Appendix B

PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPTS AND OUTREACH DOCUMENTATION

HOME

Soy-slicked salmon adds a fishy twist to banh mi

This two-fisted sandwich is inspired by a Vietnamese banh mi. Banh mi is a fusion of Vietnamese and French cuisines. It comprises a soft baguette layered with meat (often pork or chicken), quick pickles, leafy herbs and chiles, with a generous smear of pate, aioli or mayonnaise. It's a delectable convergence of contrasts crunchy, juicy, creamy textures and sweet, salty, spicy flavors — that deservedly nudges this specialty into addictive territory. It also provides enough flexibility in ingredients to appeal to nearly everyone, with perhaps the one fixed rule: Provide plenty of napkins.

This variation jettisons meat and replaces it with a soy- and Sriracha-slicked salmon fillet. Wafer-thin cucumbers and quick pickled carrot and daikon provide crunchy, sweet and sharp freshness. A garlicky, spicy yogurt-mayo sauce lends cool creaminess to every bite. (You can use all mayonnaise if you prefer.) For the bread, choose a wide baguette to contain the fillings or individual sandwich baguettes. Lightly toast the bread to help prevent sogginess from the fillings and lend more crunch to the eating experience.



Salmon Banh Mi

Active time: 30 minutes Total time: 30 minutes, plus marinating time

Yield: Makes 2 sandwiches

Marinade:

- 1/4 cup soy sauce 2 tablespoons packed brown
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil

1 teaspoon Sriracha

2 skinless salmon fillets, each 6 to 7 ounces and 3/4 inch thick, pin bones

Slaw:

1 medium carrot, peeled,

removed

- coarsely grated 1 (3-inch) daikon, peeled, coarsely grated
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime
- 2 tablespoons unseasoned rice wine vinegar

1 tablespoon sugar 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

- 1/2 cup whole-milk Greek yogurt
- 2 tablespoons good-quality mavonnaise
- 1 garlic clove, minced or pushed through a press 1 teaspoon fresh lime juice
- 1 teaspoon Sriracha Pinch of kosher salt
- 1 large baguette, cut into two (5- to 6-inch) centercut sections (or 2 small sandwich baguettes)
- 1 (3-inch) piece of English cucumber, very thinly sliced
- 1 to 2 jalapeno peppers, thinly sliced, seeded (optional)

Fresh cilantro sprigs

Whisk the marinade ingredients in a bowl. Spread the salmon in a snug baking dish or glass container. Pour the marinade over and turn to coat. Transfer the salmon to the refrigerator and let marinate for 30 minutes to 1 hour.

Combine the slaw ingredients in a bowl. Let stand at room temperature for 30 minPhoto by Lynda Balslev for Tastefood

utes, stirring occasionally, or refrigerate for longer. When ready to use, drain the vegetables well.

Whisk the sauce ingredients in a small bowl.

When ready to assemble. remove the salmon from the marinade. Place on a rimmed baking sheet and broil until cooked through the center and slightly charred on top, 5 to 7 minutes, rotating the pan once or twice.

Place the bread, cut sides up, on a separate baking sheet or rack and broil until lightly toasted, 1 to 2 minutes.

To assemble, brush both cut sides of the baguette with the sauce. Arrange a layer of cucumber over the bottom, slightly overlapping. Top with a layer of the slaw. Arrange a salmon filet over the slaw. Top with jalapenos and cilantro sprigs. Close the sandwich and serve immediately.

Lynda Balslev is an awardwinning writer, cookbook author, and recipe developer based in northern California. Visit TasteFood at TasteFoodblog.



Refresh your shade garden: Transform the outdoors with impatiens



(BPT) — Gardening enthusiasts, rejoice! The long-awaited moment has arrived — gardening season is officially here. As green thumbs eagerly prepare to embark on their outdoor endeavors, there's no better time to infuse your surroundings with bursts of color and life. Joining in the spring celebration is Beacon® Impatiens from PanAmerican Seed®, boasting a dazzling array of eight vibrant colors and seven playful mixes. Whether adorning hanging baskets, window boxes or landscapes in the shade, these resilient blooms promise to bring an essence of elegance and allure into your outdoor spaces.

