

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

July 11, 2025

- 1. State Mental Health Potential Site Tours** – Mark your calendar and wear your walking shoes to walk several sites in the area the State is considering building a behavioral health campus. **Thursday, July 24 at 1:00pm**. More info to come.
- 2. Ridership Continues to Rise** - The fixed route overhaul implemented in October 2023 continues to show significant performance improvement. MET provided 576,933 total rides which constitutes total growth of 34.36% over FY24. FY24 totaled ridership was 429,393 while FY23 totaled 367,584.
- 3. Yellowstone County Community Health Needs Assessment** - Every three years, the Alliance of Billings Clinic, Intermountain Health St. Vincent Regional Hospital, and RiverStone Health, and in partnership with The Rehabilitation Hospital of Montana and the Healthy By Design Coalition, conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA). The survey is currently live and is open until August 25, 2025. This wellness check for the community helps identify and prioritize community health needs in Yellowstone County to help guide local health programs, resources, and initiatives. Every Yellowstone County resident 18 years or older is eligible to take the survey. Attached is a flyer with more information and you can learn more at our website at [Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#).
- 4. Retirements** – July seems to be the month of retirements in 2025. Over the past two weeks we've had 5 retirements with a 6th later this month. David Watterson, Scott Emerick, Shaun Emerick, Val Ronquillo, Shane Ketterling and Doug Studiner represent nearly 200 years of public service to the citizens of Billings. Congratulations and Thank You!
- 5. Planning News** - The latest draft maps and materials for the West Billings Plan will be presented to the West End Neighborhood Task Force on July 15th at 7pm at Connections Church, 5554 Grand Avenue. The West Billings Plan will also have a public open house on August 14th at 6pm in the Ben Steele Middle School Cafeteria, 5640 Grand Avenue. Please see the attached pdf with the QR code or visit the West Billings Neighborhood Plan webpage for more information here <https://sanbell.com/engage/west-billings-plan/> Please join us for one or both events, or visit the Plan information online! (See attached flyer.)
- 6. Library News** – Please see the attached Fourth Quarter Stats and the June Programming updates.
- 7. Parks** – Looks like a flower, kills like poison: Hemlock invades Billings Parks <https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/looks-like-a-flower-kills-like-poison-hemlock-invades-billings-parks>

Amend Recreation Center - Weekly Update attached.



Finally collated all the awesome certifications in the department. I would like to highlight that all lifeguards are Red Cross Lifeguard certified, and almost all camp counselors are Red Cross First Aid certified as seasonal staff, as well (that's 100+ right off the top).

Kory Thomson – Aquatic Facility Operator (National Recreation & Parks Association)

Jennifer Brown – Exercise Therapy, Brain Fitness Coach (International Sports Sciences Association)

Cole McQuillan – Certified Playground Safety Inspector (NRPA), Government Pesticide Applicator (MT Dept of Agriculture)

Brandon Schmidt – Certified Park and Recreation Professional (NRPA), Playground Safety Inspector (NRPA), Pesticide Applicator (MT Dept of Agriculture)

Marc Guaraglia – Playground Safety Inspector (NRPA), Pesticide Applicator (MT Dept of Agriculture)

Josh Gordon – Playground Safety Inspector (NRPA), Pesticide Applicator (MT Dept of Agriculture)

Randy Kyhl – Playground Safety Inspector (NRPA), Pesticide Applicator (MT Dept of Agriculture)

Nick Miller – Ornamental & Turf (MT Dept of Agriculture), Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (National Institute of Crime Prevention)

Brian Bourgeois – Arborist (International Society of Arboriculture)

8. Public Works Construction Updates –

Downtown 2-Way Project

The critical part of the project, the chip seal, starts Monday, July 14, 2025, and will continue for a week, weather dependent—on-street parking will be impacted during the placement of chip seal, sweeping, and fog seal (coating the gravel). Free off-street parking is open in Park 1 during this time. Chip seal will start on 2nd Ave North, North Broadway, and North 29th St (angle parking) on Monday, July 14th. Chip seal is planned in front of City Hall on 3rd Ave North and North 26th Street by Wednesday or Thursday. Please see the attached Gazette ad for detail.

Looking ahead, the striping and switch to two-way traffic is anticipated the week of July 28th. Door-to-door canvassing has been completed for individual businesses and property owners in the project area. A press release will be sent the week of July 14th. Advertisements in the Gazette will begin weekly, starting Sunday, July 13th through the beginning of August. An updated map with available on-street parking and locations of active work will be posted to Facebook daily during the week of July 14th.

Grand Avenue Water Main Replacement

Work started this week near the Virginia and Grand Avenue Intersection and is expected to be complete around Senior high before school starts. The project goes from Division to Virginia and should be completed in October. Please use caution in the area with single lane traffic.

Sanitary Sewer Replacement

Sewer replacement began west of Highlands golf course in alleys near Delphinium Drive, Azalea Lane and 12th Street West, and O'Malley Drive. Work is expected to continue through the fall within individual alleys and streets in that area.

Briarwood Subdivision Water Replacement

Water replacement in Rosemont Way is nearing completion in the next few weeks.

