



MEMORANDUM

TO: MRA Board of Commissioners

FROM: Ellen Buchanan, Director *EB*

DATE: January 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Director's Report

Scott Street Area Redevelopment

- We are still waiting on the results of some soil sampling that was required on the site; consequently, the soil removal and site prep continues to be delayed. Fortunately, all of the samples that have been tested so far have come back with no issues. Due to the backlog at the Department of Environmental Quality, it may be February before we begin removing material from the site in preparation for infrastructure installation.

Midtown Planning Efforts

- Midtown Master Plan - The EcoNorthwest team Will be back in Missoula the week of January 23 to share and discuss the results of their first series of meetings with the public and targeted stakeholders. There will be a large public workshop on January 26 at the fairgrounds. We encourage you to attend if your schedule permits. I have attached a copy of the invitation to this memo.
- Brooks BRT/TOD Corridor - There is an update on this project on the Board agenda this month.

Project Updates

- MRL Trestle Project – HDR has completed their initial inspection of the trestle and found nothing that would inhibit the project moving forward. They are working closely with MRL to address any concerns that they might have with a conceptual design.
- Payne/Library Block – The Missoula Economic Partnership continues to work with potential development partners. There appears to be a high level of interest in the project. Staff should have a better sense of how we move forward with

identifying a development partnership and what kind of timeline we are on with the work that MEP is doing for us in the next couple of weeks.

- Bitterroot Trail Lighting – Staff has been working with Parks on how best to manage this project. I believe that MRA (Tod) will likely manage the project, coordinate closely with Parks staff and will ask the Board for authorization to issue an RFP for design services in the coming months. This is a really exciting opportunity to use TIF funds for a very high profile and much needed project for the community.

2023 State Legislative Session

- The Legislature is in session and there are a number of bills involving TIF that are simply a place holder with only a caption and no content at this point. A number of the bills that are being introduced currently revolve around the Governor's Housing Task Force recommendations and are calling for regulatory reform. We expect that to change quickly and will likely see a number of bills to modify the use of TIF in the near term. The League of Cities and Towns continues to work with cities, towns and counties to monitor new TIF bills and coordinate as uniform a response as possible.

As always, if you have questions or want information on any other projects not covered here, please contact me at buchanane@ci.missoula.mt.us or 552-6156.



SHARE YOUR VISION FOR MIDTOWN'S FUTURE!

After gathering robust public input and research, Missoula Midtown Association, ECONorthwest and community partners have developed plan alternatives for a cohesive vision of Midtown. Please join us for a public workshop to learn more about the plan drafts and provide feedback to the planning team.

Please join us for a
**PUBLIC
WORKSHOP**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023
5:30 – 7:00 P.M.**

Missoula Fairgrounds, Floriculture Building #15
1101 South Ave W

The workshop includes a short presentation of the draft plan followed by table discussions & visioning work. Please plan to join us beginning at 5:30p.m. Light refreshments will be provided.

Free child care provided at the YMCA drop-in child care center next door.
Advance reservation required by emailing midtown@missoulamidtown.com.



Learn more about the Missoula Midtown Masterplan project at
MIDTOWNMASTERPLAN.COM

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