

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY BOARD OF PLANNING

Serving Yellowstone County, the City of Billings, and the Town of Broadview

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March 24, 2015

Mayor and City Council
City of Billings, Montana

RE: Expansion of the East Billings Urban Renewal District

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

As President of the Yellowstone County Board of Planning, I am forwarding the Board's recommendation for the expansion of the East Billings Tax Increment Finance District area and modification to the Urban Renewal Plan. On March 24, 2015, the Planning Board reviewed the proposed East Billings Urban Renewal Plan as to its conformity with the Growth Policy. The Planning Board voted to forward a recommendation to City Council of approval of the modified Plan and its conformity with the 2008 Yellowstone County and City of Billings Growth Policy.

This item was duly posted on the Planning Board agenda for its regular meeting held March 10, 2015 and March 24, 2015, as per the Board's two-step process for consideration of action items. The Yellowstone County Board of Planning reviewed the expanded District area, approved the modified East Billings Urban Renewal Plan, and found it to be in conformance with the 2008 Growth Policy. A few specific examples of how the expanded EBURD revitalization efforts meet several Community Goals and Objectives outlined in the 2008 Growth Policy include:

- Land Use Goal #4, "Contiguous development focused in and around existing population centers separated by open space."
- Economic Development Goal #1, "Coordinated economic development efforts that target business recruitment, retention, and expansion."
- Land Use Goal #5, "Affordable housing for all income levels dispersed throughout the City and County."
- Land Use Goal #6, "More housing and business choices within each neighborhood."
- Aesthetics Goal #1, "Visually appealing communities."

The Board respectfully submits this recommendation to the City of Billings Mayor and City Council for consideration.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Clark".

Richard Clark, President

Yellowstone County Board of Planning