



City of Missoula, Montana
Item to be Referred to City Council Committee

Committee: Land Use and Planning
Item: 2020 Long Range Transportation Plan
Date: October 4, 2021
Sponsor(s): Aaron Wilson
Prepared by: Jon Sand, Bella Dowell
Ward(s) Affected:
 Ward 1 Ward 4
 Ward 2 Ward 5
 Ward 3 Ward 6
 All Wards N/A

Action Required:
Adopt the 2020 Long Range Transportation Plan as an issue plan to the 2035 City of Missoula Growth Policy

Recommended Motion(s):
I move the City Council: (10.04.21 consent agenda) Set a public hearing for October 25th 2021 and adopt the resolution of intention to adopt the 2020 Long Range Transportation Plan as an issue plan to the 2035 City of Missoula Growth Policy, and tentatively refer the item to the Land use and Planning Committee. (10.25.21 public hearing) Adopt the 2020 Long Range Transportation Plan as an issue plan to the 2035 City of Missoula Growth Policy

Timeline:
Referral to committee: October 4, 2021
Committee discussion: October 27th 2021 tentative
Council action (or sets hearing): October 4th, 2021
Public Hearing (if required): October 25th, 2021
Final Consideration: November 1st 2021

Background and Alternatives Explored: Federal law requires metropolitan areas to have a long-range transportation plan that is updated every four years for regions with air quality conformity requirements. In order for future transportation projects in the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) to be eligible for state or federal funding, they must be a part of the adopted Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The last update was completed in 2016 and looked at a 2045 horizon-year. The Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has recently adopted the 2020 LRTP with a horizon-year of 2050.

A Long-Range Transportation Plan sets forth a direction and strategies to help shape a region’s transportation network. It considers all modes, including driving, walking, bicycling and transit to help set priorities for the future. It evaluates current and future transportation needs for all modes given anticipated growth projections for the region. Transportation funding and project prioritization are considered in the plan’s implementation element. Public input into the planning process through surveys, workshops, online media and advisory committees were essential to plan development.

Financial Implications: The 2020 Missoula Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a document in which any transportation project that may receive federal funding must be included. In addition, the LRTP also prioritizes transportation projects that are recommended for non-federal discretionary funding through sources, such as, MRA, Road District and impact fees.

The LRTP is federally required to be fiscally constrained, based on projected available funding. These projections include any local matching funds that may be required to receive state and federal funding. The LRTP Issue Plan would have no direct financial implications to the city.

Links to external websites: