

## **\*\*ATTENTION\*\***

The City Council meeting will be held in a hybrid format that may include both in-person AND virtual attendance via Zoom. Unless they have cause to appear virtually, Councilmembers will attend the meeting in person in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 220 N. 27th Street. In order to honor the Right of Participation and the Right to Know in Article II, Sections 8 and 9, of the Montana Constitution, the City of Billings and City Council are making every effort to meet the requirements of the open meeting laws.

Citizens are invited to:

- . Review the Agenda Packet on the City's website at: [www.billingsmt.gov](http://www.billingsmt.gov) and click on "Your Government," "City Council," and "Agendas & Minutes".
- . View the meeting:
  - . On Community 7 TV - Channel 7 or Channel 507 -- Spectrum Cable. *(On evenings when there is a conflict with School District No. 2 Board meetings, the City Council meeting will be broadcast on Channel 8 - Spectrum Cable.)* Channel 7 or Channel 978 - TDS Fiber.
  - . Online at [www.comm7tv.com](http://www.comm7tv.com) and click on the "Watch Live" icon. Community 7 also has links to their Facebook page and YouTube channel.
  - . On the City's website at [www.billingsmt.gov](http://www.billingsmt.gov) and click on "Watch Meetings Online" on the homepage.
  - . In-Person.

Citizens may submit public comment via the following methods:

- . Mail: City Clerk, P.O. Box 1178, Billings, MT 59103
- . Email: [Council@billingsmt.gov](mailto:Council@billingsmt.gov).
  - . Emails received after 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting, may be posted on the Council's webpage the following day for public viewing.
- . Attend the meeting in person

Please contact Denise Bohlman, City Clerk, at [bohlmand@billingsmt.gov](mailto:bohlmand@billingsmt.gov), or at 406.657.8210, with any questions.



**VISION STATEMENT:**  
"The Magic City: A diverse,  
welcoming community  
where people prosper and  
business succeeds."

## WORK SESSION AGENDA

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JUNE 17, 2024

5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Cole

### CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION - LITIGATION UPDATE (4:30 PM - 5:30 PM)

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ALL ITEMS.** This is the time to comment on any matter (Agenda or Non-Agenda) falling within the scope of the Billings City Council. There will also be time in conjunction with each agenda item for public comment relating to that item. You may only speak once for each item during the meeting.

Please note, the City Council cannot take action on any item of significant interest to the public that does not appear on the agenda. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes during each public comment period or as set by the Mayor. **Speaker sign-in required.** Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium.

**1. Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan.**

-Public Comment

**2. Street Maintenance Program Funding.**

-Public Comment

**3. Highlight Upcoming Agenda Items of Council Interest.**

-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 or as set by the Mayor. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium.)*

### ADJOURN:

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, 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.

**City Council Work Session**

**Date:** 06/17/2024  
**Title:** Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan Progress Report Presentation  
**Presented by:** Elyse Monat  
**Department:** Planning & Community Services  
**Presentation:** Yes  
**Legal Review:** Not Applicable  
**Project Number:** N/A

---

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council listen to the progress report presentation on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and learn about next steps for the plan.

**BACKGROUND (Consistency with Adopted Plans and Policies, if applicable)**

The Billings-Yellowstone County Metropolitan Planning Organization is conducting a Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update, which is an update to the 2017 Billings Area Bikeway and Trails Master Plan. Plans like these are updated on approximately a 5-6 year cycle for currency with industry best practices and to align with community trends and changes. The plan has been renamed the Billings Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan in order to include a stronger focus on pedestrian facilities in the Billings urbanized area in addition to the focus on bikeways and trails. The expected outcomes of the plan are to evaluate system usage and construction progress since the 2017 plan; review, evaluate, and prioritize on-street bikeways, and key off-street trail and pedestrian connections; identify funding for the construction and maintenance of active transportation facilities; engage the public; provide recommendations for education and encourage the use of active transportation; and promote the system as a healthy, safe mode of transportation. New this plan, the plan evaluated the comfort of the pedestrian environment through a Pedestrian Level of Traffic Stress Analysis which will complement the Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress Analysis. Alta Planning + Design, Inc. in association with Sanderson Stewart is the consultant on this plan. Council approved the contract for this plan in July of 2023.

The presentation will cover topics such as vision and goals, progress made on the system since the last plan was published, what was heard in the first round of public outreach, a general overview of the proposed network, criteria for project prioritization, the second phase of public outreach, and upcoming project timeline and next steps.

The first round of public outreach for this plan included a public meeting which approximately 75 people attended in late November, a survey with 201 responses, 189 interactive map comments, and 92 individuals who wished to be kept up to date on the plan. Efforts were made to reach different groups of people during public input including offering a biking, walking, and rolling-themed cookie decorating activity at the public meeting which drew families with young children. Staff posted flyers advertising the online survey and interactive map at several parks around Billings. Staff also hosted several pop-up tabling events at local gathering places including at the MET Transfer Center, Family Services, Art Walk, and a trivia night. In addition, traditional methods of outreach were used such as sending out a press release, with the help of PIO Victoria Hill, which was covered by at least one media outlet, and using social media. Local partners such as Billings TrailNet also promoted the opportunity. An advisory committee of stakeholders has also informed the project.

The presentation will be given by Mack Drzayich, project manager from Alta Planning + Design, Inc.

**ALTERNATIVES**

This is a presentation only. No action is needed.

**FISCAL EFFECTS**

This is a presentation only. There are no fiscal effects.

---

**City Council Work Session**

**Date:** 06/17/2024  
**Title:** Street Maintenance Programs  
**Presented by:** Debi Meling  
**Department:** Public Works  
**Presentation:** Yes  
**Legal Review:** Not Applicable  
**Project Number:** N/A

---

**RECOMMENDATION**

The information is being presented for discussion only.

**BACKGROUND (Consistency with Adopted Plans and Policies, if applicable)**

The City has programs and funding in place to pave gravel streets and reconstruct streets that are not built to a maintainable standard. These programs have been on-going for several years and a significant number of streets have been completed since that time. Staff will present the status of the remaining streets as well as review the process and funding for the programs. Recent discussions with the City Council regarding street maintenance district (SMD) funding have also raised questions about this program and others such as PAVER that utilize those funds. Staff will review the projects and programs that use SMD funding.

**ALTERNATIVES**

This item is discussion only so there are no alternatives for action.

**FISCAL EFFECTS**

The information is being presented for discussion so there are no fiscal impacts.

---