

August Update - Rimrock Neighborhoods Task Force

This newsletter is brought to you by your Rimrock Neighborhoods Task Force

In most cases, the newsletter does not include the same info shared at meetings



Please join Us At Our Next Meeting:

**September 17, 7:00 pm
Mayflower Church - Rehberg & Poly**

All meetings are open to the public.

Hi neighbors,

I am extending a special thank you to both Howard Evans and Tom Yampradit, now former board members, for their service to you, our members. I learned a lot from both Tom and Howard. Thank you both!

Let's also welcome our 2 new board members: Holly Schwarm, Secretary; and Dave Schwarm, Board Member at Large.

Public Planning & Safety: The board will continue focusing on planning for both Highway 3 and Rimrock Road. Safety has been, and will continue to be, our primary concern for both roadways. For any roads within the task force area, if you are aware of a problem - please reach out to us.

Looking ahead to our September meeting - we've invited candidates for mayor and city council wards 1 & 4. Each will have 5 minutes for an introduction. After the meeting adjourns, they can stay and visit with any of you who have questions for them. We've also invited Scott Aspelieder to discuss the Hwy 3 Corridor Study.

Lastly - please be patient with me as I learn the ropes as your new chair. I will fumble and make mistakes! But I'll do my best.

Sincerely, Leslie Cooke, RNTF Chair
rimrocktaskforce@gmail.com

Meet new RNTF Board Member at Large - Dave Schwarm:

“Hello, my name is David Schwarm, and I have been a resident in the Rimrock Neighborhood for 43 years. My wife and I moved to Billings in December 1982 and have lived in the same house for the entire time since then. We moved with our 2-year-old daughter, Holly, who is now the secretary for the task force. We had a second daughter born in 1983 and now have two grandsons all living in Billings.

I worked in the healthcare industry for 51 years (35 years in Billings) before retiring. The city limit was at Rimrock Rd. and Zimmerman Trail when we moved here, and now has expanded clear out to Ironwood. The city has grown from around 80,000 to 120,846 (50%) during this time. More importantly, the greater Billings area is estimated to be 193,000. Billings is growing quickly, and the needs of the city are growing along with that. I look forward to having a role in the input from our task force as we move forward.”

Meet new RNTF Board Secretary - Holly Schwarm:

“Hello everyone my name is Holly Schwarm. I am your newly elected secretary. My family moved to Billings from Kansas City when I was 2 years old. In 2002 I graduated with a Bachelor’s of Fine Arts from MSU-B. I am heading back to school for my teaching licensure in secondary art education.

I have 2 adult sons and a wonderful husband. I have worked a wide variety of jobs from airport security, 16 years in long term care (11 as a recreational therapy assistant and 5 years as building maintenance). For the last 7 1/2 years I have been working in manufacturing at WPG in Laurel. I enjoy creating stained glass pieces in the studio my husband and I built, listening to music, playing with my pets and spending time with my family. “



IMPORTANT INFO FOR 2024 MONTANA PROPERTY TAX PAYERS:

If you paid 2024 property taxes in Montana, by now you should have received a letter from the Montana Department of Revenue regarding the rebate authorized by Senate Bill 542. The rebate is up to \$400.

Eligibility requirements for the rebate are spelled out in the letter.

The portal to apply for rebates opens 8/15/2025

If you didn't receive the letter, or if you have questions, here is a link to get help:
<https://revenue.mt.gov/taxes/property-tax-rebate/>

Or call the Department of Revenue directly at: (406) 444-6900

ROADWAY UPDATES



15 pages of public comment received from RNTF members were recently forwarded to the City for consideration during the Transportation Corridor Plan. While most concerns were about Rimrock Road, other roadways also received comment.

Scott Aspenlieder, City Council Ward 4 and MDOT Transportation Commissioner will be at our September 17th meeting to discuss the Hwy 3 Corridor Plan.

Keep comments coming!

You can use this link to send feedback which we will coordinate and share with the City, or in the case of Hwy 3 with DOWL who is MDOT's contractor for the project.

[Click here for form to give comments on transportation corridors](#)

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Featuring "Partners for Parks" & "Friends of the Stagecoach Trail" Both groups are active in enhancing outdoor recreation locally.

The RNTF Board encourages you to learn about these organizations, and determine if they are causes you wish to learn more about or support. Thank you.

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Have you ever wondered how our community can improve local parks? City park budgets certainly can't do it all.

That's where **Partners for Parks** comes in!

The Partners for Parks Foundation is a group of local volunteer park lovers who work to generate funding which can be used to add amenities to our parks.

For instance, they've helped raise and manage funds for all the dog parks here in Billings, add solar lighting to Rose Park, improve the downtown skate park, and add a basketball court to Pioneer Park.

To see more of their projects:

Visit their website <https://pfpbillings.org/>
or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pfpbillings>

Donations to your project of choice are welcome!

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## **FRIENDS OF THE STAGECOACH TRAIL**

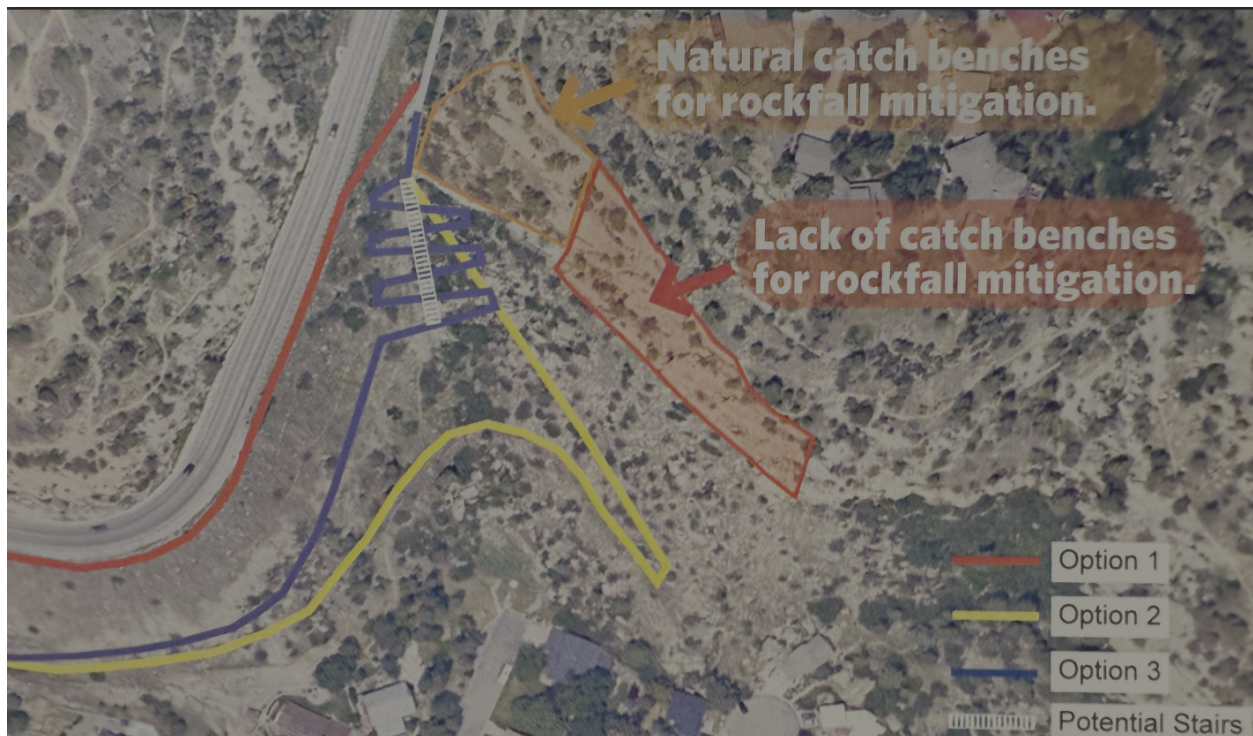


**Stagecoach Trail** Northwest Connector Rimrock Rd to Zimmerman Park.

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HDR Engineering is completing plans for the Stagecoach Trail build and cites 3 options. (See Rendering below).

The current plan is to break ground Spring 2027. Billings City Council will decide whether or not to sign construction contracts in the Summer 2026. A group of interested parties is forming the **‘Friends of the Stagecoach Trail’**, with the common interest to see the trail completed and monitor its maintenance needs. All are welcome to join the group at [friendsofstagecoachtrail@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstagecoachtrail@gmail.com) . The first meeting will be in late September or early October.



