

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board

Applicant Package - Regular Member

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Term:01 Oct 2022 - 30 Sep 2025

Positions Available: 1

Number of applicants in this package: 1

- Gehr, Matthew

Name: Gehr, Matthew

Mailing Address:

Email Address: mattkgehr@gmail.com

Board Name: Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board

Daytime Phone:

Is your mailing address different than your physical address?: No

Physical Address:

Zip Code: 59801

How long have you been a city resident?: 10+ years

In which ward do you reside?: Ward 6

Are you registered to vote?: Yes

Current Occupation: Mortgage Lender

Current Employer: Mann Mortgage

Briefly describe your educational background: BS in Business Management

List of community service experience: Zootown Arts Community Center Board (5 years), CASA of Missoula Board (3yrs, currently serving), Bare Bait Dance Board (1.5yrs, currently serving), MTCX volunteer (when I am not racing bikes, I volunteer at the races), Missoula Organization of Realtor Committe volunteer (4yrs, currently serving).

What is your interest in serving on this board, commission or committee?: I am an avid cyclist and believer in alternate modes of transportation. My wife and I try to bike or walk as much as possible. I have substantial person experience with both modes of transportation in Missoula. In addition, I feel that I can be a voice for practical implementation of these modes of transportation. We want to encourage folks to bike and walk, but it is important to do so in a way that creates a positive narrative. I think I can walk in the cyclist world but also speak on behalf of many drivers that have frustrations around bicyclist in particular. It is absolutely possible to get these people on the same page (with a few exception, I am sure). Both sides have a role to play in making bicycle and pedestrian travel a more viable method of getting around.

What special knowledge, interest, or experience do you possess that would qualify you for a position on this board commission, or committee?: Well, for one, I bike commute regularly. I have also been party to a lot of conversations on the topic of bicycle commuting. The conversations have mostly been with people that expressed frustration and a dislike for cyclists. I have been able to successfully find a middle ground with these folks and get them to think openly about bicycles being part of the transportation matrix in Missoula. I am an open thinking and avid learner. Regardless of whether or not I am appointed to this advisory board, I am committed to being an advocate for alternative transportation and a bridge builder with those in the community that are resistant to adopting other forms of transportation.

Reference 1 Name: Brian Bonham - Adventure Cycling

Reference 1 Phone: 925-451-0350

Reference 2 Name: Shaun Radley - MTCX owner, bike race promoter

Reference 2 Phone: 406-544-5270

Time of Submission: 10/11/22 12:51:19 PM