9. **Airport News** – BIL #7 Best Airports – Travel & Leisure article, please click the following <https://www.travelandleisure.com/worlds-best-awards-2025-domestic-airports-11751676>

10. **Public Works News** - The Montana June edition of Irrigation Leader magazine has an article on Billings, Montana Partners with an Irrigation Provider to Expand Municipal Water Capacity. You can find it here: <https://irrigationleadermagazine.com/volume-16-issue-6-june-5/>

11. **2025 Council Meeting Schedule** – Please review the attached draft agendas and provide any feedback regarding the order of business, modification of agenda items, or other changes to the consent or regular agendas. City code requires a specific order of business as it relates to certain items on meeting agendas, e.g., placement of public hearings first on the regular agenda, so your feedback will be incorporated with those code requirements in mind. ([BMCC 2-214](#)) Work session agendas are more flexible and can also easily be modified by the mayor with the consensus of Council during those informal meetings.

12. Next Week's Meetings/Task Forces

- a. West End Task Force, Tuesday, July 15th 7:00 PM, Connections Church 56th & Grand.
- b. Budget & Finance Committee, Wednesday, July 16th 9:00 AM, Rimrock Room, 316 N. 26th Street, 5th Floor.
- c. Southside Task Force, Thursday, July 17th 6:00 PM Walla Walla University Auditorium, 2520 5th Avenue South.
- d. Central Terry Task Force, Thursday, July 17th 7:00 PM, Topline Hair, 1331 Central Avenue.

CITY OF BILLINGS – AVIATION & TRANSIT DEPARTMENT

MET TRANSIT DIVISION FY25 RIDERSHIP REPORT



JUNE 2025



	Monthly						Year-To-Date (FY 2025)		
	Service Days	June 2024	Service Days	June 2025	Percent Change	Adjust For Service Days	July 23-June 24-	July 24-June 25-	Percent Change
Fixed Route									
Weekdays	20	33,235	21	42,297	27.3%	21.2%	359,186	497,887	38.6%
Saturdays	5	3,744	4	3,129	-16.4%	4.5%	26,195	38,369	46.5%
Total		36,979		45,426	22.8%		385,381	536,256	39.1%
Lift Usage		738		849	15.0%		8,398	8,933	6.4%
Bike Rack Usage		1,329		1,346	1.3%		10,869	13,546	24.6%
Paratransit									
Weekdays	20	3,336	21	3,309	-0.8%	-5.5%	42,961	39,741	-7.5%
Saturdays	5	82	4	85	3.7%	29.6%	1,051	936	-10.9%
Total		3,418		3,394	-0.7%		44,012	40,677	-7.6%
Wheelchair Users		926		1,002	8.2%		11,808	11,422	-3.3%
Demand Response		2,360		3,394	43.8%		29,902	40,673	36.0%
Contract Rides*		1,059		0	-100.0%		14,111	0	-100.0%
Grand Total Ridership		40,397		48,820	20.85%		429,393	576,933	34.36%

*Ended DD Contract with State of Montana on 6/30/2024

We Need Your Input!

Take the Yellowstone County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Survey Today!

Why does this survey matter?

- Your voice matters!
- This wellness check for our community guides local initiatives to improve the quality of life for all.
- Your unique and valuable perspective can help us better understand community health needs.
- **Yellowstone County residents 18 years+ are encouraged to participate in the survey.**
- Results will be shared during a public forum in fall 2025.



Billings Clinic



Scan the QR code or go to the link below to take the survey!



<https://tinyurl.com/5eckewrt>

This survey takes roughly 20-25 minutes to complete.

Help make a difference in Yellowstone County!

Billings West End Plan Public Meeting

Scan this QR code to
learn more about the
Billings West End
Neighborhood Plan!



Join us on August 14th at 6:00 PM in
the Ben Steele Middle School
Cafeteria, 5640 Grand Avenue.

