

RESOLUTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE MISSOULA CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING THE NORTH RIVERSIDE PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN FOR CARAS, EAST CARES, BESS REED, DOWNTOWN LIONS, AND KIWANIS PARKS, RON’S RIVER TRAIL, AND INCLUDING THE PLAN NARRATIVE PER EXHIBIT “A” AND AMENDING THE 2019 DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN AND THE MASTER PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN FOR THE GREATER MISSOULA AREA

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Missoula City Council adopted the Missoula Downtown Master Plan, as an amendment to the 2035 Missoula City Growth Policy; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Missoula Downtown Master Plan creates a community-driven vision and plan for the future of Downtown Missoula, including as an element enhanced parks and better utilization of the river; and

WHEREAS, the downtown parks and trails are an important asset and area attraction for residents and visitors, and provide an economic draw to the area; and

WHEREAS, Caras Park is the most visited Park by both County and City residents with visitation at 84% for County only and 71% for City only residents, per a 2011 statistically valid survey; and

WHEREAS, the Downtown North Riverside Parks and Trails Plan was informed by and advances the goals and strategies of the 2004 Urban Area Master Parks and Recreation Plan, the 2018 Parks, Open Space, and Trails Survey, the 2019 Open Space Plan, Missoula Storm Water Management Plan Our Missoula Growth Policy adopted November 2015, the 2020 Climate Ready, Missoula, the Long Range Transportation –Activate 2045, and pending Connect 2050, Plan, and the 2019 Downtown Master Plan, and numerous area initiatives and efforts to promote and enhance sustainability of our environment and our economy, while being inclusive of all residents and guests; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019 the City of Missoula Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments joined with The Downtown Missoula Partnership to enlist the assistance of a consultant to lead the planning process for the North Riverside Parks and Trails; and

WHEREAS, in September 2019 the City and The Downtown Missoula Partnership formed a Leadership Team and Blue-Ribbon Committee comprised of local citizens, key stakeholders, and community leaders to help guide the master planning process; and

WHEREAS, the North Riverside Parks and Trails Master Plan was drafted through a public planning process including public meetings, stakeholder meetings, public open houses, online surveys; and

WHEREAS, from this public process five BIG ideas developed including

- 1) A Park for Everyone and All Seasons
- 2) Enhance Ecological Functions, Improve Views and Access
- 3) Update Materials, Elements and Landscaping
- 4) Improve Gateways and Circulation
- 5) Support Existing Used and Design Multi-functional spaces

WHEREAS, in May 2020 the draft Master Plan was presented on the Engage Missoula website to gather feedback and consider recommendations where over 2000 visitors viewed the website; and

WHEREAS, in October and November of 2020 the Downtown Missoula Master Plan Implementation Team, Destination Missoula & the Tourism BID, the Missoula Neighborhood Forum, the Downtown North Riverside Parks and Trails Leadership Team and Blue Ribbon Committee, and the Board of County Commissioners, all unanimously endorsed the Plan; and

WHEREAS, in October 2020 the Missoula Downtown Association, the Downtown Business Improvement District, the Missoula Downtown Foundation, the Missoula Redevelopment Agency, Missoula Parking Commission all unanimously adopted the plan and encourage the City Council to also adopt the Plan; and

WHEREAS, in November 2020 the City Parks and Recreation Board adopted the North Riverside Parks and Trails Master Plan; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Missoula City Council Adopts The North Riverside Parks And Trails Master Plans for Caras, East Cares, Bess Reed, Downtown Lions, and Kiwanis Parks, Ron's River Trail, Including The Plan Narrative per Exhibit "A" and amending the 2019 Downtown Master Plan and the Master Parks and Recreation Plan for the Greater Missoula Area

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of November, 2020.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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Martha L. Rehbein

City Clerk

(SEAL)

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John Engen

Mayor