Brighten up your shady

space Impatiens thrive in less light, so when you're planning your garden, consider how color can bring your shady areas to life. Beacon® Impatiens make it easy, since their vibrant, cheerful blooms in striking hues create a captivating visual contrast against their dark green foliage. For a truly unique garden aesthetic, blend various shade-loving green textures, like ferns and hostas with a rich assortment of Beacon® Impatiens colors ranging from bright red and coral to white and violet.

When considering spatial

arrangement, keep in mind that cool colors such as greens and blues tend to recede into the distance, while warm hues like reds and oranges appear closer, establishing an inviting atmosphere. Further transform your garden or patio into a lively oasis by selecting decorative pots and experimenting with more color combinations, setting an enchanting backdrop for your garden gatherings or backyard parties. Impatiens serve as an excellent addition to any container, seamlessly complementing other shade-loving flowers or plants in pots and hanging baskets, adding a festive flair to your outdoor décor.

Stay on trend with color combinations & new variet-

ies

Looking for inspiration to kickstart your shade garden? This season, consider trying out a delightful combination with Beacon® Impatiens, and achieve a winning look by choosing complementary colors. Pair Beacon® Rose and Violet Shades Impatiens with frothy Euphorbia for a harmonious blend of soft and bold hues. For a striking contrast, combine Beacon® Bright Red Impatiens with statuesque Gryphon Begonia, adding a pop of vibrant color to your shaded spaces. Create a playful palette by pairing Beacon® White and

Coral Impatiens with colorful, leafy Coleus varieties, adding depth and texture to your garden beds. For a classic look, pair Beacon® White with tall. red Salvia, creating a timeless and elegant arrangement. These shade garden recipes offer plenty of options to suit your taste and elevate your outdoor design.

If you love discovering new colors and mixes for your garden each year, the latest Beacon® Impatiens additions for 2024 offer exciting options to consider. Impatiens Beacon® Lipstick boasts a bold, sassy red shade guaranteed to brighten any garden with its vibrant charm. Additionally, the newly unveiled Impatiens Beacon® Pearl Island Mixture includes an exclusive preview of a "Blue Pearl" variety, not yet available on the market, blended with coral and white blossoms. This one-of-a-kind combination pays homage to the picturesque Pearl Island Lighthouse in Nova Scotia, evoking a sense of coastal serenity and elegance.

Tips for caring for impatiens

Impatiens are an easy-togrow plant for beginner gardeners. If it's your first time planting them, there are a few important tips to keep in mind. First, ensure you select a shaded area for your Beacon® Impatiens, although partial shade can suffice if it receives morning sunlight followed by shade for the rest of the day during spring and summer. Pay attention to the spacing of your plants, as it influences their height. Planting impatiens closer together results in taller growth, with Beacon® Impatiens reaching heights of 14 to 18 inches. Concerned about impatiens downy mildew (IDM)? This is not an issue with Beacon® Impatiens, as they boast high resistance to this disease, providing durable color all season without the risk of plant loss. When it comes to watering, it is recommended to maintain a balance; while impatiens require at least 2 inches of water per week in garden beds, daily watering is necessary for those in containers or window boxes. Avoid over-watering to prevent waterlogged roots, which impede growth. Lastly, fertilizing regularly, approximately every 2 weeks, ensures optimal growth for Beacon® Impatiens. Consider using slowrelease fertilizer upon planting and reapplication midway through summer.

By following these gardenerfriendly tips, you'll soon enjoy vibrant, long-lasting blooms that illuminate your shaded garden. Visit BeaconImpatiens. com to learn more ways to create a colorful shade garden that will last through the season.