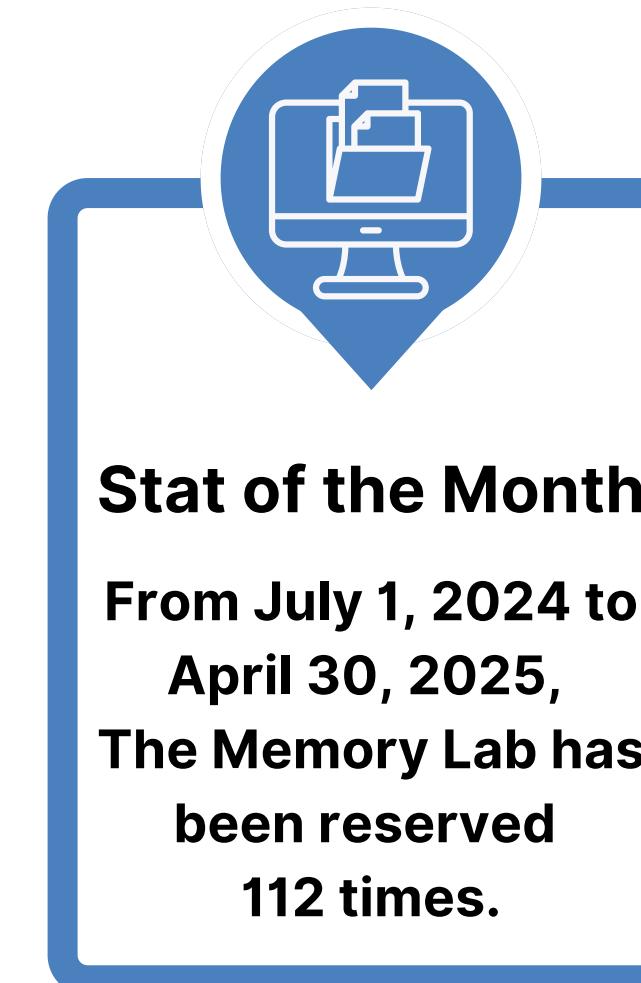
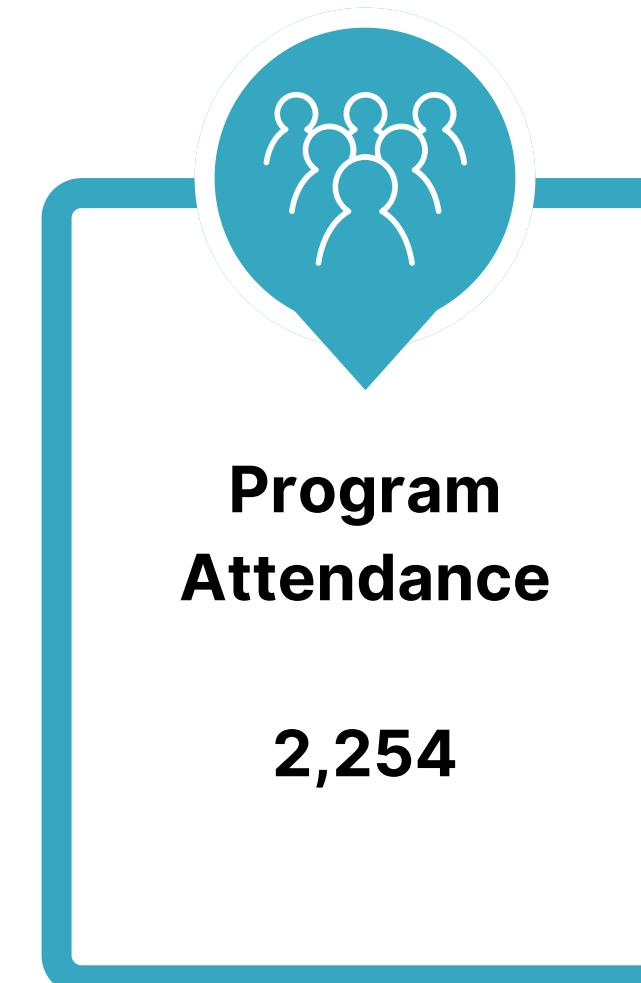
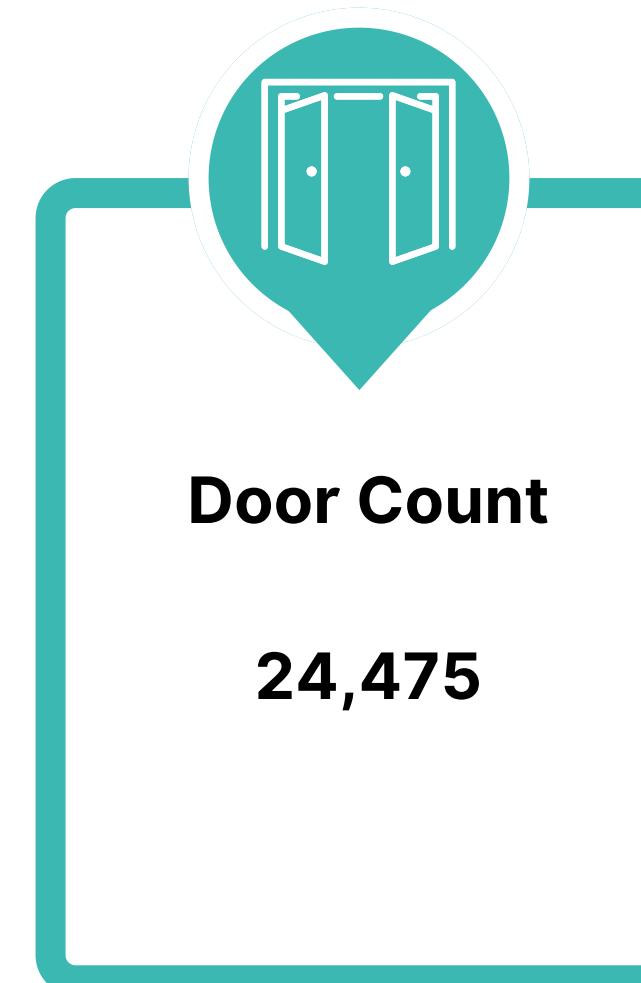
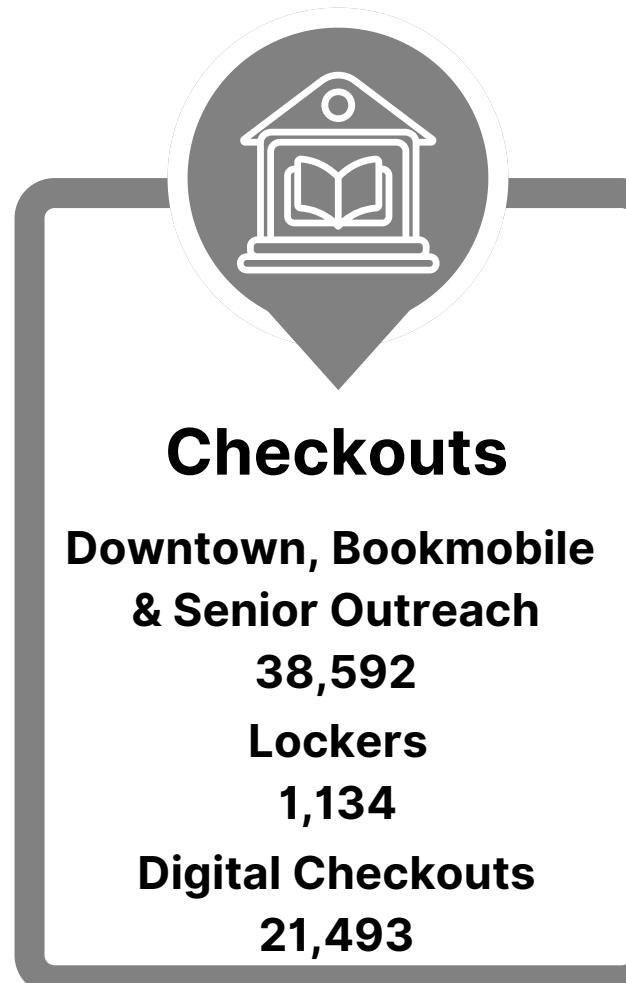