**Option 3** offers potential stairs and seems protected by a natural catch bench for rockfall mitigation.

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## CITY TRASH & CARDBOARD REMOVAL:

Highlighted dates indicate cardboard pick-up

Star indicates holiday with a 1-day service delay and City offices CLOSED

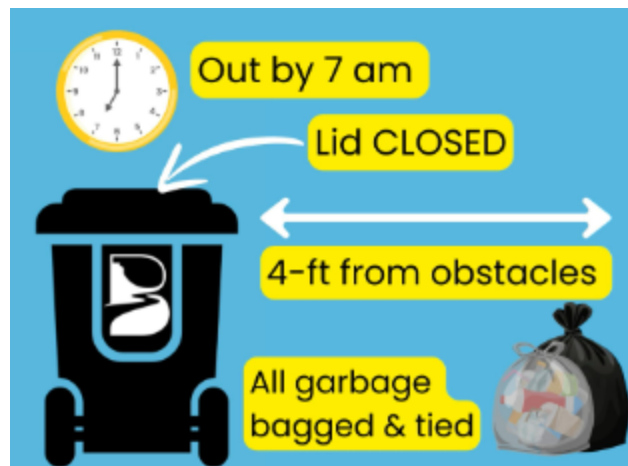


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**For Bulky Item Pick-UP Requests, call Solid Waste at (406) 657-8285**

| September |        |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|--------|----|----|----|----|----|
| S         | M      | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|           | 1<br>★ | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7         | 8      | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14        | 15     | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21        | 22     | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28        | 29     | 30 |    |    |    |    |

| October |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S       | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|         |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5       | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12      | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19      | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26      | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |



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## COMMUNITY HEALTH CORNER



### Walk, Bike, or Roll to School—Safely By Amy Queen

As kids head back to school, it's a great time to build safe, healthy routines—like walking, biking or rolling to school. Physical activity among children in Yellowstone County continues to decline, yet daily movement helps kids arrive more focused and ready to learn.

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The Yellowstone County Safe Routes to School Committee partners with schools and families to improve safety and promote active transportation. Creating safer school zones and encouraging healthy habits starts with small steps at home and in the community.

Whether you're a parent, student or driver, we all share responsibility for keeping school routes safe. Here are a few reminders:

- Cross at intersections and use marked crosswalks whenever possible.
- Make eye contact with drivers before stepping into the street to ensure they see you.
- Wear bright or reflective clothing, especially during early morning or evening hours.
- Plan walking or biking routes in advance and practice them with children to build confidence.
- Drivers should slow down in school zones, stay alert and eliminate distractions.

Walking, biking or rolling to school leads to fewer cars near schools and means cleaner air and safer streets for everyone.

To learn more or get involved, visit [yellowstonecountysaferoutestoschool.org](http://yellowstonecountysaferoutestoschool.org) or call 406.247.3394.



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## SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 UPDATE

### Daylis Stadium Fundraising Campaign





**Daylis Stadium, nearing its 100<sup>th</sup> year, has long stood as a cornerstone of the Billings community, hosting generations of athletes, students and fans. As the home field for three high schools, it has been the backdrop for countless championships, Friday-night lights and community gatherings. Its rich history and deep-rooted tradition make it more than just a stadium—it's a symbol of Billings' pride and passion for sports.**

**Daylis Stadium is a central part of Billings' athletic and community history but has not seen major upgrades in decades. The stadium's outdated bleachers, facilities and accessibility limitations create barriers for fans, athletes and visitors.**

**With expanding school and community use, demand for a functional and inclusive stadium has outpaced the facility's current capacity. The need for improved seating, locker rooms, concessions and safety measures is critical.**

### **Our Vision**

**Build a modern, accessible and safe stadium that serves Billings' students, athletes and the broader community for years to come.**

- ❖ Track Expansion - increased lane capacity to host state-level track events
- ❖ Enhanced Lighting & Sound - upgrades to improve visibility and quality
- ❖ Modernized Facilities - New & modernized locker rooms, restrooms, concessions & ticketing.
- ❖ New Bleachers - Reinforced & expanded seating for a better game day experience.

