



ROOM A | 130 6TH STREET WEST
COLUMBIA FALLS, MT 59912

PHONE (406) 892-4391
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**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025
COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL**

FINANCE COMMITTEE – 6:30 P.M

(Barnhart, Robinson and Shepard)

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Claims - September 15, 2025 - \$146,446.83
2. Approval of Payroll Claims - September 12, 2025 - \$127,138.84
3. Approval of Regular Council Minutes - September 2, 2025
4. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Flathead County and the City of Columbia Falls re: Medical Direction for Law Enforcement Medical Response.
5. Typographical correction of Resolution # 1951
6. Surplus Recommendation - Parks 2006 Ford F-150
7. Request the Council approve the City Manager to apply for the FWP funded Montana Community-Bear Conflict Prevention Efforts Fund grant.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT (Items not on agenda)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

8. Grant Application Approval Notification from Montana Department of Transportation
The city received notice from the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) that our application for funding a DUI officer was approved in the amount of \$165,263.00.

Staff recommends approval and continuing with the acceptance once the MDT receives the federal funding.

- [9.](#) City Manager presents the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Message to accompany the approved budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

- [10.](#) Montana Land Use Planning Act - Update

ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS:

- [11.](#) Resolution 1953 - Authorizing Participation in the Montana Board of Investments of Short-Term Investment Pool and Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of Documents Related Thereto

REPORTS / BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- [12.](#) City Manager Report

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

MISCELLANEOUS

- [13.](#) Correspondence
- [14.](#) Police Department Activity Report - August
- [15.](#) Fire Department Activity Report - August

ADJOURN

Next Scheduled Meetings:

City Council – Regular Meeting, **Monday, October 6, 2025 – 7:00 PM**

Planning Board – TBD

Study Commission Meeting – **Wednesday, October 22, 2025 – 6:30 PM**

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* ... Over spent expenditure

Claim/	Check	Vendor #/Name/ Invoice #/Inv Date/Description	Document \$/ Line \$	Disc \$	PO #	Fund Org Acct	Object	Proj	Cash Account
*** Claim from another period (6/25) ****									
47907		3061 406 INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS LLP	8,122.11						
	090725	09/07/25 POOL-REPAIR POOL BOILER	2,811.97			1000 460445	366		101000
	090725	09/07/25 FAC-MEN'S TOILET MAINTENANCE	1,264.30			1000 411200	366		101000
	090725	09/07/25 PRK-INSTALL FENHOLT BATHROOM	4,045.84			4010 460400	930		101000
		Total for Vendor:	8,122.11						
47923		2899 ALPINE FAMILY MEDICINE	125.00						
	082825	08/28/25 STR-R.LAWRENCE DOT	125.00			2500 430200	399		101000
		Total for Vendor:	125.00						
47904		3281 ASSOCIATION OF RESORT TAX	1,000.00						
	090825	09/05/25 FIN-FY26 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP	1,000.00			1000 410500	335		101000
		Total for Vendor:	1,000.00						
47905		1700 BRECK LAW OFFICE, PC	9,102.56						
		OCT 2025 FEES							
	OCT 25	09/01/25 LGL-FEES OCT	2,219.53			1000 411100	350		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 CRT-FEES OCT	4,524.08			1000 410365	350		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 WTR-FEES OCT	729.33			5210 430500	350		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 SWR-FEES OCT	729.33			5310 430600	350		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 PLZ-FEES OCT	364.66			1000 411000	350		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 PD-FEES OCT	147.42			1000 420100	399		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 WTR-FEES OCT	32.76			5210 430500	357		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 SWR-FEES OCT	48.43			5310 430600	357		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 STR-FEES OCT	65.51			2500 430200	399		101000
	OCT 25	09/01/25 ADDITIONAL LABOR	196.51			1000 411100	350		101000
	1143	09/05/25 HRB CLAIM	45.00			1000 411100	351		101000
		Total for Vendor:	9,102.56						
47881		1145 CITY OF WHITEFISH BUILDING	5,503.55						
		Permits issued for August 2025							
	090525	09/05/25 BUILDING PERMITS 08/25	831.35			2394 420500	398		101000
	090525	09/05/25 MECHANICAL PERMITS 08/25	4,444.70			2394 420500	398		101000
	090525	09/05/25 PLUMBING PERMITS 08/25	227.50			2394 420500	398		101000
		Total for Vendor:	5,503.55						

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47903		532 DON "K" CHEVROLET	1,866.81						
2024		DODGE DURANGO - Car #25							
		296540-1 08/29/25 PD-CAR#25 ENG LITE,MISFIRE	1,866.81			1000 420100	361		101000
		Total for Vendor:	1,866.81						
47906		3104 FIRST CALL COMPUTER SOLUTIONS,	953.14						
		107027 08/15/25 GEN-LAPTOPS (3) & PC (1)	228.38			1000 410580	212		101000
		107027 08/15/25 BLD-LAPTOPS (3) & PC (1)	51.18			2394 420500	212		101000
		107027 08/15/25 STR-LAPTOPS (3) & PC (1)	51.18			2500 430200	212		101000
		107027 08/15/25 WTR-LAPTOPS (3) & PC (1)	228.38			5210 430500	212		101000
		107027 08/15/25 SWR-LAPTOPS (3) & PC (1)	228.38			5310 430600	212		101000
		107504 08/31/25 FIN-SUBSCRIPT BILLING AUGUST	165.64			1000 410580	355		101000
		Total for Vendor:	953.14						
47885		1892 FLATHEAD COUNTY	75.00						
		6592 09/02/25 OWNERSHIP LIST-HALDEMAN/CARLET	75.00			1000 411000	390		101000
		Total for Vendor:	75.00						
47884		22 FLATHEAD COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER	24.00						
		ORDIANCE #833 CITY OF C'S AND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY							
		1113426 08/13/25 FIN-ORD 833 CITY/HABITAT	24.00			1000 410500	390		101000
		Total for Vendor:	24.00						
47915		663 FLATHEAD COUNTY SOLID WASTE	2,784.66						
		AUGUST BILLING 08/05/25-08/28/25							
		18679 08/31/25 SWR-SLUDGE WASTE 8/05-08/28/25	2,780.73			5310 430600	395		101000
		1522213 09/05/25 PRK-MIXED WASTE	3.93			1000 460400	390		101000
		Total for Vendor:	2,784.66						
47875		24 FLATHEAD COUNTY TREASURER	1,043.00						
		090225 09/02/25 CRT-TECH SUR 08/25	458.00			1000 212201			101000
		090225 09/02/25 CRT-LEA/CRIM CONV SUR 08/25	585.00			1000 212201			101000
		Total for Vendor:	1,043.00						

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47912		21 FLATHEAD ELECTRIC COOP INC	17,979.96						
	083125	08/31/25 FAC-7/25/25-8/25/25	425.32			1000 411200	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 PD-7/25/25-8/25/25	39.46			1000 420100	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 FD-7/25/25-8/25/25	424.10			1000 420400	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 PRKS-7/25/25-8/25/25	629.21			1000 460400	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 POOL-7/25/25-8/25/25	453.54			1000 460445	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 LIGHTING-7/25/25-8/25/25	2,524.83			2400 430200	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 STRS-7/25/25-8/25/25	114.56			2500 430200	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 WTR-7/25/25-8/25/25	6,889.78			5210 430500	341		101000
	083125	08/31/25 SWR-7/25/25-8/25/25	6,479.16			5310 430600	341		101000
		Total for Vendor:	17,979.96						
47910		3019 FLATHEAD PUBLISHING GROUP	50.00						
	40618	08/31/25 FIN-CITY ACCOUNTANT	50.00			1000 410500	390		101000
		Total for Vendor:	50.00						
47901		1378 GLACIER CLEAN CAR WASH	150.00						
	185-2025	09/03/25 PD-FLEET WASH CARD-33073	150.00			1000 420100	361		101000
		Total for Vendor:	150.00						
		*** Claim from another period (6/25) ****							
47902		3314 GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES	290.07						
	0355357	06/30/25 FIN-BINDER (2)	96.69			1000 410500	210		101000
	0355357	06/30/25 WTR-BINDER (2)	96.69			5210 430500	210		101000
	0355357	06/30/25 SWR-BINDER (2)	96.69			5310 430600	210		101000
		Total for Vendor:	290.07						
47878		3284 GROGAN, LARRY	2,219.40						
	082825	08/28/25 FD-REMB. FOR TRAVEL CLAIM	2,219.40			1000 420400	380		101000
		Total for Vendor:	2,219.40						
47916		2806 HANSON'S HARDWARE	340.76						
	616815	08/12/25 PD-CAR#24 RAM MOUNT SCREWS	1.32			1000 420100	232		101000
	617026	08/27/25 STR-GLUE / TAPE	18.98			2500 430200	220		101000
	617038	08/28/25 PD-CAR#20 SCREWS	0.71			1000 420100	232		101000
	617046	08/28/25 LS-CITY HALL USA FLAG	24.99			1000 410100	220		101000
	617160	09/05/25 SWR-SPR HEAD / ELBOW	12.36			5310 430600	240		101000

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	607150	09/05/25 SWR-COUPLING	8.79			5310 430600	240		101000
	617154	09/05/25 SWR-MISC PARTS	107.70			5310 430600	240		101000
	617141	09/04/25 SWR-REST KIT / CONNECTOR	29.95			5310 430600	240		101000
	617192	09/08/25 PRK-MONUMENT PRK IRR	124.40			1000 460400	240		101000
	617022	08/27/25 SWR-CONNECTORS	11.56			5310 430600	220		101000
		Total for Vendor:	340.76						
47891		1119 HDR ENGINEERING, INC.	1,673.85						
	1200754008	09/04/25 CEDAR CREEK 5YR DAM INSP	1,673.85			1000 431200	399		101000
		Total for Vendor:	1,673.85						
47887		1659 HIGH COUNTRY LINEN SUPPLY	299.48						
	0647146	09/08/25 FAC-CITY HALL, PD, CRT, FIN	262.74			1000 411200	224		101000
	0647147	09/08/25 FAC-FIRE HALL	36.74			1000 411200	224		101000
		Total for Vendor:	299.48						
47920		3292 JACOBS ENGINEERING	73,201.29						
		COLUMBIA FALLS GATEWAY TO GLACIER SAFETY AND MOBILITY RAISE GRANT #10							
	W3Y27200-1	09/08/25 STR-RAISE GRANT INV #10 65	47,580.84			2995 430230	930		101000
	W3Y27200-1	09/08/25 WTR-RAISE GRANT INV #10 35	25,620.45			2995 430550	930		101000
		Total for Vendor:	73,201.29						
47914		1690 LASALLE SAND & GRAVEL CORP	378.88						
	206941	08/22/25 WTR-3/4 CRUSH	88.74			5210 430500	230		101000
	206937	08/22/25 STR-3/4 CRUSH	98.65			2500 430200	452		101000
	206931	08/22/25 STR-3/4 CRUSH	95.53			2500 430200	452		101000
	206925	08/22/25 STR-3/4 CRUSH	95.96			2500 430200	452		101000
		Total for Vendor:	378.88						
47886		162 LOGAN HEALTH - WHITEFISH	42.00						
	76081919	08/19/25 PD-EVIDENCE	21.00			1000 420100	390		101000
	77670709	08/29/25 PD-EVIDENCE	21.00			1000 420100	390		101000
		Total for Vendor:	42.00						

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47883		735 MASTER TECH REPAIR	40.00						
	9637-50	08/27/25 STR- SPARK PLUG	4.00			2500 430200	220		101000
	9637-44	08/26/25 STR- CHAIN	36.00			2500 430200	220		101000
		Total for Vendor:	40.00						
47924		1671 MCCONNELL, CRAIG	108.00						
		Trial in Butte							
	091025	09/10/25 PD-TRAVEL C.MCCONNELL	108.00			1000 420100	380		101000
		Total for Vendor:	108.00						
47896		3020 MIDWAY RENTAL - REiC	351.00						
	2125373-00	08/27/25 TREES-STUMP GRINDING	351.00			1000 410131	390		101000
		Total for Vendor:	351.00						
47922		43 MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY	532.00						
	2508176	08/05/25 SWR-NITRATE, NITRATE (TKN)	75.00			5310 430600	394		101000
	2508505	08/11/25 SWR-NITRATE, NITRATE (TKN)	100.00			5310 430600	394		101000
	2508506	08/11/25 SWR-ALUMINUM DISSOLVED	17.00			5310 430600	394		101000
	2508763	08/14/25 SWR-MOISTURE, SOLIDS, PERCENT	30.00			5310 430600	394		101000
	2508833	08/18/25 SWR-NITRATE, NITRATE (TKN)	75.00			5310 430600	394		101000
	2509106	08/26/25 SWR-NITRATE, NITRATE (TKN)	75.00			5310 430600	394		101000
	2508326	08/05/25 WTR-COLIFORM	160.00			5210 430500	394		101000
		Total for Vendor:	532.00						
47894		103 MONTANA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY	800.00						
		SFST AUGUST 2025 08-25-25 - 08-29-25							
	25316	09/05/25 PD-DOYLE-SFST REGISTRATION	400.00			1000 420100	380		101000
	25316	09/05/25 PD-FIELDS-SFST REGISTRATION	400.00			1000 420100	380		101000
		Total for Vendor:	800.00						
47895		3133 MONTANA MUNICIPAL INTERLOCAL	1,500.00						
		WWTP-HIT ANOTHER NON-CITY VEHICLE 06-20-25							
	1005782	08/31/25 SWR-CLAIM-EV2025012955	1,500.00*			5310 510330	519		101000
		Total for Vendor:	1,500.00						

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47892	E	3303 MONTANASKY NETWORKS, INC -	79.95						
		09/16/25-10/16/25							
		5832091625 08/29/25 WTR-INTERNET/WIFI	79.95			5210 430500	345		101000
		Total for Vendor:	79.95						
47893		1247 MURDOCH'S RANCH & HOME	27.98						
		250883 08/27/25 SWR-T POST SPRINKLER	27.98			5310 430600	220		101000
		Total for Vendor:	27.98						
47909		520 NORCO, INC.	13.33						
		44473289 08/31/25 STR-CYLNDR RENT 08/01/25	13.33			2500 430200	220		101000
		Total for Vendor:	13.33						
47877		1437 NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	1,765.89						
		NATURAL GAS SERVICE							
		082725 08/27/25 FAC-07/23/2025-08/21/2025	66.53			1000 411200	344		101000
		082725 08/27/25 PD-07/23/2025-08/21/2025	23.25			1000 420100	344		101000
		082725 08/27/25 FD-07/23/2025-08/21/2025	37.17			1000 420400	344		101000
		082725 08/27/25 STRS-07/23/2025-08/21/2025	33.55			2500 430200	344		101000
		082725 08/27/25 WTR-07/23/2025-08/21/2025	11.09			5210 430500	344		101000
		082725 08/27/25 SWR-07/23/2025-08/21/2025	125.82			5310 430600	344		101000
		082725 08/27/25 POOL-07/23/2025-08/21/2025	1,468.48			1000 460445	344		101000
		Total for Vendor:	1,765.89						
47911		2816 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS	84.31						
		133554 09/05/25 STR-SPREADER,PUTTY,TRIGGER	21.06			2500 430200	220		101000
		132727 08/30/25 PD-INVERTER,CLEANER	50.47			1000 420100	232		101000
		133843 09/06/25 PD-WIPER FUILD (3)	12.78			1000 420100	232		101000
		Total for Vendor:	84.31						
		*** Claim from another period (6/25) ****							
47929		3192 POP A SQUAT PORTABLES	760.00						
		RIVERS EDGE, TALBOT BIKE PATH, HORINE, PINWOOD, WELCOME PARK, RAILROAD , DEPOT, TENNIS COURTS							
		19270 05/27/25 PRKS-PORTA POTTIES (8)	760.00			1000 460400	399		101000
		Total for Vendor:	760.00						

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47899		2755 SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO	71.49						
	8085-0	08/29/25 STRS-WHITE PAINT	71.49			2500 430200	220		101000
		Total for Vendor:	71.49						
47913		3297 Staples, Inc	507.35						
	6040338827	08/23/25 FAC-URINAL SCREEN	22.29			1000 411200	224		101000
	6040247883	08/22/25 FAC-URINAL SCREEN	22.29			1000 411200	224		101000
	6040169104	08/21/25 FAC-TRASH LINERS	110.48			1000 411200	224		101000
	6040169105	08/21/25 FAC-PAPER TOWELS / DISNFCT	327.94			1000 411200	224		101000
	6037706392	07/25/25 FIN-BATTERIES	8.11			1000 410500	210		101000
	6037706392	07/25/25 WTR-BATTERIES	8.12			5210 430500	210		101000
	6037706392	07/25/25 SWR-BATTERIES	8.12			5310 430600	210		101000
		Total for Vendor:	507.35						
		*** Claim from another period (6/25) ****							
47928		1797 STATE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	76.80						
	521495	09/30/24 PD-ITSD/EMAIL 9/1/24-9/30/24	38.40			1000 420100	355		101000
	521716	11/30/24 PD-ITSD/EMAIL 11/1/24-11/30/24	38.40			1000 420100	355		101000
		Total for Vendor:	76.80						
47897		3262 STRYKER SALES LLC	300.00						
	9210073662	08/20/25 PD-REPLACEMENT BATTERY(2)	300.00			1000 420100	212		101000
		Total for Vendor:	300.00						
47900		3222 SUMMIT FIRE & SECURITY LLC	448.00						
	3469868	08/23/25 STR-ANNUAL EXTINGUISH SERVICE	282.00			2500 430200	360		101000
	3391898	07/17/25 POOL-ANNUAL EXTINGUISH SERVIC	166.00			1000 460445	360		101000
		Total for Vendor:	448.00						
47879		1653 SUPER 1 FOODS	110.86						
	2002503	08/12/25 SWR-WATER	12.46			5310 430600	222		101000
	2201308	08/13/25 POOL-TOYS	26.53			1000 460445	220		101000
	3855021	08/11/25 FD-CLEANERS	13.75			1000 420400	224		101000
	3947524	08/04/25 PARKS-BAGS	3.48			1000 460400	220		101000
	3856625	08/13/25 WTR-WATER	7.16			5210 430500	220		101000
	2014502	09/04/25 WTR-WATER	7.16			5210 430500	220		101000
	2412658	09/04/25 FD-WATER	40.32			1000 420400	220		101000
		Total for Vendor:	110.86						