Billings Public Library

Fourth Quarter Statistics



April 2025 Library Statistics



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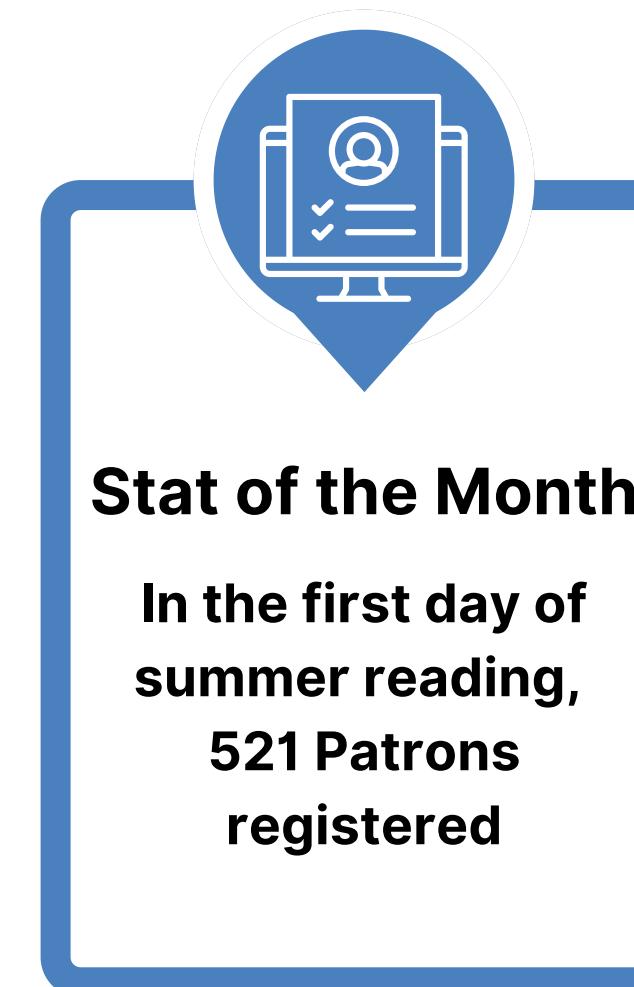
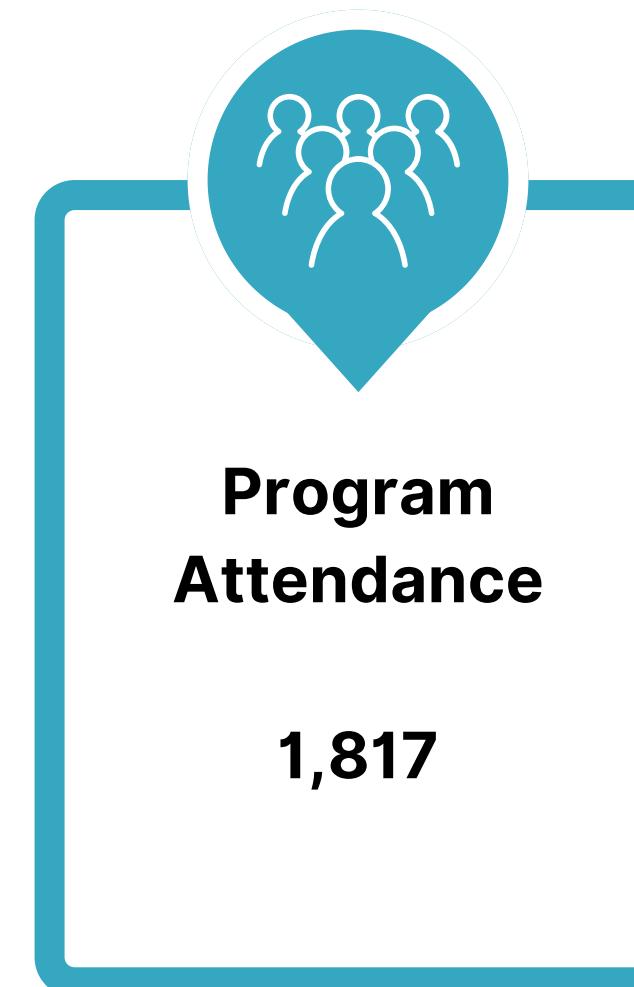
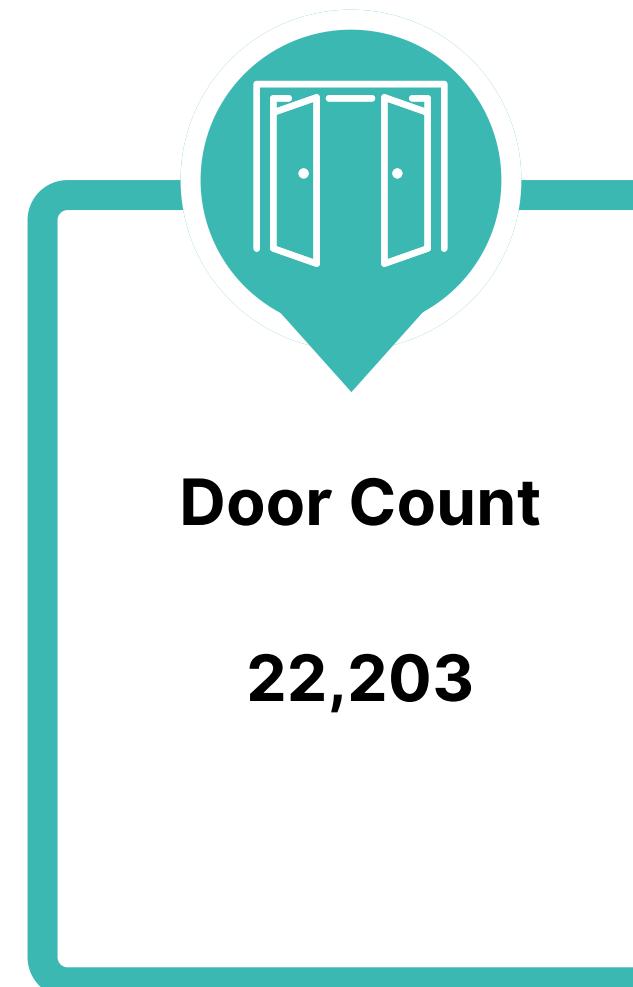
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May 2025 Library Statistics



