



**AGENDA  
CITY OF LAUREL  
PARK BOARD  
THURSDAY, APRIL 06, 2023  
5:30 PM  
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Public Input:** *Citizens may address the committee regarding any item of business that is not on the agenda. The duration for an individual speaking under Public Input is limited to three minutes. While all comments are welcome, the committee will not take action on any item not on the agenda.*

**General Items**

1. LPB March 2, 2023 Minutes

**New Business**

2. Dog Park in Laurel

**Old Business**

3. Playground Equipment at Lions Park
4. Walking and Bike Path in the Laurel Area (BPAC Annual Report attached)
5. Splash Park and Pool Building at Thompson Park
6. American Legion Building at Riverside Park
7. Riverside Park
8. Russell Park Project

**Other Items**

**Announcements**

The City makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. Persons needing accommodation must notify the City Clerk's Office to make needed arrangements. To make your request known, please call 406-628-7431, Ext. 2, or write to City Clerk, PO Box 10, Laurel, MT 59044, or present your request at City Hall, 115 West First Street, Laurel, Montana.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**File Attachments for Item:**

1. LPB March 2, 2023 Minutes



**CITY OF LAUREL  
PARK BOARD  
THURSDAY, March 2, 2023  
5:30 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 5:30 by Irv Wilke with Richard Herr, Richard Klose, Evan Bruce, Paul Kober, Phyllis Bromgard and Jon Rutt in attendance. Matt Wheeler was the city representatives in attendance.

Cami Nelson from the Chamber and Craig Burbee from the Legion Baseball were in attendance.

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No Comments

### **General Items**

1. Approval of Park Board Minutes of February 2, 2023  
Evan B moved and Richard K 2<sup>nd</sup> and the motion was approved.

### **New Business**

2. Maintenance of Jaycee Hall for Renting – Consumables were discussed and Matt said the city would add to the morning rounds of checking toilets. Also some discussion on promoting the campground. The City will put on Facebook page.
3. Walking and Bike Path in the Laurel Area – There is a Billings Area Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Council for the county that has no one from Laurel on it. The annual report was discussed. Jon made a motion to have the City Council discuss the ability to have a bicycle and walking path program in Laurel and participate with the County. Motion approved.

### **Old Business**

4. Playground Equipment at Lions Park - Lion's have ordered parts to repair the broken pieces and working with F,W, and Parks on the broken windmills at the pond.
5. Splash Park at Thompson Park – Proceeding with the project and the contractor is expected around the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. City has done all it can preparing for the work. \$150,000 has been raised. Some discussion on the use of the Pool House by the Legion Baseball program. Craig Burbee explained the plan to fix up and paint the building. Jon made a motion to include the building in the Legion Baseball rent for a \$50 a year fee, Richard K 2<sup>nd</sup> and motion passed.
6. American Legion Building – No New
7. Riverside Park Updates – Walking Trail is almost completed around the perimeter of the park.
8. Russell Park Project – Project is a go and a new playground will be installed equal or better than Kids Kingdom..

### **Other Items**

Cami from the Chamber brought up the possibility of a dog park in town. Possible locations were discussed of the 5 acres on West 9<sup>th</sup> and the 12 to 13 acres above Fir Field.

Craig Burbee summarized the projects at the Legion Baseball Field:

New lights are being installed this spring, Yellowstone Bank is sponsoring a new Scoreboard, hosting the State

Tournament in Laurel this summer and possible locations for a batters cage and a turtle (Batting practice foul ball control) on south side of field.

### **Announcements**

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### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

9. Next meeting April 6, 2023

Meeting was adjourned at 6:44

Jon Rutt

**File Attachments for Item:**

4. Walking and Bike Path in the Laurel Area (BPAC Annual Report attached)

# BPAC

BILLINGS AREA  
BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

# WHO WE ARE

- **Chair: Nikki Zimmer (County)**
- **Vice Chair: Anna O'Donnell (City)**
- **Margy Bonner (City)**
- **Joan Schey (County)**
- **Dave Coppock (Planning Board)**
- **Kristi Drake (City)**
- **Vacant County Seat (County)**

# OUR FOCUS

Ensuring that our community's infrastructure enables people to walk, bike or use a wheelchair safely.



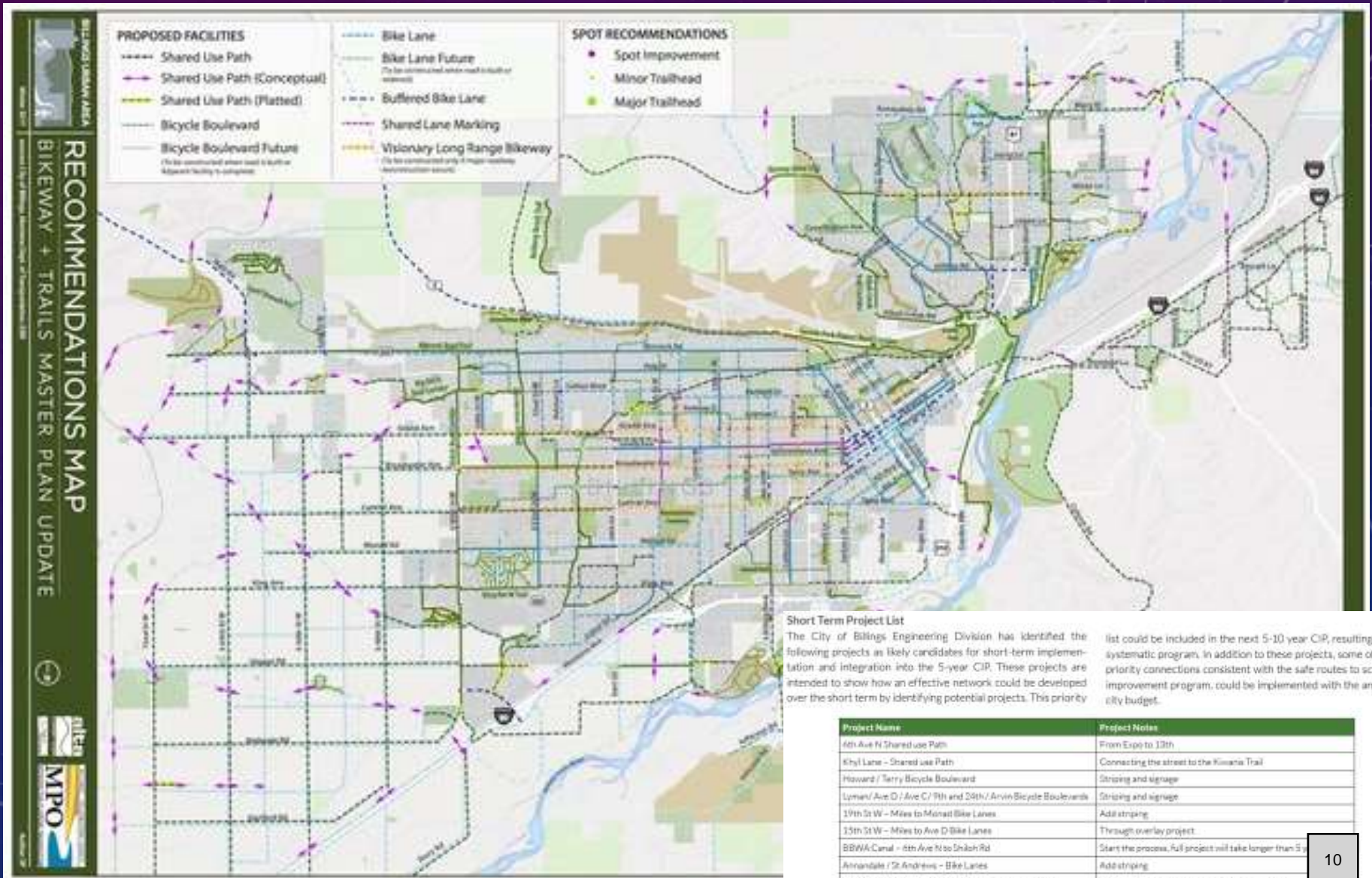


# WHAT WE DO



- Advise city and county in regards to nonmotorized transportation issues
- Ensure advice is rooted in community need by soliciting and compiling public comment trends
- Maintain relationships with governing bodies Billings City Council and Yellowstone County Commissioners
- Use the Billings Area Bikeway and Trails Master Plan as guidance

# BILLINGS AREA BIKEWAY AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN



RECOMMENDATIONS MAP  
BIKEWAY + TRAILS MASTER PLAN UPDATE



### Short Term Project List

The City of Billings Engineering Division has identified the following projects as likely candidates for short-term implementation and integration into the 5-year CIP. These projects are intended to show how an effective network could be developed over the short term by identifying potential projects. This priority

list could be included in the next 5-10 year CIP, resulting in a systematic program. In addition to these projects, some of the priority connections consistent with the safe routes to school improvement program, could be implemented with the annual eRy budget.

Project Name	Project Notes
6th Ave N Shared use Path	From Expo to 13th
Khyi Lane - Shared use Path	Connecting the street to the Kiwanis Trail
Howard / Terry Bicycle Boulevard	Striping and signage
Lynard Ave D / Ave C / 9th and 24th / Arvin Bicycle Boulevards	Striping and signage
19th St W - Miles to Monrad Bike Lanes	Add striping
15th St W - Miles to Ave D Bike Lanes	Through overlay project
BBWA Canal - 6th Ave N to Shook Rd	Start the process. Full project will take longer than 5y
Annandale / St Andrews - Bike Lanes	Add striping
Wicks Lane - Gibbeages to Kiwanis - Shared use Path	Add shared use path to south side of the street
Central Ave - 32nd to Shook - Shared use Path	With road project
Monrad Rd - 32nd to 29th - Bike Lanes	Through overlay project

# WE REVIEW AND ACCEPT PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONMOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

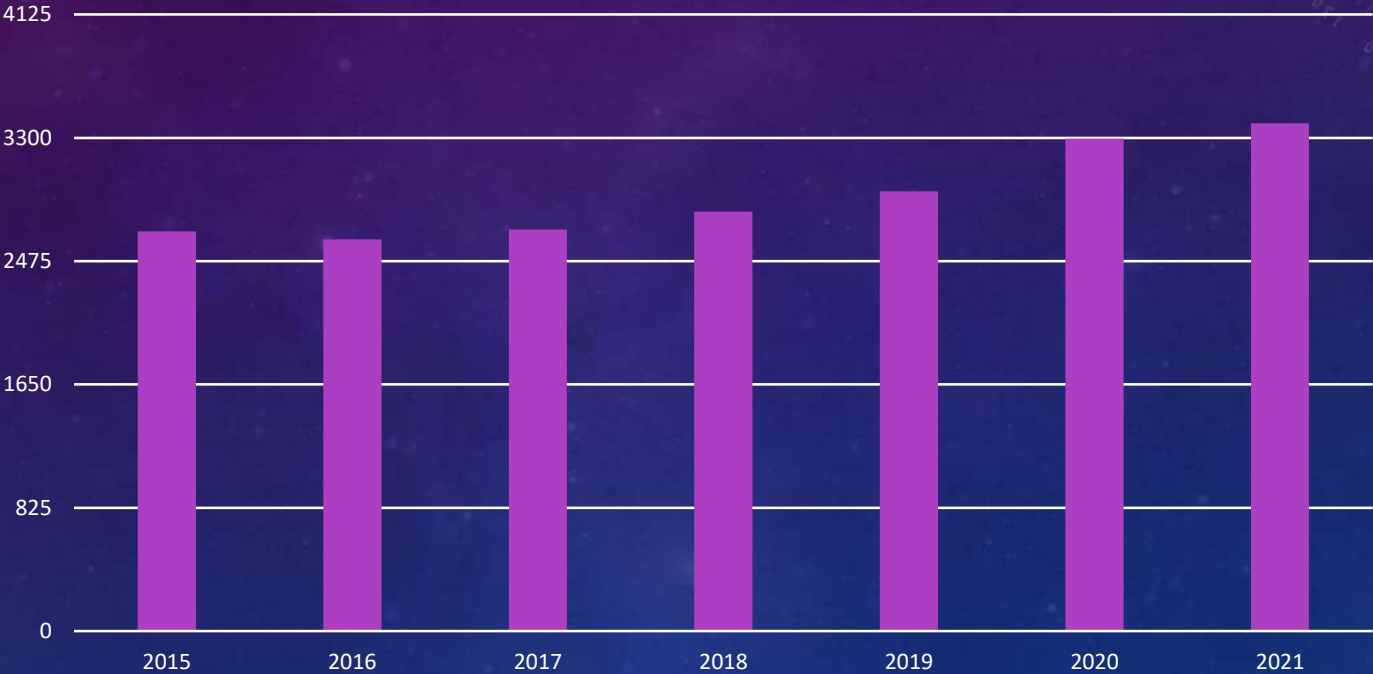
1. Public comment at monthly meetings
2. Online comments report from City County Planning
3. Survey to get input from the public on issues facing Billings and Yellowstone County residents in regard to biking and walking
4. BPAC will collect these survey responses for 3 months and will use this list to prioritize the top issues for which to advocate and improve

