



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

Committee: Land Use and Planning
Item: Resolution establishing Municipal Planning Commission
Date: December 10, 2025
Sponsor(s): Laval Means, Community Planning Manager
Department or function: Community Planning Development and Innovation
Prepared by: Jen Gress

Ward(s) Affected:

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- All Wards
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Ward 6
- N/A

Action Required:
Motion

Recommended Motion(s):

I move the City Council: **ADOPT** a resolution establishing a Municipal Planning Commission for the City of Missoula, Montana, subject to MCA 76-25 (Montana Land Use and Planning Act).

Timeline:

Committee discussion:	December 10, 2025
Council action (or sets hearing):	December 15, 2025
Public Hearing (if required):	N/A
Deadline:	Click or tap here to enter text.

Background and Alternatives Explored:

In the end of 2022, the City of Missoula launched the *Our Missoula* project, which is an extensive, multi-year process that results in a new Land Use Plan and modernized regulations for development.

In Spring of 2024, the Montana State Legislature passed Senate Bill 382 (SB 382) which established the new Montana Land Use and Planning Act (MLUPA), now codified as MCA 76-25. The MLUPA requires that municipalities of a certain size establish a Planning Commission, which shall review and make recommendations to the City Council regarding the development, adoption, amendments, review and approval or denial of the land use plan, future land use map, zoning regulations, zoning map, subdivision regulations, and other legislative land use planning documents. On July 15, 2024, the City of Missoula adopted Resolution #8789, establishing the current Consolidated Planning Board as the Planning Commission for the City of Missoula for the purposes of implementation of the MLUPA.

Resolution #8789 stated that upon full implementation of the MLUPA, the City intends to establish a Municipal Planning Commission to fulfill the requirements of 76-25-104, MCA, including the

function of appeals for any site-specific land use decisions made by the Planning Administrator pursuant to the adopted zoning and subdivision regulations.

In alignment with the timeline for adoption of Title 22, City of Missoula Unified Development Code and the new Zoning Map, staff are requesting City Council consider a Resolution to establish a Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) to replace the existing Consolidated Planning Board. The Resolution lays out the specific details required for set up of the MPC. Furthermore, the pending section in Title 22, the City of Missoula UDC, Article 2.1 – Division 2.1.03, provides a summary of the new MPC duties and responsibilities. Additionally, the MPC shall eventually propose by-laws and rules of procedures to be approved by City Council.

The Consolidated Planning Board may still be called upon to complete review and recommendation of scheduled projects for either the County or the City during a transition period. Therefore, this Resolution includes delegating to the Mayor the authority to wrap up the proceedings of the Consolidated Planning Board at such time as their review function is no longer necessary.

Staff will provide an information presentation related to the recommended motion.

Financial Implications:

N/A

Links to external websites:

Our Missoula Project Webpage:

<https://www.engagemissoula.com/hub-page/our-missoula>

Montana Land Use Planning Act (MCA 76-25):

https://archive.legmt.gov/bills/mca/title_0760/chapter_0250/parts_index.html