**To learn more - watch: [The Campaign for Daylis Stadium](#)**

**(video created at no cost to Billings Public Schools by Mikel Wolf of AMG Productions, Diane Casanova of NOVA Productions and William Morris of The Resource Inc)**

**To follow fundraising efforts, you can check out "The Campaign for Daylis Stadium" web page:**

**[The Campaign for Daylis Stadium - webpage](#)**

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## **CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE - 2 REMINDERS**





**The code enforcement team has asked us to remind everyone to keep weeds and lawns mowed to 4 inches or less.**



**City Code doesn't allow posting of "sale" signs (garage, estate, vintage market etc.) on public property such as light poles, in roundabouts, on boulevards, or sidewalks. Signs should only be placed on private property.**

**If you post a sign for a sale, please take it down immediately once the sale is over.**

**Have questions? Call the City Code Enforcement hotline number [406-237-6146](tel:406-237-6146)**

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## **CRIME PREVENTION TEAM UPDATE**



**Abandoned Vehicles or ones that have been left on the street too long, or are unregistered need to be off our neighborhood streets.**

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**You can contact the abandoned vehicle team @ 406 247-8890 and provide a description of the vehicle, location, and any other info so the vehicle can be found, tagged and the owner informed that it will be towed away if left abandoned.**

**It's a confidential process.**

**Thanks to Dan Curtis - RNTF resident & Crime Prevention Volunteer for this important information**

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**City Council -**

**Our Task Force area includes parts of both Ward 4 & Ward 1.**

**Ward map to determine your representative -> [Click for City Ward Map](#)**

**City Council Contact Info: EMAIL: [Council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:Council@billingsmt.gov)  
P O Box 1178, Billings MT 59103 (406) 657-8433**

**[Link to City Calendar which includes council meetings:](#)**



**<https://www.billingsmt.gov/calendar.aspx>**

**Ward 4:**

|                          |                       |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Scott Aspenlieder</b> | <b>(406) 461-8392</b> | <b><a href="mailto:aspenlieders@billingsmt.gov">aspenlieders@billingsmt.gov</a></b> |
| <b>Dan Tidswell</b>      | <b>(406) 690-4534</b> | <b><a href="mailto:tidswelld@billingsmt.gov">tidswelld@billingsmt.gov</a></b>       |

**Ward 1**

|                    |                       |                                                                           |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Kendra Shaw</b> | <b>(406) 670-7772</b> | <b><a href="mailto:shawk@billingsmt.gov">shawk@billingsmt.gov</a></b>     |
| <b>Ed Gulick</b>   | <b>(406) 698-2747</b> | <b><a href="mailto:gulicke@billingsmt.gov">gulicke@billingsmt.gov</a></b> |

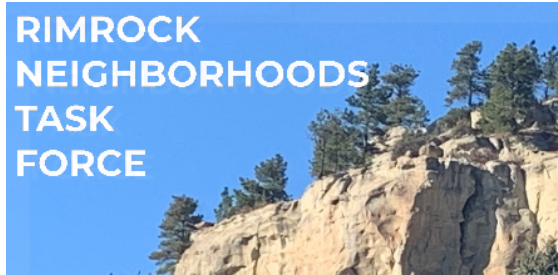
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**Rimrock Neighborhoods Task Force does not politically endorse current office holders or candidates.**

**We extend an open invitation for attendance and participation in our task force meetings to all elected officials and candidates.**

**We appreciate those who attend and help with neighborhood issues.**

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## **TASK FORCE SCHEDULE:**

### **Meetings:**

**In-person meetings -  
3rd Wednesday of odd-numbered  
months**

**Mayflower Church building  
(Rehberg/Poly)**

**January, March, May, July  
September, November**

### **Newsletters:**

**To keep neighbors updated between  
meetings, we send the newsletter  
during even-numbered months**

**February, April, June, August,  
October, December**

Follow Rimrock Neighborhoods Task Force on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/BillingsRNTF>

See our posts on the Next Door app on your smartphone - search for: RIMROCK TASKFORCE

EMAIL the task force board: [RimrockTaskForce@gmail.com](mailto:RimrockTaskForce@gmail.com)

Be sure to include a phone # when emailing, in case we need to call you.

City Website: <https://www.billingsmt.gov/1730/Rimrock-Neighborhoods-Task-Force>

Links should be click-able, but if your browser doesn't support a direct link, simply highlight the website address, then copy and paste into your browser's search bar.

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