# PUBLIC INPUT AND CONCERNS

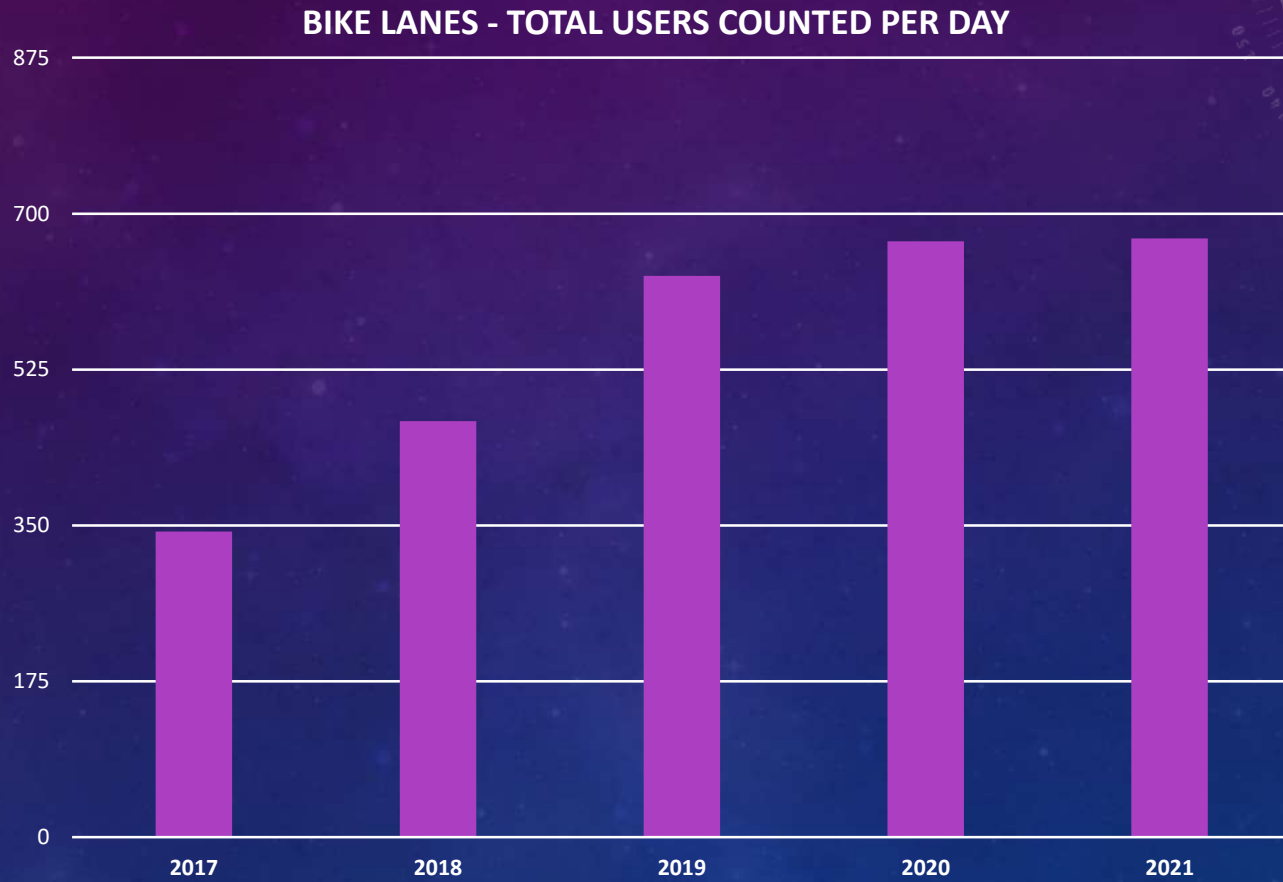
- Survey results (survey in progress)
  - crosswalks
- Bike/ped crash police reports
  - Driver education and law enforcement is key to avoiding bike ped/motorist conflict
- Public comment
  - Trail signage
  - Trail maintenance
  - Crosswalks and enforcement of crosswalk violators

# TRAIL COUNTS

TOTAL TRAIL USERS COUNTED PER DAY



# BIKE LANE USAGE IN BILLINGS



# WE APPLAUD THE EFFORTS OF CITY, COUNTY AND STATE FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN THE PAST YEAR:

- Active transportation continues to rise
- 2021 Safe Routes to School Plan showed need for further safety measures
- Flashing pedestrian beacons were installed to provide safe crossing
- Relationships foster connectivity in our community
- Key trail connections have been built:
  - BBWA canal trail by Rose Park
  - Neighborhood bikeway between North Park and Rose Park
  - 32<sup>nd</sup> St. trail from King to Gabel Rd
  - Pioneer Park trail system was repaired
  - Bike lane Five Mile Road
  - Billings Bypass bridge is being completed with a separated path included

# MOVING FORWARD, OUR STRATEGIC PROJECTS

1. Conduct a public outreach campaign to solicit more public input and educate the public related to biking, walking, rolling and accessibility
2. Find a partner organization to apply for a Recreational Trails Program Grant or Montana Trail Stewardship Program Grant to build and maintain trails
3. Work with the City/County to strengthen or create an overarching policy/policies to incorporate people biking and walking in the design of the built environment.
4. Make recommendations to the Billings Area Bikeway and Trails Master Plan as it is updated in 2023-2024.



## *HELP US HELP YOU BE SUCCESSFUL*

1. Recognize that there is broad support for trails and bikeways from:
  - general public
  - health community
  - business community
2. Recognize and support active transportation improvements happening in Billings and Yellowstone County including non-motorized improvements
3. Increase collaboration with other governmental entities, like MDT, creating a shared vision for a vibrant Billings and Yellowstone County

## *HELP US HELP YOU BE SUCCESSFUL*

4. Review the data we provide to analyze and identify where improvements are necessary
5. Increase traffic enforcement for red light violators, distracted drivers and impaired drivers
6. Educate bicyclists and pedestrians to be consistent with signaling their intentions



QUESTIONS?