

CITY/COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

"Serving Billings, Broadview, and Yellowstone County"

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 6:00pm

1 Board Attendance Roster: Please note: "E" stands for excused absence, "A" stands for un-excused absence, "1" stands for present, "Z" stands for Zoom participation. **BYLAWS, YELLOWSTONE COUNTY BOARD OF PLANNING, (Amended. May 25, 2004) Section 4. Absences and Removal** A. Each member shall inform the Planning Director at least one day before the meeting of his/her inability to attend a Board or Committee meeting. Such an absence shall be considered an excused absence. If any Board member accrues three (3) or more consecutive unexcused absences from regular meetings, notice of which has been given at his/her usual place of work or residence, or by announcement at a meeting attended by him/her, the President may call such absences to the attention of the Board which may then recommend to the appointing authority that such member be asked to resign and that another person be appointed to serve out the unexpired term. Schedule: (** denotes a Wednesday meeting)

	Position	01/09/2024	01/23/2024	02/13/2024	02/27/2024	03/12/2024	03/26/2024	04/09/2024	04/23/2024	05/14/2024	05/28/2024	06/11/2024	06/25/2024	07/09/2024	07/23/2024	08/13/2024	08/27/2024	09/10/2024	09/24/2024	10/08/2024	10/22/2024	11/12/2024	11/26/2024	12/10/2024
Jim Ronquillo	Mayor/Billings Ward I	A	1	A	1																			
Roger Gravgaard	Mayor/Billings Ward II	1	V	1	V																			
Dennie Stephenson	Mayor/Billings Ward III	1	1	1	1																			
John Staley	Mayor/Billings Ward IV	1	1	A	1																			
David Nordel	Mayor/Billings Ward V	A	1	1	1																			
Troy Boucher	YC District 1	V	V	A	A																			
Dennis Cook	YC District 2	A	1	1	1																			
Vacant	YC District 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vacant	YC District 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woody Woods	YC District 5	1	1	1	1																			
Alexis Bonogofsky	YC District 6	1	V	V	V																			
Morgan Tuss	YC District 7	1	A	A	A																			

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Vacant	Y County Cons. District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scott Reiter	Ex-Officio SD2	A	V	A	A																

Call the Meeting to Order: President Woods called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, 2024.

Introduction of Planning Board Members and Planning Department Staff

President Woods called for introductions of the members of the Planning Board and staff.

Participating Planning staff members: Lora Mattox, Transportation Planning Coordinator; Dave Green, Planner II; Brenda Berns, Planning Clerk; Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manager

Virtual Participation: Board member Roger Gravgaard; Board member Alexis Bonogofsky

Others in Attendance: Howard Evans, Chairman, Rimrock Neighborhood Task Force

2. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Board member Stephenson, seconded by Board member Ronquillo to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

3. Approval of Minutes: February 13, 2024

Motion by Board member Staley, seconded by Board member Nordel to approve the February 13, 2024 minutes as submitted. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

4. Public Comment: As required (3 minute maximum per person). Any member of the public might be heard on any subject that is not on the agenda. The Planning Board will not take any action on these items at this time but could choose to add an item to the next meeting agenda for discussion. There were no comments from the public.

5- 6. Disclosure of Outside (Ex-Parte) Communication or Conflicts of Interest - Board Members and Planning Staff. There were no disclosures of outside communication or conflicts of interest.

7. Old Business

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7a. Recommendation of Approval of the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Motion. Presented by Lora Mattox, Transportation Planning Coordinator

Lora Mattox gave a recap from the February 13, 2024 meeting of the Transportation Improvement Program. Lora reiterated the anticipated spending of our federal funding over the next 5 years. The largest project we have been paying on for the last 5-6 years is the Billings Bypass. We've been able to build up our urban dollars, therefore, we are looking forward to the next big project. We anticipate that the project will be Grand Ave & Shiloh Road to 62nd, which is an arterial road with a center turn lane and 2 lanes moving in each direction. There will be a sidewalk on one side with a multi-use path on the opposite side. The preliminary design and right-of-way work is expected to begin in the next year or two, with construction starting in 2026-2027.

Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manager provided a review of the MET Transit Updates. There are a couple of major changes with Section 5307, used for annual operating expenses. Section 5339 addresses our capital funding and Section 5310 is the capital in support of human services for seniors and low-income individuals. Transade represents funding from the state of Montana, which is set aside specifically for the paratransit program.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5307

- Now includes breakdown of fixed route, preventive maintenance, and paratransit operating expenses based on match levels; updated apportionment numbers in years 2024 – 2028 based on BIL funding.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5339

- Updated with estimated allocations for 2024 – 2028
- Updated Bus Facilities/Passenger Amenities programming including facility remodel and bus stop/transfer center amenities
- Paratransit Van Purchases added for 2025-2027
- Added Security Camera projects for 2024 and 2025

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5310

- Table updated with most recently available funding figures and estimates, as well as recently completed GRANT selections for Coordination Group projects to occur in FY24.

TRANSADE

- Updated with actual apportionment figures for FY24, with estimates for funding moving forward based on recent apportionments.

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2024-28 TIP Schedule

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| ■ Technical Advisory Committee | February 8 |
| ■ Planning Board Discussion | February 13 |
| ■ Planning Board Action | February 27 |
| ■ City Council Work Session | March 4 |
| ■ City Council Action | March 11 |
| ■ Commission Discussion | March 4 |
| ■ Commission Action | March 12 |
| ■ Policy Coordinating Committee | March 19 |

Discussion

There was discussion regarding the anticipated arrival of the electric buses. Rusty stated they are approximately one year out, pending availability of the charging mechanisms.

The Board addressed the potential for congestion over the next five years as these projects move forward, including the Lockwood Interchange, which is part of the beautification project.

There was further discussion regarding the progress of the various projects around Billings.

Motion

Planning Board President Woods called for a Motion. Commissioner Staley made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Ronquillo to make recommendation to the PCC for approval of the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Plan. The Motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

9. Other Business

9a. 2024 Subdivision Regulations Update. Presentation and Board Discussion. Dave Green, Planner II

Dave Green stated that work began on the Subdivision Regulations update in 2022 and are now getting close to completion. The draft document is written with the current language and includes italicized font for the language being added and strikes through the wording being removed. Most of the changes are due to legislation in Section 4, with the largest clean-up in Section 3. In Section 3, all the language regarding ‘paper copies’ has been removed, as electronic submissions are the acceptable form at this time. Dave stated that the only hard copies we accept are the Final Mylar and the SIA, due to the fact they need to be recorded and filed. Section 10 addresses parklands and the acceptable size and location for parklands within a subdivision, regulations may differ slightly between the City and County.

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Information for the City and County 2024 Subdivision Regulations Update can be found using the link below or at the City of Billings Official Website.

<https://billingsmt.gov/520/Subdivision>

Discussion

There was discussion as to the motivation for legislation to make changes with subdivision regulations. Dave stated new legislation is usually in response to an issue somewhere in the state. They are trying to address an issue raised by others. Some of the issues are from smaller counties that do not have as many subdivisions and developers struggle to get things done in the time frame they would like.

It was noted that the board will review the regulation updates and act at the March 26, 2024, Planning Board meeting.

9b. Local Government Review

Planning Board President Woods gave an overview of the upcoming Local Government Review on the June ballot and encouraged the board to become familiar with the study.

Every decade, the Montana constitution requires county commissioners to give citizens the ability to vote for a review of local government. The vote in June to establish the study commission is just the first step in the process. But up to this point, a government study commission has never been voted through in Yellowstone County.

Yellowstone County Commissioners say the study will be funded by a mill levy that would increase property taxes, giving the County roughly half a million dollars to elect a seven-member board to review and propose potential changes of their current county commissioners' authority, size, and styles.

9c. (Standing Item) Long Range Strategic Issues and an overview of future City and County issues and projects. There was no discussion on this topic.

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ADJOURNMENT 6:52

10. Future Agenda Items

The next Planning Board meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12, 2024 in the Miller Building 1st Floor Conference Room, 2825 3rd Ave N at 6:00pm

DRAFT—TO BE APPROVED BY A MOTION AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

-Brenda J Berns, Planning Clerk