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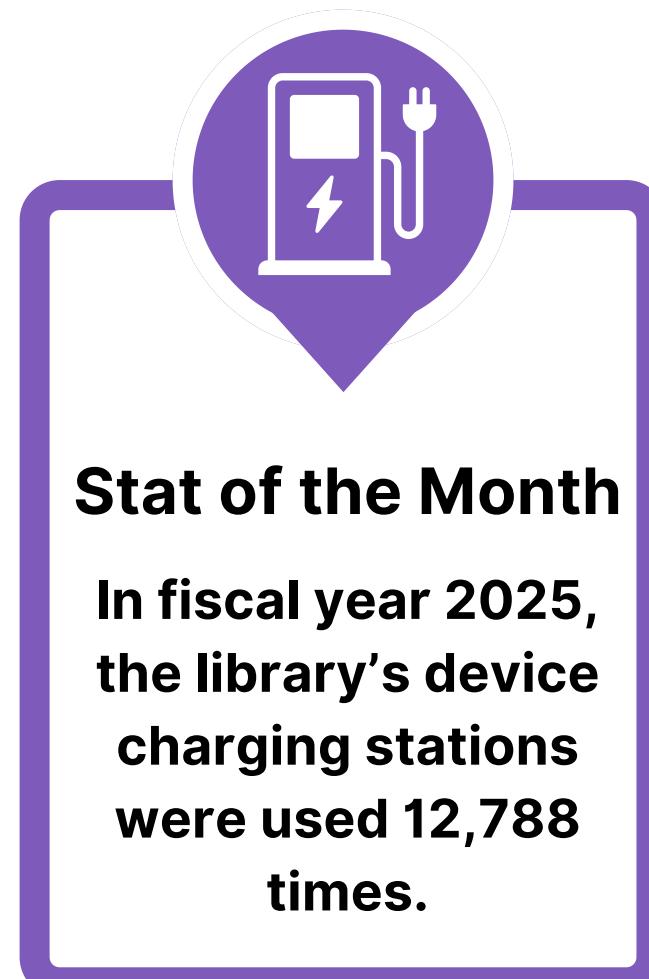
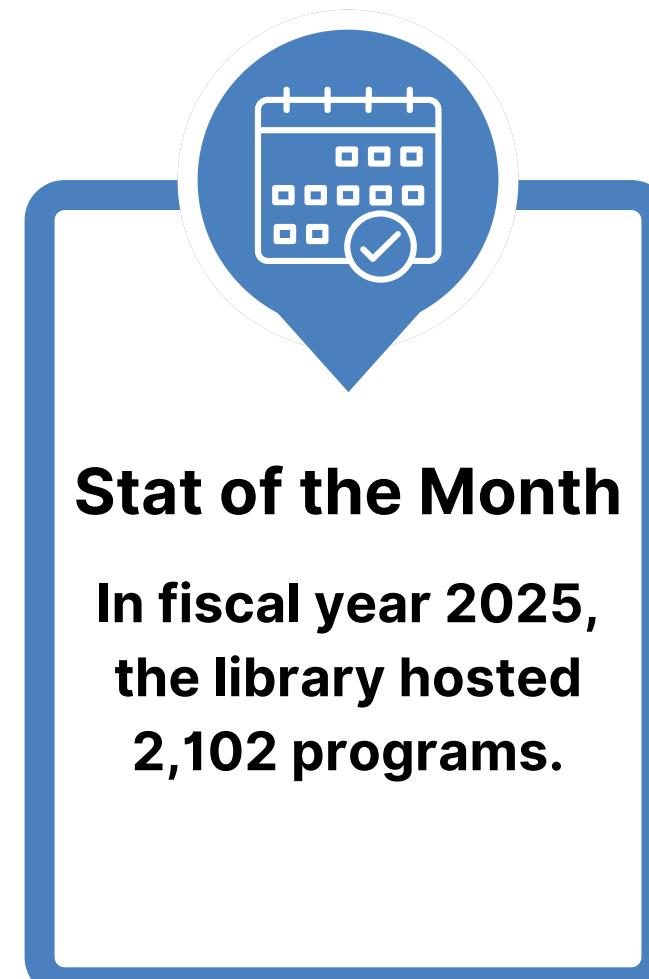
