

Planning Board Summary and Recommendations

2023 Missoula Midtown Master Plan, a Neighborhood Plan of the City Growth Policy

Planning Board Recommendation

On Tuesday, June 20, 2023, the Missoula Consolidated Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the 2023 Missoula Midtown Master Plan as a Neighborhood Plan of the Our Missoula City Growth Policy 2035.

Planning Board Motions

That Planning Board resolves the 2023 Missoula Midtown Master Plan, as shown in Attachment 2 for the area shown in Exhibit A, be recommended to the City Council for adoption as a Neighborhood Plan of the Our Missoula City Growth Policy 2035, based on the findings of fact and conclusions of law in the staff report. ***Passed by a vote of 9-0.***

Planning Board's Recommended Conditions of Approval

None.

Planning Board Discussion

Planning Board members expressed the following thoughts:

- Board Members expressed excitement and appreciation for the plan and for the detail and achievability of the actions included in the implementation section.
- Board Members consistently recognized and appreciated the value of collaborating with engineering consultants, economists, CPDI, Our Missoula Growth Policy Update and Code Reform Consultants, and in applying an Equity lens to the plan from the outset of the project.
- Board Members questioned as to how the recommendations are aligned with and influencing the ongoing Our Missoula Growth Policy Update & Code Reform effort and how the project team and Plan will affect higher standard for development regulations.
- Board Members expressed concern that the recommendations in the plan will not materialize in future developments due to weak development codes.
- Tyler Bump from ECONorthwest acknowledged that the Midtown Master Plan's recommendations are ahead of and hope to be integrated into the future adopted land use policy and regulations.
- Dori Gilels encouraged the City Council to think about ways to encourage Neighborhood Councils to create contemporary plans for their neighborhoods.
- Public Comment included leaders in Midtown's business and development sectors expressing support for the Plan's adoption.
- Tung Pham expressed enthusiasm for the proposed festival street and the ability to provide placemaking in the winter.

See the Planning Board Minutes for further Planning Board discussion.