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47876		2699 THE MAIL ROOM, INC	450.69						
	INVOICE #	D126275 08/25/2025-09/04/2025							
		D126275 09/05/25 PD-MAIL SRVS 8/25/25-9/4/25	12.60			1000 420100	310		101000
		D126275 09/05/25 FIN-MAIL SRVS 8/25/25-9/4/25	14.88			1000 410500	310		101000
		D126275 09/05/25 WTR-MAIL SRV 8/25/25-9/4/25	72.30			5210 430500	310		101000
		D126275 09/05/25 SWR-MAIL SRV 8/25/25/25-9/4/2	72.30			5310 430600	310		101000
		D126275 09/05/25 CRT-MAIL SRVS 8/25/25-9/4/25	39.34			1000 410360	310		101000
		D126275 09/05/25 PNZ-MAIL SRVS 8/25/25-9/4/25	2.95			1000 411000	310		101000
		D126275 09/05/25 FIRE-MAIL SRV 8/25/25-9/4/25	0.75			1000 420400	310		101000
		D126010 08/25/25 PD-MAIL SRVSC 8/11/25-08/22/2	19.16			1000 410500	310		101000
		D126010 08/25/25 FIN-MAIL SRVS 8/11/25-8/22/25	15.11			1000 410500	310		101000
		D126010 08/25/25 WTR-MAIL SRV 8/11/25-8/22/25	41.90			5210 430500	310		101000
		D126010 08/25/25 SWR-MAIL SRV 8/11/25/-8/22/25	41.90			5310 430600	310		101000
		D126010 08/25/25 CRT-MAIL SRVS 8/11/25-8/22/25	94.82			1000 410360	310		101000
		D126010 08/25/25 PNZ-MAIL SRVS 8/25/25-9/4/25	22.68			1000 411000	310		101000
		Total for Vendor:	450.69						
47882		1623 THE UPS STORE #4515	44.82						
		033517 09/05/25 SWR- RETURN LATECH EQUIP	18.04			5310 430600	310		101000
		033435 09/03/25 PD-CR-2025-00007782	13.39			1000 420100	310		101000
		033384 09/02/25 PD-CR-2025-00007667	13.39			1000 420100	310		101000
		Total for Vendor:	44.82						
47908		3183 TOTAL GARAGE SOLUTIONS	280.00						
		434918 08/27/25 STR-PHOTO EYE	280.00			2500 430200	240		101000
		Total for Vendor:	280.00						
47890		3016 TRANSUNION RISK AND ALTERNATIVE	100.00						
		202508 09/01/25 PD-CONTRACT 08-01-25-08-31-25	100.00			1000 420100	399		101000
		Total for Vendor:	100.00						
		*** Claim from another period (6/25) ****							
47917		3084 TW ENTERPRISES INC	4,959.39						
		3892 03/31/25 SWR-SERVICE	277.50			5310 430600	360		101000
		6256 05/20/25 SWR-LOAD BANK TESTING / LABOR	1,070.00			5310 430600	360		101000
		7019 05/31/25 SWR-OIL / FUEL FILTERS	1,938.15			5310 430600	360		101000
		7020 05/31/25 SWR-OIL / FILTERS	1,673.74			5310 430600	360		101000
		Total for Vendor:	4,959.39						

09/12/25
09:19:19

CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
Claim Approval List
For the Accounting Period: 9/25

Page: 9 of 11
Report ID: AP100V

* ... Over spent expenditure

Claim/	Check	Vendor #/Name/ Invoice #/Inv Date/Description	Document \$/ Line \$	Disc \$	PO #	Fund Org Acct	Object	Proj	Cash Account
47889		3200 USABLUEBOOK	297.79						
	805690	08/21/25 SWR-TNT,AMMONIA TESTS	297.79			5310 430600	222		101000
		Total for Vendor:	297.79						
47873		1134 VICTIM-WITNESS ADVOCATE PROGRAM	264.00						
	AUGUST25	09/02/25 CRT-AUG 2025	264.00			2917 410360	356		101000
		Total for Vendor:	264.00						
47919		84 WESTERN BUILDING CENTER	793.21						
	1546946	08/26/25 SWR-CONCRETE	15.44			5310 430600	240		101000
	1561710	09/04/25 FD-DIABLO 12"9 / GOOF OFF	56.98			1000 420400	220		101000
	1558726	09/03/25 FD-WTR SFTNR / MOWER BLADE	155.04			1000 420400	220		101000
	1563656	09/05/25 SWR-BARBED TEES	3.99			5310 430600	220		101000
	1565343	09/08/25 PRK-MISC VALVES	35.76			1000 460400	220		101000
	1563055	09/05/25 SWR-RB 1/2X100 BLNK DRIPTUBET	27.98			5310 430600	240		101000
	1561277	09/04/25 SWR-GARDEN HOSE SHUT OFF (2)	3.58			5310 430600	220		101000
	1556807	09/02/25 SWR-SEALANT	6.99			5310 430600	220		101000
	1561354	09/04/25 STR-HARDWARE CLOTH	24.00			2500 430200	220		101000
	1558042	09/03/25 STR-SEALANT / PAINT	60.93			2500 430200	220		101000
	1557814	09/03/25 PRK-TREATED LUMBER	312.50			4010 460400	940		101000
	1567103	09/08/25 PRK-MONUMENT PARK IRR	90.02			1000 460400	240		101000
		Total for Vendor:	793.21						
47888		1325 WESTERN STATES EQUIPMENT	764.40						
	331029	08/25/25 WTR-TROUBLESHOOT/SWITCH	764.40			5210 430500	390		101000
		Total for Vendor:	764.40						
47927		3021 WGM GROUP	3,770.00						
	76400	09/10/25 WTR-WATER PER 8/1-8/31/25	3,560.00			5210 430500	354		101000
	75845	07/10/25 PRK-RIVER'S EDGE FISH PIER	210.00			1000 460400	354		101000
		Total for Vendor:	3,770.00						
		# of Claims	50	Total:	146,526.78	# of Vendors	49		
		Total Electronic Claims	79.95						
		Total Non-Electronic Claims	146446.83						

09/12/25
09:19:20

CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
Claim Approval Signature Page
For the Accounting Period: 9 / 25

Page: 11 of 11
Report ID: AP100A

Council Meeting Date: September 15, 2025

Claims Submitted to Council: \$ \$146,446.83

Claims Denied/Withheld by Council Finance Committee: \$ _____ Claim #'s: _____

Prepared By: Jessica Rice, Finance Director

 Jessica Rice

Approved by Eric Hanks, City Manager

 Eric Hanks

City Council to Approve by motion on consent agenda

The following claims are non-routine and/or significant in nature:

1.406 Innovative Solutions, LLC: \$8,122.11 - multiple plumbing projects completed in prior fiscal year; pool boiler, men's restroom at City Hall, and installation of restroom at Fenholt Park. (Funds 1000 and 4010)

2.Jacobs Engineering: \$73,201.29 - RAISE grant project. (Fund 2995)

The remaining claims are routine. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,
Jessica Rice
(406) 892-4327

09/11/25
12:15:00

CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
Payroll Summary For Payrolls from 09/12/25 to 09/12/25

Total for Payroll Checks

	Employee	Employer	Amount
COMA HOURS (Comp Time Accumulated)	41.25		
COMP HOURS (Comp Time Used)	4.00		118.12
HOL HOURS (Holiday Pay)	323.28		10,484.21
HOLC HOURS (Holiday Worked @ 2.5x)	8.00		347.40
J003 HOURS (PD HOL WK)	24.00		1,064.52
J008 HOURS (PD HOL WK OT)	12.00		718.56
J010 HOURS (OT TRAINING)	9.00		397.05
J011 HOURS (OT COURT)	3.00		126.59
OVER HOURS (Overtime)	14.00		614.63
PERS HOURS (Personal Time Used)	13.00		443.77
REG HOURS (Regular Time)	2,696.50		90,661.32
SHFN HOURS (Shift B)	384.00		768.00
SHFQ HOURS (OVT B)	13.00		39.00
SHFU HOURS (Hol wk B)	24.00		120.00
SICK HOURS (Sick Time)	61.63		1,662.13
VACA HOURS (Vacation Time Used)	173.12		5,439.83
GROSS PAY	113,005.13	0.00	
NET PAY	79,792.24	0.00	
AFLAC-POSTTAX	86.97	0.00	
AFLAC-PRETAX	249.32	0.00	
CITY OF COLUMBI	20.00	0.00	
FIT	8,690.91	0.00	
FLEX ALLEGIANCE	1,012.50	25.00	
FOP	495.00	0.00	
HEALTHINS/PRE	4,191.60	32,426.90	
MEDICARE	1,589.37	1,589.37	
MT ST FIRE ASSO	115.33	0.00	
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	286.90	0.00	
NATIONWIDE/CITY	0.00	2,063.00	
NATIONWIDE/EMP	200.00	0.00	
P.E.R.S.	4,384.85	5,034.26	
PERS/FURS	1,234.06	1,656.17	
PERS/POLICE	3,233.40	5,177.02	
SIT	3,293.00	0.00	
SOCIAL SECURITY	3,766.68	3,766.68	
TEAMSTERS DUES	363.00	0.00	
UNEMPL. INSUR.	0.00	621.50	
WORKERS' COMP	0.00	3,566.74	
CHARLES SCHWAB	1,925.44	0.00	
FIRST INTERSTAT	1,233.90	0.00	
FREEDOM BANK	3,807.12	0.00	
GLACIER BANK KA	6,483.99	0.00	
GLACIER BANK MS	3,227.08	0.00	
GLACIER BANK/CF	24,170.16	0.00	
GLACIER BANK/WF	2,191.92	0.00	
MORGAN STANLEY	4,406.79	0.00	
NAVY FEDERAL CR	2,130.55	0.00	
PARKSIDE CR U	12,159.18	0.00	

01/12/2025
Payroll
\$ 127,138.84
Bono Standand

09/11/25
12:15:00

CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
Payroll Summary For Payrolls from 09/12/25 to 09/12/25

Page: 2 of 2
Report ID: P130

REGIONS BANK	2,577.75	0.00
STOCKMAN BANK	1,291.05	0.00
USAA FEDERAL	1,499.85	0.00
WELLS FARGO	2,281.06	0.00
WELLS FARGO, TX	2,251.14	0.00
WFISH CR UNION	8,155.26	0.00
FIT/SIT BASE	98,499.40	0.00
MEDICARE BASE	109,614.71	0.00
PERS BASE	103,564.32	0.00
SOC SEC BASE	60,752.63	0.00
UN BASE	113,005.13	0.00
WC BASE	112,031.33	0.00

Total 55,926.64
Total Payroll Expense (Gross Pay + Employer Contributions): 168,931.77

Check Summary

Payroll Checks Prev. Out.	\$86,829.32
Payroll Checks Issued	\$0.00
Payroll Checks Redeemed	\$85,361.36
Payroll Checks Outstanding	\$1,467.96
Electronic Checks	\$80,287.24

Deductions Accrued	Carried Forward From Previous Month	Deduction Checks Issued	Difference	Liab Account
Social Security	7,533.36	7,533.36	15,066.72	212260
Medicare	3,178.74	3,178.74	6,357.48	212260
P.E.R.S.	9,419.11	9,419.11	18,838.22	212270
Unempl. Insur.	621.50	4,037.19	4,658.69	212210
Workers' Comp	3,566.74	22,317.11	25,883.85	212220
FIT	8,690.91	8,690.91	17,381.82	212260
SIT	3,293.00	3,293.00	6,586.00	212260
AFLAC-PRETAX	249.32	249.32	498.64	212230
NATIONWIDE/EMP	200.00	200.00	400.00	212280
Teamsters dues	363.00	363.00	726.00	212310
PERS/Police	8,410.42	8,410.42	16,820.84	212240
NATIONWIDE/CITY	2,063.00	2,063.00	4,126.00	212280
AFLAC-POSITAX	86.97	86.97	173.94	212230
PERS/FURS	2,890.23	2,890.23	5,780.46	212275
MT ST FIRE ASSO	115.33	115.33	230.66	212315
HEALTHINS/PRE	36,618.50	36,618.50	73,237.00	212400
CITY OF COLUMBI	20.00	20.00	40.00	212450
FLEX ALLEGIANCE	1,037.50	1,037.50	2,075.00	212285
FOP	495.00	495.00		212335
PERS RETIREE	0.00			212270
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	286.90	286.90	573.80	212400
Total Ded.	89,139.53	110,810.59	495.00	199,455.12

**** Carried Forward column only correct if report run for current period.

**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HELD SEPTEMBER 02, 2025**

Mayor Barnhart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Councilor King, Councilor Lovering, Councilor Piper, Councilor Price, Councilor Robinson, Councilor Shepard and Mayor Barnhart.

Also present: City Manager Hanks, City Clerk Staalnd, City Attorney Breck, Finance Director Rice and Police Sergeant Rice.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilor Lovering made motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilor Shepard and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Councilor Robinson motioned to approve the consent agenda noting all claims appeared to be in order, seconded by Councilor Shepard and the motion carried unanimously.

- Approval of Claims September 2, 2025 - \$559,880.81
- Approval of Payroll Claims - August 22, 2025 - \$30,663.41
- Approval of Payroll Claims - August 29, 2025 - \$221,056.75
- Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes - August 18, 2025

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT (Items not on agenda)

Darin Fisher said the Columbus Park playground equipment looks very nice and is getting much use. That park is really coming together between pickleball, basketball, volleyball and the new equipment it is getting heavy use this year. Fisher extended his thanks to staff and council for the upgrades.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Final Budget Presentation

This evening City Manager Hanks presented the proposed tax and non-tax levy schedules for Fiscal Year 2026. The final budget message will be delivered at the September 15 council meeting, but tonight’s discussion highlighted the direction we are taking and the decisions that lie ahead.

At the conclusion of tonight’s public hearing, the council will consider three resolutions. The first is Resolution 1950, which levies special assessments for street and lighting services. The second is Resolution 1951, which formally adopts mill levies totaling 148.44 mills. The third is Resolution 1952, which authorizes appropriations in accordance with the tax and non-tax levy schedule.

For the General Fund, the City’s primary operating fund, appropriations total \$5,483,440. in keeping with council policy, we will continue to maintain a twenty percent reserve, supported in part by resort tax revenues. This reserve is essential to protecting the City’s financial stability and ensuring we are prepared for emergencies. This year, the resort tax will offset \$441,480, reducing residential property tax requirements by more than forty mills. The permissive medical levy stands at 38.05 mills, as previously discussed, while the

emergency disaster and local government review levies remain at zero for the year because reserves are already sufficient to meet state and federal obligations. Compared with last year, appropriations in the General Fund will increase by \$435,420, reflecting the City's commitment to strengthening services while keeping a responsible balance sheet.

Although the City's overall financial position remains stable, there are areas of concern that require attention. The Street Maintenance District continues to operate with insufficient funds despite a modest five percent increase that was approved earlier this year. The fund still relies heavily on gas tax revenue, and this remains a challenge for long-term sustainability. Water and sewer operations are also under financial strain. To preserve debt capacity for future growth, the Sewer Department was forced to cut \$70,000 in critical expenses this year. Water and Sewer Preliminary Engineering Reviews are ongoing. A utility rate study will be conducted in the spring, which will provide a clearer picture of the steps needed to ensure the system remains reliable.

On the revenue side, the city continues to benefit from important federal and state partnerships. This year, the RAISE grant for the Gateway to Glacier project will provide more than five million dollars, which represents roughly sixty percent of the total federal funding awarded for that project. Property tax revenue, which totals about \$1.6 million, accounts for only 6.8 percent of the City's overall budget, underscoring the fact that Columbia Falls relies on a diverse set of funding sources to operate. Intergovernmental grants, charges for services, and cash reserves also play an important role in ensuring stability. Carryover funds remain consistent at about twenty percent of annual revenue, reflecting the City's policy of maintaining a strong cushion for emergencies.

In terms of expenditures, public safety continues to be the top priority. Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services account for about half of the General Fund, which reflects both the size of these departments and the critical nature of their work. Operational spending remains healthy and balanced, while capital expenditures are driven largely by major projects such as the Gateway to Glacier Safety and Mobility project and the completion of the sewer facility capital project.

The city is also investing in a series of community-focused improvements. At the pool, operating costs were approximately \$141,000 this year, which included some facility upgrades such as painting and fascia repairs. Looking forward, the pool boiler will be replaced with a more efficient stainless-steel unit at a cost of \$135,000, and aging splash pad fixtures will be updated as well. City Hall will see a fresh coat of exterior paint this year, and plans are in place to modernize outdated restrooms and hallway areas in the coming budget cycle. At the street shop, funds are set aside to address a roof leak and to insulate the cold storage area, while the City Court facility is receiving a new air conditioning unit. These are modest but important steps to maintain safe and functional public buildings.

The River's Edge Fishing Pond Pier remains a priority project, and staff are working with the Rotary Club and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks to pursue grants and partnerships to help fund it. Resort Tax revenue is expected to provide a substantial portion of the financing, with additional contributions possible through community and agency partnerships. Other projects in development include additional parking improvements at Columbus Park, signage upgrades for Rivers Edge Park, and continued investment in park infrastructure.

On the equipment side, the city continues to budget carefully to replace aging vehicles. Police patrol cars will be funded through the Resort Tax, and the Fire Department has recently completed the purchase of new radios with restricted cash from the sale of prior equipment. A new fire engine will arrive shortly, representing

a major upgrade for public safety. Meanwhile, the fleet in the Streets and Parks departments continue to age, and staff is working on a long-term replacement plan that balances immediate needs with the realities of funding shortfall.

The city is also preparing for future street projects. This fall, we will complete a city-wide street condition assessment using the iWork program. The results will form the basis of a street prioritization plan to be presented to the council in October. This plan will allow us to make informed decisions about which roads most urgently need repair, and it will also highlight opportunities to combine street projects with water main replacement to maximize taxpayer value.

In closing the City's finances remain steady, supported by diverse revenue streams and careful fiscal management. At the same time, we face clear challenges in maintaining critical infrastructure. With the support of federal grants, the resort tax, and prudent long-term planning, Columbia Falls is positioned to continue delivering essential services while investing in projects that strengthen our community.

With no public comments Mayor Barnhart closed the Public Hearing at 7:38 p.m.

ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #1950 - Levying Assessment upon property within Special Improvements Districts to defray the cost of said SID for the FY26.

Councilor Robinson motioned to approve Resolution #1950 seconded by Councilor King with council voting as follows. Ayes: Piper, Price, Robinson, Shepard, King, Lovering and Barnhart.

Resolution #1951 - Setting and adopting the mill levies on all real and personal property within the City. Councilor Robinson made motion to approve Resolution #1951, seconded by Councilor Shepard with council voting as follows. Ayes: Price, Robinson, Shepard, King, Lovering, Piper and Barnhart.

Resolution #1952 - Adopting the budget for FY26 and approving appropriations for each fund. Councilor Robinson motioned to approve Resolution #1952, seconded by Councilor Lovering with council voting as follows. Ayes: Robinson, Shepard, King, Lovering, Piper, Price and Barnhart.

REPORTS / BUSINESS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

Councilor Piper said he had not supported the Resort Tax initially but is glad it is now in place.

Councilor Price asked for an update from PD on illegal parking at 12th Avenue and Talbot Road. Sergeant Rice explained the stop sign is 30 feet from parking, additional signage should help, and while he has not heard when it will be painted, the area sees regular trucking traffic and no parking is allowed along much of 12th Avenue.

Councilor Shepard noted a recent article on the PFAS issue and expressed gratitude that our water system has not been affected.

Councilor Shepard acknowledged the passing of Joe Silva, who worked in the Police Department from 1985 to 1990 and served on council from 1996 to 2003.

Mayor Barnhart thanked Susan Nicosia for her assistance with the budget and congratulated City Manager Hanks on his strong work.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

On September 11, the Planning Commission will meet with an update on the Montana Land Use Planning Act (SB 382). This is not a kickoff but a chance to align the Commission with where the state and city stand. On September 15, I will brief the City Council with a similar update.

We have signed a contract with our website provider for a new design, which will launch in 45–60 days. The site will be paired with a city communication strategy and social media rollout, making it a central hub for information, including land use planning. The new design is similar to Kalispell, Whitefish, and Polson and replaces an outdated system phased out by CivicPlus.

Finance and Administration has posted an accountant position, now advertised on the city website. We continue to push for strong candidates to join the team.

Public Works and Planning used a rented stump grinder to remove stumps across the city, including at Rivers Edge Park, helping clean up right-of-way and public spaces.

With school back in session, patrols around schools are increasing. Sidewalk safety remains a concern, so the city will begin educating the public on codes regarding blocked sidewalks, followed by stronger enforcement to ensure safe routes for children.

OTHER REPORTS:

Sergeant Rice reported in August that the Police Department reported 15 DUIs, 408 traffic stops, over 9,000 miles patrolled, and 1,105 calls. Traffic accidents are down

Staff will soon begin tagging and leaving door hangers on improperly parked or stored vehicles, giving residents time to resolve issues before citations. City ordinance matches state code, so enforcement will be straightforward.

Finally, e-bike regulation remains a challenge. State law breaks e-bikes into tiers, but local enforcement lacks the tools to measure power levels. We are considering a city ordinance to align with state definitions: pedal-assist bikes are treated as bicycles, while bikes without pedals are motorized vehicles, with helmet requirements for riders under 18. For now, officers are educating riders and contacting parents.

MISCELLANEOUS

Correspondence

ADJOURN: Councilor Lovering motioned to adjourn at 7:58 p.m., seconded by Councilor King.

Mayor

City Clerk



COLUMBIA FALLS MONTANA

City Council Agenda Item Summary

Title: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Flathead County and the City of Columbia Falls re: Medical Direction for Law Enforcement Medical Response.

Date: August 18, 2025

Staff Contact: Chad Stephens

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY: The Flathead County Officer of Emergency Services is providing an Assistant Medical Director (AMD) who's primary job duties are to serve as medical director for law enforcement within Flathead County. The Purpose, Scope, Limitations, and Cost are outlined in this MOU.

BACKGROUND: The Flathead County Office of Emergency Services has hired an Assistant Medical Director Specifically for oversight and training of Law Enforcement Medical Response in Flathead County. This AMD will help to craft training and best practices for our Law Enforcement Medical Program at no cost.

ANALYSIS: The Medical Director shall provide clinical guidance and oversight for approved medical interventions performed by City LEOs, including but not limited to:

- Naloxone (Narcan) administration
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- Epinephrine (EPI) auto-injector use
- I-Gel supraglottic airway placement

Other approved lifesaving interventions Oversight includes development and approval of medical protocols, training content, and quality assurance review for incidents involving medical intervention.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS: There is no financial obligation to the city.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval.

SUGGESTED MOTION: Motion to authorize the city manager to enter into the attached MOU with Flathead County for Law Enforcement Medical Response.

ATTACHMENTS: See attached Memorandum of Understanding.

Memorandum of Understanding

Between Flathead County and the City of Columbia Falls Regarding Medical Direction for Law Enforcement Medical Response

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is entered into on this ___ day of _____, 2025, by and between **Flathead County** (“County”) and the **City of Columbia Falls** (“City”).

1. Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to establish an agreement whereby Flathead County will provide a Medical Director to offer medical direction for the City in regards to the Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) who respond to medical emergencies and provide limited emergency medical interventions.

2. Scope of Medical Oversight

The Medical Director shall provide clinical guidance and oversight for approved medical interventions performed by City LEOs, including but not limited to:

- Naloxone (Narcan) administration
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- Epinephrine (EPI) auto-injector use
- I-Gel supraglottic airway placement
- Other approved lifesaving interventions

Oversight includes development and approval of medical protocols, training content, and quality assurance review for incidents involving medical intervention.

3. Limitations of Authority

This MOU expressly states that the Medical Director shall have no authority over law enforcement employment matters, operational policy, discipline, or any aspect of LEO duties unrelated to medical care.

4. Term and Termination

This MOU is effective upon the date of the last signature and will remain in effect until 12/31/2026, unless terminated earlier by either party with thirty (30) days’ written notice.

5. Compensation

This service is provided at **no direct cost to the City of Columbia Falls**, unless a separate written agreement is executed specifying otherwise.

6. Liability

Each party is responsible for the actions and omissions of its own personnel in accordance with applicable law. This MOU does not create a joint venture, partnership, or employment relationship between the parties. The Medical Director will provide their own Professional Liability Insurance.

7. Signatures

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this MOU by their duly authorized representatives.

Flathead County

Name: Pamela Holmquist
Title: Chairman, Flathead County Board of Commissioners

Signature: _____

Date: _____

City of Columbia Falls

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 1951

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS, MONTANA, SETTING AND ADOPTING THE MILL LEVIES ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS; APPROVING SPECIAL LEVIES FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES ON PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS, MONTANA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section One: That the levies on real and personal property within the City of Columbia Falls, for meeting the regular expenses of the City of Columbia Falls, and special levies for special purposes, is hereby adopted.

Section Two: The tax levy requirements as expressed in mills, totaling 148.44 mills are as follows: Section 15-10-420, MCA 149.31 less (40.76) Resort Tax offset for a net General Fund levy of 108.55 mills and 1.84 Fire Relief mills for a total 15-10-420 mills of 110.39, and Permissive Medical Levy mills of 38.05.

Section Three: Pursuant to Section 7-6-4030, MCA, the City must report the increase in property taxes, including an increase authorized under 15-10-420(1), MCA and any voted or permissive levies on homes valued at \$100,000, \$300,000 and \$600,000. Property taxes decreased on the homes valued above at \$61.31, \$183.93 and \$266.91, respectively.

Section Four: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the City Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS, THIS 2nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025. THE COUNCIL VOTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: Price, Robinson, Shepard, King, Lovering, Piper and Barnhart

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR OF COLUMBIA FALLS, MONTANA, THIS 2nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk



COLUMBIA FALLS MONTANA

City Council Agenda Item Summary

Title: Parks 2006 Ford F-150 Surplus

Date: 09/12/2025

Staff Contact: Shawn Bates, PWD

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY: Request for approval to surplus the Parks Department's 2006 Ford F-150 (VIN #1FTRF12276NB84150).

BACKGROUND:

The city purchased a new 2006 Ford F-150 from Bison Ford in June 2006 for the Water Department at a cost of \$12,400. In 2017, the Water Department acquired a replacement vehicle, and the F-150 was subsequently reassigned to the Parks Department.

ANALYSIS: The Ford F-150 has recently become inoperable because of significant mechanical problems. Given the extent of the issues, the vehicle is not considered a worthwhile investment to repair.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS: The 2006 Ford F-150 has been fully depreciated and retains minimal value due to its current mechanical condition.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Public Works Department is recommending that the city designate this vehicle as surplus.



COLUMBIA FALLS MONTANA

Item No.7.

Agenda Item Summary

Title: Montana Community Bear Conflict Prevention Efforts Fund Grant

Date: September 15, 2025

Staff Contact: City Manager Hanks

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY: Grant funding application approval for Montana Community Bear Conflict Prevention Efforts Fund to add additional bear-proof trashcans and educational signage to City parks and Nucleus Ave.

BACKGROUND:

- The second round of the Montana Community-Bear Conflict Prevention Efforts Fund will award an additional \$750,000 to support community-led, non-lethal carnivore conflict prevention tools through the geographic range of grizzly bears in Montana. This funding, provided through the America the Beautiful Challenge grant program administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and awarded to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, will support conflict prevention activities through July 2027. Funds were awarded to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the grant project is administered by Heart of the Rockies Initiative.
- Heart of the Rockies Initiative is currently accepting applications for the Montana Community-Bear Conflict Prevention Efforts Fund through October 3, 2025 at 5 p.m.
- City would partner with the non-profit *People and Carnivores* for the grant application.
- City requesting funding for 10 bear-proof trashcans, 10 concrete slabs, and \$7,000 for educational signage.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

- City would be responsible for a maximum of 15% matching funds and not to exceed \$8,250. Matching funds may be reduced with funds from *People and Carnivores* project funding.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Request the Council approve the City Manager to apply for the FWP funded Montana Community-Bear Conflict Prevention Efforts Fund grant.



COLUMBIA FALLS MONTANA

City Council Agenda Item Summary

Title: Grant Application Approval Notification from Montana Department of Transportation

Date: September 9, 2025

Staff Contact: Chief Chad Stephens

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY: The city receive notice from the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) that our application for funding a DUI officer was approved in the amount of \$165,263.00.

BACKGROUND: On March 3rd, 2025, the council approved a motion to apply for a grant through the Montana Department of Transportation. This grant would fund a fulltime police officer who would specialize in DUI/ Dangerous Driving Enforcement as well as overtime DUI enforcement funding for other officers in the department It would also fund training specific to DUI/ Dangerous driving enforcement as well as provide funding for equipment.

ANALYSIS: The Montana Department of Transportation, through its State Highway Traffic Safety Section, is expecting grant funding opportunities for FFY 2026 projects. The Columbia Falls Police Department/ City of Columbia Falls has applied for two projects. The first is funding for a full time DUI officer with the Columbia Falls Police Department. The grant supplies funding for 100% of the officer's salary and benefits. It also supplies funding for traffic related training and equipment. The second portion of this grant project is \$15,000.00 in funding for STEP overtime.

The Columbia Falls Police Department currently has a \$16,000.00 grant for STEP overtime funding. This STEP grant has been in place with CFPD for many years. The current STEP funding will be reduced to \$15,000.00. However, the city/ department will receive \$135,262.56 to pay for the wages and benefits for a full-time officer to be assigned to DUI and other traffic related enforcement duties. Also included in the grant is an additional \$15,000.00 to pay for DUI enforcement specific training and equipment.

If the grant becomes defunded the council would have to decide whether or not to fund the position. There are currently five other communities/ Police Departments in Montana who have this same grant. Those other agencies are, Flathead County (1 year), Kalispell PD (1 Year), Missoula PD (1 year), Billings PD (First year) and Helena PD (6 years).

The CHSP has four goals:

- Impaired driving enforcement.
- Use of safety restraints and reduction of unrestrained vehicle occupants.
- Reduction of roadway departures and intersection collisions.
- Enhanced emergency response and post-crash care.

Benefits:

- Full time DUI officer devoted to impaired driving enforcement as well as other dangerous driving behaviors.
- Will be trained as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE). To enhance enforcement efforts with drug impaired DUIs.
- All CFPD officers will be Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) trained. This will enhance all officers' abilities to detect impaired drivers.
- Full time DUI officer will be able to take over DUI investigations from normal patrol officers allowing them to return to normal patrol duties.
- New Portable Breath Testers (PBTs) and Tint Meters for the department.
- Overtime for the full-time DUI enforcement officer can be paid out of the other STEP \$15,000.00 as long as it is related to DUI enforcement efforts and traffic related activities and investigations.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS: This is a 100% grant funded project. The funding includes all wages and benefits for a police officer, overtime funding, training funding and some equipment. A current Police Officer with the City of Columbia Falls Police Department would be placed in this position and funded by this grant. The department would then hire a new police officer to fill the DUI officer's vacant position. Should the grant not be renewed the DUI officer would return to their position of seniority in the department and the newest officer would be released from employment. Any new officer hired would be made fully aware of the potential peril of accepting this position.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval.

SUGGESTED MOTION: Recommend approval and continuing with the acceptance once the MDT receives the federal funding.

ATTACHMENTS: Letter dated August 29th, 2025 from MDT Planning Supervisor, Kevin Dusko. Agenda statement dated February 18, 2025.

August 29th, 2025

Chad Stephens, Chief of Police
City of Columbia Falls
130 6th Street West
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Subject: Application for FFY26 Funding, City of Columbia Falls STEP

Dear Chief Stephens,

We are pleased to inform you that your application for National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) funding through the Montana Department of Transportation State Highway Safety Section (MDT-SHTSS) has been approved by the program for funding for federal fiscal year 2026, which is October 01, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

The approved funding for your project is: \$165,263

MDT-SHTSS must receive approval to fund your project through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The funding availability for your project is contingent upon MDT-SHTSS receiving approval and funding from NHTSA.

SHTSS will use the web-based grants management system to prepare your project scope of work and budget for development into a contract with MDT. Your assigned planner will be in contact with you to facilitate the process. The contract will be submitted to you for signatures through DocuSign via email.

Please note: You may not incur any costs for FFY 2026 prior to 10/01/25. MDT-SHTSS will be unable to reimburse for costs incurred prior to NHTSA approval.

We are looking forward to partnering with you on this project to reduce traffic crashes, fatalities, and injuries on Montana's roads. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the project traffic safety planner, Kevin Dusko, kedusko@mt.gov, (406) 444-7411.

Kevin Dusko

Kevin Dusko, Supervisor
MDT Planning - Highway Traffic Safety Section
406-444-7411, kedusko@mt.gov



COLUMBIA FALLS MONTANA

City Council Agenda Item Summary

Title: Grant Funding for a Full Time DUI Officer and overtime funding for STEP.

Date: February 18, 2025

Staff Contact: Chief Chad Stephens

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY: Grant application approval for a full time DUI enforcement officer and Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) funding.

BACKGROUND: The Montana Department of Transportation offers grant funding to support its strategies under the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan (CHSP). In 2024 the Columbia Falls Police Department arrested 107 people for DUI and responded to 233 collisions in Columbia Falls. One of those collisions was a fatality and the causing driver was intoxicated. Officers also conducted 3,216 traffic stops and issued 1,950 traffic citations in 2024.

ANALYSIS: The Montana Department of Transportation, through its State Highway Traffic Safety Section, has grant funding opportunities for FFY 2026 projects. The attached application contains two projects. The first is funding for a full time DUI officer with the Columbia Falls Police Department. The grant supplies funding for 100% of the officer's salary and benefits. It also supplies funding for traffic related training and equipment. The second portion of this grant project is \$15,000.00 in funding for STEP overtime.

The Columbia Falls Police Department currently has a \$16,000.00 grant for STEP overtime funding. This STEP grant has been in place with CFPD for many years. The current STEP funding will be reduced to \$15,000.00. However, the city/ department will receive \$135,262.56 to pay for the wages and benefits for a full-time officer to be assigned to DUI and other traffic related enforcement duties. Also included in the grant is an additional \$15,000.00 to pay for DUI enforcement specific training and equipment.

If the grant becomes defunded the council would have to decide whether or not to fund the position. There are currently five other communities/ Police Departments in Montana who have

this same grant. Those other agencies are, Flathead County (1 year), Kalispell PD (1 Year), Missoula PD (1 year), Billings PD (First year) and Helena PD (6 years).

The CHSP has four goals:

- Impaired driving enforcement.
- Use of safety restraints and reduction of unrestrained vehicle occupants.
- Reduction of roadway departures and intersection collisions.
- Enhanced emergency response and post-crash care.

Benefits:

- Full time DUI officer devoted to impaired driving enforcement as well as other dangerous driving behaviors.
- Will be trained as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE). To enhance enforcement efforts with drug impaired DUIs.
- All CFPD officers will be Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) trained. This will enhance all officers' abilities to detect impaired drivers.
- Full time DUI officer will be able to take over DUI investigations from normal patrol officers allowing them to return to normal patrol duties.
- New Portable Breath Testers (PBTs) and Tint Meters for the department.
- Overtime for the full-time DUI enforcement officer can be paid out of the other STEP \$15,000.00 as long as it is related to DUI enforcement efforts and traffic related activities and investigations.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS: This is a 100% grant funded project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommend Approval.

SUGGESTED MOTION: Approval of the application to the Montana Department of Transportation's State Highway Traffic Safety Section funding opportunity for Federal Fiscal Year 2026 projects as outlined in the attached application.

ATTACHMENTS: Complete grant application ready for submission.



COLUMBIA FALLS MONTANA

Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Message

September 15, 2025

To Mayor Barnhart, City Council, and Citizens of Columbia Falls:

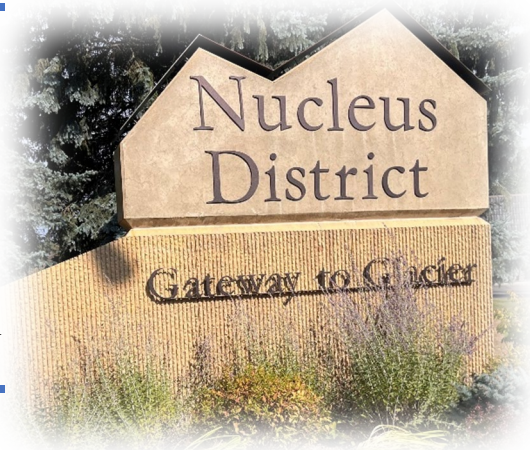
I am pleased to present the City of Columbia Falls **Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Budget**. The adopted budget totals **\$23,514,508**, representing a **1.5% decrease** from the FY25 adopted budget of \$23,864,711. This budget reflects the City Council’s continued commitment to maintaining high-quality services while being fiscally responsible and responsive to the changing property tax environment.

Thanks to Resort Tax collections, the City will again reduce the property tax burden for residents. A homeowner with a \$600,000 primary residence will see an estimated **\$267 tax reduction for City taxes** compared to last year. Over the last four years, Resort Tax revenues have lowered City property taxes by approximately **\$1.8 million**, while also funding new public safety personnel, equipment, and capital improvements.

The City Council reaffirmed its **Mission Statement** adopted May 6, 1996, as the foundation for the FY26 budget. This mission drives budgetary decisions to balance fiscal responsibility with the services that make Columbia Falls a strong and welcoming community.

The mission of the City of Columbia Falls is to foster a community that appeals to individuals, families, businesses, and investors. Columbia Falls is a city that encourages individual rights and responsibilities, promotes aesthetics and recreation, and provides safety and security. By listening to their needs, by respecting diversity and differences of opinion, and by evaluating the status quo and practicing thoughtful planning, the City provides excellent value at reasonable cost.

-May 6, 1996



During this budget cycle, the City Council focused on four strategic priorities:

1. **Public Safety** – Adding one new firefighter and investing in Police and Fire Department equipment to better serve our community and visitors. The Resort Tax collections fund 3 police officers, 2.5 firefighter positions, fire engine loan payments, and annual purchase of a police vehicle (*Fire Department funding shared with the Rural Fire District*)
2. **Public Communication & Transparency** – Expanding tools and policies for resident engagement.
3. **Transportation Corridors** – Driven by the 2021 Transportation Plan, funding large capital improvements to continue modernization and integration of roads and sidewalks throughout the community.
4. **Parks & Facilities** – Using Resort Tax and grant funding to enhance parks, recreational spaces, and community facilities.

Like all Montana cities, Columbia Falls’ revenue capacity is significantly shaped by state law. Property taxes only account for **6.8%** of the Cities’ total budgeted revenue. **2025 Certified Taxable Valuation decreased by 11.55%** due to statewide property tax rate changes. Class 4 multifamily, commercial, and industrial properties also saw reductions. Since these classes make up **90% of Columbia Falls’ tax base**, the change led to a major decline in valuation. Residential tax rates dropped from the historic 1.35% rate to:

- o 0.76% on the first \$400,000 of market value
- o 1.10% on value between \$400,000 and \$1.5 million
- o 2.20% on value over \$1.5 million

Under MCA 15-10-420, property tax increases are capped by half the rate of inflation and newly taxable property. In FY26, inflation allowed \$25,092 in additional revenue while newly taxable property contributed only \$7,003 for a **total increase of \$32,095** in new property tax revenue.

The Council adopted a levy of 148.44 mills, generating **\$1,607,844 in property tax revenue**. However, because 25% of Resort Tax collections (\$441,480) is applied to property tax relief, the City will collect only \$1,175,835 in property taxes—a **\$180,216 decrease** in annual collections when compared to FY22.

Approved by voters in June 2020 and first collected in October 2021, the Resort Tax continues to reshape Columbia Falls’ fiscal outlook. To date, it has:

- Funds equivalent of 3 police officers and 2.5 firefighters.
- Provided **\$1.8 million in property tax relief** over four years.
- Supported investments in public safety equipment, parks, and infrastructure projects.

In its third year, Resort Tax collections are now a reliable funding stream that balances expanded service demands with resident tax relief.

Columbia Falls faces both opportunities and challenges in the years ahead that will shape our City’s future for many decades. This year the City will approve a new Land Use Plan (also known as a Growth Policy or Comprehensive Plan) that will target acceptable growth while maintaining our unique community character at the Gateway to Glacier National Park. The state’s aggressive and rapidly changing legislation to counter increasing housing costs continues to bring demand for increased housing, infrastructure, and public services, while statewide property tax changes reduce local revenue flexibility.

The FY26 budget demonstrates the City Council’s commitment to:

- Fiscal responsibility.
- Protecting core services.
- Investing in the community’s future.
- Using Resort Tax revenue wisely to balance service expansion with property tax relief.

The FY26 Final Budget was submitted to the Mayor and Council for final approval on September 2, 2025. Formal budget adoption was approved by Resolution #1952 Adopting the Final Budget.

On behalf of the City Staff, I thank the Mayor and Council for their leadership and the citizens of Columbia Falls for their engagement and trust in your City Staff’s service to this community.

Sincerely,

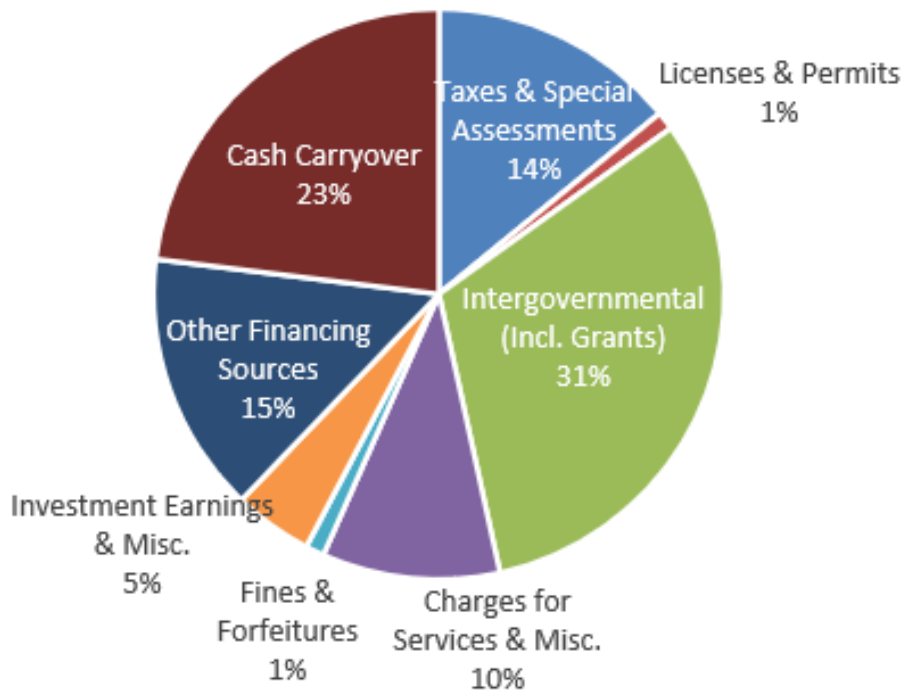


Eric M. Hanks
City Manager

BUDGET SUMMARY

Total Fiscal Year 2026 Revenues:

	FY26	% Total	FY25	% Total	Change	% Change
Taxes & Special Assessments	\$ 3,310,284	14%	\$ 3,474,091	15%	\$ (163,807)	-5%
Licenses & Permits	\$ 244,750	1%	\$ 191,700	1%	\$ 53,050	28%
Intergovernmental (Incl. Grants)	\$ 7,394,189	31%	\$ 5,195,462	22%	\$ 2,198,727	42%
Charges for Services & Misc.	\$ 2,370,010	10%	\$ 2,344,834	10%	\$ 25,176	1%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$ 248,800	1%	\$ 213,900	1%	\$ 34,900	16%
Investment Earnings & Misc.	\$ 1,051,385	4%	\$ 1,025,835	4%	\$ 25,550	2%
Other Financing Sources	\$ 3,477,510	15%	\$ 5,321,193	22%	\$(1,843,683)	-35%
Cash Carryover	\$ 5,417,580	23%	\$ 6,097,696	26%	\$ (680,116)	-11%
Total	\$ 23,514,508	100%	\$23,864,711	100%	\$ (350,203)	-1%



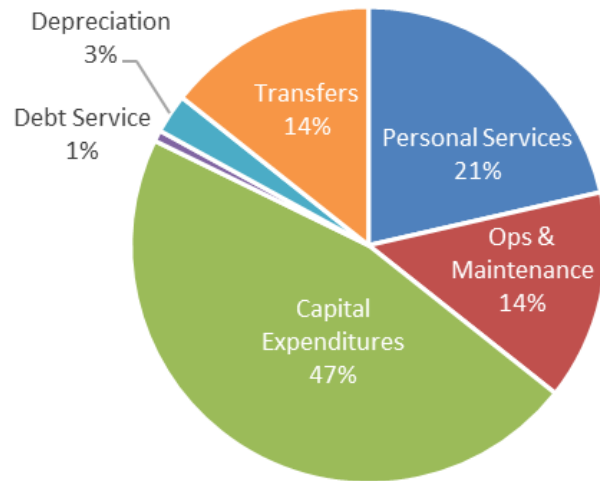
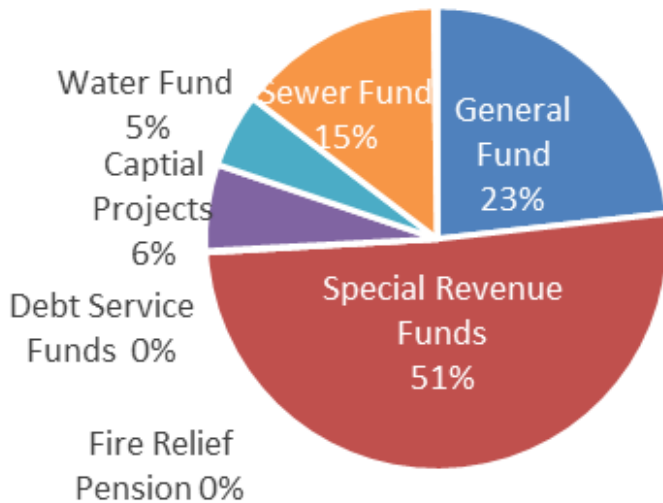
Highlights:

- Property Tax
 - **\$1,607,884** with a **\$441,480 Resort Tax Offset**
 - **6.8%** of City's total budgeted revenue
 - TIF & TEDD District revenue are not budgeted until all tax district levies are set.
 - FY25 TIF Actual = \$1,366,029
 - FY25 TEDDs Actual = \$144,844
- Intergovernmental Grants
 - RAISE Federal – Gateway to Glacier Project **\$5,297,800**
 - 60% of the remaining federal grant funds
- Charges for Services
 - **\$2,047,400** Water and Sewer Services

Total Fiscal Year 2026 Expenditures:

Expenditure by Fund

	FY26	FY25	Change
General Fund	\$ 5,463,440	\$ 5,097,864	\$ 365,576
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 11,953,023	\$ 7,060,223	\$ 4,892,800
Debt Service Funds	\$ 24,493	\$ 34,799	\$ (10,306)
Capital Project Funds	\$ 1,415,000	\$ 2,068,173	\$ (653,173)
Water Fund	\$ 1,215,219	\$ 1,537,994	\$ (322,775)
Sewer Fund	\$ 3,392,837	\$ 7,998,031	\$ (4,605,194)
Fire Relief Pension	\$ 50,496	\$ 67,627	\$ (17,131)
Total	\$ 23,514,508	\$23,864,711	\$ (350,203)



Expenditure by Function

	FY2026	% Total	FY2025	Change
Personal Services	\$ 5,037,470	21%	\$ 4,792,565	\$ 244,905
Ops & Maintenance	\$ 3,347,396	14%	\$ 2,922,367	\$ 425,029
Capital Expenditures	\$ 10,950,561	47%	\$10,684,183	\$ 266,378
Debt Service	\$ 176,968	1%	\$ 174,403	\$ 2,565
Depreciation	\$ 628,000	3%	\$ 720,000	\$ (92,000)
Transfers	\$ 3,374,113	14%	\$ 4,571,193	\$ (1,197,080)
Total	\$ 23,514,508	100%	\$23,864,711	\$ (350,203)

Personal Services

The City’s strength comes from the dedicated employees working in each of the City’s departments. The City attracts and retains highly capable and dedicated staff with competitive total compensation, which includes 90% of medical insurance premiums and a maximum of \$2,495/month for a family plan. All employees received a cost-of-living increase of 3% and each received a 2% step and experience for a total of 5% wage increase. In July 2025, the City signed three-year Collective Bargaining Agreements with the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #6 and the Teamsters Union Local No. 2.

The City will add an additional firefighter in FY26 for a total of four full-time firefighters and one Fire Chief. The personnel costs of the firefighters are shared between the City and the Rural Fire District. The City will also hire a full-time Accountant/Grants’ Manager in the Finance Department.

Personal Services total \$4.9M , 21% of the total FY26 budget. The City’s employees are supplemented with contracted services for City Attorney (including Prosecution), City Planner and Zoning, Building Code and Permit Inspections, Informational Technology, and Janitorial services.

Capital Expenditures

Capital expenditures are 47% of the overall budget, with a total of \$10,950,561. The Capital Project expenditures are tied directly to grant funding and on-going capital projects. The federal RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) grant includes \$5,297,800 (65% Streets and 35% Water) which includes 60% of the total construction funding. The remaining 40% of construction and engineering is projected for FY27.

Capital Projects Details:

Buildings and Building Improvements	\$	35,000
Park and Pool Improvements	\$	381,500
Infrastructure – Street, Sidewalks, Paths	\$	4,855,000
Infrastructure – Water	\$	1,854,230
Infrastructure – Sewer	\$	942,484
Vehicles & Equipment	\$	189,000
Total	\$	10,950,561

Taxes and Assessments Revenue

While property tax revenues receive significant discussion during the budget process, they only fund 6.8% of the total budgeted appropriations. The FY26 Fiscal Year levied taxes total \$1,607,884 or 148.44 mills. The property tax revenue funds: General Fund (\$1,175,864), Fire Relief (\$50,496), and Permissive Medical Levy (\$412,120).

Taxable valuation decreased 11.55% as result of the amended state tax rates for 2025. The historic tax rate of 1.35% was replaced with a graduated property tax rate based on assessed Department of Revenue market value:

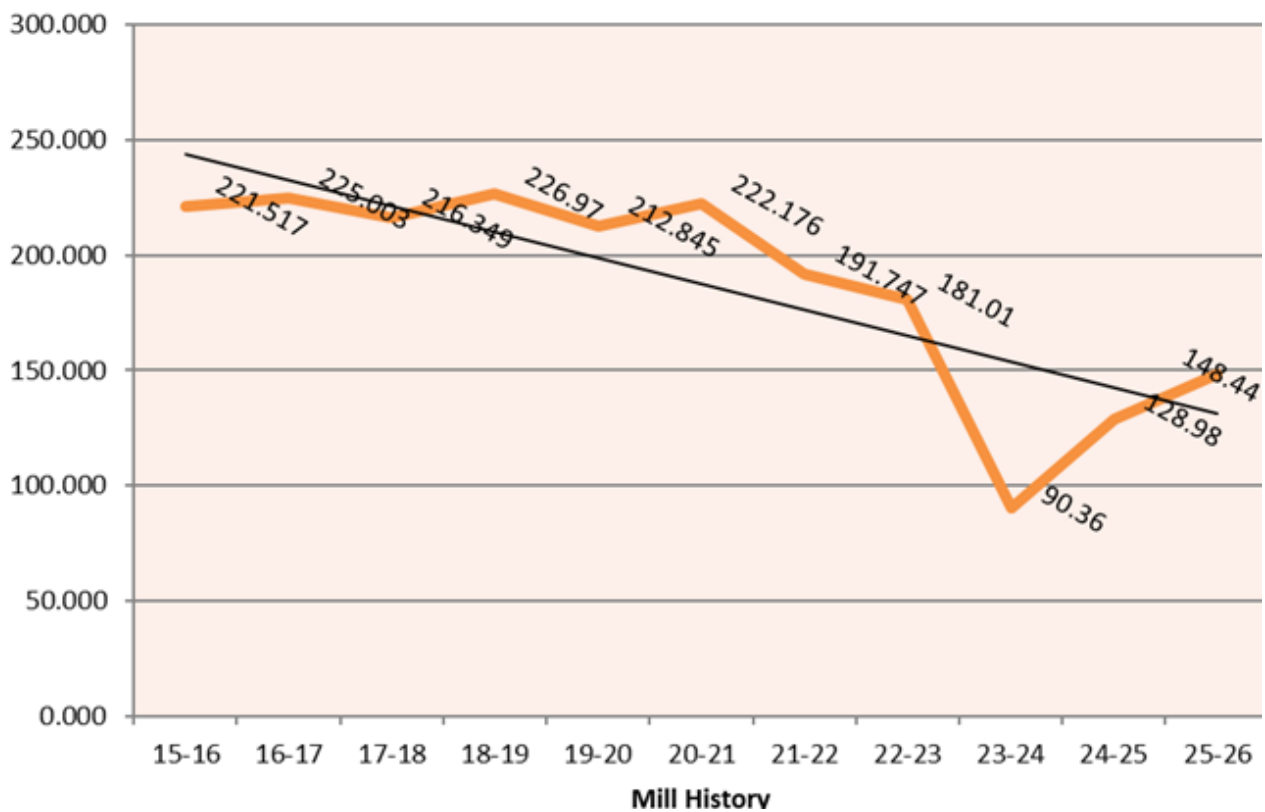
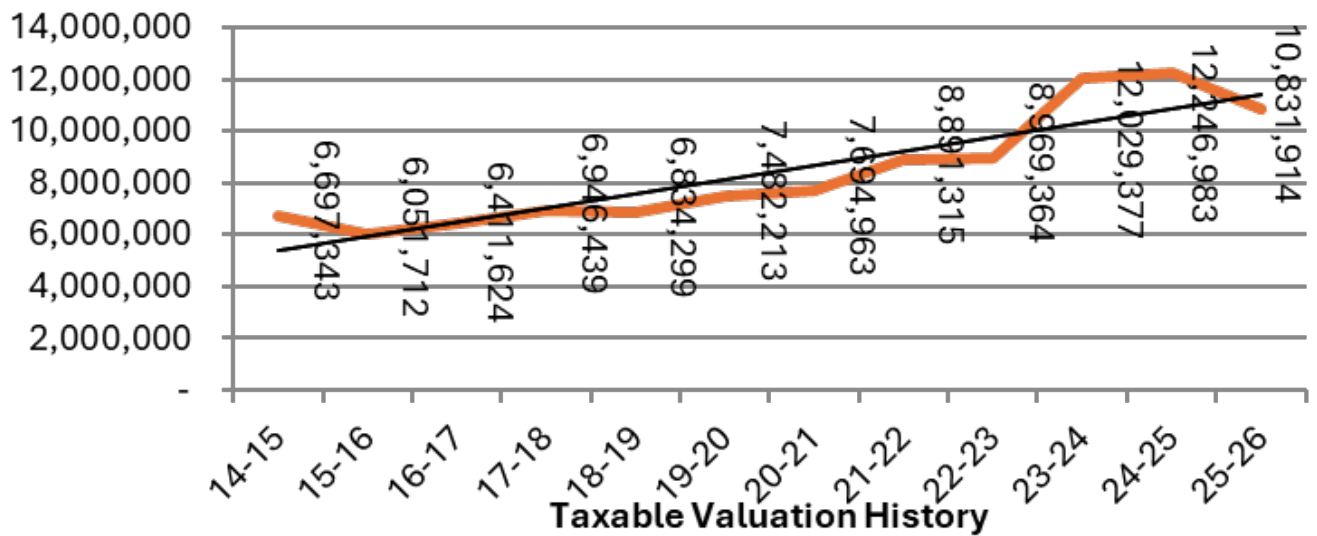
- 0.76% - First \$400,000
- 1.10% - \$400,000 - \$1.5 million
- 2.20% - Greater than \$1.5 million
- Multifamily rental dwellings with market value greater than \$2 million - 1.89% maximum rate
- Commercial and Industrial Properties - 1.4% on first \$400,000 and 1.89% on value greater than \$400,000

Projected Property Tax Impact

Fiscal Year 2026 City Tax Levy				
Property Value	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$1,000,000
Tax Rate(s) (1st \$400K)	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%
(>\$400K)	-----	-----	1.10%	1.10%
Taxable Valuation	760	2,280	5,240	9,640
FY26 City Levy	148.44	148.44	148.44	148.44
FY26 City Taxes	\$ 112.81	\$ 338.44	\$ 777.82	\$ 1,430.96
Fiscal Year 2025 City Tax Levy				
Property Value	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$1,000,000
Tax Rate(s)	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%
Taxable Valuation	1,350	4,050	8,100	13,500
FY25 City Mill Levy	128.98	128.98	128.98	128.98
FY25 City Taxes	\$ 174.12	\$ 522.37	\$ 1,044.74	\$ 1,741.23
FY25 to FY26 City Tax Reduction	\$ (61.31)	\$ (183.93)	\$ (266.91)	\$ (310.27)

Taxable Valuation History

The taxable valuation and mill levy relationship are reflected in the tables below



Resort Tax Revenue

The Resort Tax was approved by the voters in June 2020 and the City began collecting the tax effective October 1, 2021. The City Council adopted a budget that projects **\$1,736,842** in total collections for FY26. The Resort Tax Ordinance #803 specified the uses of the tax funds:

- 25% - Property Tax Reduction
- 55% - Public Safety Operational and Capital Funding
- 14% - Infrastructure Capital Improvements such as Parks, Streets, Water and Sewer
- 5% - Business Administrative Fee – Business Retained, not remitted to the City
- 1% - City Administrative Costs

FY26 Revenue collection and for projected expenditure in FY27:

Property Tax Reduction (25%) –	\$434,211
Public Safety (55%)	\$955,263
Infrastructure (14%)	\$243,158
Business Retained (5%)	\$86,842
City Administration (1%)	\$17,368

The Resort Tax Reduction which began in the FY23, is applied to the General Fund property tax levy. The rebate totaled **\$441,480**, which includes \$37,102 in excess Resort Tax revenue beyond the FY25 budget projection. Pursuant to state law, any resort tax revenue collected above the budgeted revenues, is applied to property tax relief. The residents received a rebate totaling 26.6% of all Resort Tax revenue. The rebate is reflected in a **40.76 mill reduction** in the levy.

City of Columbia Falls’ Property Taxes are **\$180,216 less than FY22 (pre-resort tax)**. Over the last four years, the Resort Tax has contributed to **\$1.8M in tax reductions** while also funding additional public safety equipment and personnel and other infrastructure projects.

Resort Tax Collection History

FY25 - \$1,573,737
 FY24 - \$1,412,783
 FY23 - \$1,435,827
 FY22 - \$518,453

Resort Tax Rebate History:

FY26 - \$441,480 (\$37,102 excess)
 FY25 - \$371,785
 FY24 - \$847,925 (\$637,960 excess)
 FY23 - \$136,435

FY26 Resort Tax Impact to Property Taxes

General Fund	Property Taxes	Resort Taxes	Total Taxes	Change Year-Year	
				\$\$\$	%
FY26	\$ 1,175,835	\$ 441,480	\$ 1,617,315	\$ 92,723	6%
% of total tax revenue	73%	27%			
FY25	\$ 1,152,807	\$ 371,785	\$ 1,524,592*	\$ (31,003)*	-2%*
% of total tax revenue	76%	24%			
FY24	\$ 707,669	\$ 847,926	\$ 1,555,595	\$ 89,732	6%
% of total tax revenue	45%	55%			
FY23 -1st year resort tax	\$ 1,329,428	\$ 136,435	\$ 1,465,863	\$ 109,812	8%
% of total tax revenue	91%	9%			
FY22	\$ 1,356,051		\$ 1,356,051		

Assessment Revenue:

The City has two assessments: Street Lighting (**\$30,049**) and Street Maintenance (**\$363,825**). The Street Lighting assessment has remained unchanged. The City Council has increased the Street Maintenance Assessment to provide funding for increased costs. Historically, the fund has been insufficient to adequately maintain the City's street maintenance. From FY10-19, the levy remained unchanged at \$301,000. From FY20-23, the levy increased to \$316,000. In FY24, the City Staff recommended a 4.4% increase with a projected 5% increase per year for the following four years (FY25-FY28). FY25 - \$346,500; **FY26 - \$363,825**; FY27 - \$382,016; FY28 - \$401,117

Urban Renewal (URD or TIF) and Targeted Economic Development District (TEDD):

Subject to the statutory provisions, including considerable public input, the City Council approved the creation of the City's Urban Renewal District, also referred to as either URD or TIF, on December 15, 2014, with a base year of 2015. The URD will expire on **December 15, 2029**. The base taxable valuation was \$1,986,191. The 2025 Certified Incremental Value is \$3,389,885. In FY26, the City will propose a strategic plan for infrastructure projects through December 2029.

Following the same statutory provisions and public process, the City Council also approved the creation of the Industrial Park TEDD on August 17, 2015, with a base year of 2015. The Industrial Park TEDD will expire on August 17, 2030. The base valuation was \$62,035. The 2023 Certified Incremental Value is \$66,665.

With the proposed redevelopment of the former Weyerhaeuser sawmill and planer site, the City was asked to create a TEDD for the property now known as Columbia Rising. The Columbia Rising TEDD was created on June 18, 2018, and will expire on June 18, 2033. The base taxable valuation was \$249,028. The 2023 Certified Incremental Value is \$465,558.

The activity of the URD and TEDDs are reflected in Special Revenue Funds 2310, 2311 and 2312. Fund 2310 Tax Increment District has generated funds that have been used in accordance with the adopted Urban Renewal District Plan and include significant infrastructure improvements in the business corridor. The FY26 budget appropriates funds to continue construction of parking, curb, gutter and sidewalk in high traffic or priority areas. In the downtown business district the infrastructure simply does not exist, creating unsafe pedestrian and vehicle conflicts as well as not having established public parking areas.

The URD or TEDD funds receive property tax revenues on the mills levied by the city, county, school district and state, with some exceptions as defined by state statute, on the incremental value of the property within the District. The City does not levy new or additional taxes on the properties and taxpayers pay the same amount as they would if the District did not exist.

Charges for Services:

The Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund operations are funded by user charges. The enterprise fund user fees are 82% of the total project Charges for Services revenue. As noted with the decrease in building activity, the Water and Sewer Plant Investment Fees (Funds 5211 and 5311) are also projected to decrease in the FY26. In the governmental funds, the General Fund receives charges for services, primarily for Special Fire Protection which includes the Columbia Falls Rural Fire District contribution, planning fees and park and pool fees.

Fines and Forfeitures:

The City Court Fines and Forfeitures are reflected within the General Fund budget. The City is anticipating a slight increase in collections based on recent activity and full police department staffing.

Investment Earnings & Miscellaneous:

Investment earnings are anticipated to decrease in FY26 due to several capital projects and declining interest rates.

Special Revenue Funds:

The Special Revenue Funds consist of 17 individual funds that are detailed within the budget document. Each fund accounts for a dedicated project or program. See the detailed Special Revenue Fund budget section for additional information.

Debt Service Funds:

The Debt Service Fund budget reflects the activity for three separate Special Improvement Districts or SID's. SID 34 and SID 36 were formed in 2005 to provide water and sewer to unserved residents on 4th and 5th Avenues south of Highway 2. These funds were paid off in FY25. SID 38 Riverwood was formed in 2017 and will mature June 30, 2037. These funds paid for the residents share of city water, sewer, and new street construction for the Riverwood Subdivision.

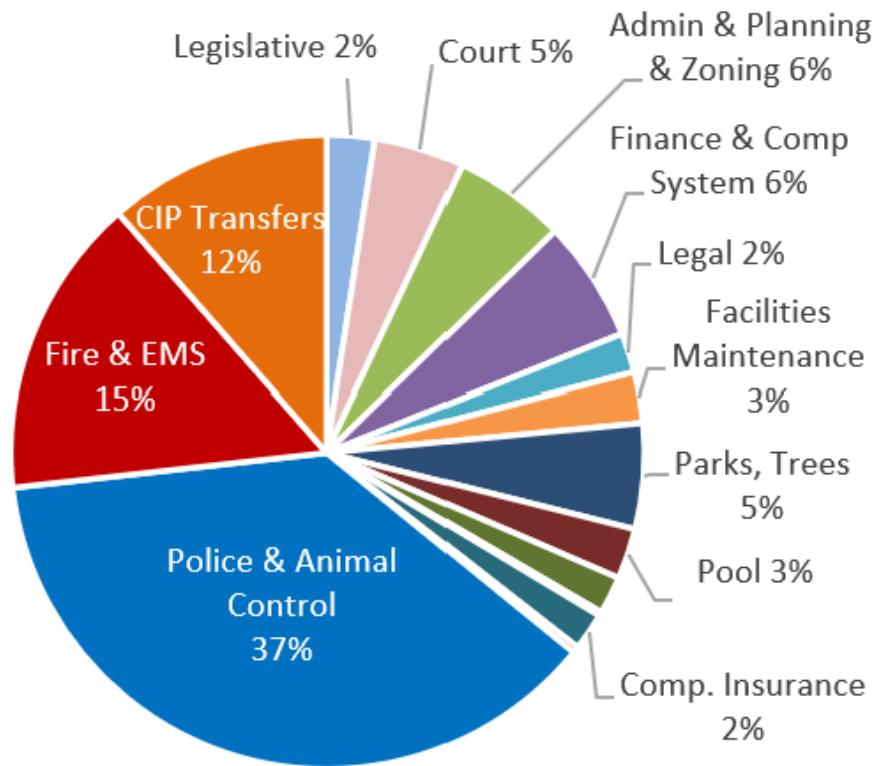
Capital Project Funds:

The City maintains four capital projects funds for general government purposes: Fund 4000 Building Improvements, Fund 4010 Park Improvements, Fund 4020 General Machinery and Equipment and Fund 4040 Street Construction. Capital Project Fund appropriations total \$755,500. The City is continuing to rebuild or repair city streets pursuant to the street priorities and street condition inventory. The General Fund is transferring in \$425,000 provide funding for priority projects.

Total Fiscal Year 2026 General Fund Appropriations:

General Fund Expenditure by Dept/Service

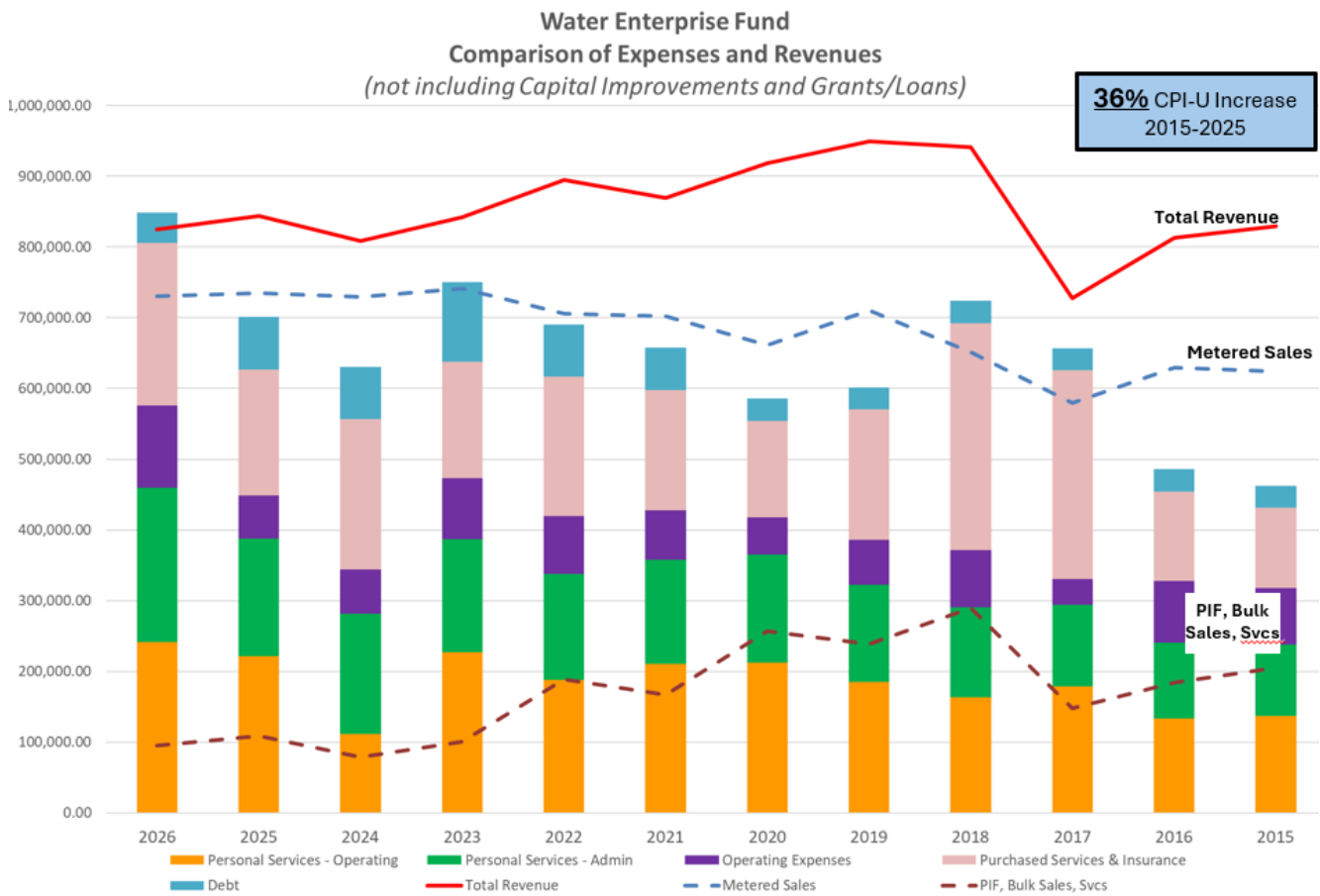
Department/Service	FY26	FY25	Change
Legislative	\$ 133,546	\$ 100,204	\$33,342
Court	\$ 248,176	\$ 236,478	\$11,698
Admin & Planning & Zoning	\$ 313,660	\$ 257,074	\$56,586
Finance & Comp System	\$ 338,673	\$ 320,380	\$18,293
Legal	\$ 109,606	\$ 105,641	\$3,965
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 138,845	\$ 158,270	-\$19,425
Police & Animal Control	\$ 2,039,506	\$ 1,928,009	\$111,497
Fire & EMS	\$ 835,385	\$ 701,769	\$133,616
Parks, Trees	\$ 293,825	\$ 343,271	-\$49,446
Pool	\$ 141,470	\$ 145,200	-\$3,730
Comp. Insurance	\$ 110,439	\$ 108,529	\$1,910
Streets/Sidewalks	\$ 11,000	\$ 21,000	-\$10,000
Misc (Dam, Transit, Term Costs, Assessments)	\$ 104,309	\$ 90,028	\$14,281
Debt payments	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$0
Transfers to CIP	\$ 625,000	\$ 564,000	\$61,000
Total	\$ 5,463,440	\$ 5,099,853	\$363,587



Water Fund:

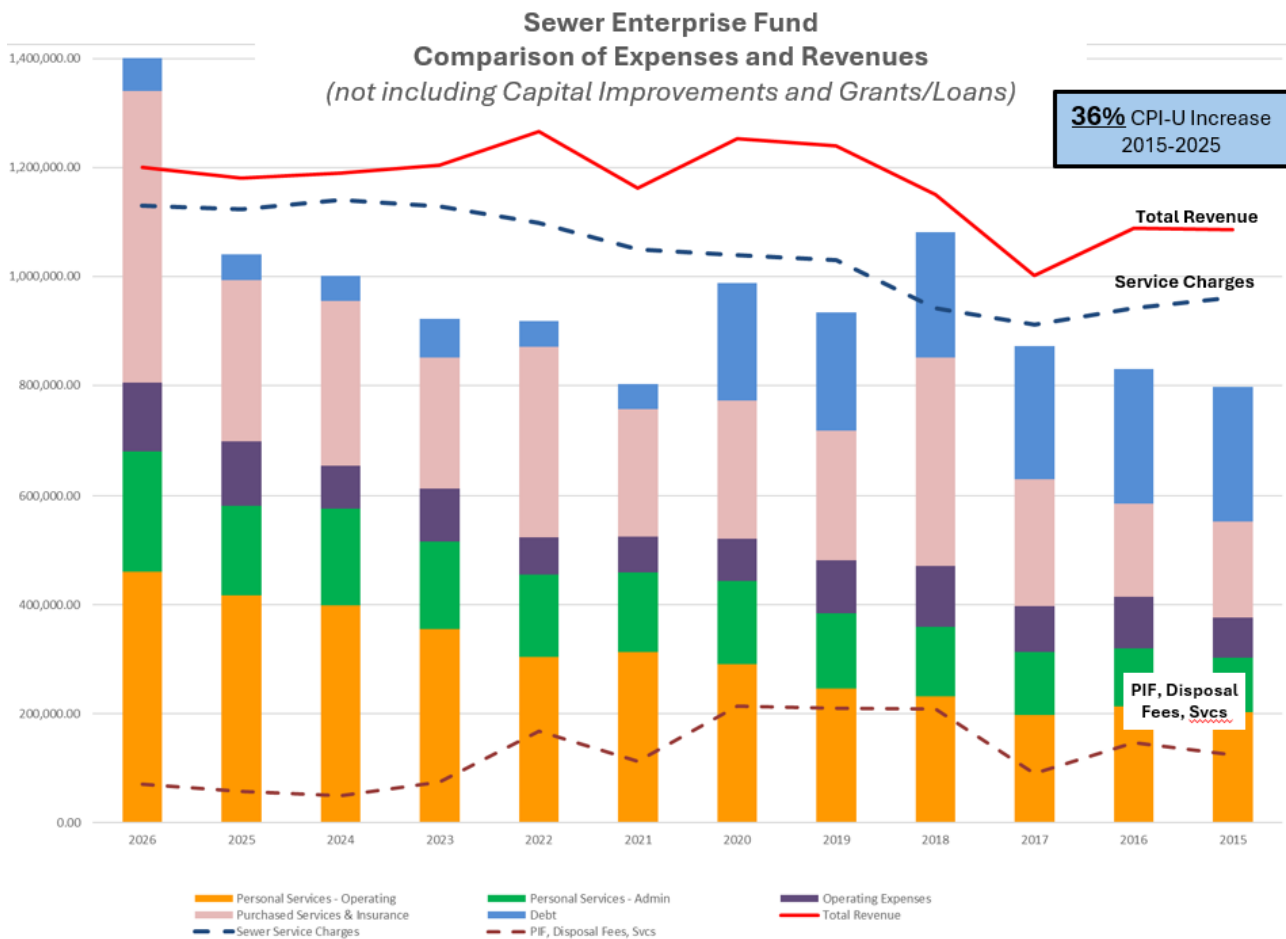
Columbia Falls maintains a low cost, high quality municipal water system that is untreated and sourced from three deep groundwater wells. Columbia Falls Water Rates are among the lowest rate in the State. Costs of service delivery, maintenance, and modernization exceed the current revenue rate model. Current water rates were set in 2018 and only included a modest rate increase with no incremental growth.

In FY26, the City is funding a Water Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) to analyze current infrastructure, model system capacities, and identify future projects to ensure the City’s infrastructure maintains sufficient capacity, resiliency, and redundancy to continue to provide safe and affordable drinking water. Following the PER, the City will fund a Rate Study to propose options for a new rate model to generate sufficient revenue to meet water system requirements to better serve the community.



Sewer Fund:

In FY26, Columbia Falls will complete a two-year \$5 million capital project to modernize the Wastewater Treatment Plant Bioreactor. The City will also fund a Wastewater Preliminary Engineering Report to analyze current infrastructure, model system capacities, and identify future projects to ensure the City’s infrastructure sufficiency for the next 20 years to meet highest standards of safety and environmental compliance. The City’s Sewer Rates are among the lowest rates in the State. Costs of service delivery, maintenance, and modernization exceed the current revenue rate model. Current sewer rates were set in 2018 and only included a modest rate increase with no incremental growth. In FY26, the City will fund a rate study and propose a new rate model to generate sufficient revenue to meet wastewater system requirements to better serve the community.



Fire Relief Fund:

The City actuarially funds the Fire Relief Pension Fund, a fund that provides a monthly retirement stipend to the dedicated volunteer firemen of the City based on their years of service, with a maximum statutory permitted stipend of \$300/month. The City in partnership with the Fire Relief Association, completes an actuary every three years. A new study was completed in FY25 and based on the 5-year amortization, the City provides \$50,496 in funding for this pension fund.

Balanced Budgets:

The City must prepare a balanced budget for each fund; revenues and cash carryover (resources available) are adequate to fund the current appropriations as well as maintain reserves to ensure adequate cash flow between tax, assessment, or grant collections. By City Council resolution, the General Fund budget must maintain a 20% cash reserve. The City Council establishes other fund reserves as necessary to fund current and future projects or services or to meet statutory requirements.

City of Columbia Falls
Montana Land Use Planning Act Update
September 15, 2025

Item No. 10.



Columbia Falls Ahead 2045

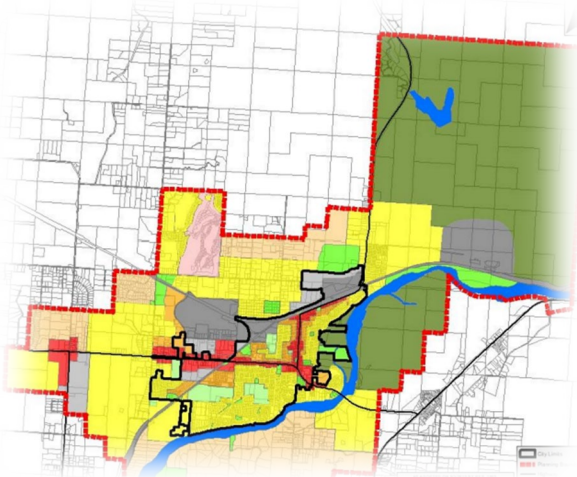


WHAT is the Montana Land Use Planning Act (MLUPA)?

- Adopted in 2023 by Montana Legislature (SB 382).
 - MLUPA and other Land Use Planning legislation further expanded in the 2025 session.
- **Requires the City to establish expected jurisdictional area and future land use boundaries** required to meet projected housing requirements over the **next 20 years**
- **Modernizes** how Montana cities and counties plan for growth.
- 10 identified Montana cities required to **update Land Use Plans by May 2026**.
 - City population >5,000 within counties with population > 70,000.
- Ensures **consistency** between growth policy, zoning, and subdivision regulations.
- Increased **public participation** at all stages.
 - *Columbia Falls published a Public Participation Plan (May 2024).*
- Requires zoning and subdivision decisions to conform with the adopted plan.
 - *Pre-MLUPA Growth Policies were advisory to zoning and subdivision decisions.*

WHY did we need these changes?

- Montana's land use and planning statutes are outdated, inconsistent, duplicative, and bureaucratic
- Everyone frustrated with the slow, expensive, risky process
- No alignment between growth policy, zoning, or subdivision criteria; every level of permitting required review all over again
- Administrative review and other streamlining processes prohibited under existing statutes
- No ability to rely on previous planning or analysis in permitting





MLUPA Requirements

- Public Participation Plan
- Establish a Planning Commission
- Land Use Plan
- Zoning and Subdivision Regulations

Studies

- Housing Study
- Infrastructure Assessment
 - Water PER
 - Sewer PER
- Land Use Planning Consultant

Land Use Plan (Sections 76-25-203 through 209)

Document existing conditions, future estimates, and anticipated needs for:

- Housing
 - Population projections for **20 years**
 - Housing units needed for that population
- Local Services and Facilities
- Economic Development
- Natural Resources, Environment, and Hazards

Future Land Use Map (Section 76-25-213)

- Identify preferred and anticipated pattern and intensities of development within the jurisdiction and any areas anticipated for future annexation.
- MUST reflect adequate area to accommodate the housing units and other needs reflected in plan.

Land Use Plan Update Review (Section 76-25-202)

- Every 5 years, Planning Commission must review plan and map to determine whether an update must be performed.
 - Public participation and comment provided
- If no new or increased impacts from original analysis, no update necessary.



Zoning Regulations (Sections 76-25-301..302)

- Authority to regulate
 - Use of Land
 - Density and types of uses
 - Size, character, number, form, and mass of structures
 - Development standards mitigating the impacts of development
- Must adopt 5 of 14 housing reforms listed.
 - ✓ *Columbia Falls already meets this requirement*

Subdivision Regulations (Section 76-25-402..404)

- Authority to adopt standards:
 - Grading and erosion control
 - Design and arrangement of lots, streets, and roads
 - Location of public utilities
 - Provisions of other public improvements
 - Legal and physical access to all lots

MLUPA Housing Reforms

- Duplexes by right where Single Family by right
- Tiny homes by right where Single Family by right
- Triplexes or fourplexes by right where Single Family by right
- Auxiliary Dwelling Units by right with Single Family
- Allow Multi-Family by right where commercial by right
- Allow Multi-Family dwellings by right where triplexes or fourplexes by right
- Adopt zoning that allows Single Room Occupancy
- Transit/jobs/school/etc oriented development zoning
- Eliminate or reduce off-street parking requirements¹
- Eliminate or reduce impact fees for ADU and multi-family dwellings
- Eliminate or reduce minimum lot sizes for housing
- Eliminate or reduce aesthetic, material, or massing for multi-family
- Eliminate or reduce setback requirements
- Increase building height limits for housing by at least 25%²

¹HB 492 - 2025 legislative session prohibits MLUPA communities from imposing certain minimum parking requirements

²SB 243 - 2025 legislative session imposes a minimum 60' height limit for certain zones in MLUPA communities



Land Use Planning Consultant (RFP – Due Friday, October 3, 2025)

• Key Objectives:

- **Compliance** – Ensure consistency with MLUPA requirements for Growth Policy and Land Use Plan development.
- **Integration** – Incorporate findings from the Columbia Falls Housing Study and the City’s Water and Sewer PERs (in progress).
- **Land Use Plan** – Develop a comprehensive land use framework that addresses residential, commercial, industrial, mixed-use, and public land needs. The Plan will also address local services, economic development, and natural resources.
- **Future Land Use Map (FLUM)** – Produce a clear, GIS-based map depicting long-range land use designations and growth scenarios to guide zoning and subdivision decisions.
- **Public Engagement** – Facilitate meaningful community input through workshops, stakeholder meetings, and digital engagement.
 - Conduct and analyze a series of Planning Commission Public Workshops, Open Houses, Focus Groups, and Surveys
 - Stakeholder interviews
 - Online engagement through the City’s website
- **Implementation Tools** – Provide policy recommendations, growth areas, and strategies to guide decision-making



Wastewater Preliminary Engineering Review (Morrison Maierle)

- PER will build on information from the 2018 PER. The 2025 PER will expand analysis regarding areas of potential growth in the collection and transmission system.
- Host two (2) public meetings

Key Objectives and Deliverables:

- Update service population and growth projections based on the 2025 Housing Needs Study
- Update flow and load criteria using up to 5 years of data
- **Collection System and Lift Station analysis**
 - Describe existing condition, performance, and capacity
 - Evaluate areas of potential growth and impact to current system using models.
- **Treatment Plant analysis**
- Review previous PER's three remaining treatment alternatives and ten collection system alternatives to address projected needs. Update and/or develop cost estimates.
- Provide environmental impacts for all developed alternatives.
- **Develop a Collection System Model** (*Trunk Lines and Future Growth Lines Only*)
- Analyze potential regional growth areas and system impacts in potential developments:
 - Former CFAC Property
 - Meadow Lake Blvd
 - Cedar Palace
 - East of the River on Hwy 2
 - Intersection of Hwy 2 and Hwy 40
 - Meadow Lake Lift Station



Water System Preliminary Engineering Review (WGM and AE2S)

- Build on information from the 2018 PER. The 2025 PER will expand analysis regarding areas of potential growth in the transmission system.
- Host two (2) public meetings

Key Objectives and Deliverables:

- Document existing water system infrastructure, leak detection reports, etc.
- **Forecast water demands** for City's future growth areas and establish water system design criteria and parameters to use in evaluating water system improvement needs and alternatives.
 - Evaluate average daily demand per capita in current system
 - Evaluate acceptable avg day demand peaking factors in current system (max daily and peak hr)
 - Establish water demand factors for future conditions
 - Establish water storage volume requirements for 20-year population projections
- **Existing and Future Conditions Water System Model Development**
- **Evaluate water storage and transmission alternatives**
 - Capacity analysis based on existing and future demands
 - Analyze up to three (3) alternatives for redundant water storage (ground or elevated tank)
 - Evaluate location options based on modeling results, topography, and future growth scenarios
- Additional scope based on additional grants:
 - Water Audit Assistance
 - Source Capacity Review – evaluate timeline for future source and pump capacity needs
 - Financial Evaluation for the preferred alternative(s)
 - Prepare Uniform Environmental Checklist



*Columbia Falls is no longer
“affordable” alternative in Flathead Valley*

Housing Study 2025 Summary

- Estimate housing needed by residents and employees over the next 5-10 years
- Shape Land Use Planning and Zoning Reforms to facilitate **housing for permanent residents and employees** by helping to:
 - Identify and prioritize housing policies and goals
 - Educate the City, community, developers, and landowners with authoritative analysis
- Land is scarce within the city limits
 - Only two vacant multi-family lots
 - High land prices and low densities paired with high construction costs mean only expensive, high-end homes can be built - this combination **encourages undesirable development.**

Positive Trends

- Working age population (age 20-64)
- Recent developments include a mix of housing types
- Market rate rentals are at a “healthy” 5% vacancy; better than Kalispell
- Partnerships with local housing organizations are producing attainable home ownership

Concerning Trends

- Lack of land, low densities, high costs
- Unfilled jobs due to lack of housing
- Declining families with children
- Low-paying tourism sector part of job growth
- Vacation rentals and investors buying up homes
- 60% renters are cost-burdened (>30% income)

Extreme disconnect between housing costs and household incomes and wages



Estimated Housing Needs Through 2034 (10-years)

	Columbia Falls Area	City
Total Current Needs	620	245
Overcrowding	50	20
Forced to commute	570	225
Total Future Needs (through 2034)	780	200 to 405*
Job Growth	610	110 to 315*
Retiring Employees**	170	90
Total Housing Needs (through 2034)	1,400	445 to 650*
Average per year	140	45 to 65*

- Housing Study **10 year** look
- Land Use Plan must plan for **20 years**
- 2045 Total Housing Needs can be doubled to **890-1300**

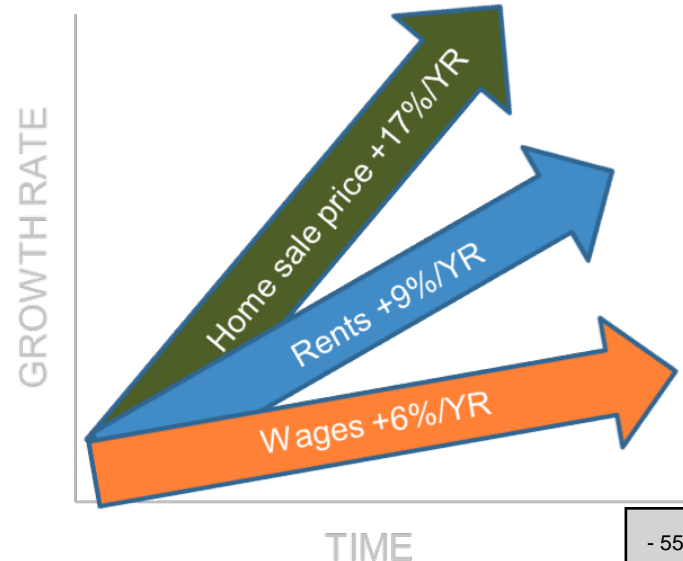
Resident/Employee Incomes vs. Market – For Purchase

AMI Level	Maximum Income (2.5-person household)	Maximum Affordable Purchase Price*	Owner income distribution	For sale listings (Jan. 2025)
<60%	\$45,120	\$150,300	16%	0%
60.1-80%	\$60,125	\$200,250	10%	1%
80.1-120%	\$90,240	\$300,550	23%	1%
120.1-150%	\$112,800	\$375,700	15%	1%
150.1-200%	\$150,400	\$500,950	13%	13%
>200%	>\$150,400	>\$500,950	23%	83%

77% of households

83% of listings

Yearly Change in Housing Prices and Wages: 2019-2024





MLUPA Plan of Action & Milestones

October

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

February

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

November

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

March

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

December

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

April

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

January

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

May

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

- Sep 11 Planning Commission
- Oct 9 Planning Commission
- Nov __ *Utility Infrastructure Public Meeting 1*
- Nov 13 Planning Commission
- Dec __ *Land Use Plan Public Scoping Event and Surveys*
- Dec 11 Planning Commission
- Jan 8 Planning Commission
- Jan 26 Council MLUPA Workshop**
- Feb __ *Land Use Plan Public Scoping Event and Surveys*
- Feb __ *Utility Infrastructure Public Meeting 2*
- Feb 12 Planning Commission
- Mar 12 Planning Commission
- Apr 9 Planning Commission
- Apr 13 Council Workshop - Land Use Plan**
- Apr 23 **MLUPA Public Hearing** Planning Commission
- May 4 MLUPA Public Hearing Council – First Reading**
- May 18 MLUPA Public Hearing Council – Approves Plan**

Public Participation Expectations:
(City of Columbia Falls 2024 Public Participation Plan)

- Website with consolidated updates, resources, and strategic documents.
- Engagement opportunities at **Open Houses, Surveys, Interviews, etc.**
- Review draft versions of strategic documents.
- Opportunity for written and verbal comments.
- City analysis and response to public comment.
- Participation at public meetings.



2023 Land Use Legislative Changes

- SB 528 – Allows ADU’s by right in any municipal zoning district.
- SB 323 – Allows duplexes in any SFR municipal zoning district as a permitted use.
- SB 152 – Sets new date for original tract. Now April of 2003. This effect major/minor subdivision determinations.
- SB 407 – Requires administrative review of architectural standards as opposed to external review boards.
- SB 245 – Allows multi-family and mixed-use development as a permitted use in any commercial zone. Also sets minimum parking standard at one space per unit. Applies to municipalities of 5,000 or greater.
- SB 131 – Requires decisions on aggregations within 20 days.
- SB 158 – Allows family transfers in platted subdivision
- SB 331 – Clarifies condominium exemptions
- HB 211 – Various changes to the subdivision regulations



2025 Land Use Legislative Changes

- HB 492 – Except for ADA required spaces, zoning regulations may not include provisions that require:
 - More than one parking space for each residential dwelling unit; more than ½ parking space for each unit under 1,200 square feet. *MLUPA cities can't require any parking space for units less than 1,200 square feet.*
 - Any parking requirements for
 - Existing buildings, including vacant building, undergoing a change of use
 - Licensed childcare facilities
 - Deed-restricted affordable housing or Assisted Living Facilities
- SB 121 – Provides for public comment for proposed development.
- SB 553 – Allows subdividers to choose cash-in-lieu of parkland.
- SB 243 – Municipalities of 5,000 or more may not require more than one off-street and accessible parking spaces per residential unit. The Bill also sets the minimum height requirement at 60 feet in downtown commercial zones, heavy commercial zones, and industrial zones.
- SB 252 – Requires zoning regulations to treat manufactured homes and factory-built homes the same as any other residential unit.
- SB 214 – Clarifies non-conforming uses and their status if ambiguity exists in determining when the use commenced.

RESOLUTION NO. 1953

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE MONTANA BOARD OF INVESTMENTS OF SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT POOL AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS RELATED THERETO

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL (the “Governing Body”) of the CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS (the “Participant”) AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

The following terms will have the meanings indicated below for all purposes of this Resolution unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

”Account” means a specific Participant Bank account to be used in conducting STIP Program transactions.

”Agreement” means the agreements of the Participant contained within this Resolution.

”Authorized Representative” means the officer or official of the Participant designated and authorized by the Governing Body to act on behalf of Participant in the STIP Program.

”Authorized Delegate” means any officer, official, or employee of the Participant delegated authority by the Authorized Representative to initiate transactions using the STIP Program.

”Bank” means a financial institution designated and authorized to send and receive money on behalf of the Participant for purposes of participation in the STIP Program.

”Board” means the Board of Investments, a state agency organized and existing under the laws of the State.

”Exhibit A” means the STIP Participation Information Sheet attached to and incorporated into this Resolution as provided in Article IV, Section 3.01.

”Exhibit B” means the Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Form attached to and incorporated into this Resolution as provided in Article IV, Section 3.01.

”Governing Body” means the governing body of political subdivision (Participant) authorized by Montana state law to participate in the STIP Program.

”Participant” means the political subdivision requesting participation in the Board’s STIP Program.

”Short-Term Investment Pool” means the Board’s investment program administered under the direction of the Board of Investments as authorized by the Unified Investment Program and as more fully defined and described by the Montana Code Annotated and in the Board’s Governing Policies. “Short-Term Investment Pool” is synonymous with “STIP” and “Program” as used in this Resolution and Exhibits A and B.

ARTICLE I

SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT POOL PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Section 1.01 Participation Agreement. The Governing Body requests participation in the STIP Program and agrees that Participant will comply with and be bound by all laws, policies, procedures, and participation requirements applicable to the Program, as may be amended from time to time.

Section 1.02 STIP Program. STIP is available to state and local governments to serve their short-term cash flow and deposit needs. The Program’s objectives are to preserve capital and maintain high liquidity. The Program has the following attributes:

- 1) STIP transactions are fixed at \$1 per share;
- 2) STIP interest on pool assets accrues daily;
- 3) STIP earnings distribution methods are:
 - (a) Interest is distributed at the beginning of the month and can be distributed as cash to the designated Bank; or (b) earnings can be reinvested into STIP;
- 4) Buying or selling shares in STIP requires one (1) business day’s notice (transactions for which notice is received after 2:00 p.m. will be processed two (2) business days after receipt of the original notice);
- 5) Access to STIP is only through the Board’s electronic web-based portal (no cash, checks or notifications by fax, phone or email will be accepted);
- 6) The Board’s STIP web portal provides real-time information on each account including investment balances, buys, sells, pending transactions, and transaction notes, as determined by the authorized user; and
- 7) The Board reports the Short-Term Investment Pool on a Net Asset Value (NAV) basis on its financial statements. A NAV per share of STIP will be reflected on the Board’s website for each month-end period.

Section 1.03 Review of Policies, Procedures, and Participation Requirements. Participant represents that it has reviewed to its satisfaction all Board policies, procedures, and participation requirements applicable to the STIP Program. See, Board Governance Policies 40.600, 40.601, and 40.602.

Section 1.04 Authorized Representative: The Governing Body designates Eric Hanks who holds the position of City Manager as the Participant’s Authorized Representative to execute transactions between STIP and the Bank.

The Governing Body (check one) DOES DOES NOT allow the Authorized Representative to appoint and remove additional Authorized Delegate(s) on behalf of the Participant. If “DOES” is checked, any addition or removal of an Authorized Delegate requires notice via the submission of a completed Exhibit A (STIP Participation Information Sheet) to the Board by the Authorized Representative before transactions will be accepted and processed.

The Governing Body designates and authorizes the Participant’s Bank, (the “Bank”), identified in Exhibit B, with the Account Number and American Bankers Association (ABA) Number, for settlement of STIP participant transactions. The account is a (check one): Checking account Savings account .

The Governing Body (check one): DOES DOES NOT allow the Authorized Representative to change either the Bank or the Account. If ‘DOES’ is checked, the Board will notify both the office of the Authorized Representative AND the office of the Governing Body within three (3) business days that such a change has been made.

The Governing Body (check one): DOES DOES NOT allow the Authorized Representative to change the earnings distribution method. If DOES NOT is checked, the Governing Body chooses the following earnings distribution method (check one): Reinvest cash earnings into STIP Distribute cash earnings to the Bank .

Section 1.05 Change of Authorized Representative. Any change to the Authorized Representative requires a new Resolution adopted by the Governing Body. However, the absence of an Authorized Representative does not nullify the current authority of the Authorized Delegate(s) to make STIP transactions.

Section 1.06 Annual Confirmation. The Board will annually confirm with the Governing Body and the Authorized Representative the:

1. Name of the Authorized Representative;
2. Name(s) of any Authorized Delegate(s); and
3. Name of the Bank and the associated Account Numbers (truncated).

Section 1.07 Effective Date. Participant's Agreement will take effect when the Resolution Certificate, this Resolution, and completed and executed Exhibits A and B are received by the Board. The Participant's Agreement will stay in effect until terminated in writing by the Governing Body.

ARTICLE II

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 2.01 No Guaranteed Return. The Governing Body understands and agrees that there is no minimum or maximum interest rate or any guaranteed rate of return on STIP shares or funds invested in STIP shares.

Section 2.02 Voluntary Participation. By adopting this Resolution, the Governing Body acknowledges that it is not compelled to participate in STIP, that its participation in STIP is voluntary, and agrees to the Board's administration and governance of the Program according to the Board's policies, procedures, and participation requirements.

Section 2.03 Responsibility for Participant Mistakes. The Governing Body and Participant agree to hold harmless the state of Montana, the Board, and the Board's members, officials, and employees for the acts, omissions, mistakes, and negligence of the Participant, Governing Body, and their members, officials, and employees, including but not limited to an Authorized Representative or Authorized Delegate who, for any reason, is not qualified or mistakenly listed with the Board as a permissible representative to authorize transactions using the STIP Program, incorrect instructions as to amounts or timing of sales or purchases, or missed deadlines.

Section 2.04 No Warranty. The Governing Body and Participant agree that the Board makes no warranty that funds will be immediately available in the event of any failure of a third party or that Governing Body will not suffer losses due to acts of God, natural disasters, terrorism or threats of terrorism, civil disorder, medical epidemics or other calamities, or other market dislocations or interruptions.

Section 2.05 Participation Conditions: STIP Administration. The Governing Body and Participant acknowledge and agree that the Board will allow participation in STIP by and conduct STIP business with only those parties it determines are qualified and authorized to participate in the Program who abide by the Board's policies, procedures, and participation requirements. The Governing Body and Participant understand that the Board administers the STIP Program subject to Montana law and prudent fiduciary practices as required by Montana law and Board policy and that the Board is legally charged to manage the Unified Investment Program, which includes STIP, in accordance with the prudent expert rule as set forth in Montana law.

Section 2.06 STIP Not Insured Against Loss. The Governing Body and Participant understand and acknowledge that the Board's STIP Program is NOT FDIC insured or otherwise insured or guaranteed by the federal government, the state of Montana, the Board, or any other entity against investment losses.

ARTICLE III

EXHIBITS A AND B

Section 3.01 Approval and Adoption of Exhibits A and B. Attached to this Resolution are Exhibit A, the STIP Participation Information Sheet, and Exhibit B, the Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Form, which together provide the instructions required by the Board to enable Participant’s participation in the STIP Program. The Governing Body and Participant represent that Exhibits A and B have been completed and executed by the Participant’s Authorized Representative and that Exhibits A and B must be complete and accepted by the Board before participation is allowed in the STIP Program. Exhibits A and B are hereby incorporated into and made a part of this Resolution and are approved and adopted by the Governing Body as if set forth fully herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF COLUMBIA FALLS, MONTANA THIS 15th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025, THE COUNCIL VOTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

By _____

Donald Barnart

Its Mayor

Attest:

By _____

Barb Staaland

Its City Clerk

Exhibit A

Item No. 11.

STIP PARTICIPATION INFORMATION SHEET

STIP Program Manager Montana Board of Investments boi_stip@mt.gov PO Box 200126 Helena, MT 59620-0126 Phone 406.444.0003	<i>For Official Use Only</i>									
Requests must be submitted by Authorized Representative of the Participant.	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">STIP DATA</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>INVEST TA</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACCT ID</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	STIP DATA			INVEST TA			ACCT ID		
STIP DATA										
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ACCT ID										

The STIP Participant listed below agrees to participate in the STIP Program as established under § 17-6-204, MCA, and the terms and conditions of STIP operations as determined by the Montana Board of Investments as follows:

Section 1. STIP Participant Information Summary

STIP Participant Name →	City of Columbia Falls	Tax Identification Number (TIN) →	81-6001247
Mailing Address →	130 6th St W	City →	Columbia Falls
		State →	MT
		Zip →	59912
STIP Account # → <i>(For official use only)</i>	CI COLUM 97		
Authorized Representative Name, First →	Eric	Name, Last →	Hanks
		Title →	City Manager
Telephone Number →	(406) 892-4391	Fax Number →	(406)892-4413
		E-mail →	citymanager@cityofcolumbi afalls.com

Section 2. Investment and Earnings Information

The STIP Participant has the option to either reinvest their earnings or distribute earnings.
Check one box only.

Reinvest Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Distribute Earnings <input type="checkbox"/>
---	--

Section 3. Authorized Delegates

The Authorized Delegate(s) whose name(s) appears below is (are) authorized to purchase and sell shares in STIP for the Participant.

Name, First →	Eric	Name, Last →	Hanks	E-Mail →	citymanager@cityofcolumbi afalls.com
Name, First →	Jessica	Name, Last →	Rice	E-Mail →	financedirector@cityofcolumbi afalls.com
Name, First →	Barb	Name, Last →	Staland	E-Mail →	staalandb@cityofcolumbi afalls.com

I hereby certify as the Authorized Representative of the STIP Participant that the information contained herein is true, accurate and complete as of the date hereof.

Signature →		Date →	
Printed Name →	Eric Hanks	Title →	City Manager

Exhibit B

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION FORM					
STIP Program Manager Montana Board of Investments boi_stip@mt.gov PO Box 200126 Helena, MT 59620-0126 Phone 406.444.0003					
Local Government Name:		City of Columbia Falls			
STIP Account #: <i>(For official use only)</i>		CI COLUM 97			
<p>I, the undersigned, a duly Authorized Representative of the local governing board, hereby authorize the Montana Board of Investments to initiate electronic debit and/or credit to the account listed below. The Authorized Representative acknowledges the origination of ACH transactions to the listed account complies with the provisions of federal law.</p> <p>Any sale, purchase, or distribution of funds will be made by Electronic Funds Transfer or wire debiting or crediting to the appropriate treasury or shareholder bank account. Please specify the local government depository.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Check one transaction type only.</p>					
Checking Account <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Savings Account <input type="checkbox"/>		
Name of Bank →	Glacier Bank	Routing/ABA No →	292970825		
Address →	822 Nucleus Ave				
City →	Columbia Falls	State →	MT	Zip →	59912
Account Number →					
I hereby certify as the Authorized Representative of the STIP Participant that the information contained herein is true, accurate and complete as of the date below.					
Signature →			Date →		
Printed Name →	Eric Hanks		Title →	City Manager	
Please notify the Board if you have applied a filter or a block to your account.					

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE MONTANA BOARD OF INVESTMENTS
SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT POOL (STIP)

CERTIFICATE AS TO
RESOLUTION NO. 1953 AND ADOPTING VOTE

Political Subdivision: City of Columbia Falls

Governing Body: City Council

Type, date, time, and place of meeting: A regular meeting held on September 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Columbia Falls, Montana.

Members present:

Members absent:

I, the undersigned, being the qualified and acting recording officer for the political subdivision identified above (“Participant”), certify that the attached RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT POOL AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND

DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS RELATED THERETO and Exhibits A and B (“Resolution”):

- (1) is a true and correct copies of the original Resolution on file in the Participant’s original records.
- (2) was approved and adopted by the Participant’s Governing Body as required by law; and
- (3) has not been amended or repealed.

DATED this 15th day of September 2025.

By: _____
Barb Staland
Its: City Clerk



City Manager's Report

City Calendar

2 Sep: City Council Regular Mtg
• **Public Hearing** – Adopt Final Budget

10 Sep: Government Study Commission
• Discuss Final Report

11 Sep: Planning Commission
• MLUPA Workshop

15 Sep: City Council Regular Mtg
• MLUPA Overview and Plan of Action

22 Sep (TBD): Public Safety Committee
• Motorized bikes, scooters, skateboards
• Sidewalk Safety
• STEP Grant – New Police Officer
• Domestic Violence Ordinance

30 Sep: Budget Submission

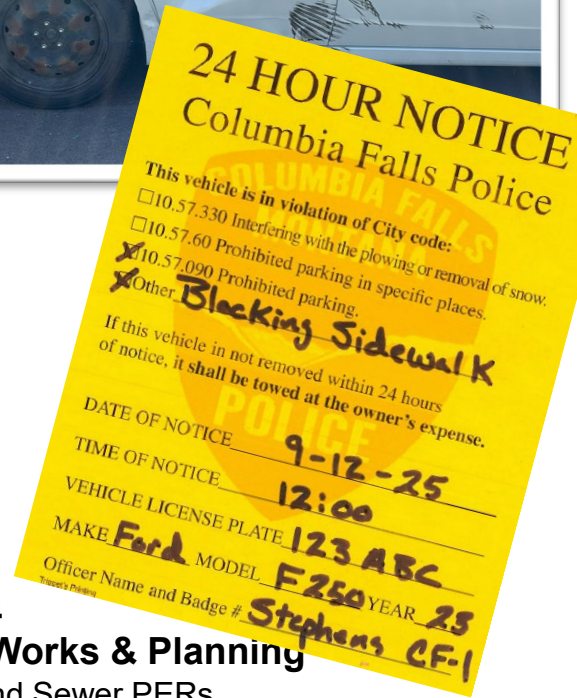
6 Oct: City Council Regular Mtg
• Ordinance to adopt new state land use and zoning requirements

9 Oct (TBD): Planning Commission

20 Oct: City Council Regular Mtg

22 Oct: Government Study Commission
• Review final report

E-Motorcycle Crash –
9/11/2025



Staff Highlights

City Manager

- MLUPA Coordination – Ongoing
- Gateway to Glacier Safety & Mobility Project Temp Construction Easements – Ongoing
- Website: New Design and City Communications Strategy

Finance & Admin

- Audit – Ongoing

Public Works & Planning

- Water and Sewer PERs
- WWTP Expansion and Modernization Project

Police

- Increased patrols around Schools
- Focused attention on sidewalk and road safety
 - Vehicles blocking sidewalks
 - E-scooters/bikes/skateboards

Fire

- 9-11 Remembrance Event

JOIN OUR TEAM!

THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS IS HIIRING: CITY ACCOUNTANT



TO LEARN ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY AND APPLY, SCAN THE CODE OR VISIT THE CITY'S WEBSITE:
[HTTPS://WWW.CITYOFCOLUMBIAFALLS.ORG/ADMIN-FINANCE/JOB-OPENING/CITY-ACCOUNTANT](https://www.cityofcolumbiafalls.org/admin-finance/job-opening/city-accountant)



City Manager Report

Item No. 12.

• Citizen and Council Interest Items

- **Electric Bikes, Scooters, Skateboards on Sidewalks and Dangerous Activities on Roadways**
 - Police Chief and City Attorney are writing a proposed ordinance to better define the City Code.
 - Proposing a Public Safety Committee meeting on September 22, 2025 to discuss options

• Bear Conflicts

- **City Code - 8.16.040 - Unlawful To Accumulate Refuse And Litter Resulting In Animal Conflict**

“It is unlawful for a resident, association of residents, or a business to act or fail to act in such a way that results in the accumulation of uncollected refuse, garbage, or rubbish in or on areas of their owned or leased property such that it is readily accessible to undomesticated large predator animals, including but not limited to black bears or grizzly bears.”

- City working with non-profit People and Carnivores to explore grant funding opportunities for the Montana Community-Bear Conflict Prevention Efforts Fund. The fund will award \$750,000 to support community-led, non-lethal carnivore conflict prevention tools through the geographic range of grizzly bears in Montana.

- The City intends to request grant funding for 10 bear resistant trashcans and 3 informational signs (2 at River’s Edge and 1 at Columbus)



• Growth Policy Development – Montana Land Use Planning Act (SB382)

- City’s Planning and Zoning website now includes a MLUPA section and will be the hub for status updates and links to key references.

