

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

May 27, 2022

1. **Airport Concourse Ribbon Cutting** – Mark your calendars for the afternoon of June 3 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. (See attached Grand Opening Celebration)
2. **Billings Bench Water Association (BBWA)** – Staff had several meeting and conversations with the BBWA over the past few weeks. More research is needed to determine the best path forward to minimize risk of a hill slide/rockslide near where the ditch tunnels into the rims. Geo technical experts have been on site analyzing the situation. If rain is heavy this weekend, the BBWA will likely reduce the flow of water to help the situation. It is unlikely we will schedule an emergency meeting next week
3. **Aspirational City Tour** – While out of town next week on the aspirational city tour to Omaha Tuesday - Thursday, Gina will be acting City Administrator. Kevin and I will be accessible by phone but both of us will be out of state.
4. **Castle Rock Park info:** Castle Rock Park Playground is moving forward. The playground equipment has a “nature play theme” that will feature wooden play structures, stone seating/climbing, and trees and shrubs with an ADA-accessible route.



5. From the PIO Desk

Director of Aviation and Transit announces retirement – <https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2314>

Administrative discipline issued in Grand Stand Casino incident – <https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2315>

Billings mayor talks about population growth, jail overcrowding, and local option sales tax - <https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2316>

Billings Public Library Children's section reopening -

<https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/DocumentCenter/View/47186/BPL-Childrens-Section-Reopening-Press-Release-PDF>

Billings in the news

Billings PD keeping watchful eye on area elementary schools - <https://www.yourbigsky.com/billings-beat/bpd-keeping-watchful-eye-on-area-elementary-schools/>

State of the city and county address – <https://www.yourbigsky.com/local-news-2/state-of-the-city-county-address/>

Photo: State of the City and County presentation - https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/photo-state-of-the-city-and-county-presentation/article_e613f8f4-db76-11ec-bfc0-43a40e0ba7a5.html

Longtime Billings airport director announces retirement - https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/longtime-billings-airport-director-announces-retirement/article_16158388-dad7-11ec-b6c1-f399448bc96e.html

Plans for possible Billings rec center takes another step forward - https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/plans-for-possible-billings-rec-center-takes-another-step-forward/article_503e9c4c-db0a-11ec-8266-3331685dcda3.html

Pilot shortage puts the squeeze on Montana's vital air services - https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/pilot-shortage-puts-the-squeeze-on-montanas-vital-air-services/article_76bce430-d7b0-11ec-b6f0-477827ead2f7.html

- 6. Questions and Answers Section** – This section of the Weekly is to compile the questions our staff receives from council members. City staff is including responses to emails received this week, so other city council members have the information.

Question 1 (CM Boyette):

Last year the BFD came to the council to describe an issue concerning excessive false alarms/call outs. Now a bill will be sent to businesses who go over a quota of false alarms. The BFD thought these businesses needed an incentive to clear up their false alarms.

I would like to start a similar dialogue with you to determine if this process could take place concerning businesses that have excessive police calls, such as Walmart, as you spoke about last week.

Good day sir. As you are aware, we operate under the same false alarm ordinance as the BFD and have already sent some letters. Regarding Walmart, we reached out to their management and pointed out the excessive calls generated at both their locations. They were embarrassed and willing to help. However, they were not going to adopt the Costco model or change ingress or egress. And, that is their choice. What we have done to reduce our need to respond is to train their staff on our on-line reporting. That way, they can enter their own theft report and we don't have to respond. That has been underway for a month or so and with a bit more time, I can report out. Retail and commercial pose different challenges than problem residences. The Colonial Apartments has come to the forefront of late. MCA's Public Nuisance statute provides the leverage I think you are looking for. It also brings other departments into the mix, just not the PD. Code Enforcement brings a lot to the table in these situations. Attached for your review. Happy to discuss further at your convenience.

Public Nuisance

45-8-111. Public nuisance. (1) "Public nuisance" means:

(a) a condition that endangers safety or health, is offensive to the senses, or obstructs the free use of property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property by an entire community or neighborhood or by any considerable number of persons;

(b) any premises where persons gather for the purpose of engaging in unlawful conduct; or

(c) a condition that renders dangerous for passage any public highway or right-of-way or waters used by the public.

(2) A person commits the offense of maintaining a public nuisance if the person knowingly creates, conducts, or maintains a public nuisance.

(3) Any act that affects an entire community or neighborhood or any considerable number of persons, as specified in subsection (1)(a), is no less a nuisance because the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals is unequal.

(4) An agricultural or farming operation, a place, an establishment, or a facility or any of its appurtenances or the operation of those things is not or does not become a public nuisance because of its normal operation as a result of changed residential or commercial conditions in or around its locality if the agricultural or farming operation, place, establishment, or facility has been in operation longer than the complaining resident has been in possession or the commercial establishment has been in operation.

(5) Noises resulting from the shooting activities at a shooting range during established hours of operation are not considered a public nuisance.

(6) A person convicted of maintaining a public nuisance shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$500. Each day of the conduct constitutes a separate offense.

Look for opportunities to thank a veteran - Have a wonderful Memorial Day weekend!

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION!



JOIN US FOR THE RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR THE NEW CONCOURSE A

Friday, June 3, 2022 | 2:00pm — 3:00pm

- *Bring your parking ticket for validation*
- *Meet in baggage claim (Door 3)*
- *Ribbon cutting ceremony & tour*
- *Refreshments*

Questions? Call 406-657-8495

