

# **POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE MINUTES March 21, 2023**

DRAFT TO APPROVED BY A MOTION

## **NOTICE**

Public comment will be taken only during the Public Comment periods as indicated on the agenda. Comments may be sent to Planning Staff via email before 10:00 AM on the meeting date. All e-mails received prior to this time will be read into the record for the public hearing.

**Member Participants:** Commissioner Mark Morse, Board of County Commissioners; Councilman Tom Rupsis, City of Billings City Council; Planning Board President Dennis Cook, Yellowstone County Planning Board, Kurtis Schneiber, MDT

**Staff Participants:** Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator, Planning & Community Services Department; Tammy Deines, Planning Clerk; (Virtual); Lora Mattox, Transportation Planner

**Other Participants:** Mike Taylor, Acting District Administrator, MDT; Katie Potts, MDT Planning, Helena (Virtual)

**Call to Order:** Councilman Rupsis called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **3. Public Comment/Communication from the Audience**

**A. Comments on items not on the agenda and requests to add items to future agendas.**

**B. Comments on items on the Non-public and Public Agenda Items**

There was no communication from the audience regarding agenda items or future agenda items.

### **4. Minutes of January 17, 2023**

#### **Motion**

**A motion was made by Councilman Rupsis and seconded by Planning Board President Cook to approve the minutes of January 17, 2023. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.**

**4. Old Business:** There is no Old Business.

### **5. New Business**

**5a. Motion. MDT letter requesting Initiation of a System Change on Grand Avenue and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street West. Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator, presenting.**

Scott Walker opened this agenda item. Mr. Walker explained this request this recommendation is to forward a letter for a MDT Urban System review of this section of Grand Avenue and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street West.

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## RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Billings MPO Policy Coordinating Committee sign the appropriate Maps and request to begin the process revising our MDT designated Functional Class and Highway System Designations for Grand Avenue and 62nd Street West.

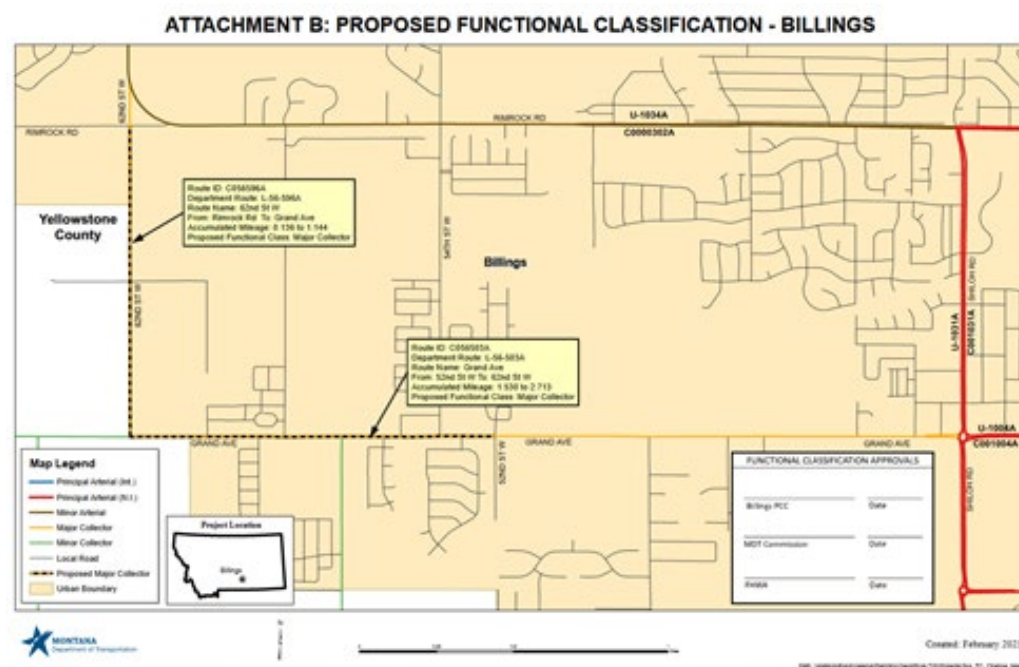
## BACKGROUND

This is a formal request by the Billings Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to MDT to review the Functional Classification and Urban Highway designation of portions of Grand Ave and 62nd Street West to determine if the segments be added to the Urban Highway System. Eligibility for Urban Highway System designation require a roadway to be functionally classified as a major collector or above. Functional classification is a method of classifying roads by the service they provide as part of the overall highway system? Most roadways have a predominate function – either to provide the motorist with access to abutting land or to allow movement through an area. For example, local road facilities emphasize the land access function, arterials emphasize a high level of mobility for through movement, and collectors offer a combination of both functions. MDT staff rely on the criteria and guidelines outlined in the U.S. Department of Transportation -- Federal Highway Administration manual "Highway Functional Classification -- Concepts, Criteria and Procedures" to determine the appropriate functional classification of roadways.

MDT is recommending the following functional classification and system modifications, as shown on the included maps:

### Functional Classification Recommendations:

- Grand Avenue from 52nd Street West to 62nd Street West be reclassified from a Minor Collector to a Major Collector (1.184 miles)
- 62nd Street West from Rimrock Road (L-56-532A) to Grand Avenue from a Minor Collector to a Major Collector (1.008 miles)



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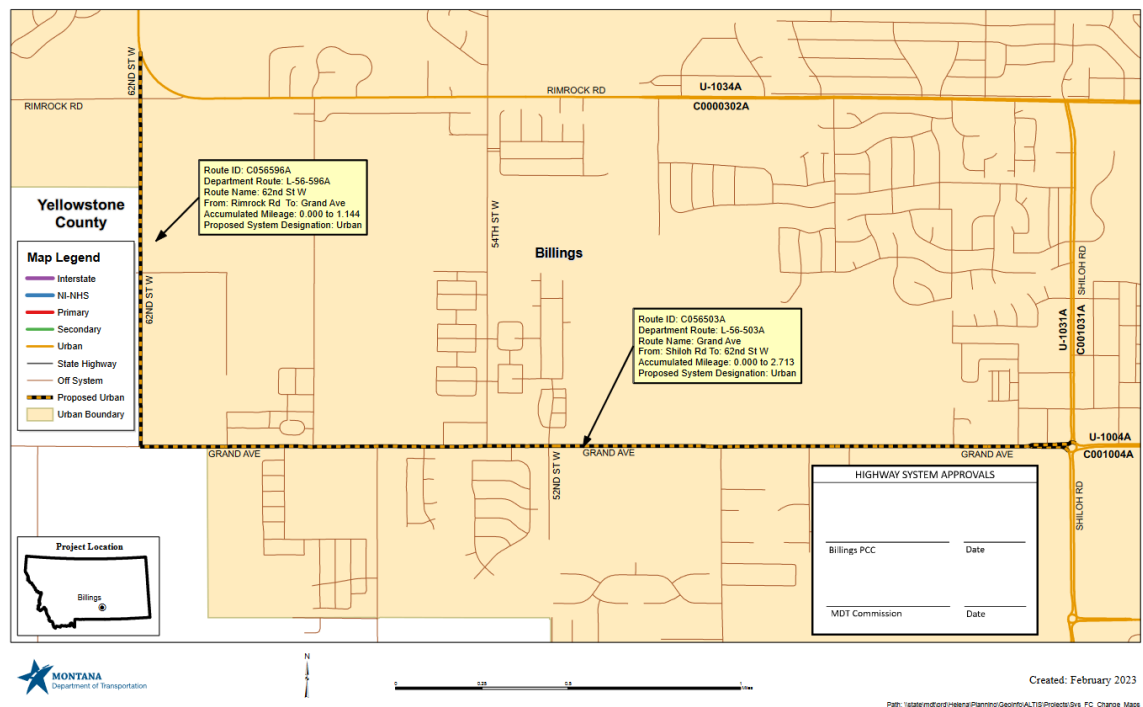
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## Highway System Recommendations:

### Additions to Urban Highway System

- Grand Avenue (L-56-503A) from Shiloh Road to 62nd Street West (2.713 miles)
- 62nd Street West (L-56-596A) from Rimrock Road (U-1034A) to Grand Avenue (1.144 miles)

### ATTACHMENT C: PROPOSED URBAN HIGHWAY SYSTEM DESIGNATION - BILLINGS



## FISCAL EFFECTS

The addition of these roadways to the Urban Highway system has no impact on the roadway ownership and maintenance responsibility, this responsibility remains with the City of Billings and Yellowstone County. There are also no fiscal effects from making this request for a system change. If the change were to be ultimately approved, it could make funds available for improvements to this corridor.

## Discussion

Councilman Rupsis called for questions and discussion.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment on this agenda item.

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## **Motion**

**Planning Board President Woody Woods made a motion and it was seconded by Councilman Rupsis to Billings MPO Policy Coordinating Committee sign the appropriate Maps and request to begin the process revising our MDT designated Functional Class and Highway System Designations for Grand Avenue and 62nd Street West.**

## **Discussion**

There was no discussion on the motion.

**The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.**

## **6. Other Business**

- Transportation Planner Scott Walker

## **7. Future Agenda Items: April 18, 2024**

**a. 2020-2024 TIP Amendment #4.** Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator, Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manager, presenting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 12:25 PM

**DRAFT. To be approved by a motion during the next scheduled meeting**

*Tamara L. Deines, Planning Clerk*