

From: [jay ettleman](#)
To: [Rupsis, Tom](#)
Cc: [Council](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] 36th and Monad 4 way stop
Date: Saturday, December 20, 2025 5:06:53 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)



So, why can't we get a 4 way after asking for almost 20 years?????

From: Rupsis, Tom <rupsist@billingsmt.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 9:59 AM
To: jay ettleman <ettleman@msn.com>
Cc: Council <council@billingsmt.gov>; Boyett, Mike <boyettm@billingsmt.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] 36th and Monad 4 way stop

Mr. Ettleman -

I should have been more careful with my words. I should have said that I had heard that a temporary stop sign was being put in to help with the Holiday Lights traffic. I just drove by, and it does indeed look like a permanent installation. I just hope they take the black covers off the stop signs before everyone starts walking across Shiloh to get to the zoo tonight.

Tom

Tom Rupsis
City Council - Ward 5
rupsist@billingsmt.gov
406-545-0701

On Dec 19, 2025 9:06 AM, jay ettleman <ettleman@msn.com> wrote:



This sure looks permanent not temporary when you drill deep, reason I know is you all the utilities marked. You sure would mark utilities if you were only going temporary like you did out on King and 42 near the apartments, you had sandbags hold up the stop signs. The other when you start to approach the roundabout heading south, there is a big neon sign saying stop ahead, again during summer you didn't have that sign on King. There is an old saying, don't pee on my leg and call it rain. Again, if these are temporary, it was a big waste of taxpayer money. Heck, at the intersection where I live, those stops signs are cheap metal posts (I can get the same post as Home Depot for \$30.00, why didn't you use those.











From: jay ettleman <ettleman@msn.com>

Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 8:29 AM

To: Rupsis, Tom <rupsist@billingsmt.gov>; council@billingsmt.gov <council@billingsmt.gov>

Cc: Boyett, Mike <boyettm@billingsmt.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] 36th and Monad 4 way stop

Tom Rupsis,

Tell me when has a temporary 4 way stop as you say, gets drilled into the ground approximately 36 inches and concrete? This is no temporary; there was a whole crew drilling these signs into the ground. I will be following this because if the signs are not down at the Zoo, after the Christmas stuff at the zoo is done it means you are not a person of your word. In the past, there never has been a 4 way for this, why all of a sudden. I will be watching, because that is a lot of taxpayer money was spent to just put up for something temporary. Like I said, I will be watching.

Sincerely

Jay Ettelman

From: Rupsis, Tom <rupsist@billingsmt.gov>

Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2025 7:46 PM

To: jay ettelman <ettelman@msn.com>

Cc: Boyett, Mike <boyettm@billingsmt.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] 36th and Monad 4 way stop

Mr Ettelman -

The 4-way stop at the zoo is temporarily being installed because of the holiday lights event at the zoo. The volume of people going there means many people park over at Meadowlark and walk across Shiloh. For a night event, this is obviously a serious safety concern and I'm sure you'd agree that a temporary installation is reasonable.

Tom

Tom Rupsis
City Council - Ward 5
rupsist@billingsmt.gov
406-545-0701

On Dec 18, 2025 5:46 PM, jay ettelman <ettelman@msn.com> wrote:

Dear City Council and Mayor

Today, I cannot believe this, while running an errand, on Shiloh by the Zoo, Pierce Parkway, Meadowlark Brewing, a 4-way stop was being installed. Why a 4 way there? When the intersection at Hawthorn in the heights and the intersection at 36th Street West and Monad

have been pleading for almost 10 plus years for a 4 way stop sign because of the accidents due to speed divers drive (both areas are 35 mph, and they are both only 2 way stop). The accidents happen because people speed and blow the stop signs and we are told a 4 way is not going to help or we (we are a neighborhood) are not considered a priority. BUT because you have the Zoo, Pierce, and Meadowlark Brewing Company now TSC and the very poor design of the street around Costco, they get a 4-way stop, and to my knowledge they don't have high speed accidents (average 2-3 a month). Hmm, I guess our city council don't give a crap about neighborhood traffic safety. On 9/12/2025 I emailed Mike Boyett, and the response that he got was no kids cross Monad to go to Big Sky, but they must cross to use the park in Olympic subdivision from Parkland west subdivision. On 9/25, the reason I wrote was there was a 3-car pileup, then in October there were 2 more accidents here and a nasty one in Hawthorne (both were on KTVQ) and still the city has not responded. What got me mad, I messaged KTVQ and offered up a response that the city gave me in October, but KTVQ never called back. Thank you, City Council of Billings, for standing up for citizens, I guess since we are just taxpayers (people near Hawthorne and Parkland West) are just low on the pole, but corporate business and the Zoo get priority over us.

In the accident of September, I talked to the 3 investigating officers, and they are tired of investigating accidents on the 36th and Monad. At that time one officer said he had already had 4 studies done and he said he would start another study because I asked and the officers were so professional, I am proud of them. Since that time, there have been 2 more accidents (one I witnessed and the other was on KTVQ, just one week after the one I witnessed. The one I witnessed, people driving east and west on Monad, would not even observe the Community Officers that responded (the Green Lettered cars with officers). A Cadillac, being driven by a very old man almost hit the officer, she was screaming loudly and he responded well how am I going to get by with there is 2 vehicles totaled and debris all over.

When Mike responded back, it was also said to him that the traffic is not that bad. We have a Mormon Steak House and a Jehovah Witness chapel, and do you know what traffic is like in the mornings at the Mormon church 6 am to 7:30 am and then Wednesday at the Jehovah then we have Sunday. It is horrible.

What is it going to take? It was 3 weeks after a motorcycle driver got kill on 36th Street West and King that a traffic light was put up? Is it going to take a death to just invest \$1000.00 or less to put up 2 more signs, to make it all way stop? Also, from Shiloh to 32nd Street West, at times, speeds of vehicles hit 50 plus. I think it was 2 years ago, a motorcyclist was killed because he and another motorcyclist were racing and it was estimated the biker that got killed was doing 90 mph. Hawthorne and us we have been screaming for years, years to get a 4 way stop. By doing this, it will create safety (man, I pay enough in the safety mill levies I voted for, and I am not seeing one bit of safety). Also, the police have better things to do than to be dispatched to these areas when there is far worse crime happening in the city than to deal with.

I am a Billings native of 65 years of age. I was born, raised, lived, worked, paid taxes, etc. Now I am retired. I also have lived on Mammoth Cave (off of 36th and Monad) for 30 years now.

Jay Ettleman
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