

RESOLUTION NO. 09-18898

**A RESOLUTION CREATING A CITY OF BILLINGS AD-HOC ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON DISTRACTED DRIVING PREVENTION**

WHEREAS, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's National Center for Statistics and Analysis reports that 21 percent of injury crashes and 16 percent of all fatal crashes were reported to have involved driver distraction; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Billings have become aware that problems are being caused within the city by individuals who are distracted while driving by the use of cellular phones and other electronic devices; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council recognize that passing a law restricting the use of electronic devices does little to improve the problem without a public information campaign and a workable enforcement mechanism; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council created an initiative on October 26, 2009, to bring together a diverse group of people to study the issue of distracted driving to determine the best way to deal with the problem; and

WHEREAS, BMCC Sec. 2-224 provides a method for the Mayor and City Council to create by resolution an Ad-Hoc Council Advisory Committee to address issues within certain limits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA:

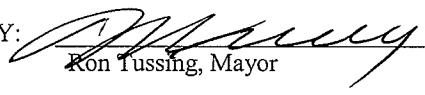
1. There is hereby created an Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee on Distracted Driving Prevention to deal with this public health issue by:
 - (a) Planning a coordinated campaign to raise awareness of the issue, which would include a partnership of participating agencies and a discussion of the best ways to reach distracted drivers; and
 - (b) By creating a City ordinance that would compliment the campaign, including a discussion of the types of penalties that it should include, and recommendations on enforcement methods.
2. The Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee shall be composed of two City Council members, one of whom shall serve as chair of the Ad-Hoc Committee; one member of the auto insurance industry; one member of the cellular telephone industry; one member from Riverstone Health; one staff member each from School District #2 and Montana State University-Billings or the College of Technology; one student member each from School District #2 and Montana State University-Billings or the College of Technology; and two members of the public.
3. The City Administrator shall appoint such staff as are necessary to assist the Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee with information during its deliberations and to ensure compliance with all applicable open meetings laws.
4. The Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee on Distracted Driving Prevention shall report its findings to the City Council no later than March 22, 2010.

APPROVED this 9th day of November, 2009.



THE CITY OF BILLINGS

BY:


Ron Tussing, Mayor

ATTEST:

BY: Cari Martin
Cari Martin, City Clerk