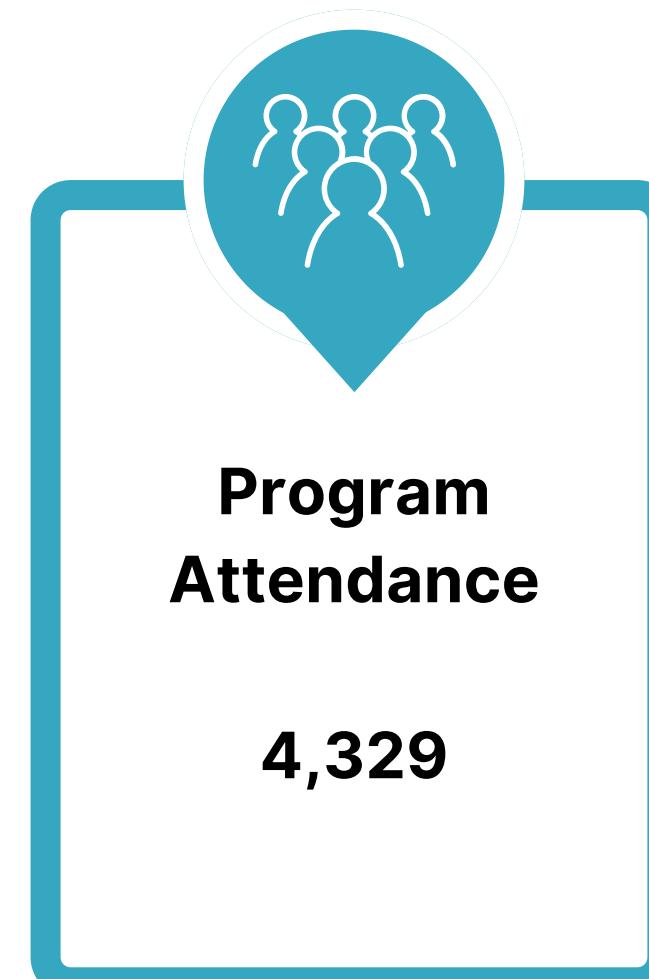
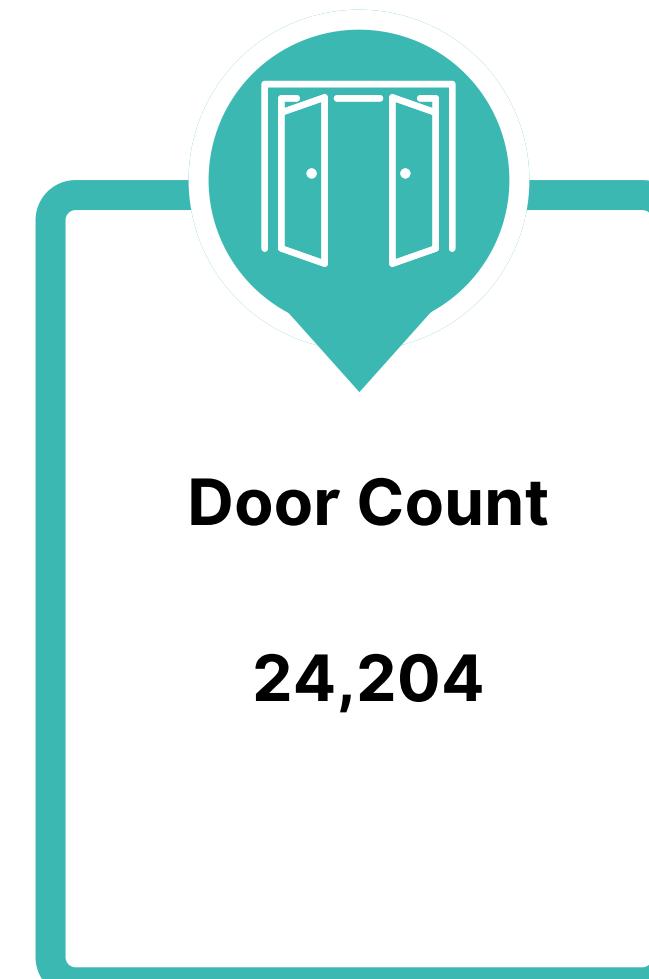
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June 2025 Library Statistics



1

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LIBRARY

Updates - June 2025



Our first Mini Makers session in the CO+LAB was a hit! New creators explored 3D printing, music making, and hands-on projects in a fun, safe space. Our next session is coming up in July!



Two of our first Children's Summer Reading Programs were a big success. Billings Best Balloons offered balloon-twisting demonstrations, and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks led an engaging program on how frog colors aid in their survival. Both events drew strong attendance and provided fun, educational experiences for families.



This June, we teamed up with Billings Parks and Rec and the Skate Park Committee for free beginner skateboard clinics. BPL even brought one of our own librarians—who skates!—to help lead the fun. We provided boards and helmets; participants brought the energy.



Billings Public Library recently joined the regional Copyist Program, hosting local artists under the Oculus to reinterpret Isabelle Johnson's portrait of former library director Ann Whitmack.

Artists worked in their own styles and mediums, offering a unique look at the creative process. Visitors were invited to observe and engage as the artwork took shape.



Amend Recreation Center: Weekly Update

7/11/2025

VP-Eastern District:	Jason Hubbard	jhub@langlas.com
Project Manager:	Rachel Guisti	rachelb@langlas.com
SR. Project Superintendent:	Lane Huffman	lhuffman@langlas.com
Field Engineer:	Si Ryan	sir@langlas.com

Progress Summary: Week of July 7th

- Langlas: Schedule and Ordering Material
- Weave: Finish Grading



Schedule: Upcoming week of July 14th

“THE FUN FINALLY BEGINS”

I will have a more elaborate Newsletter per week now with better pictures.

- Langlas:
 - Rebar Delivery
 - Pre-Con Meetings
 - City Inspections
 - Concrete Pours
- Billings Concrete:
 - Forming Footings
 - Tieing Rebar
 - Forming Foundations
 - Pour Concrete



Downtown Traffic Alert & 5-Day FREE Parking in Park 1 Garage



LEGEND

	Two-Way Street Restoration and Chip Seal		Traffic Signal Modifications		Park 1 Garage
	Chip Seal		New Traffic Signal		Skypoint
	Bicycle Facility Updates		Stop-Controlled Intersections		

Chip Seal to Impact Downtown Traffic Starting **Monday, July 14**

- Crews will start chip sealing several downtown roadways in preparation for the transition to two-way traffic later in July.
- Montana Ave, 1st Ave N, 4th Ave N, and 6th Ave N will remain one-way.
- On-street parking restrictions will be in place in areas being chip sealed, which could last 2-4 days in select areas.
- Traffic will be maintained but there will be brief lane closures where chip seal work is active. Flaggers will help direct traffic.
- Avoid sharp turns/hard breaking on freshly chip sealed surfaces and around workers.

The City of Billings will be offering FREE PARKING in the Park 1 garage (2912 3rd Avenue North) July 14-18 for the inconvenience caused.

After chip seal is complete

Pavement markings will be covered up. The roads will operate in their current configuration until interim pavement markings are applied to the roadway in late July. Permanent pavement markings will be applied about 30 days after the chip seal cures, in late August. PLEASE NOTE: The construction schedule may change due to weather or other unforeseen factors.

Comments or questions?

Email billings2way@dowl.com, call 406-869-6349, or visit billings2way.com

UPCOMING DRAFT AGENDAS FOR COUNCIL / LEADERSHIP

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Thank you for your feedback!