Using leftover hand sanitizer

Do you have hand sanitizer gel left over after the pandemic? Turns out the disinfectant has some other powerful uses. For example, squirt some sanitizer on tarnished silver and use a soft towel to rub it to a clean finish. If you have marker or very tough stains on clothing, rub sanitizer right on top and watch them melt away (you can pretreat grease stains on clothes this way, too). Lastly, use a



little to disinfect your smartphone; just squirt some right on the screen and spread it around, then wipe it off with



The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services invite you to participate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey. Responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

The survey, which should take 8-10 minutes to complete, will help the State assess access to housing, as well as understand barriers to access, and mitigate any barriers

To take the survey, visit commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates or scan the QR Code.



Services, is developing an Equity Plan to assess fair housing issues and their underlying causes, set fair housing goals, and outline strategies for achieving equity in housing. This plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to affirmatively further fair housing and is part of the Stale's efforts to take proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in oppor tunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination.

The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024.

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapad idades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communiques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 31 de mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



Logan Health - Conrad Wednesday, May 29 · 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Logan Health - Chester Thursday, May 30 + 9 a.m - 12 p.m.

Logan Health - Shelby Thursday, May 30 · 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Logan Health - Cut Bank Friday, May 31 . 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Bring your resume, work history and reference contact information. Interviews available for all jobs at any of the locations. For questions and more information, text Amy at (406) 253-1907.

logan.org/careers Logan Health is an EEO/AA employer.

HEALTH

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Do it for the ones you love...



Jessica Marie Longneck



Jessica Marie Longneck passed away at St. Patrick's Hospital in Missoula, MT on May 22, 2024 at 2:52

p.m. She was born March 8, 1983 in St. Ignatius, MT to Alvin Thomas Longneck and Carol Faye McDonald. She was raised between Rocky Boy- Great Falls ea and on the Salish and

Kootenai Reservation Jessica earned her G.E.D. She worked at a candy shop and also was a stay at home mother. She enjoyed writing poetry, drawing, and she was a great artist who drew the best roses. She loved visiting people, she made many friends along the way from Rocky Boy to the Flathead Indian Reservation

She is preceded in death by her father: Alvin Longneck; brother: Thomas McDonald; grandparents: Francis McDonald Sr and Julia Hernandez: uncles: Francis "Fuss" McDonald Jr.; James McDonald, Russell Fristo: aunts: Donna Grandrud and Judy L. McDonald Matt.

She is survived by her

children: Kyle Finley. Lochlyn Finley, Koleah Finley, Alvin Parker, Gracie Haynes, and Dayson; mother: Carol Fay McDonald of Charlo, 4 sisters and 1 brother: Twila Jo McDonald of Spokane, Angela Marie Bigcrane of Polson, Michael Alexander Michell of Charlo, Rebecca Fay Longneck of Charlo,

and Elizabeth Elaine Matt of Polson. She is also survived by her aunt: Julie McDonald of Charlo: uncles: Allen McDonald of Pablo, Raymond McDonald of Dixon; and several nieces, nephews, cousins aunts and uncles

State of Montana breaks ground on new Combined Labs building

By Reagan Cotton, MSU News Service

BOZEMAN --- At a ceremony attended by over 150 people on Friday, three Montana agencies broke ground on a new facility that will house three agricultural laboratories conducting research and analysis for

Montana's producers.
The Combined State Laboratories building, which will be located near Marsh Laboratory at the corner of South 19th Avenue and Lincoln Street in Bozeman, will house the Montana Department of Livestock's Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, the Montana Department of Agriculture's Analytical Lab and Montana State University's Wool Lab. The university land for the facility was approved by the Montana University System's Board of Regents and support behind the scenes to make a

for the project came from the Montana Legislature during its 2021 and 2023 sessions.

Speakers at the oundbreaking included Mike Honeycutt, executive officer for the Montana Department of Livestock Christy Clark, director of the Montana Department of Agriculture: and Sreekala Bajwa, MSU's vice president for agriculture, dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station; as well as Montana Lt. Gov. Kristen Juras.