- **Water PER** – Ongoing

- **Sewer PER** – Ongoing

- **Land Use Planning RFP – Due 5PM Friday, October 3, 2025**

- For more information, scan the code or visit the website: www.cityofcolumbiafalls.org/rfps

- **Subdivision and Zoning Codes**



• Capital Improvement Projects: City Staff is available to discuss current project details

- **Gateway to Glacier Safety & Mobility Project** (www.columbiafallsgatewaytoglacier.com)

Increasing public interest concerning impacts to the right of way in vicinity of residences

- City and Engineers are nearing 100% design
- Temporary Construction Easements (ongoing)
- Advertise for bids in Oct; Open House in Nov/Dec; Construction in Mar 2026

• Downtown Sidewalk and Parking Improvement – Phase 2

- Aug 27th Open House; Bid in Oct; Construction in 2026

9/12/2025

Visit the City of Columbia Falls Website and Contact Us for Questions

<https://www.cityofcolumbiafalls.org/>
<https://www.cityofcolumbiafalls.org/contact-us>



**CITY OF COLUMBIA FALLS
CORRESPONDENCE LIST
COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**

09/04/25 – Email from Paul Kruger –RE: Tamarack Meadows update



CERTIFIED MAIL

DATE: August 29, 2025

RE: Civil Penalty and Corrective Action Order
Montana NSLPA 310 Violation on Garnier Creek, Schellinger Construction
Legal Description S06 T30 R20

TO: Schellinger Construction
Kyle Schellinger
PO Box 39
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

ORDER OF THE FLATHEAD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

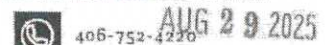
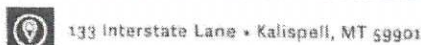
On August 12, 2025, the Flathead Conservation District was made aware of an alleged violation of the Montana Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act (NSLPA) congruent with work being conducted under 310 Permit # FL-2024-103. On August 13, 2025, a compliance inspection was conducted and the findings were documented in the enclosed site visit record.

On August 25, 2025, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Flathead Conservation District Board of Supervisors met and considered the findings of the compliance inspection. It was determined that the discharge event occurring on August 12, 2025, resulted in sedimentation of the bed and immediate banks of Garnier Creek. Under authority vested in the Flathead Conservation District, you are notified pursuant to 75-7-122 and 75-7-123 MCA, that this is a violation of the NSLPA in accordance with Title 75, chapter 7, part 1, MCA and the Adopted Rules of the Flathead Conservation District.

Per §75-7-123, MCA:

- (1) A person who initiates a project without written consent of the supervisors, performs activities outside the scope of written consent of the supervisors, violates emergency procedures provided for in 75-7-113, or violates 75-7-106 is:
 - (a) guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500; or
 - (b) subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 for each day that person continues to be in violation.
- (2) Each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation. The maximum civil penalty is the jurisdictional amount for purposes of 3-10-301. A conservation district may work with a person who is subject to a civil penalty to resolve the amount of the penalty prior to initiating an enforcement action in justice's court to collect a civil penalty.
- (3) In addition to a fine or a civil penalty under subsection (1), the person:

SCANNED



COPY

Sent to MKQ FWP 8/29/2025



- (a) shall restore, at the discretion of the court, the damaged stream, as recommended by the supervisors, to as near its prior condition as possible; or
- (b) is civilly liable for the amount necessary to restore the stream. The amount of the liability may be collected in an action instituted pursuant to 3-10-301 if the amount of liability does not exceed \$15,000. If the amount of liability for restoration exceeds \$15,000, then the action must be brought in district court.

The Flathead Conservation District has determined to assess a civil penalty of \$500 per day commencing August 12, 2025, and accruing to a total civil penalty of \$15,000. You are ordered to pay the civil penalty at the Flathead Conservation District Office, 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901. Payment of the civil penalty must be made on or before October 13, 2025.

Additionally, as corrective action for the violation, you must submit a 310-Permit application by October 6, 2025, detailing plans for remediation of the violation and restoration of the bed and banks of Garnier Creek.

Respectfully,

Flathead Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Enc. Site Visit Record 8/13/2025
FCD Adopted Rules Chapter 2, Construction Standards A and D

cc: Fisheries, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
[REDACTED] - Kyle Schellinger, PO Box 39, Columbia Falls, MT. 59912
[REDACTED] - Carver Engineering, Kevin Malloy, 1995 3rd Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901



From **ADOPTED RULES**
For the
FLATHEAD CONSERVATION DISTRICT
to

Implement the Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act of 1975
Chapter No. 463, Montana Session Laws 1975;
MCA Title 75, Chapter 7,
Senate Bill 310, 1975 Legislature
Adopted by Flathead Conservation District 1/27/2020

RULE 14. INSPECTION OF PROJECTS - PROJECT FOLLOW-UP

1. The supervisors, team members, or their designated representative may inspect any project during or after construction to ensure that the conditions of the permit were followed and to provide technical assistance to the applicant.
2. By signing an application, the landowner agrees to allow the inspection of the project. The district shall make a concerted effort to notify the landowner prior to entering land to inspect a project, either orally or in writing. If the landowner did not sign the application, the district shall require the applicant, as a condition of the permit, to acquire the necessary landowner consent for the district to inspect the project.
3. The district may require the applicant to provide photo documentation of the project.
4. If the project is not constructed as permitted, the procedure outlined in Rule 18. 3. Complaint Procedure, will be followed.

CHAPTER 2
CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS & MATERIALS
Findings

The 310-Law's purpose is to fulfill the constitutional directive to prevent unreasonable depletion and degradation of natural resources. The 310-Law and the construction standards and building materials are intended to provide direction to the district and the applicant in the development of authorized projects and, in so doing, to keep soil erosion and sedimentation to a minimum in furtherance of a policy that recognizes the needs of irrigation and agricultural use of Montana's rivers and streams and protects the use of water for any useful or beneficial purpose as guaranteed by Montana's constitution.

The following standards apply to all projects:

A. CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

1. Projects must be designed and constructed using methods that minimize:



- a. Adverse impacts, both upstream and downstream.
 - b. Future disturbance to the stream.
2. All disturbed areas must be managed during construction and reclaimed after construction to minimize erosion and sedimentation. Weed control must be undertaken and maintained on any disturbed areas.
 3. Temporary structures used during construction must be designed to handle high flows reasonably anticipated during the project construction period. Temporary structures must be completely removed from the stream channel at the conclusion of construction and the area must be restored to a natural and stable condition.
 4. Channel alterations must be designed to retain original stream length or otherwise provide hydrologic stability.
 5. Riprap, rock, or other material used in a project must be of adequate size, shape, and must be properly placed to protect the streambank from erosion.
 6. The District may:
 - a. Limit the time and duration of construction to minimize impacts to the stream or associated aquatic life;
 - b. Require the applicant to submit engineering designs, when in the District's judgment, the project's complexity requires greater assurance of project stability to minimize impacts to the stream;
 - c. Require the applicant to provide project completion documentation that may include photographs.
 7. The following activities are discouraged but may be authorized:
 - a. Placement of road fill material in a stream;
 - b. Placement of debris or other materials in a stream where it can erode or float back into the stream;
 - c. Projects that permanently prevent fish migration;
 - d. Operation of construction equipment in a stream;
 - e. Excavation of streambed gravels.





FLATHEAD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

8. Equipment must not be operated below the existing water surface without specific approval from the District. Forging the stream at one location will be permitted only on a case-by-case basis.
9. Care must be taken to cause only the minimum necessary disturbance to the natural appearance of the area. Stream bank vegetation must be protected except where its removal is absolutely necessary for completion of the work. Any vegetation, debris, or other material removed during construction must be disposed of at some location out of the flood plain where it cannot re-enter the channel during high stream flows. All new cut or fill slopes must be immediately seeded, vegetated, or otherwise protected to prevent erosion.

D. EROSION, SEDIMENTATION AND STORM RUNOFF

1. Findings

- a. Any construction activity that will affect the streambank should incorporate all necessary means to minimize pollution of the stream, including erosion, sediment, and storm runoff controls.
- b. The proposed activity should minimize increased sedimentation, an increase in suspended sediments, or an increased discharge of nutrients into the stream either during its construction or utilization.

2. Standards

- a. Unless otherwise specified in these rules, the interface of fill materials, such as riprap, with the stream water must be sloped at a maximum 1.5:1 ratio in order to dissipate wave and stream flow energy. The face of the slope must be covered with suitable materials to prevent soil erosion and slumping of banks.
- b. The natural protective armament of the stream and streambank must be preserved.
- c. Natural vegetation must be preserved wherever possible and as specified in the rules adopted under the Montana Streamside Management Zone Law.
- d. Use of vegetation must be considered as a means of stabilizing erosive areas.
- e. Mechanized equipment is prohibited, except to the extent mechanized equipment is allowed under the Montana Streamside Management Zone Law, 77-5-301, MCA, or as authorized.



Kevin Malloy
Kyle Schellinger



FLATHEAD

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901 | www.flatheadcd.org | 406-752-4220

SITE VISIT RECORD

Date: August 13, 2025

Time: 1:30 PM

Name: Michael Kopitzke

Contact Information: Noone from Schellinger Construction was Present

Project/Subject: Compliance Check

Application or Permit # (if applicable) none Stream Garnier Creek

Legal: S6 T30 R20 Latitude _____ Longitude _____

Remarks:

Kenny Brødinger, Samantha Tappenbeck and I with John Obannon of the Department of Environmental Quality conducted a site visit because of sediment going into the stream that was reported by Julie Mitchell and Paul Kruger, at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, August 12, 2025.

Upon our arrival, we determined that the sediment observed in the stream on previous days originated from pump operations at the middle pond, where a six-inch discharge hose had ruptured and released water and sediment for approximately two and a half hours (see photo 1) and sediment was observed several feet up into the trees. The sediment subsequently entered a ditch running parallel to the creek (see photo 2), traveled several hundred feet, and ultimately discharged into the Wetland Delineation Zone before reaching the creek (see photos 3, 4, and 5). The sediment was 4-8 inches deep in the WDZ where it entered the stream and there was a heavy layer of sediment on the stream bed.

The rupture occurred approximately 30 yards south of where a crew was working on the middle pond and about the same distance east of the main subdivision road. Given the proximity, it is likely that those working in the area would have been able to observe the issue.

After completing a tour of the entire stormwater site, which included all three ponds, we proceeded to the location where Garnier Creek passes under Tamarack Drive. There, we observed sediment accumulation with a noticeable layer covering the entire stream bed. We then continued to North Hill Top Road, where the creek crosses beneath the road; at this site, while the water was turbid, the sediment was not visibly coating the stream bed as observed at the previous location.

Signature: Michael Kopitzke, Supervisor Date: August 19, 2025

Photo 1 - IMG 6910 - One attached here showing the location of rupture in the sprinkler line.

Photo 2 - IMG_6856: flow path of sediment-laden discharge from ruptured sprinkler line

Photo 3 - IMG_6862: point of discharge into stream and sedimentation of the streambed

Photo 4 - IMG_6868: Standing on the immediate bank looking upland at the area of overland flow relative to the construction zone

Photo 5 - MG_6874: Another view of sedimentation on the stream bed and banks at the point of discharge into the stream

- Ms Mitchell
- Mr Kruger



Photo 1 – IMG 6910 – Showing the location of the rupture in the sprinkler line



Photo 2 – IMG 6856 – the sediment discharge from the ruptured sprinkler line



Photo 3 – IMG 6862 – Point of Discharge into the stream and sedimentation of the streambed



Photo 4 – IMG 6868 – Standing on the immediate banks looking upland at the area of overland flow relative to the construction zone.



Photo 5 – IMG 6874 – Another view of sedimentation on the streambed and banks at the point of discharge into the stream

9589 0710 5270 2389 8943 76

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<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$ _____
Postage	\$ _____
Total Postage and Fees	\$ 10.44

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Mailed 8.29.2025

Schellinger Construction
 Kyle Schellinger
 PO Box 39
 Columbia Falls, MT. 59912

See Reverse for Instructions

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Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
 Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
 Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

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 Schellinger Construction
 Kyle Schellinger
 PO Box 39
 Columbia Falls, MT. 59912

2. Article Number (transfer from service label)
 9590 9402 8341 3094 6871 93
 9589 0710 5270 2389 8943 76
 PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9063 FL - 2024-103

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A. Signature
 Agent
 Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)
 C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes No
 If YES, enter delivery address below:

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 Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
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 Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
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CERTIFIED MAIL



9589 0710 5270 2389 8943 76



133 Interstate Lane • Kalispell, MT 59901

Schellinger Construction
 Kyle Schellinger
 PO Box 39
 Columbia Falls, MT. 59912

SCANNED
 AUG 29 2025

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United States
Postal Service

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Flathead Conservation District
133 Interstate Lane
Kalispell, MT. 59901

**Columbia Falls Police Department
Monthly Activity Report
August 2025**

Police	August					5 Year Average
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	
Arrests (Total)	30	31	38	40	24	33
Adult	29	30	34	37	19	30
Juvenile	1	1	4	3	5	3
Accidents Investigated	16	20	17	18	8	16
Stolen Property (Value)	778	2766	1412	17354	51500	14762
Stolen Property (Recovered)	672	80	29012	349	20009	10024
Criminal Mischief (Incidents)	3	4	7	14	7	7
Damage Amount	150	9589	500	13687	3690	5523
Misdemeanor Citations Issued	221	261	261	201	253	239
Traffic Offenses	210	224	227	177	244	216
Cell phone Viol.	5	17	18	8	9	11
DUI Offenses	15	10	10	9	3	9
Drug Offenses	4	2	2	3	1	2
Traffic Stops	408	350	401	252	394	361
Court Fines and Forfeitures	20829	21642	30147	22188	40301	27021
Miles Patrolled	8977	7584	Unknown	5533	8320	7604
911 Phone Calls	319	338	345	179	178	272
Incident Reports	1105	994	1048	1002	1213	1072
Domestic Abuse/Assault/Disorderly	42	42	41	44	29	40
Felony Investigations	9	7	8	19	11	11
Business Checks	119	55	104	58	74	82
Welfare Checks	15	12	20	25	14	17
Citizen Assist	57	73	46	69	68	63
Agency Assist	29	34	30	28	49	34

Columbia Falls Fire Department Incident Breakdown

Item No. 15.

2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	2025
Dispatches	33	29	24	33	26	23	49	34					251	Dispatches
ALS Medical Total	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0					4	ALS Medical Total
BLS Medical Total	16	9	8	15	12	7	16	17					100	BLS Medical Total
Medical CPR	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0					3	Medical CPR
Medical ALS	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0					2	Medical ALS
Medical BLS	5	5	2	4	4	2	5	8					35	Medical BLS
Medical Lift Assist	3	4	2	6	2	2	2	4					25	Medical Lift Assist
MVA with injury	4	0	2	1	2	2	5	2					18	MVA with injury
Extrication	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1					2	Extrication
Ambulance Driver	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0					3	Ambulance Driver
MVA non injury	4	0	0	4	4	1	3	3					19	MVA non injury
Airport Emergency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	Airport Emergency
Traffic Control	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	Traffic Control
HazMat	4	0	0	2	1	2	0	0					9	HazMat
Hazardous Conditions	4	0	0	3	2	2	7	4					22	Hazardous Conditions
CO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	CO
Gas Leak/Odor inside	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1					5	Gas Leak/Odor inside
Gas Leak/Odor outside	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2					6	Gas Leak/Odor outside
Powerline	0	0	0	3	1	0	4	1					9	Powerline
Other	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0					2	Other
Service	0	1	0	1	0	1	3	1					7	Service
Good Intent	1	1	3	0	2	1	3	2					13	Good Intent
Fire Alarm	1	1	0	1	1	2	5	1					12	Fire Alarm
False Alarm	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	0					6	False Alarm
Illegal burn	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	1					8	Illegal burn
Smoke Investigation, outside	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					1	Smoke Investigation, outside
Smoke Investigation, inside	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					1	Smoke Investigation, inside
Cancelled enroute	6	3	9	3	4	9	7	5					46	Cancelled enroute
Fire, residential	4	2	1	0	1	0	1	0					9	Fire, residential
Fire, chimney	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0					2	Fire, chimney
Fire, commercial	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	1					6	Fire, commercial
Fire, vehicle	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0					2	Fire, vehicle
Fire, vegetation, grass	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0					2	Fire, vegetation, grass
Fire, vegetation, wildland	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0					1	Fire, vegetation, wildland
Dispatch Totals	33	29	24	33	26	23	49	34					251	Dispatch Totals
Structure fires (In District)	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	1					7	Structure fires
Structure fires (Mutual aid)	3	1	1	0	1	0	2	0					8	
Acres burned	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0.03	0					0.53	Acres burned

Columbia Falls Fire Department
2025 Runs

Item No. 15.

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	2025
calls	33	29	24	33	26	23	49	34					251	
Weeks	20	19	10	13	13	9	25	10					119	47.41%
Peterson	15	11	6	9	7	9	26	13					96	38.25%
Smith, R.	19	13	9	11	6	10	25	9					102	40.64%
Thomas	18	8	9	12	5	9	25	14					100	39.84%
Ross	16	14	3	6	3	2	7	8					59	23.51%
Loughery	5	4	1	2	2	4	5	2					25	9.96%
Smith, K.	5	1	10	3	10	6	14	8					57	22.71%
Arnold	10	7	8	11	12	7	13	11					79	31.47%
Perkins	5	4	6	3	4	3	5	1					31	12.35%
Willcut	8	9	7	6	10	9	13	9					71	28.29%
Woodruff	8	8	7	14	9	5	12	5					68	27.09%
Stuhler	11	4	7	3	3	4	19	9					60	23.90%
Grogan	0	0	9	27	26	18	40	19					139	55.38%
Shanks	4	2	1	3	1	4	3	5					23	9.16%
Bates	1	0	1	4	2	1	8	2					19	7.57%
Schrader	3	6	1	2	2	1	9	1					25	9.96%
Dickerson	4	1	1	2	1	0	0	2					11	4.38%
Butts	7	6	3	1	3	8	5	4					37	14.74%
Hogan	10	9	9	15	14	12	32	17					118	47.01%
Messer	4	2	3	2	0	3	5	1					20	7.97%
Vessels	15	20	10	20	5	6	17	3					96	38.25%
Kienas	12	14	13	20	23	12	27	19					140	55.78%
Johnson	14	11	6	7	5	8	7	19					77	30.68%
Jost	6	19	8	19	9	6	21	15					103	41.04%
Thorsteinson	5	6	6	6	3	2	8	6					42	16.73%
Weber	2	6	1	3	1	0	8	1					22	8.76%
Mainolfi						7	17	3					27	10.76%
Ruben							3	4						
Swartzenberger								7						
Atchley	1	2	0	0	0	0	4							
			#1 month		#2 month		2025 #1						Average:	72 28.70%
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Calls YTD 2025	
Total calls	33	29	24	33	26	23	49	37					254	
Rural	19	15	17	23	11	10	31	23					149	58.66%
City	14	14	7	10	15	13	18	11					102	40.16%
Mutual Aid Received	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	1					7	2.76%
Mutual Aid Given	3	1	1	1	3	1	3	1					14	5.51%
Medical & MVA	16	12	8	16	12	7	16	17					104	40.94%

