

REVISED 8.19.19
(CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION ADDED)
CITY OF BILLINGS

CITY OF BILLINGS VISION STATEMENT:

“THE MAGIC CITY: A DIVERSE, WELCOMING COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE PROSPER AND BUSINESS SUCCEEDS.”

WORK SESSION AGENDA

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

August 19, 2019

5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Cole

- 1. Traffic Guidelines and Practices**
- Public Comment

- 2. Order of Business**
- Public Comment

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

PUBLIC COMMENT on “NON-AGENDA ITEMS”. *Speaker Sign-in required. (Restricted to ONLY items not on this printed agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium.)*

ADJOURN:

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION* (pending litigation)

Note:

- This meeting is an “informal” meeting of the City Council. The content of the Agenda is subject to change at the meeting.
- In the event there is a Closed Executive Session at the end of a Work Session, the sole purpose is to discuss litigation strategy. The other parties to the case(s) discussed are not public bodies or associations as described in Section 2-3-203(1) and (2), MCA. The meeting is closed, as allowed by Section 2-3-203(4)(a), MCA, “to discuss a strategy to be followed with respect to litigation when an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position” of the City of Billings.

Council Work Session

1.

Meeting Date: 08/19/2019

TITLE: Traffic Guidelines and Practices

Department: Public Works

Presentation: Yes

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT

This presentation will discuss current and future guidelines used by Public Works for various traffic practices. This will include Traffic Calming, Safe Routes to School (SRTS), speed studies/limits, and the effect of road design on prevailing traffic speeds.

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item for Council and no action is needed at this time.

Attachments

Speeds, TC, & SRTS

City Council Work Session

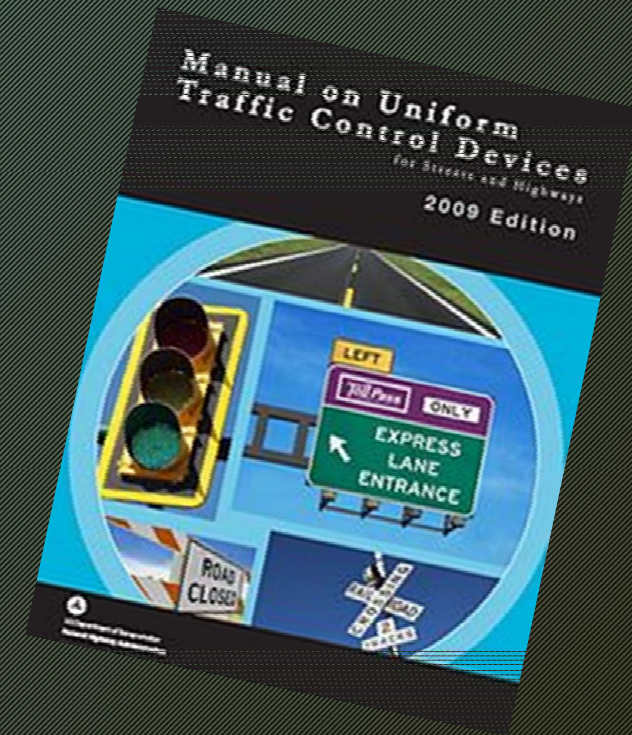
August 19, 2019

Agenda

- Speed Limits
- Traffic Calming
- Safe Routes to School (SRTS)
- Future Guidelines

What is the MUTCD

- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control DeVICES
- National Standard
- Uniformity
 - State to State, City to City
- Not when, but How
 - Gives Guidance on when
 - Size, Color, Shape, and Location
- MAY vs. SHOULD vs. SHALL



MUTCD Requirements

- MCA 61-8-202 requires the adoption of MUTCD
- MCA 61-8-206 requires Local Authority to adhere to MUTCD
 - Also eliminates the use of automated traffic enforcement (as adopted by BMCC 24-101)
- What does MUTCD say about speed limits?

