



September 20, 2024

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES

Dear Neighbors,

The City of Billings has openings on the Community Development Board. It is our privilege to extend an invitation to any interested person to apply for an appointment to the Community Development Board.

The Community Development Board was created in 1975 to ensure low-income citizen participation. Six board members must reside in a low-moderate income area within the Billings' city limits and three other board members are At Large, meaning they may live anywhere within the Billings city limits.

As current Board Chair, I have had the opportunity to see many community improvements funded as a result of Community Development Board recommendations to the Billings City Council. Following City Council approval, Community Development Division staff administer the projects. It has been incredibly gratifying to serve the City as a member of the Community Development Board.

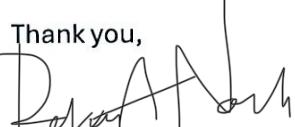
The Community Development Board recommends funding allocations to the City Council to address identified needs, and evaluates and monitors performance. Following are brief descriptions of the programs currently being administered (more information available at www.billingsmt.gov/comdev):

- **First Time Home Buyer:** The City of Billings offers zero interest, deferred payment loans up to \$15,000 to assist low-income households purchase their first home.
- **Foreclosure Acquisition / Rehabilitation:** The City of Billings purchases foreclosed properties, rehabilitates them, and assists First Time Home Buyers in purchasing them.
- **Affordable Housing Development:** The City of Billings supports the development of affordable housing for low-income households.
- **Infrastructure:** Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding may be used to install infrastructure to benefit low-income community members. This has most recently been done through completing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments of parks in low-income areas and installing the recommended features and improvements.

We encourage anyone interested in community development projects, and/or addressing the affordable housing crisis in Billings, to apply.

Please visit <https://www.billingsmt.gov/cdboard> for more information and to download the application form.

Thank you,



Rebecca Noell, Chair

Community Development Board Chair



William A. Cole, Mayor

City of Billings

RN:WAC:tlr

First Time Home Buyer – Examples:



Foreclosure Acquisition / Rehab – Recent Examples:



Affordable Housing Development – Examples:



Comanche Park CPTED:

