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Playground complete and open to the public	
Cottonwood Park masterplan	<div style="width: 100%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Presented at November 8th Park Board meeting and approved for recommendation to City Council	
Coulson Park South Improvements	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #9b59b6;"></div>		Received approval from US Army Corps of Engineers, proceeding with design	
Gorham irrigation automation	<div style="width: 70%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Pump station being shipped by manufacture for installation	
Grandview irrigation automation	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #666666;"></div>		Advertised twice, no bids both times, rebid at a later date	
Highland playground replacement	<div style="width: 20%; background-color: #9b59b6;"></div>		Playground equipment was delivered, installer under contract for Fall completion	
Millice irrigation automation	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #666666;"></div>		Sealed bids opened, project over budget, rebid at a later date	
North Park adult exercise & shelter	<div style="width: 30%; background-color: #66b3ff;"></div>		Contractor beginning site work for new shelter and adult exercise equipment	
North Park playground replacement	<div style="width: 20%; background-color: #9b59b6;"></div>		Received delivery of new play equipment at Parks shop	
North Park restroom replacement	<div style="width: 100%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Pre-fab concrete restroom damaged during transport from manufacture, installation being rescheduled	
*Pioneer Park tennis courts replacement	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #9b59b6;"></div>		*Consultant services contract signed, site survey work underway by engineering consultant	
*Poly Vista inclusive playground and parking lot	<div style="width: 30%; background-color: #9b59b6;"></div>		*Final bid documents and drawings under review, advertise for bids in December	
Ponderosa irrigation automation	<div style="width: 100%; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>		Final walkthrough complete, system fully operational	
Rose Park pool spray equipment replacement	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #9b59b6;"></div>		Spray equipment delivered, contractor being scheduled for installation	
Skypoint sail replacement	<div style="width: 40%; background-color: #66b3ff;"></div>		Structural Engineer's report completed, proceeding with recommended repairs prior to painting	
Aquatic Facility Assessment	<div style="width: 40%; background-color: #66b3ff;"></div>		Consultant performed on site visits and are compiling information for assessment	