MUTCD on Speed Limits

- SHALL be in increments of 5 mph
- SHOULD be within 5 mph of 85th percentile
- SHALL be located at points of change
- SHALL have add'l signs posted beyond major intersections
- SHALL be based on engineering study

Speed Limits



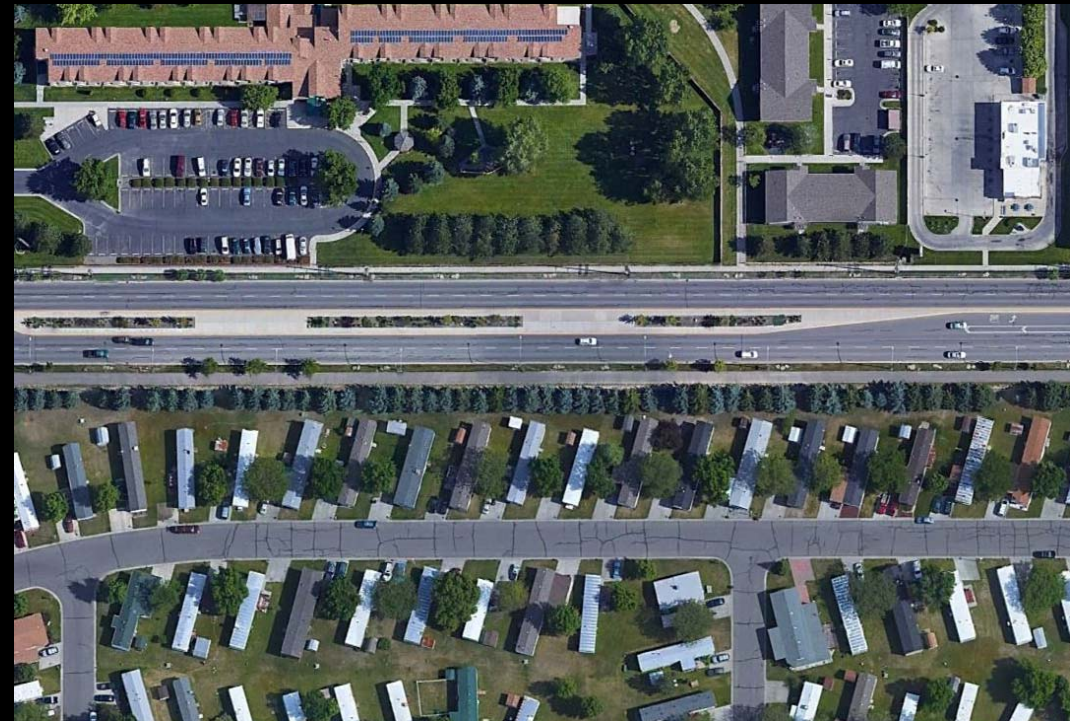
Which road should have a higher speed limit? Why?



Setting Speed Limits

- Road classification
- Roadside development
- Parking
- Pedestrian/bicycle activity
- Road characteristics (horizontal/vertical curves, lane widths, landscaping, etc.)
- Operating speeds

Speed Limits



*Which road drives faster?
Why?*

Speed Limits

11% Over the
Speed Limit



*Which road drives faster?
Why?*

6% Under the
Speed Limit



Speed Limits

- Ultimate guiding principle for driver behavior:
In the absence of steady enforcement, people will drive at a speed at which they feel comfortable.
- As comfort increases, so do speeds.
- How do we make drivers feel uncomfortable, and thus, slow down?

TRAFFIC CALMING!

Traffic Calming

- Horizontal shifts
 - Chicanes, lateral shift, etc.
- Vertical shifts
 - Speed humps, cushions, etc.
- Narrowings
 - Bulbouts, islands, etc.



