



**City of Missoula, Montana  
City Council Committee Agenda item**

**Committee:** Public Safety, Health and Operations

**Item:** Resolution to support changes to the Missoula City-County Air Pollution Control Program rules

**Date:** May 4, 2022

**Sponsor(s):** Amber Sherrill

**Prepared by:** Benjamin Schmidt, R.S., Air Quality Specialist

**Ward(s) Affected:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

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**Action Required:**

Consider the resolution to support revisions to the Missoula City-County Air Pollution Control Program

**Timeline and Recommended Motions:**

Committee discussion: 5/11/2022  
Council sets public hearing: 5/16/2022  
Recommended motion: Set a public hearing on June 6, 2022, on a resolution to support revisions to the Missoula City-County Air Pollution Control Program

Public Hearing: 6/6/2022  
Final Consideration: 6/13/2022  
Recommended motion: Adopt a resolution to support revisions to the Missoula City-County Air Pollution Control Program

Deadline: n/a

**Background and Alternatives Explored:**

On April 21, 2022, the Air Pollution Control Board approved several changes to the Missoula City-County Air Pollution Control Program rules. The purpose of the proposed rule changes is to improve air quality and ensure that national ambient air quality standards are met in Missoula County.

Many proposed changes correct spelling errors, correct reference errors, make changes to align local program rules with state and federal rules, or are edits for clarification. Substantive changes include restricting recreational fires during air alerts (Chapter 4), allowing conditional outdoor burning permits in the Missoula Air Stagnation Zone with approved technology (Chapter 7), discontinuing the gasoline oxygenated fuel program in the event Missoula receives authorization to cease the program (Chapter 10), and specifying that a person has 15 days to request a hearing if they disagree with an administrative review decision (Chapter 14).

Proposed changes to Chapter 9 update the wood stove rules to align with national standards, add additional installation requirements to the Seeley Lake area, and require the removal of all wood stoves and wood stove inserts upon transfer of ownership in the Missoula Air Stagnation.

The Missoula City-County Air Pollution Control Board is responsible for approving changes to the Missoula City-County Air Pollution Control Program. And then, by Montana law, the City Council and County Commissioners have a chance to approve or veto the revisions by resolution at a public meeting. Once the City Council and Commissioners approve the revisions, they are submitted to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for approval. Once approved by the DEQ, the rules go into effect. Some of the rules are then submitted to the US EPA for inclusion into the State Implementation Plan (SIP), which is the federally enforceable plan of how Missoula will maintain particulate matter levels below the federal ambient air standards.

**Financial Implications:**

None

**Links to external websites:**

[Air Quality Public Notices](#)

<https://www.missoulacounty.us/government/health/health-department/home-environment/air-quality/air-quality-public-notices>