"I can literally say this has been decades in the making," said Honeycutt. "We know there's lots of hard work that's been done and many generations that have been involved. No accomplishment comes alone, and it takes lots of people both in front and

day like this possible

The Montana Department of Livestock's Veterinary Diagnostic Lab is an accredited facility that supports veterinarians, agricultural producers and wildlife managers by monitoring and testing for zoonotic diseases and ensuring the quality and safety of animal products such as milk and eggs. The Montana Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Analytical Lab tests feed and fertilizer samples to ensure correct labeling of ingredients and tests groundwater to prevent seepage of pesticides and fertilizers into Montana

groundwater.
"My vision, as well as that of the department, is to have not only a state-of-theart facility, but also a facility that has the confidence and support of every livestock owner and veterinarian in the

state of Montana," said Gene Curry, chair of Montana's Board of Livestock. "I want to encourage every producer in our state to use this facility. I ask you to continue to support this lab and make it the envy of the West."

MSU's Wool Lab, which has been housed on the MSU campus since 1947, conducts analysis and research on wool fiber and sheep genetics to ensure that Montana wool producers can remain competitive and to maximize wool quality. "Wool is Montana's

highest value agricultural commodity by weight," said Bajwa. "The MSU Wool Lab is one of the only two university-associated wool labs left in the nation. Our lab tests around 15,000 wool samples each year from around Montana and beyond, and this new facility is set to grow that capacity

significantly so we can meet demand and provide Montana wool producers with the fastest and most accurate service for their operations

Construction at the building's site has already begun, and the facility is slated to open in 2026. The project was designed by LPW Architecture, which is based in Great Falls, and the project's contractor is Billings-based Swank Enterprises. Greg Wichman, an agricultural producer from central Montana and a member of the MAES advisory council, credited and thanked the generations of students who have pursued research in the MSU Wool Lab, while John Helle, founder of Dillon-based Duckworth Wool, noted the importance of the facility's scientists to supporting Montana's

agricultural industry

"There's a lot that we can do in wool science, and this is a great opportunity," Helle said. "I'm really excited and honored to be here to [break ground] on something that's going to be very, very important for the future of our sheep industry.'

Over many years of advocacy, planning and fundraising, speakers called the facility the result of extraordinary collaboration that will support agriculture in Montana and the region for years and generations to

"I want to recognize and acknowledge over a decade of hard work that preceded us," said Lt. Gov. Juras. "This is a critical investment in our No. 1 industry. We were proud to be a part of

Tester Leads Bipartisan Resolution Celebrating 100th Anniversary of Border Patrol

From Senator Testers

BIG SANDY -U.S. Senator Jon Tester introduced a bipartisan Senate resolution alongside 20 of his Senate colleagues recognizing May 28, 2024, as the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Border Patrol.

"When I visited the southern border, I saw firsthand the incredibly difficult job that the brave

men and women in Border Patrol have serving on the frontlines to keep our country safe," said Tester. "These folks work day in and day out to secure our northern and southern borders, stop fentanyl before it ravages our communities, and prevent those who want to do us harm from entering the United States. I'm grateful for their service and will continue to work with

anyone, Republican or Democrat, to get them the resources and legal changes they have told me they need

to get the job done." Tester has led the charge to secure the southern border and provide Border Patrol and law enforcement the resources and legal changes they have said they need to get the job done. Tester voted for bipartisan border security legislation that was endorsed by the

National Border Patrol Council (NBPC), which represents approximately 18,000 Border Patrol agents and personnel charged with enforcing our country's border security policies Border Patrol and law enforcement have endorsed the bipartisan border bill because it would:

Provide more than \$20 billion for manpower, technology, and operational needs to

secure the southern border - resources law enforcement have said they need to get the job

Empower and require the President to close the border when the system becomes overwhelmed - a power the executive currently does not have:

Make the most significant legal changes in decades -including ending "catch and release" and raising

the asylum standards. Through his role as a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Tester secured significant wins for border security and law enforcement in the FY2024 governmen funding appropriations package, including funding for up to 22,000 U.S. Border Patrol Agents to secure areas between ports

Rabies, continued from page 1

not completely without risk, bites from domestic animals that are owned and vaccinated are lower risk

"Rabies is not spread through indirect contact from objects that potentially rabid animals have come into contact with, such as animal food bowls after a skunk has eaten dog food, Loneman said. "The most common rabies exposure scenarios include sleeping with bats in the room or approaching wild or domestic animals to attempt to pet or handle them.'

If someone is bitten by a domestic dog, cat, or ferret, the animal can be observed for signs of rabies, almost always avoiding the need for the exposed individual to undergo the series of shots to prevent rabies. If an animal cannot be located, observed. or tested, a person may be advised to undergo postexposure prophylaxis

All exposures to an animal capable of transmitting rabies should be assessed by the local health departments for risk of rabies transmission and a possible recommendation for post-exposure prophylaxis.

DPHHS reminds everyone to follow these tips to reduce the risk of rabies rposure: Do not feed or handle

wild animals especially bats. Bats

charkoosta.com

concern in Montana because a bite may not be noticeable. Teach children never to touch wild animals or handle bats, even dead ones. Ask children to tell ar adult if they see or find a bat. Do not allow children to bring bats or other wild animals to school for "Show and Tell.

- Avoid animal bites from domestic or feral animals. Teach children to never approach an unfamiliar animal and to always ask an owner's permission prior to petting an animal. Attempting to rescue a feral animal is also a common source of bite exposure. Sick or injured animals can become aggressive when someone attempts to handle them.
- Vaccinate dogs and cats against rabies. Cats are especially susceptible to rabies exposure because they tend to have more contact with bats and wild animals than dogs do. All dogs and cats should have a current rabies certificate. Work with your local veterinarian on rabies prevention in domestic animals and report any potential rabies exposures. Rabies vaccination of animals can prevent rabies

transmission to humans Bat-proof your house. Bats must not be allowed in living areas of your home Put screens on all windows, doors, and chimneys to prevent bats from entering. You can prevent bats from roosting in attics or buildings by covering outside entry points with loosely hanging clear plastic sheeting or bird netting. Bats can crawl out and leave the house but cannot re-enter. To avoid trapping any young bats who will die or try to make their way into your rooms, seal the openings permanently in

the fall after bats have left for the season. Watch for abnormal animal behavior. Most wild animals avoid humans and seeing skunks and bats during the daytime is rare.

If you see an animal acting strangely, leave it alone and contact law enforcement, an animal control agency, or your local Fish, Wildlife & Parks office if you think it may pose a danger. There are many animal diseases that could cause animals to act differently, including rabies, distemper, and avian influenza; it's best to let animal experts

assess an animal that is sick.

"Any bat that has physical contact with a person, or a bat that is found in an area where undetected contact may have occurred, such as a bedroom with a sleeping adult or child,v should be tested for rabies, Lopeman said. "Do not damage the head of the bat, because the brain is needed for the rabies test."

DPHHS does not recommend testing bats or other animals for rabies if there has not been any

domestic animals.

"If you or your child has any contact with a bat, you find a bat in your home, or you are bitten or scratched by any wild or stray animal, contact your health care provider for appropriate medical follow-up," Lopeman stressed. "Contact your local health department for guidance on how to safely collect a bat involved in a human exposure for testing.

For additional information on rabies, visit Rabies (mt.gov) or contact your local health department

MONTANA



nake reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities on proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an format of presentation materials or translation services. If you re altern, please contact Commerce at DOCConPism@mt.gov no le 5.00 p.m. on May 31, 2024.

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CLASSIFIED AD

PRICES

LEGALS

Probate: \$45.00 (\$20/week x 2 weeks + \$5 Affidavit)

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Contact Leslie Camel Stewart to place ads' Email: leslie.camel-stewart@cskt.org (406) 675-2700, ext. 1306

* Deadline is every Thursday at 5:30 P.M.

Submit your classified ads via email to ads@cutbankpioneerpress.com

GARAGE SALES

CUT BANK TAILGATE GARAGE SALE/SATURDAY MARKET. Sat-urdays 9 a.m.-noon, 214 N Cen-tral, Cut Bank. Vendors welcome. No fee or registration required. Set up at 8:30 a.m.

DON'T MISS THIS ONE! HUGE yard sale this Saturday, June 1st from 8am-2pm at 218 2nd St SE from sam-zpm at 218 znd st SE Cut Bank. (Everything is FREE after 2pm). Household, name brand clothes, decor, musical instruments, kids and adult books, outdoor, sports equipment, baked goods and much morel

122 2ND AVE SW. CUT BANK. Fishing stuff, toolbox, fire ring and

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PART TIME DISPATCHER/JAIL-BR FOR THE PONDERA COUN-TY SHERIFE'S OFFICE. Must be available to work day, swing, night shifts, and weekends. Must have relable transportation. Starting wage for this position is \$19.99 per hour to start, with a pay raise after 90 days and another 90 days after that. Application, job description, and benefit package available at the Cut Bank, MO Service at 1210. E. Main St., Cut Bank, MT or 121 E. Main St., Cut Bank, MT or at the Clerk & Recorder's office in the Courthouse at 20 4th Ave. S.W., Conrad, MT 59425, or at www. ponderacountymontana org. Appli-cations will be open until position is filled.

TEACHER WANTED - MIAMI TEACHER WANTED - MIAMI ELEMENTARY, a K-8 Hutterite school located 18 miles west of Conrad, is seeking a 6th-8th grade teacher for the 2024-2025 school onsibilities included , being able to work in a multi-grade classroom and teaching a variety classroom and teaching a variety of subjects to develop academic, social, and motor skills. We offer a health insurance stipend, paid personal leave, competitive wages as well as a signing bonus. New grads welcome to apply! If interested, please email your letter of application, professional resume, proof of Montana licensure or widence of elicibility to hotzin and nce of eligibility to obtain and Clerk at miami31clerk@gmail.com.

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not be considered. Qualified Iribal members will be given preference. For application materials, including job description and qualifications requirement, please contact the Blackfeet Personnel Department at (406) 338-7307 or email mbird® blackfeet place. blackfeetnation.com.

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Pondera County website or picked up at the Clerk Recorders' office in the Pondera County Courthouse at 20 4th Ave SW, Conrad MT 59425. Open until filled.

JOB OPENING EAST GLACIER PARK GRADE SCHOOL, 125 WASHINGTON STREET, EAST (406)226-5543. Part to full time

(406)222-6543. Part to full time position – Business Manager/District Clerk in Training, Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Year round position. Position is for the remainder of the 2023/2024 school year. (Starting date: TED). Works directly with the current business manager/district clerk. Desired minimum qualifications: Hold a Bachelor's degree with a or finance or related field. Five or more years of progressively responsible leadership experience in and/or familiarity with school finance. Knowledge of finance finance. Knowledge of finance and budgeting principles. Strong lead-ership and communication skills. Able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with students, staff, and the communi-ty. Able to express himself-herself clearly and concisely in both or all and written communications. Able to perform duties with an awares of all District requirements and Board policies. Ability to handle stressful situations. Ability handle stressful situations. Ability to effectively manage time and responsibilities, Starting pay; based on experience or \$24.82/hour. Must be professional, dependable, responsible, positive, and confidential. Team player in a small, rural school. Must pass a criminal background check. Applications due by: Until filled.

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POSITION: BLACKFEET VO-CATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELOR Program: Blackfe Manpower One-Stop Center, Wage: Tribal Wage Scale Grade 13, Step 1, \$18.25. Closes: June 12, 2024 at 4'00 p.m. Appliant must submit a Blackfeet Tribe application. Applications must be application. Applications postmarked on or before closing postmarked on or before closing date. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Qualified Tribal members will be given preference. For application materials, including job description and qualifications requirement, please contact the Blackfeet Personnel Department at (406) 383-7930 or email mibrid® blackfeetnation.com.

POSITION: COMMUNITY OUTREACH, PART-TIME (2) POSITIONS Program: Culture and Hope Program, Wage: Tribal Wage Scale, Grade 13, Step 1, \$18.25 Closes: June 5, 2024 at 4:00 pm. Applicant must submit a Blackfeet Tribe application. Applications must be postmarked on or before closing date. Incomplete applica-tions will not be considered. Qual-fied Tribal members will be given preference. For application mater-rials, including job description and qualifications requirement, please center the Electrical Presses. es: June 5, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. contact the Blackfeet Per ent at (406) 338-7307 o

email mbird@blackfeetnation.com.

AND WASTE WATER TECHNI-CIAN Program: Two Medicine Water, Wage: Tribal Wage Scale, Grade 12, Step 1, \$16,59 Per Hour, Closes: June 5, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Applicant must submit a Blackfeet Tribe application, Applications must be postnarked on or before closing date Incomplete applications will not be considered. Qualified Tribal members will be given preference. For application materials, including job description and qualifications requirement, please contact the Blackfeet Personnel Department at (406) 338-7307 or email mbird@ blackfeetnation.com.

POSITION: LEGAL SECRE-TARY II Program: Blackfeet Legal Department – Wage: Tribal Wage Scale, Grade 11, Step 1, \$15.08 per hour Closes: June 5, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Applicant must submit a Blackfeet Tribe application. Applications must be postmarked on or before closing. appication. Appications must be postmarked on or before closing date. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Qualified Tribal members will be given preference. For appication materials, including job description and qualifications requirement, please contact the Blackfeet Personnel Department of MRS 329 2707 or considerations. at (406) 338-7307 or email mbird@ blackfeetnation.com.

POSITION: CLINICAL APPLICA-TION COURTINAL APPLICATION COORDINATOR Program: Blackfeet Tribal Health IT: Per Blackfeet Tribal Health Wage Scale. Closes: June 5, 2024 at 4:00 pm. Applicants must submit a Blackfeet Tribe application. Applications must be postmarked on or before closing date. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Qualified Tribal members will be given preference. For application materials, including job description and qualification requirements, please contact the Blackfeet Tribal Health Human

HELP WANTED

POSITION: PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST Program: Journey to Recovery: Per Blackfeet Tribal Health Wage Scale. Closes: June 5, 2024 at 4:00 pm. Applicatins must submit a Blackfeet Triba application. Applications must be postmarked on or before dosing posuriarked on or before closing date. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Qualified Tribal members will be given preference. For application materials, including job description and qualification requirements, please contact the Blackfeet Tribal Health Human Resource Department at (406) 260-6616, (406)858-0889 or emai roxannebr@blackfeetnation.com.

POSITION: FITNESS COORDI-NATOR Program: Tribal Health Improvement Program (THIP): r Blackfeet Tribal Health Wage Scale. Closes: June 5, 2024 at 4:00 pm. Applicants must submit a Blackfeet Tribe application. Applications must be post-marked on or before closing date. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Qualified Tribal members will be given preference. For application materials, including job description and qualification requirements, please contact the Blackfeet Tribal Health Human Presence Description at 4(46) a Blackfeet Tribe application. Resource Department at (406) 260-6616, (406)858-0889 or email roxannebr@blackfeetnation.com

POSITION: REGISTERED NURSE
CASE MANAGER Program: Tribal
Health Improvement Program
(THIP): Per Blackfeet Tribal Health
Wage Scale. Closes: June 5,
2024 at 4:00 pm. Applicants
must submit a Blackfeet Triba
application, Applications must be
postmarked on or before closing date. Incomplete applications v not be considered. Qualified Tribal rs will be given preference For application materials, including job description and qualification requirements, please contact the Blackfeet Tribal Health Human Resource Department at (406) 260-6616, (406)858-0889 or email roxannebr@blackfeetnation.com.

FOOTHILLS RIG SERVICE IN NRAD IS HIRING FULL-TIME RIG HANDS. This role demand the capacity for manual labor and the capacity for manual labor and is physically intensive. Transportation to and from job sites is provided. The job primarily involves local work with occasional in-state travel that includes overnight stays. Valid driver's license is preferred. Starting pay is \$16 per hour, with the possibility of a higher wage based on experience, Benefits include paid time off and performance bonuses. While previous experience is beneficial, training is provided for motivated training is provided for motivated applicants. Serious inquiries only call (406)231-0078. Request an application or submit resumes to: office@foothillsrigservice.com.