Traffic Calming Measure	Type	Local Street	Collector	Minor Arterial	Principal Arterial
Full Street Closure	Volume Control	✓			
Half Closure		✓			
Diagonal Diverters		✓			
Median Barriers		✓	✓	✓	✓
Forced Turn Islands		✓	✓	✓	✓
Speed Humps	Speed Control: Vertical	✓	✓		
Speed Tables		✓	✓		
Raised Intersections		✓	✓		
Textured Pavements		✓	✓	✓	✓
Traffic Circles	Speed Control: Horizontal	✓	✓		
Roundabouts			✓	✓	✓
Chicanes		✓	✓		
Lateral Shifts		✓	✓	✓	
Realigned Intersection		✓	✓	✓	
Neckdowns	Speed Control: Narrowings	✓	✓	✓	✓
Center Island Narrowings		✓	✓	✓	✓
Chokers		✓	✓	✓	✓
Add'l Signage/Flashers	Varies	✓	✓	✓	✓

Historical Billings Traffic Calming

- Citizen request/complaint
- Engineering study to determine validity
- Funding secured?
 - SID?
 - Permit?
 - No City funds
- Project constructed

- City projects or developer-related
 - Requires assumption/prediction of problem

Future Billings Traffic Calming Guideline

- Include City funds?
- Becomes both reactive and proactive
- Engineering study to determine applicability
- Requires the need for ranking/prioritization
- Funds will need to be allocated

Future Billings Traffic Calming Guideline (cont'd)











- Start with “trouble” neighborhoods? Schools? Downtown?
- If deemed “applicable”, can neighborhood veto?
- If neighborhood is willing to pay entirely, can they build outside of the priority ranking?

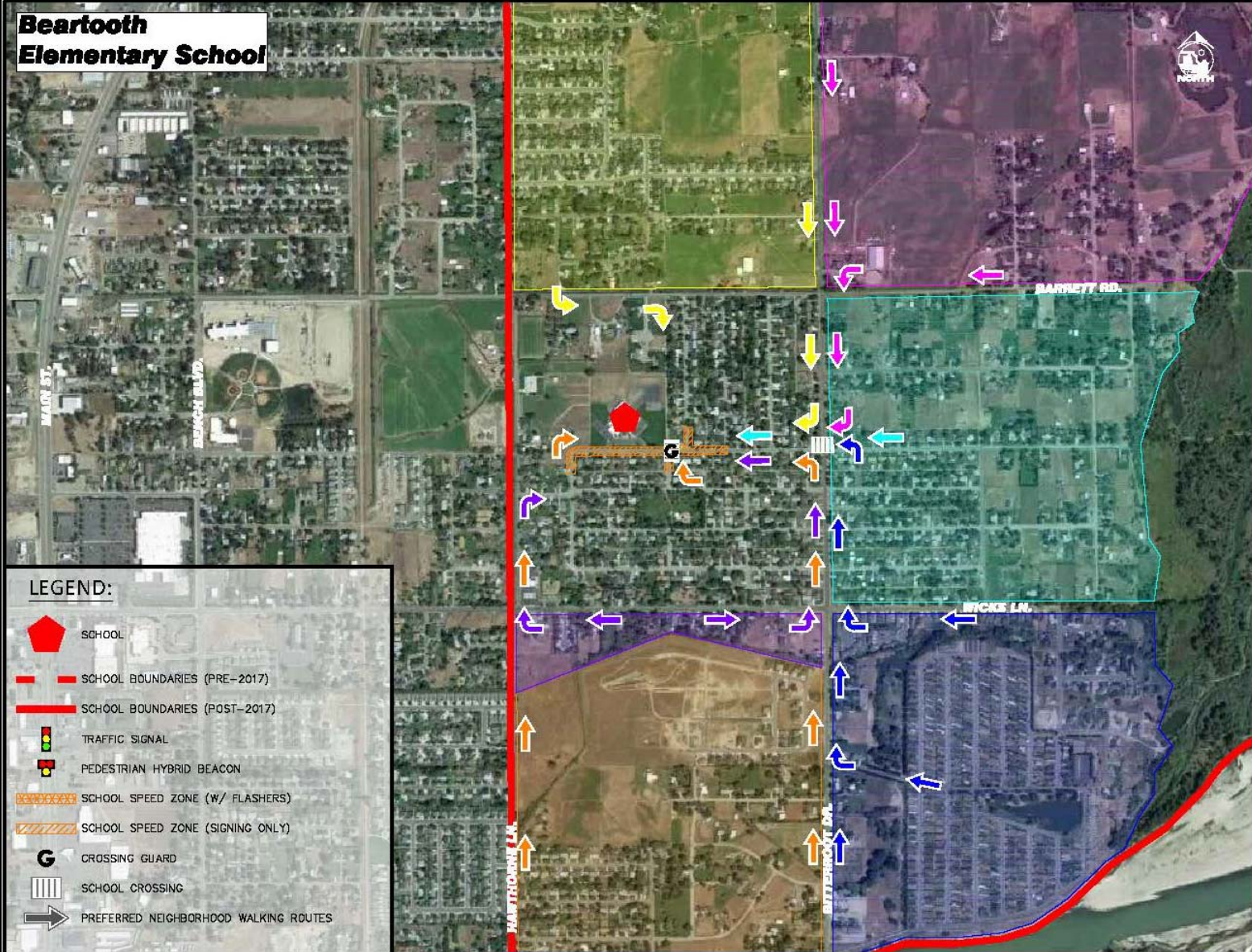
Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

- Re-analyzed school boundaries in 2017
- Collaboration with SD2, Riverstone Health, Planning
- Compliant school zones
- Updated school maps

Beartooth Elementary School

LEGEND:

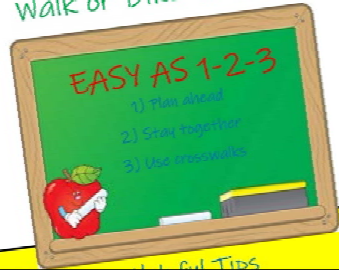
-  SCHOOL
-  SCHOOL BOUNDARIES (PRE-2017)
-  SCHOOL BOUNDARIES (POST-2017)
-  TRAFFIC SIGNAL
-  PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON
-  SCHOOL SPEED ZONE (W/ FLASHERS)
-  SCHOOL SPEED ZONE (SIGNING ONLY)
-  CROSSING GUARD
-  SCHOOL CROSSING
-  PREFERRED NEIGHBORHOOD WALKING ROUTES



SRTS Tasks

- Identify enhancements at crossing locations
 - RRFB
 - HAWK
- Prioritize/rank the crossings
 - ADT
 - Speeds
 - Ped volumes
- Missing sidewalk
- Public outreach – work with Schools
 - Walking school busses
 - Identify walking routes
- PW social media

Walk or Bike to School



Helpful Tips

- Find your school's recommended route: <https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/DocumentCenter/View/37472/SRTS-Figures>
- Connect with other students to start travel groups, staying together increases visibility and safety
- Always use designated crossing locations, the Crossing Guard is there to help keep everyone safe!

Learn More https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/2098/School_Zones



Get a HEALTHY start to your day— Walk or Bike to School



It's as easy as 1-2-3



1. Find your school's recommended route:
<https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/DocumentCenter/View/37472/SRTS-Figures>
2. Connect with other students to start travel groups, staying together increases visibility and safety
3. Always use designated crossing locations, the Crossing Guard is there to help keep everyone safe!



Learn More https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/2098/School_Zones



Walk or Bike to School

Stay safe and have fun

Just follow these rules



#1 PLAN AHEAD

Find your school's recommended route:
<https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/DocumentCenter/View/37472/SRTS-Figures>

#2 STAY TOGETHER

Connect with other students to start travel groups, staying together increases visibility and safety.



