

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

July 22, 2022

1. **Active Shooter Training** – Officers Keightley and Doll will be conducting Active Shooter Training to the Mayor and City Councilmembers on August 15th at 4:00 PM in the Council Chambers. HR, administration, and the clerk’s office went through the training Tuesday.
2. **Montana Rescue Mission (MRM)** – Councilmember Rupsis and I met with Matt Lundgren and Oksana Wednesday to discuss MRM services. They have completed the Continuum of Care questions and will be meeting with PD and FD in the upcoming days/weeks to clarify how emergency service providers can best hand off individuals who can utilize their emergency shelter (low barrier).
3. **Substance Abuse Connect (SAC)** – Yesterday, I attended the SAC board meeting. Kristin Lundgren is stepping down from her leadership roll effective September 2 since she has accepted a new position. In addition to transitioning with new leadership the organization is discussing who best can provide backbone services to the group (finance, HR, support etc.) since Rimrock is inaccurately being perceived as controlling SAC since they provide these services. As a result of this confusion, Rimrock has asked that SAC find an alternative. Both United Way and Riverstone are under consideration.
4. **BUILD Grant Update** – July 2022 – The City of Billings was awarded a BUILD grant in September of 2020.

We are excited to announce that the draft Grant Agreement submitted for FHWA staff review was forwarded on June 29th to the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST)! FHWA worked extensively with the City to ensure the draft agreement was in a format that would be accepted by OST for their review. The review by OST could take a few weeks and the City may be asked to clarify or edit some information. But once the City receives notice that the draft has been accepted, City staff will be able to direct Mayor Cole to sign the agreement on the City’s behalf.

The execution of the agreement will allow FHWA to obligate the BUILD grant funds to the project. Execution of the agreement will also allow the City to start the RFP/bid solicitation process for the construction phase. The FHWA authorizes the PRF/bidding process, that includes a final FHWA approval of the construction and bidding documents. It is currently anticipated that the FHWA authorization to bid will occur in late August or early September, after the FHWA signs the grant agreement.

The City received MDOT approval for the Skyline Trail portion of the project and is working on the maintenance agreement.

The City has obtained all rights-of-way from the five (5) private landowners and is awaiting final signature of the two (2) Montana DNRC rights-of-way from the Governor’s office. Montana DNRC

provided a letter to the City authorizing construction. In summary, the right-of-way for the project is secured.

5. From the PIO Desk:

'Cut Suit' training offers Billings firefighters a realistic trauma response experience

<https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2349>

Billings Police Department hosts inaugural Coffee with a Cop event

<https://ci.billings.mt.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2350>

Billings in the news –

Billings water supply good this year during hot summer

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-water-supply-good-this-year-during-hot-summer>

Billings works to figure best method to fund its parks

https://billingsgazette.com/news/local/billings-works-to-figure-best-method-to-fund-its-parks/article_77bca00a-06e0-11ed-9c8c-27c066147e25.html

Massive amounts of food thrown out at Billings landfill?

<https://newstalk955.com/massive-amounts-of-food-thrown-out-at-billings-landfill/>

Billings one of 26 cities selected for asphalt art project

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-one-of-26-cities-selected-for-asphalt-art-project>

Street art project begins at North Park

https://billingsgazette.com/photo-street-art-project-begins-at-north-park/article_ad77c450-07ac-11ed-9adc-ebb0991245c9.html

Asphalt art coming to Billings; expect detours around North Park

<https://kmhk.com/asphalt-art-coming-to-billings-expect-detours-around-north-park/>

Grab a cup of joe with Billings Police

<https://971kissfm.com/grab-a-cup-of-joe-with-billings-police/>

Billings holds first coffee with a cop event

<https://www.yourbigsky.com/local-news-2/billings-holds-first-coffee-with-a-cop-event/>

Poems embedded in South Billings sidewalks

<https://www.ypradio.org/community/2022-07-15/poems-embedded-in-south-billings-sidewalks>

Billings Southside livened up by new poetry project

<https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/billings-south-side-livened-up-by-new-poetry-project>