July 14, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

1. Bid Award: W.O. 19-42: West End Water Treatment Plant Transmission, Phase 2
2. Bid Award: Fire Station 5 Interior Remodel
3. Change Order No. 6, W.O. 19-12 West End Reservoir
4. Amendment 1 - Park 1 Condominium
5. Amendment 4 - Air Service Consulting Services for FY26
6. Purchase of 30 Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs)
7. Disposal of 300-gallon surplus waste containers
8. Donation Acceptance For Solar Lighting Rose Park North Trail
9. Right of Way and Warranty Deed – COS 2007, Amended Tract 2A-1
10. FY26 Unified Planning Work Program Recommendation to PCC
11. Transportation Alternatives Grant Recommendation to pCC
12. EPA Brownfields RLF for 802 Yellowstone Avenue Abatement
13. Resolution - Sale for the South Billings Urban Renewal District Series 2025 Bonds
14. 2nd/Final Rdg Ord. - Zone Change 1066-828 (aka 844) Grand Ave

REGULAR:

2. PH and 1st Reading ORD Amending BMCC 22-408, Right of Way Obstructions
3. PH and 1st Reading ORD Amending BMCC 24-601, Bicycle Parking
4. Tax Increment Assistance – Downtown Billings Partnership - 4 Montana Avenue Pedestrian Crossing Flashing Beacons
5. Tax Increment Assistance - Downtown Billings Partnership - Masonic Temple Building
6. Aspenlieder's Initiative – Reduction of Council (Phase 2)

July 21, 2025– WORK SESSION

1. Montana's 69th Legislative Session Wrap-Up Presentation (Jessica Fust)
2. Urban Renewal District Oversight and Management

July 28, 2025 **REGULAR BUSINESS**

CONSENT:

1. BID AWARD: Big Ditch Trail Extension
2. BID AWARD: WO 26-03: Contract 1, City Overlay
3. Perpetual Right-of-Way Easement for Multi-Use Trail from Griffin Automotive Enterprises
4. Final Plat, Nalkuk Sub.
5. Resolution accepting Petition for
6. Second/Final Rdg ORD amending Section 24-601, BMCC parking of bicycle
7. Second/Final Rdg ORD amending Section 22-408, BMCC right-of-way obstructions

REGULAR:

2. EBURD TIF Assistance - 1617 1st Avenue North - Montana Tire
3. PH and 1st Rdg ORD Amending City Charter Re: Reduction in Council and Redistricting

August 4, 2025– WORK SESSION

1. Big Sky Senior Services – Adult Resource Alliance (Erika Purington)
2. SBBURD Expansion Analysis Update
3. Disaster Policy/Update - Derek Yeager
4. Snow Plowing Update
5. Kennedy's initiative - Litter on South Billings Blvd. and Frontage Road

August 11, 2025 **REGULAR BUSINESS**

CONSENT:

1. Boards and Commissions
2. RES calling for election containing ballot language for Charter Amendment
3. 2nd Rdg/Final Ord. Amending City Charter Re: Reduction in Council and Redistricting
- 4.

REGULAR:

August 18, 2025– WORK SESSION

August 25, 2025 **REGULAR BUSINESS**

CONSENT:

- 1.

REGULAR:

2. PH and RES Setting Annual Levies for Fiscal Year 2025
3. PH and RES Setting PMD Annual Assessments for Fiscal Year 2026
4. PH and RES Road Maintenance District No. 6

September 2, 2025 (Tues.) – WORK SESSION

September 8, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

1. Airport Consultant Selection - RFP

REGULAR:

September 15, 2025– WORK SESSION

Executive Session 4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

September 22, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

- 1.

REGULAR:

1. Resolution to renew Citizens Police Advisory Committee (Regular Agenda Item)

October 6, 2025– WORK SESSION

October 13, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

REGULAR:

2. RES Establishing a Procedure for the Disposition of Unclaimed Property (Not submitted into routing in AQ)
- 3.

October 20, 2025– WORK SESSION

October 27, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

1. *Council Meeting Schedule for December

REGULAR:

November 3, 2025– WORK SESSION

November 10, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

1.

REGULAR:

November 17, 2025– WORK SESSION

November 24, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

1.

REGULAR:

December 1, 2025– WORK SESSION

Executive Session 4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

December 8, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

REGULAR:

December 15, 2025– WORK SESSION

December 22, 2025 REGULAR BUSINESS

CONSENT:

1.

REGULAR:

CLERK'S NOTES

*Annual Items shown in Blue

January (First Work Session) after an election: Swearing in of new Councilmembers and Nominations and Elections of Deputy Mayor Pro Tempore

January: Amend Park Development Council Proposed Budget

January: Beartooth RC&D MOU

February or March: Legislative Updates (ODD years only)

March: Budget Calendar

March: Council Priorities

September: City Administrator's Annual Review

October: TRP, ERP and CIP

October: Council Holiday Schedule for December

November (First Regular Business Meeting) after an election: Nominations and Elections of Deputy Mayor

DRAFT