SCHOOL CROSSING

#3 USE CROSSWALKS

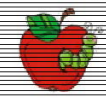
Always use designated crossing locations, the Crossing Guard is there to help keep everyone safe!



Learn More https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/2098/School_Zones



Walking to school is healthy and fun
To make it safe too
here's what you do



The wheels on the bus go "pitter-patter"...

Know where to go and stay with your group

Last, but not least always follow the signs when crossing the street



Get more information and route maps at https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/2098/School_Zones

Future Traffic Guidelines

- Traffic Control/Lane rentals
 - Delivery Truck hours?
- Access Management
- Signing & Striping
- Street Lights
- Site & Subdivision Transportation Impacts

Questions?



Council Work Session

2.

Meeting Date: 08/19/2019

TITLE: Order of Business for Regular Meetings

Department: City Hall Administration

Presentation: Yes

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT

The order of business for regular meetings is set out in Billings, Montana Municipal Code, Section 2-214. City Administration will present possible changes to the order of business to facilitate meetings and public comment in possibly a more logical or flexible manner, while still providing proper public notice and participation.

RECOMMENDATION

Council will be asked to provide staff with direction on changes to the order of business for regular meetings.

Attachments

Order of Business

Sec. 2-214. - Order of business for regular meetings.

At all regular meetings of the city council the order of business shall be as follows:

- (1) Call to Order;
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance;
- (3) Invocation;
- (4) Roll call;
- (5) Correcting, if necessary, and approving minutes of the last meeting or meetings;
- (6) Courtesies;
- (7) Proclamations;
- (8) Council reports;
- (9) Administrator reports;
- (10) Public comment on "non-public hearing" items on the published agenda. This section of the agenda is used for public comment on any item on the agenda that is not listed for an individual public hearing. Speakers are requested to indicate their desire to speak and which item or items on which they wish to offer comment by filling in their name, address and agenda item number or subject on a prepared "sign in" sheet. The length of time a speaker may speak is limited and is set by the mayor or presiding officer of the meeting.
- (11) Consent agenda. This section of the agenda is used for items of a routine or non-controversial nature that do not statutorily require a public hearing, yet still require action by the city council. The collective list of items on the consent agenda is considered by the city council in one motion. Individual consent agenda items may be separated by request of a councilmember for individual consideration by the city council and subsequently voted upon individually.
- (12) Regular agenda. This section of the agenda constitutes an individually numbered listing of business items either:
 - a. Requiring a public hearing prior to council action,
 - b. Giving a special informational presentation, or
 - c. Any item that may be either controversial in nature or requires separate time by the council to fully discuss the matter prior to rendering a final and binding decision.
- (13) Public comment on "non-agenda" items. This section of the agenda is used for public comment on any matter or subject that is not included on the published agenda for that meeting. Speakers are requested to indicate their desire to speak and what item or topic on which they wish to offer comment by filling in their name, address and subject on a prepared "sign in" sheet. The length of time a speaker may speak is limited and is set by the mayor or presiding officer of the meeting. The city council does not take any formal action on these items, but may direct the city administrator to assign staff for follow up on an item.
- (14) Council initiatives. This section of the agenda is reserved for individual councilmember requests for future legislative or staff action. These shall be limited to giving direction to staff to assist in formulating policies, work plans, etc. for future consideration of the city council. An initiative moves forward by majority vote of the city council.
- (15) Adjourn.

The order of business may be altered for any meeting by a majority vote of the councilmembers present. The order of business for any special meeting shall be specified in the notice calling for the special meeting.

(Ord. No. 03-5239, §§ 1, 2, 2-24-03; Ord. No. 04-5291, § 1, 7-26-04; Ord. No. 06-5355, § 2, 1-9-06)

Editor's note— Ord. No. 06-5355, § 2, adopted January 9, 2006, changed the title of § 2-214 from "Order of business" to "Order of business for regular meetings."