



**Work Session Meeting Agenda**  
**2 Park Drive South, Great Falls, MT**  
**Gibson Room, Civic Center**  
**April 15, 2025**  
**5:30 PM**

The agenda packet material is available on the City's website: <https://greatfallsmt.net/meetings>. The Public may view and listen to the meeting on government access channel City-190, cable channel 190; or online at <https://greatfallsmt.net/livestream>.

Public participation is welcome in the following ways:

- Attend in person.
- Provide public comments in writing by 12:00 PM the day of the meeting: Mail to City Clerk, PO Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403, or via email to: [commission@greatfallsmt.net](mailto:commission@greatfallsmt.net). Include the agenda item or agenda item number in the subject line, and include the name of the commenter and either an address or whether the commenter is a city resident. Written communication received by that time will be shared with the City Commission and appropriate City staff for consideration during the agenda item, and, will be so noted in the official record of the meeting.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

*(Public comment on agenda items or any matter that is within the jurisdiction of the City Commission. Please keep your remarks to a maximum of five (5) minutes. Speak into the microphone, and state your name and either your address or whether you are a city resident for the record.)*

## **WORK SESSION ITEMS**

1. Governing Board for Opioid Settlement - Presented by Ben Snipes. (estimated 10 minutes)
2. Street Overall Condition Index (OCI) Assessment Review - Presented by Eric Boyd. (estimated 30 minutes)
3. Title 15 Code Changes - Presented by Mike McIntosh. (estimated 30 minutes)

## **DISCUSSION POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

City Commission Work Sessions are televised on cable channel 190 and streamed live at <https://greatfallsmt.net>. Work Session meetings are re-aired on cable channel 190 the following Thursday morning at 10 a.m. and the following Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m.

Wi-Fi is available during the meetings for viewing of the online meeting documents.

## **UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE**

City Commission Work Session - Tuesday May 6, 2025 5:30 p.m.

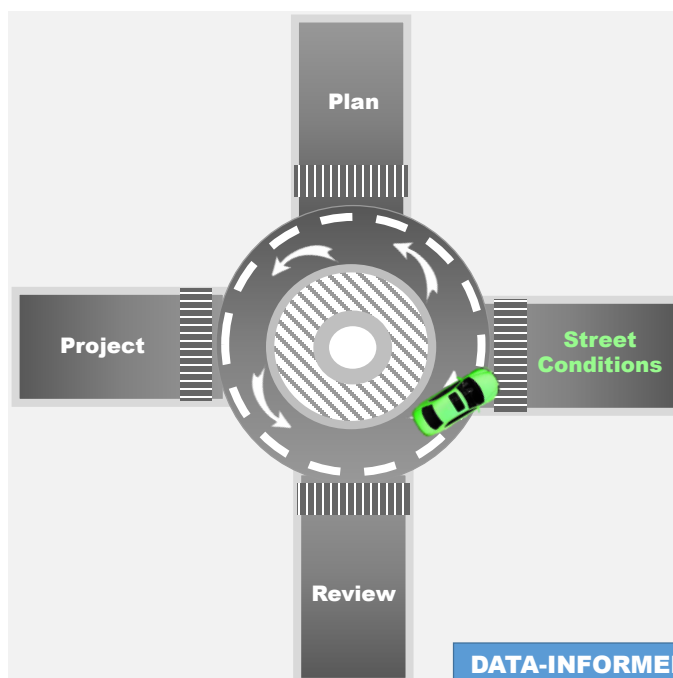
City Commission Meeting - Tuesday May 6, 2025 7:00 p.m.

## STREET DIVISION UPDATE

### STREET OVERALL CONDITION INDEX SURVEY



Presented by: Eric Boyd  
April 15, 2025



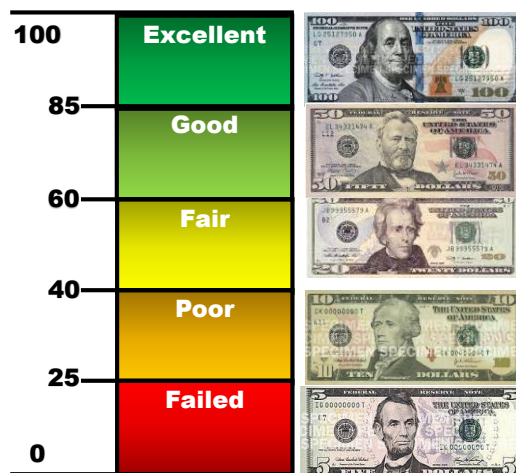
## KEY TOPICS

- Level of Service
- Street Lifecycle
- Condition Survey
- 2024 State of the Streets
- Historic Comparison
- Example Scenarios
- Recommendation

DATA-INFORMED DECISIONS

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## Level of Service = TARGET OCI

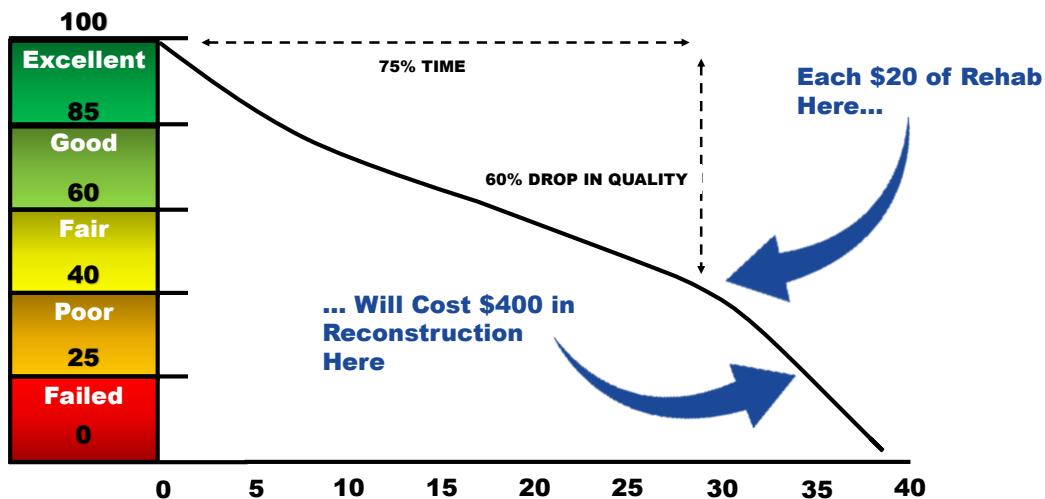


**ARE WE WILLING TO SPEND ENOUGH TO GET OUR DESIRED LEVEL OF SERVICE?**

**LONG-TERM PLANS DRIVE SHORT-TERM GOALS.**

3

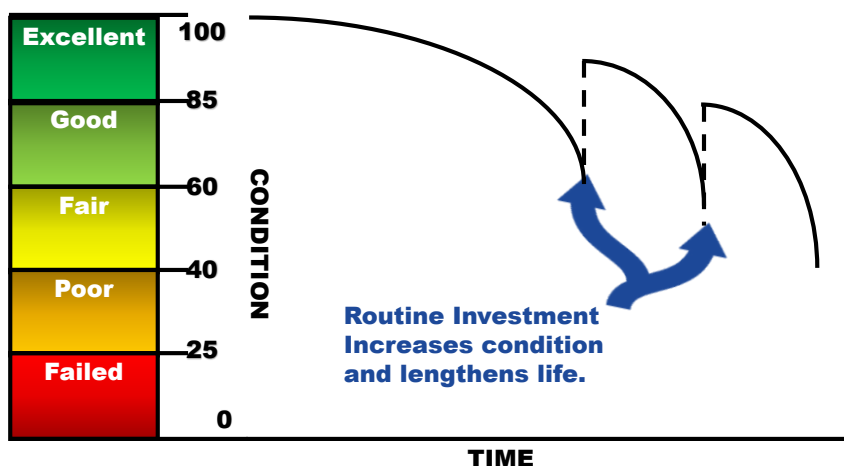
## COST OF DEFERMENT



**DELAYING INVESTMENT LEADS TO A DECREASE IN QUALITY AND EXPONENTIAL COST INCREASE**

4

## OPTIMIZING INVESTMENT



EARLY MAINTENANCE KEEPS STREETS GOOD FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

5

## WHAT IS A STREET OVERALL CONDITION INDEX? (OCI)

- **A number rating representing a street's condition (health)**
  - **Combines Two Scientific Methods (Structure and Ride)**
    - Pavement Condition Index 80% of Score (PCI)
    - International Roughness Index 20% of Score (IRI)
- **Expressed on a scale from 0 to 100.**
  - 100 = new or excellent
  - 0 = failed score

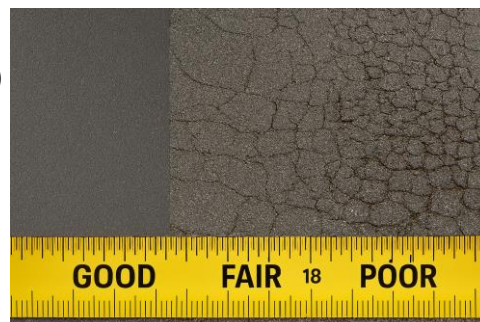


OCI SURVEY FUNDED BY FHWA PL FUNDS

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## WHAT DO WE USE AN OCI FOR?

- **Define Quality of Street Network**
- **Define Street Network Needs (Backlog)**
- **Forecast Required Future Investment**
- **Prioritize repairs and track progress**



ALLOWS CITY TO MAKE DATA INFORMED DECISIONS AT ALL LEVELS

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## DATA COLLECTION

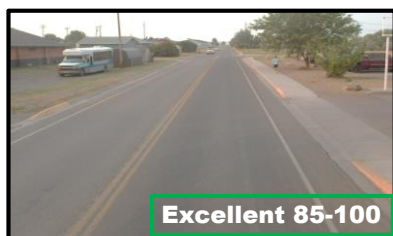
### Consultants – Automated Survey

- **Roadway Asset Collection Vehicle**
- **Collected Data from**
  - **LCMS-2 Profiler – Certified Laser Profiler**
  - **Point Gray Ladybug 360-degree HD Camera**
  - **Applanix POS/LV w/DGPS**



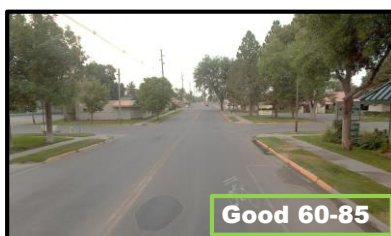
DATA COLLECTION AND REVIEW MEET AASHTO AND ASTM STANDARDS

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**Excellent 85-100**

**93 OCI**  
**2100 Block 13<sup>th</sup> St South**



**Good 60-85**

**68 OCI**  
**700 Block 9<sup>th</sup> St South**



**Fair 40-60**

**55 OCI**  
**400 Block 7<sup>th</sup> Ave South**



**Poor 25-40**

**37 OCI**  
**1200 Block 5<sup>th</sup> Ave NW**



**Failed 0-25**

**22 OCI**  
**800 Block 11<sup>th</sup> St NW**

**GREAT FALLS EXAMPLES OCI**

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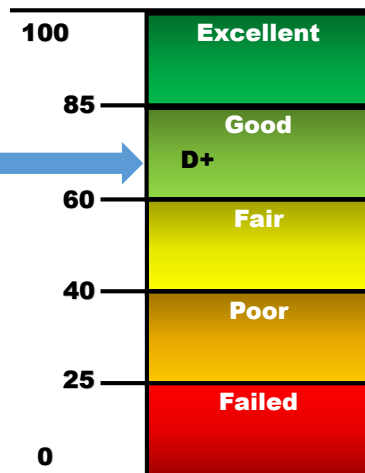
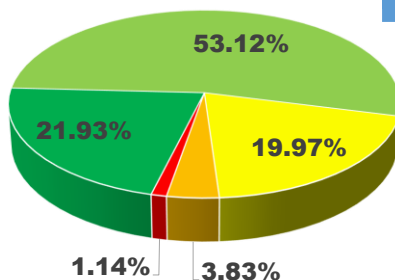
## GREAT FALLS STREET NETWORK SCORE

**Network Average OCI: 68.4**

- 85-100: 61.33 Miles
- 60-85: 148.53 Miles
- 40-60: 55.84 Miles
- 25-40: 10.72 Miles
- 0-25: 3.18 Miles

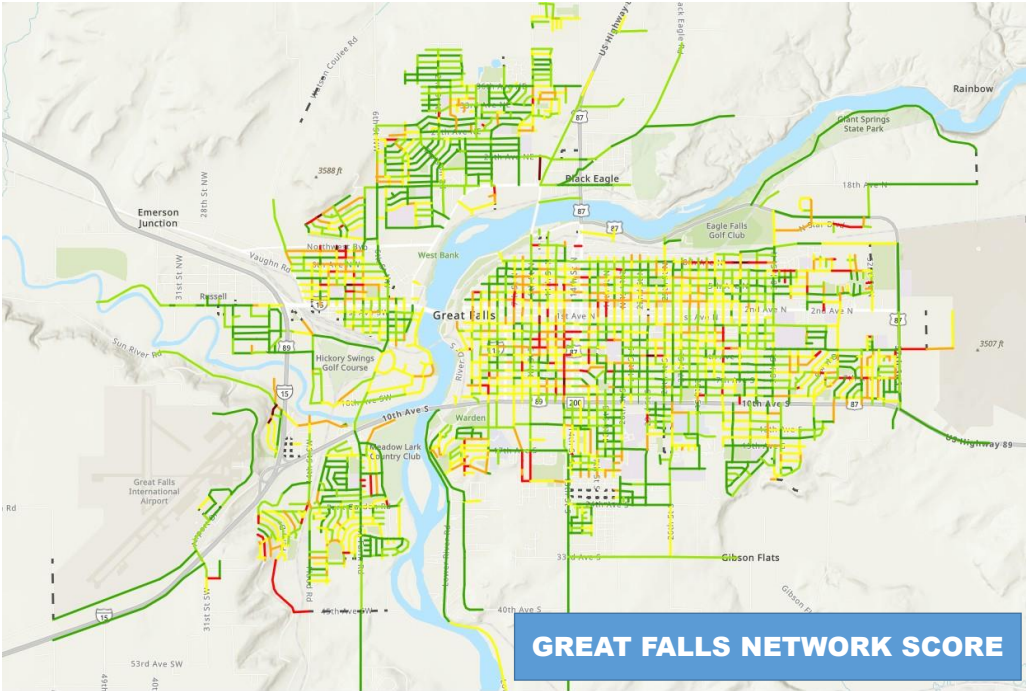
**CRV:\$2.4 BILLION**

**NETWORK MILES**



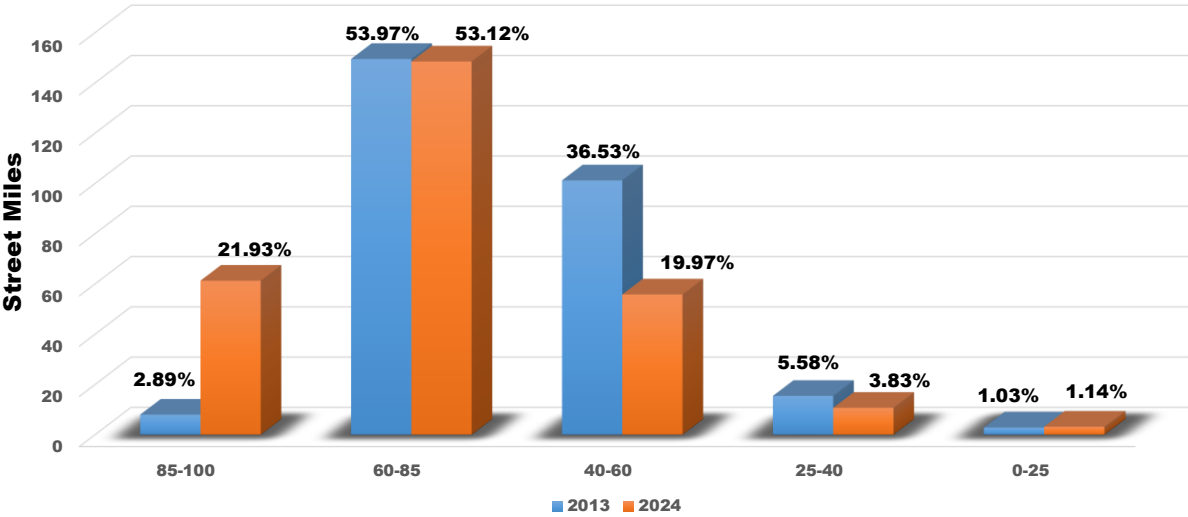
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**2013 SURVEY VS 2024 SURVEY**



**\$73 MILLION FROM 2013 TO 2024 FOR NET GAIN (+) 7**









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## WE'RE NOT ALONE

### 2025 U.S. Infrastructure Grades by Category

Source: American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

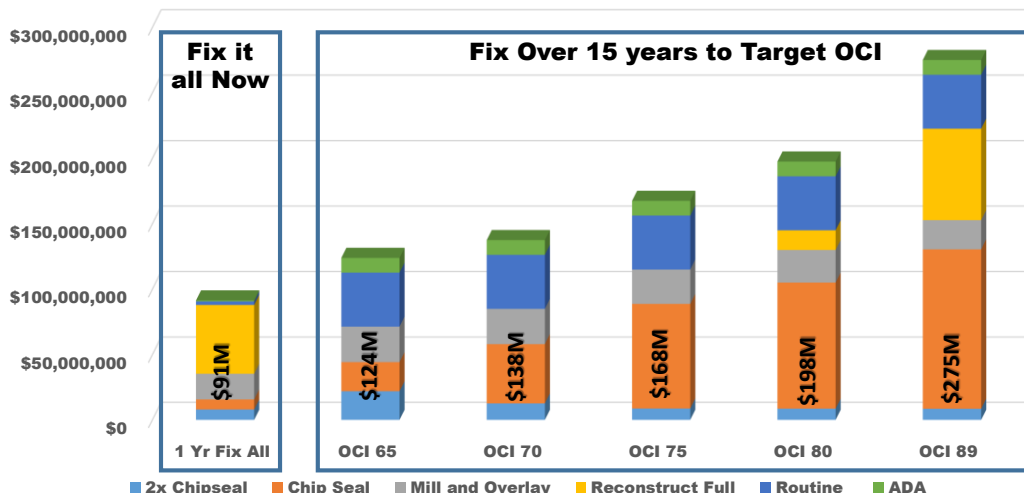
**“2025 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure”  
American Society of Civil Engineers(ASCE)**

Category	Grade
 Roads (Streets)	D+
 Bridges	C
 Transit	D
 Rail	B
 Aviation	B-
 Drinking Water	C+
 Wastewater (Sewer)	C
 Stormwater	C

**Estimated Investment to Improve one Grade  
\$2.58 trillion**

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## GREAT FALLS OCI BACKLOG COST



**IN AN IDEAL WORLD IF ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE**

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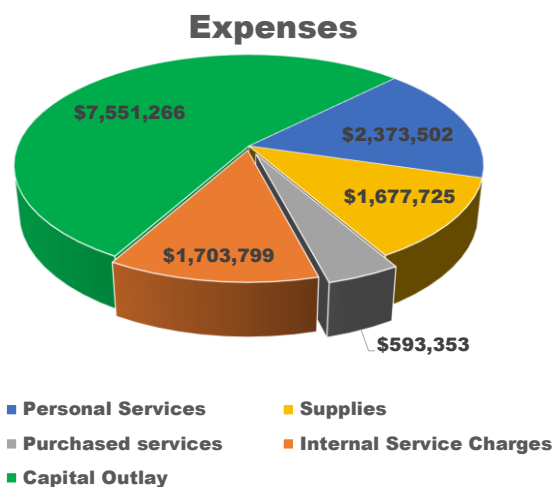
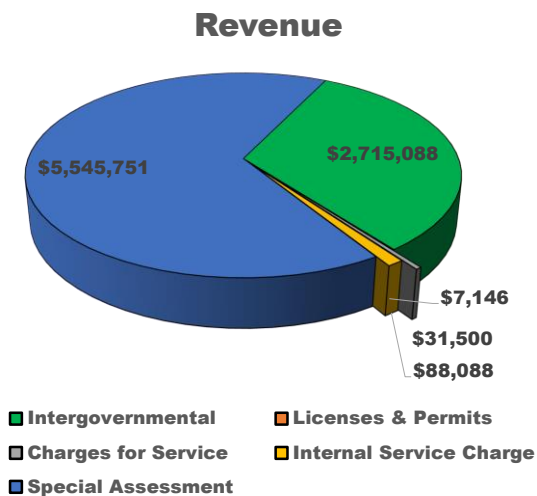
## FUNDING BY TARGET LEVEL OF SERVICE

Required Annual Investment to Achieve Network Target OCI				
Target OCI	Plan Length	Net Gain	Budget Gap (Millions)	Required Annual Increase (Each Plan Year) Percent Change
65	15	-3	\$0	0
70 Steady State	15	2	\$14	1.5
75	15	+7	\$44	5
80	15	+12	\$75	7.5
89	15	+21	\$151	12.5
90 Fix All	1	+22	\$83	1500

ONE BAD WINTER COULD CHANGE CONDITION OF ENTIRE NETWORK.

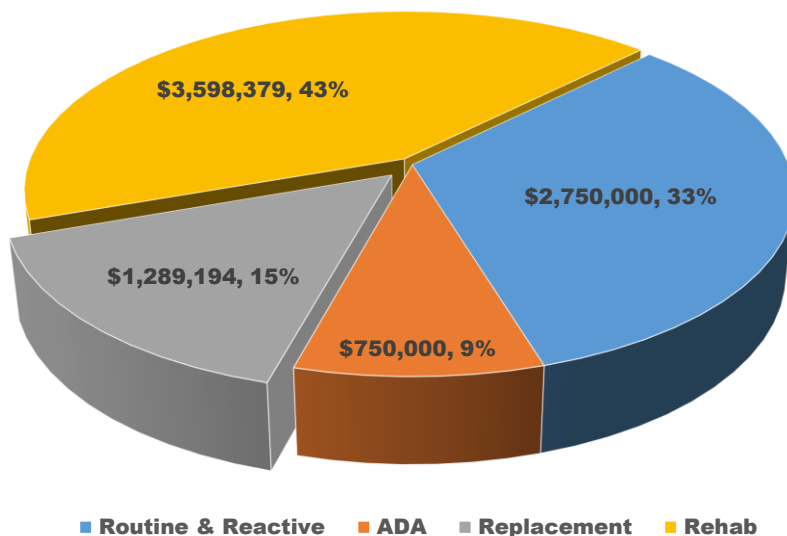
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## GREAT FALLS STREET BUDGET FY 25



16

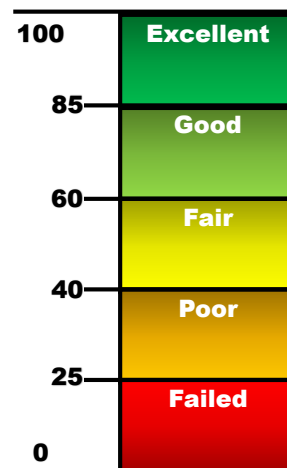
## GREAT FALLS FY25 INVESTMENT BREAKDOWN



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## RECOMMENDATION

- **Increase Funding/Street Assessment 7.5%**
- **Development**
  - **Build to a standard that starts the lifecycle in the best possible condition.**
    - Original investment keeps good longer.
    - Long-term planning = fewer interruptions to residents.
    - Minimal funds available for development projects.
- **Possibly a future ask to increase standards.**



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**QUESTIONS?**



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## Fire Code

CHANGES TO TITLE 15: CHAPTER 9  
AND TITLE 9: CHAPTER 4 AND 9



## Changes to Title 15 Buildings and Construction: Chapter 9 Fire Code

- When adopting the current version of the International Fire Code (IFC), it was found that much of the past code language that was in Title 15, Chapter 9 had been removed
- The language as presented will clean up this section of City Code by adding back much of the language that was removed
- It will clarify certain construction practices and requirements
- It will give authority to the fire chief to initiate burn bans within the City
- It establishes ramifications for those who attempt to hinder firefighting operations
- It will address nuisance properties in disrepair as a result of a fire or other events



## Changes to Title 9 Public Peace, Morals and Welfare: Chapter 4 Offenses Against Public Peace and Chapter 9 Fireworks

### Chapter 4

- GFFR will be assuming the permitting of special events from the City Managers office
- Examples of special events are: street closures, parades and downtown concerts
  - This section of City Code will be relocated to the fire code section of City Code

### Chapter 9

- Adds language to the City Code for public fireworks displays
- Meets the requirements of MCA



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## Chapter 9 Fire Code Changes

### Adding Back Previous Language

- Adoption of the IFC, and those sections not adopted by the State of Montana
- Clarifying language on the duties of the Fire Prevention Bureau and preventative inspections

### New Language

- Fire Chief Authority – burning in City
- Burn permits and special events
- Existing fire alarm requirements
- Abatement of fire hazard nuisances
- Knox Boxes for new construction that have life safety systems
- Prohibiting of blasting (construction) and tenting (sprinklers) in the City
- Hindering fire service operations



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## Title 9 Public Peace, Morals and Welfare changes

### Special Events

- Currently special event permits are applied for at the City Managers office
- These applications are then signed off by applicable departments
- Currently, GFFR does not meet with many of these event organizers before the event
- As GFFR has to ensure life safety for these events, by moving the permitting to GFFR allows for proactive engagement in the beginning then reactive engagement on the back end (Farmers Market)

### Fireworks

- Add language where the fire chief or his/her designee shall review and inspect public fireworks displays (Currently not happening)
- Requires the fireworks contractor to provide proof of insurance and list the fireworks to be shot off and provide a safety plan
- This language meets the requirements of MCA 50-37-107 and 50-37-108
- This language reduces liability for the City



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## Conclusion

- The changes made to the fire code section, along with the movement of special event permits and updates to the fireworks chapter are not intended to add more government oversight. These changes are being made to clarify existing City Codes and to reduce potential liabilities to the City



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## GREAT FALLS FIRE RESCUE

Mike McIntosh  
 Assistant Chief - Prevention  
 105 9<sup>th</sup> Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405  
 (406)791-8971 mmcintosh@greatfallsmt.net



# Changes to Fire Code, Special Events and Fireworks

### Title 15 Buildings and Construction: Fire Code

- When the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) was adopted, it was found much of previous City Code had been removed when it was last attempted to clean up City Code
- The City Attorney's office and GFFR feel that it is important that this language gets back into City Code
- GFFR is also adding new language to the City Code that will:
  - Give the fire chief authority to place burn bans inside city limits
    - Example is drought conditions
    - This allows the fire chief to not have to wait for the county DES to initiate this ban
  - Adds permitting for open burning in certain areas of the City
  - GFFR is assuming special permits from the City Manager's Office
  - Adds clarifying language as to when a fire alarm contractor must obtain a permit for an existing fire alarm system
  - Allows GFFR to charge if fires start in properties that are declared a nuisance as the result of a fire or other event
  - Requires Knox Boxes for new construction that has life safety systems
  - Prohibits the construction practices of blasting and the tenting of fire sprinkler systems
  - Establishes a misdemeanor offense for anyone that hinders fire service operations or who drives over fire hose

### Title 9 Offense Against Public Peace: Special Events and Fireworks

- As GFFR inspects current special events as indicated in City Code, GFFR has worked with the City Manager's office to have GFFR administer special event permits, and to have this language moved under the fire code section of Title 15
- Establish a process that meets the requirements of MCA 50-37-108 and 50-37-108 for public displays of fireworks (the City currently does not have an established process for public fireworks displays)



## GREAT FALLS FIRE RESCUE

Mike McIntosh  
Assistant Chief - Prevention  
105 9<sup>th</sup> Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405  
(406)791-8971 mmcintosh@greatfallsmt.net



Agenda #3.

# Montana Code Annotated 2023

TITLE 50. HEALTH AND SAFETY

CHAPTER 37. FIREWORKS

Part 1. General Provisions

## Supervised Public Display Of Fireworks Authorized

**50-37-107. Supervised public display of fireworks authorized.** (1) The state fire prevention and investigation section of the department of justice or the governing body of a city, town, or county may, under reasonable rules adopted by them, grant permits for supervised public displays of fireworks to be held by municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks, and other organizations or groups of individuals.

(2) Each display must:

(a) be handled by a competent operator, who must be approved by the state fire prevention and investigation section or the governing body of the city, town, or county in which the display is to be held; and

(b) be located, discharged, or fired as, in the opinion of the state fire prevention and investigation section or the chief of the local governmental fire agency organized under Title 7, chapter 33, or other officer designated by the governing body of the city, town, or county after proper inspection, not to be hazardous to persons or property.

(3) Application for permits must be made in writing at least 15 days prior to the date of the display.

(4) After the privilege has been granted, sales, possession, use, and distribution of fireworks for the display are lawful for that purpose only.

(5) A permit granted under this section is not transferable.

**History:** En. Sec. 3, Ch. 143, L. 1947; amd. Sec. 2, Ch. 273, L. 1959; amd. Sec. 18, Ch. 187, L. 1977; R.C.M. 1947, 69-2702; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 164, L. 1981; amd. Sec. 5, Ch. 140, L. 1985; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 706, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 17, Ch. 449, L. 2007.



## GREAT FALLS FIRE RESCUE

Mike McIntosh



Agenda #3.

# Montana Code Annotated 2023

TITLE 50. HEALTH AND SAFETY

CHAPTER 37. FIREWORKS

Part 1. General Provisions

## General Liability Insurance Required For Public Display

**50-37-108. General liability insurance required for public display.** The state fire prevention and investigation section or the governing body of the city, town, or county shall require a person planning a public display of fireworks to provide proof of general liability insurance in a reasonable amount as determined by rules adopted by the department of justice.

**History:** En. Sec. 4, Ch. 143, L. 1947; R.C.M. 1947, 69-2703; amd. Sec. 6, Ch. 140, L. 1985; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 706, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 4, Ch. 387, L. 2003; amd. Sec. 18, Ch. 449, L. 2007.

- **Chapter 9 - FIRE CODE**

- **15.9.010 - International Fire Code—adoption.**

A. The City of Great Falls hereby adopts the most currently Montana state adopted International Fire Code (IFC) and appendices, as may be administratively amended by the Great Falls Fire Rescue Department (GFFR).

B. A copy of the IFC, as may be amended, is available for inspection in the City Clerk's office and the GFFR Fire Marshall's office.

C. Copies of the IFC may also be obtained from the International Code Council.

([Ord. 3213](#), 2020; Ord. 3189, 2018).

- **15.9.020 - Definitions.**

Whenever the following words are used in the IFC, the following definitions shall apply:

A. "Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention" means the Great Falls Fire Rescue Department (GFFR) Chief.

B. "Corporation Counsel" means the Great Falls City Attorney.

C. "Jurisdiction" means the incorporated City limits of Great Falls.

D. "Removal" in relation to storage tanks includes vents and fill pipes and all other incidental hardware.

(Ord. 3189, 2018).

- **15.9.030 - Bureau of Fire Prevention—established—duties.**

A. The IFC shall be enforced by the GFFR Bureau of Fire Prevention, under the supervision of the Fire Chief.

B. The GFFR Fire Prevention may, in the discretion of the Fire Marshall, assess fees for inspections and/or re-inspections of premises for compliance with the IFC. Said fees shall be set by Commission resolution.

([Ord. 3213](#), 2020; Ord. 3189, 2018).

- **15.9.040 - Pipes thawed with torch prohibited.**

A. It is unlawful to use any torch or other flame-producing device for the purpose of thawing out any pipe in or under any house, building, or structure in the incorporated City limits.

B. A violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a term not to exceed six (6) months in jail, a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or both.

C. Costs incurred by City emergency personnel responding to a violation of this section may be assessed as a lien on the subject property by Commission resolution.

(Ord. 3189, 2018).

- **15.9.050 - Inspection, testing, maintenance and records.**

A. All system inspections, tests and maintenance that are required by applicable IFC standards shall be performed by qualified individuals who are licensed to perform work in the City of Great Falls and written reports of such inspections, tests and maintenance shall be kept on the premises for a minimum of three (3) years.

B. All inspection, testing and maintenance reports shall be submitted to the City's online reporting vendor within the following time frame:

1. No deficiencies found: within ten (10) days of the date the inspection, testing or maintenance took place;
2. Deficiencies found: within seven (7) days of the date the inspection, testing or maintenance took place; or
3. Critical issues found: Immediately following the inspection, testing or maintenance, along with immediate notification to the Fire Marshal.

C. Inspections, tests and maintenance that do not comply with the provisions in this Chapter shall result in the inspected or serviced system being deemed non-compliant with the provisions of this Chapter.

D. Non-compliance with this Chapter will be addressed as set forth in [15.9.060](#) and/or by [Title 5](#), Chapter 2, Safety Inspections.

([Ord. 3237](#) meeting, 2021).

**Editor's note**— [Ord. 3237](#) meeting, § 1(Exh. A), adopted Dec. 7, 2021, renumbered the former § 15.9.050 as § 15.9.060 and enacted a new § 15.9.050 as set out herein. The historical notation has been retained with the amended provisions for reference purposes.

- **15.9.060 - Violation—penalty.**

A. Unless otherwise specified in this Chapter, any person who violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of the IFC as adopted, or any of the provisions of this Chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a term not to exceed six (6) months in jail, a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or both.

B. A property that contains a violation of the IFC, or any other violation of this Chapter, is hereby declared a Nuisance as defined by OCCGF [Title 8](#), [Chapter 49](#).

([Ord. 3237](#) meeting, 2021; Ord. 3189, 2018).

**Editor's note**— See editor's note following 15.9.050.



Title 15 - BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION  
Chapter 9 FIRE CODE

## Chapter 9 FIRE CODE

### Sections:

#### **15.9.010 Fire chief authority.**

- A. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter and the authority granted in section 2.4.070, the fire chief is authorized to issue a burn ban and may prohibit all fires and burning of combustibles including but not limited to all open burning, fire pits, chimineas, charcoal grills, and fireworks within the city limits. In determining to implement a burn ban the fire chief may consider, among others, current climate conditions including drought, weather forecast, and available fire resources. Any burn ban issued by the fire chief may take immediate effect without further implementing actions and will remain in effect until rescinded by the fire chief.

#### **15.9.0210 International Fire Code—adoption.**

- A. The City of Great Falls hereby adopts the most current ~~edition of the~~ ~~ly Montana state adopted~~ International Fire Code (IFC) ~~as adopted by the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau of the Montana Department of Justice (or its successor) and appendices, as set out in the Administrative Rules of Montana, and as amended from time to time by the Bureau, are adopted by reference and incorporated in this section as set forth in full, with the additions, amendments, and deletions enumerated within the Administrative Rules, except as may be noted in this section, by future administrative order, or by any regulations not applicable to local government jurisdictions.~~
- B. Any amendments adopted by the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau which apply to local government jurisdictions, including the adoption of the latest editions of the IFC or applicable Administrative Rules of Montana shall become effective upon execution of an administrative order of the city manager unless a different effective date is specified in the administrative order.
- C. The City of Great Falls and Great Falls Fire Rescue (GFFR) hereby adopt the following section of code(s), and annexes not adopted by the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau of the Montana Department of Justice.
1. Section 105, Permits
    - a. Of Section 105 Permits, only operational permits will be adopted. Construction Permits will not be adopted by the IFC. ~~However,~~ construction permits will be subject to the permitting requirements of the International Building Code (IBC) and the Municipal Code of the City of Great Falls.
    - b. The following operational permits shall be adopted, if the permit is not listed here, it is not adopted.
      - i. 105.5.34 Open burning (exception: recreational fires)
  2. Appendix B, Fire Flows
  3. Appendix C, Hydrants
  4. Appendix D, Fire Apparatus Access Roads
  5. Appendix E, Hazard Categories
  6. Appendix F, Hazard Rankings

7. Appendix G, Cryogenic Fluids – Weights and Equivalents8. Appendix I, Fire Protection Systems – Noncompliant Conditions

~~— 9. Appendix N, Indoor Trade Shows and Exhibitions as may be administratively amended by the Great Falls Fire Rescue Department (GFFR).~~

DB. A copy of the IFC, as may be amended, is available for inspection in the City Clerk's office and the GFFR Fire Marshall's office.

EC. Copies of the IFC may also be obtained from the International Code Council.

( Ord. 3213 , 2020; Ord. 3189, 2018).

**15.9.0320 Definitions.**

Whenever the following words are used in the IFC, the following definitions shall apply:

~~A. — "Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention" means the Great Falls Fire Rescue Department (GFFR) Chief.~~

~~B. — "Corporation Counsel" means the Great Falls City Attorney.~~

C. "Jurisdiction" means the incorporated City limits of Great Falls.

~~D. — "Removal" in relation to storage tanks includes vents and fill pipes and all other incidental hardware.~~

~~(Ord. 3189, 2018).~~

**15.9.0430 Bureau of Fire Prevention—established—duties.**

A. The IFC shall be enforced by the GFFR Bureau of Fire Prevention, under the supervision of the Fire Chief.

B. The GFFR Fire Prevention Bureau may, in the discretion of the Assistant Chief - Prevention~~Fire Marshall~~, assess fees for false activation of fire alarm systems as outlined in Title 5 of this code, and inspections and/or re-inspections of premises for compliance with the IFC, or applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA ) standards. Said fees shall be set by Commission resolution.

( Ord. 3213 , 2020; Ord. 3189, 2018).

**15.9.040 Pipes thawed with torch prohibited.**

~~A. — It is unlawful to use any torch or other flame producing device for the purpose of thawing out any pipe in or under any house, building, or structure in the incorporated City limits.~~

~~B. — A violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a term not to exceed six (6) months in jail, a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or both.~~

~~C. — Costs incurred by City emergency personnel responding to a violation of this section may be assessed as a lien on the subject property by Commission resolution.~~

~~(Ord. 3189, 2018).~~

**15.9.050 Preventative Inspections.**

A. GFFR Bureau of Fire Prevention shall inspect, or cause to be inspected as often as may be necessary, all premises of the city, except the interior of private dwellings, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected, any conditions liable to cause fire, or may be considered a life safety hazard(s).

### **15.9.0650 Inspection, testing, maintenance and records.**

- A. All system inspections, tests and maintenance that are required by applicable IFC standards shall be performed by qualified individuals who are licensed to perform work in the City of Great Falls and written reports of such inspections, tests and maintenance shall be kept on the premises for a minimum of three (3) years.
- B. All inspection, testing and maintenance reports shall be submitted to the City's online reporting vendor within the following time frame:
  - 1. No deficiencies found: within ten (10) days of the date the inspection, testing or maintenance took place;
  - 2. Deficiencies found: within seven (7) days of the date the inspection, testing or maintenance took place; or
  - 3. Critical issues found: Immediately following the inspection, testing or maintenance, along with immediate notification to the Fire Marshal.
- C. Inspections, tests and maintenance that do not comply with the provisions in this Chapter shall result in the inspected or serviced system being deemed non-compliant with the provisions of this Chapter.
- D. Non-compliance with this Chapter will be addressed as set forth in 15.9.060 and/or by Title 5, Chapter 2, Safety Inspections.

( Ord. 3237 , 2021).

Ord. 3237 , § 1(Exh. A), adopted Dec. 7, 2021, renumbered the former § 15.9.050 as § 15.9.060 and enacted a new § 15.9.050 as set out herein. The historical notation has been retained with the amended provisions for reference purposes.

### **15.9.070 Existing fire alarm permit requirements.**

- B. Fire alarm work to existing fire alarm systems that installsand/or/replaces 5 devices or more will require a permit. This includes like for like replacement.
- C. Fire alarm panel replacement will require a permit.

### **15.9.080 Abatement of fire hazard nuisances caused by structures.**

- A. Any and all buildings, ruins, chimneys, flues, boilers, walls, remains of burned buildings or other constructions within the city limits which, by reason of their construction or condition, are in danger of being set on fire shall be found to be in violation of Title 16 of the City of Great Falls. The owner or owners of properties that are found to be in violation of Title 16 shall be notified to abate such violations forthwith.
- B. In case of a fire resulting directly or indirectly from failure promptly to comply with an order issued under this section, the person so failing to comply with such order shall pay to the city, for the service of GFFR, the actual costs for the time GFFR is engaged in fighting such fire. Such money shall be paid in the general fund of the city.

**15.9.090 Knox Box required.**

- A. From the date of this code forward, any new construction within the city that has a life safety system, fire suppression system or commercial kitchen hood installed, shall have a Knox Box.
- B. From the date of this code forward, any existing building that undergoes remodel or alterations that significantly alter or enhance a life safety system, fire suppression system, or commercial kitchen hood, shall have a Knox Box installed if one is not currently present.

**15.9.100 Explosives and blasting agents; prohibited.**

- A. The storage of blasting agents or explosives for construction purposes within the city are prohibited.
- B. The use of blasting agents or explosives for construction purposes are prohibited.

**15.9.101 Fire sprinkler system tenting prohibited.**

- A. Given the drastic temperatures that can occur in Great Falls, the practice of tenting fire sprinkler pipe is prohibited.

**15.9.102 Pipes thawed with torch prohibited.**

- A. ~~It is unlawful to use any torch or other flame-producing device for the purpose of thawing out any pipe in or under any house, building, or structure in the incorporated City limits.~~
- B. ~~A violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a term not to exceed six (6) months in jail, a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or both.~~
- C. ~~Costs incurred by City emergency personnel responding to a violation of this section may be assessed as a lien on the subject property by Commission resolution.~~

~~(Ord. 3189, 2018).~~

**15.9.103060 Violation—penalty.**

- A. Unless otherwise specified in this Chapter, any person who violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of the IFC as adopted, or any of the provisions of this Chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a term not to exceed six (6) months in jail, a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or both.
- B. A property that contains a violation of the IFC, or any other violation of this Chapter, is hereby declared a Nuisance as defined by OCCGF Title 8, Chapter 49.

( Ord. 3237 , 2021; Ord. 3189, 2018).

Editor's note(s)—See editor's note following 15.9.050.

**15.9.104 Hindering fire service operations prohibited.**

- A. Any person who willfully interferes or hinders any city fire officer or firefighter in the performance of such officer's or firefighter's duty at, going to, or returning from any fire service call, or while attending to the officer's or firefighter's duties as a member of GFFR, or who willfully or negligently drives any

type vehicle across, or along or upon any hose, or who willfully cuts, defaces, destroys or injures any of the property belonging to or connected with GFFR, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

#### **9.9.071 Fireworks public display. (needs to go in Title 9)**

- A. The fire chief and or his/her designee shall review and inspect all supervised public displays of fireworks, including "display fireworks," by the municipality, fair associations, amusement parks, or other organizations or groups of individuals upon completion of the necessary application and submission of appropriate fees as may be established by resolution of the city commission. A visual site inspection shall occur before any permit is issued. Submission of the application does not guarantee issuance of a permit. All applications under this section shall be made to the fire chief.
- B. Each display must:
  - 1. Be handled by a licensed, bonded pyrotechnic operator to be approved of by the fire chief or his/her designee.
  - 2. Be located, discharged, or fired such that the display, in the opinion of the fire chief or his/her designee, shall not be hazardous to persons or property.
  - 3. Clearly post a "NO SMOKING" warning within 50 feet of the staging and discharge area established for the display, and no one may smoke within the defined area.
- C. The application for permit must be made in writing at least 15 days prior to the date of the display, and must contain, at a minimum:
  - 1. A map of the proposed display venue, including temporary storage site, the parking and spectator viewing areas if applicable, the fireworks discharge point, location of structures and roads, streets, and alleys within a 1000-yard radius, overhead obstructions or other hazards.
  - 2. The name of the licensed and bonded pyrotechnic operator along with the operator's qualifications, training and experience, and the names of any assistants for the event.
  - 3. The location of all fire hydrants, water spigots or other access points for water, and other fire retardants or extinguishers available at or near the venue.
  - 4. Proof of general liability insurance specifically including coverage for firework displays in an amount acceptable to the city, and which includes the city as an additional insured.
  - 5. The name of the association, entity, organization or group and its organizing or supervising board or responsible parties for the event.
  - 6. A complete list of fireworks intended for use in the display together with their projectile rage, if any.
  - 7. The location, date and time of the display and written consent from the land owner.
  - 8. A detailed safety plan for the event.
- D. Only upon inspection and issuance of the permit, shall use of fireworks for such display as detailed in the permit be lawful.
- E. Following the public display, the organizers and the pyrotechnic operator are responsible for clean-up of the display site, including disposal of all discharged fireworks and non-discharged or "dud" fireworks in a safe manner.
- F. No permit issued under this article may be transferred.
- G. A permit issued under this article may be revoked by the fire chief or his/her designee at any time when any of the conditions under which the permit was granted change, when a hazardous condition is determined to exist, or when, in the best judgment of the fire chief or his/her designee, such permit must be withdrawn in the interests of public safety. The fire chief or his/her designee may revoke a permit issued under this article for a violation of any rule, regulation or requirement of this article.

#### **9.9.072 General liability insurance required. (Needs to go in Title 9)**

- A. An individual, firm, partnership, corporation or association planning a public display of fireworks shall, in addition to the permit required in section 9.9.071, provide proof of general liability insurance

specifically including coverage for firework displays in an amount acceptable to the city attorney; and which includes the city as an additional insured.

- B. Notice must be given to the fire chief or his/her designee ~~must be given ten days prior to any public display~~ if any insurance policy required under this article is cancelled or subject to non-renewal. Notice must be provided by the permittee, the insurance carrier.
- C. A copy of the insurance policy and applicable fireworks endorsements for any public display must be filed with the city clerk and must indemnify the city against any damages to private or public property, as well as any injuries to persons, which may be caused by or incident to the public display.
- D. Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation or association discharging fireworks without a public display permit shall be deemed to be the responsible party and shall be liable for any damages incurred as the result of such discharge. The individual, firm, partnership, corporation or association insurance policy or policies maintained by the individual or entity discharging the fireworks shall be subject to any claim as a result of such discharge resulting in damage or injury.

#### **9.9.073 Fireworks sale and display violation (Needs to go in Title 9).**

- A. Sales and public display: Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation or association violating the provisions of this article regarding the sale of fireworks or the requirements for a public display of fireworks shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine ~~of \$500.00 as stated in 9.9.050(C).~~ Each sale within the city limits without the required license or permit constitutes a separate offense. In the case of a violation by a firm, partnership, corporation or association, the manager or members of the partnership or responsible officers or agents shall be deemed to be prima facie responsible, individually, and subject to the penalty as provided.
- B. Any damages caused or injuries sustained as a result of any violation of this article shall be ordered paid as restitution as a part of any conviction for any violation.
- C. The court may order the reimbursement of costs of enforcement, investigation, fire suppression services, and overtime related to a violation upon conviction.



#### 9.4.040 Requirements of a special event permit.

- A. Events encouraging community and neighborhood involvement are encouraged and may require the temporary closure of city streets, parks or other public property.
- B. Applications for a procession must comply with the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 14. Organizers of an event, other than a procession, that require the temporary closure of a public property must obtain a special event permit. The application for the permit shall contain the name and contact information of the person or entity requesting the permit, the location of the proposed event, the day(s), times(s), and duration of the event. Applications for closures of public property other than parks, must be turned in a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the event to the City Manager's office for review; applications for temporary closure of park land, must be turned in a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the event to the Park and Recreation Director.
- C. The City may approve, revise, or deny the application, in consideration of the following factors:
  - 1. Promotion of the community as a whole;
  - 2. Provision of positive civic and economic benefit;
  - 3. Impact on neighboring business and properties;
  - 4. Impact on public uses and services;
  - 5. Consideration of frequency of closures;
  - 6. Consideration of the event's financial impact;
  - 7. The applicant's performance under prior issued permits; and
  - 8. Impact on public safety, including but not limited to, emergency response time.
- D. For events which require a temporary closure of a street closure or parking lot open to the public, the event organizer must submit with the permit application, information as to how property owners, business owners and tenants adjacent to the temporary street closure will be notified of special event or activity. For such an event, the applicant or permit holder must prominently post a sign designating the street or parking lot closure and removal of vehicles, no less than four (4) hours in advance of the event. Parking in an area that has been designated and blocked off for a special event is a misdemeanor and such vehicle may be impounded and towed. The owner or person in control of the vehicle will be responsible for all towing and impounding fees.
- E. During the review of the application, city staff will develop a permit conditions that the applicant must follow. Staff will attempt to make available the necessary street closure equipment and charge a fee set by Commission resolution. If the equipment is not available through the City, the applicant will be required to supply the equipment at the applicant's expense.
- F. A fee for the special event permit shall be set by Commission resolution to cover administrative time and any additional costs incurred by the City to promote event safety and to ensure the area is returned back into the same condition it was prior to the event. The fee must be paid no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the event.
- G. If the event involves more than seventy-five (75) people, the person or organization must provide liability insurance, including liquor liability if applicable, providing coverage for their organization and naming the City as an additional named insured under the policy. The liability insurance coverage shall be in the minimum amounts one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) aggregate. The City Manager has the authority to waive this requirement or, require insurance for events with fewer than seventy-five (75) people should he determine it necessary due to the

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type of event. The insurance documentation must be provided to the City no less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the event.

- H. Applicants for a special event permit shall agree in writing to indemnify, defend, hold harmless the City and its employees and agents for any and all claims, damage or injury to person or property, lawsuits or liability including attorneys' fees and costs arising out of loss, occurring during the course of or pertaining to the special event which are caused by the conduct of the Applicant and/or its employees or agents.
- I. The City Manager, or designee, shall review, revise, approve with or without conditions, or deny the permit application and has the authority to require additional information from the applicant.
- J. The Police Department may revoke the special event permit should those in attendance become disorderly, property is damaged, or for other reasons that adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare of those attending the event and the citizens of Great Falls.

(Ord. 3158, 2017; Ord. 2949, 2006)

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- C. The City may approve, revise, or deny the application, in consideration of the following factors:
  - 1. Promotion of the community as a whole;
  - 2. Provision of positive civic and economic benefit;
  - 3. Impact on neighboring business and properties;
  - 4. Impact on public uses and services;
  - 5. Consideration of frequency of closures;
  - 6. Consideration of the event's financial impact;
  - 7. The applicant's performance under prior issued permits; and
  - 8. Impact on public safety, including but not limited to, emergency response time.
- D. For events which require a temporary closure of a street closure or parking lot open to the public, the event organizer must submit with the permit application, information as to how property owners, business owners and tenants adjacent to the temporary street closure will be notified of special event or activity. For such an event, the applicant or permit holder must prominently post a sign designating the street or parking lot closure and removal of vehicles, no less than four (4) hours in advance of the event. Parking in an area that has been designated and blocked off for a special event is a misdemeanor and such vehicle may be impounded and towed. The owner or person in control of the vehicle will be responsible for all towing and impounding fees.
- E. During the review of the application, city staff will develop a permit conditions that the applicant must follow. Staff will attempt to make available the necessary street closure equipment and charge a fee set by Commission resolution. If the equipment is not available through the City, the applicant will be required to supply the equipment at the applicant's expense.
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- G. If the event involves more than seventy-five (75) people, the person or organization must provide liability insurance, including liquor liability if applicable, providing coverage for their organization and naming the City as an additional named insured under the policy. The liability insurance coverage shall be in the minimum amounts one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and two million dollars

(\$2,000,000.00) aggregate. The City Manager has the authority to waive this requirement or, require insurance for events with fewer than seventy-five (75) people should he determine it necessary due to the type of event. The insurance documentation must be provided to the City no less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the event.

- H. Applicants for a special event permit shall agree in writing to indemnify, defend, hold harmless the City and its employees and agents for any and all claims, damage or injury to person or property, lawsuits or liability including attorneys' fees and costs arising out of loss, occurring during the course of or pertaining to the special event which are caused by the conduct of the Applicant and/or its employees or agents.
- I. Great Falls Fire Rescue at the designation of the~~The City Manager, or designee,~~ shall review, revise, approve with or without conditions, or deny the permit application and has the authority to require additional information from the applicant.
- J. If a special event permit is denied by Great Falls Fire Rescue, the denial may be appealed to the City Manager for a final decision.
- J. The Police Department may revoke the special event permit should those in attendance become disorderly, property is damaged, or for other reasons that adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare of those attending the event and the citizens of Great Falls.

(Ord. 3158, 2017; Ord. 2949, 2006)