



Update on Grant Funding Received by the City of Billings April 2024

Broadwater Avenue Water Main Replacement



The City of Billings Public Works Department manages an annual water main replacement program aimed at replacing aging and/or troublesome water mains throughout the City. The Broadwater Avenue project replaces 67-year-old 8-inch cast iron pipe, while the North 17th/18th Street project replaces 8 and 12 inch iron pipe. The City was notified on April 23 that this project was approved for partial reimbursement by the Montana Department of Commerce.

More About This Project

The City was required to submit three projects, each of which would receive about \$470,000 in reimbursement funding if approved by the Montana Department of Commerce. The first project submitted for consideration encompassed Broadwater Avenue, from 11th to 16th Streets West and North 17th and North 18th Streets north of 6th Avenue North.

- The 60+ year-old cast iron pipes in these areas have a combined history of 32 recorded breaks.
- The replacement piping will be 8 to 12 inch PVC. On Broadwater, piping will be upsized as much of the area is now commercial, and existing main does not meet current fire flow requirements.
- On Broadwater, approximately seven blocks of water main will be replaced.
- The project will replace piping, valves, fire hydrants, connections to commercial and residential lines, and cathodic protection of all ductile fittings and bends.
- The City received notice on April 23 that the project had been approved for partial reimbursement (up to \$470,000) by the Montana Department of Commerce.
- The project is scheduled to begin later this spring. Total project cost is about \$4.3 million.

More About This Funding Source

- House Bill 355, passed by the Montana State Legislature in 2023, makes available to the City slightly more than \$1.4 million to help pay for critical infrastructure repair and maintenance projects.
- The Act is also known as the State-Local Infrastructure Partnership Act, or SLIPA.
- Two water main projects and one stormwater replacement project were selected for submission due to the size of the projects and the City's ability to provide at least 25% local match to the state funding.
- Communities were required to submit applications demonstrating that their projects and local share of costs met the requirements of HB 355.
- The Montana Department of Commerce is managing the SLIPA program.

To learn more about this grant-funded project, contact:

Ted Wilson
City of Billings Grants Administrator
406-869-3997
wilson@billingsmt.gov