POSITION: BROWNSFIELD/ TRIBAL RESPONSE PROGR TECHNICIAN - SEASONAL Program: Blackfeet Environme tal Program. Wage: Tribal Wag

tal Program. Wage: Tribal Wage Scale, Grade 10, Step 1, \$13.71. Closes: June 12, 2024 at 4 p.m. Applicant must submit a Blackfeet Tribe application. Applications Tribe application. Applications must be postmarked on or before closing date. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Qualified Tribal members will be given preference. For application materials, including job description and qualifications requirement, please contact the Blackfeet Personnel Department at (406) 338-7307 or email mbird@blackfeetnation.com.

HELP WANTED

SEKING SUBSTITUTE TEACH-ERS (DAILY RATE \$150,00): Miami Elementary, a K-8 Hutterite school located 18 miles west of Corrad, is seeking substitute teachers for the 2024-2025 school year! If interested, please email your letter on to District Clerk at miami31clerk@gmail.com

VEHICLES

WHY PAY MORE? www.northern-ford.com, 1-800-823-1234, Cut

WANTED

Valler Homesteader Days. Satur-day, June 29, H.S. Miller Park, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call Linda at 406-279-3347 or 406-590-4942

FOR SALE

SMALL WHITE, WOODEN HOME OFFICE DESK, \$175. 40" TCL 873-2202 to view desk.

REAL ESTATE

BROWNING BUSINESS OFFICE details Call BEAR ON THE Equal Housing Opportunity

Classified deadline 5 PM Thursday

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

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The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Service you to participate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey, Responses will be to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-2029 Core and Plan for Housing and Community Development.



aske reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons; proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternativo ment of presentation metionals or translation services. If you require an altion, please contact Commerce at DOCConPar@mt gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2024.

Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personi lades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en ecosten un formato accessible altomativo de materiales de presentación funcción. Si necesión uma adaptación, communiques ce El Departamento DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 31 de mayo de 2024.



GLACIER RIDGE APARTMENTS 520 2nd St. S.W. • Cut Bank • (406) 873-5271 • TDD 711 Affordable Family Living Rent is based on income We offer a utility allowance.
 On staff, full-time maintenance department available On-site laundry.
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 Scenic view of the Rocky Mountains

Crossroads Housing

"Apartments for Rent" For the elderly & disabled. Rent is based upon your income, so you know it's affordable.

- · Utilities Paid Spacious, Clean & Quiet
- Located close to Senior Citizens Center



MARIAS MANOR

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Stanton/from A10

"We are incredibly proud of Gracie for being selected as a Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow. This prestigious ercognition highlights her exceptional commitment to community service and civic engagement. Gracie embodies the values of leadership, compassion, and dedica-tion that we strive to instill in all our students at the Uni-versity of Montana West-ern. Her efforts are a testament to the positive impact that one individual can have on their community, and we are excited to see how she will continue to drive mean

will continue to drive mean-ingful change both locally and beyond," said Montana Western Chancellor, Michael Reid.

Through the fellowship.
Campus Compact provides these students with learning and networking opportuni-ties that help to nurture their development as civic lead-ers. Programming emphaers. Programming emphasizes personal, professional, and civic growth that can empower them to collabo-rate effectively across disciplines and create large-scale

pinnes and create large-scale positive change. The cornerstone of the fel-lowship is the Annual Con-vening of Newman Civic Fel-lows, which offers intensive iows, which others intensive in-person skill-building and networking over three days. The fellowship also provides fellows with pathways to apply for exclusive opportuappy for exclusive opportu-nities, including mini-grants to help fund community projects, scholarships, and post-graduate opportunities. "We are honored to rec-ognize such an outstanding

group of community-com-mitted students," said Cam-pus Compact President Bob-bie Laur. "One of the best parts of the Newman Civic Fellowships is the richness of students' perspectives, expe-riences, and backgrounds— and how these varied sto-ries all led to their passionate

engagement with the social, political, and environmental issues impacting our world. These students will

be the catalysts for change on many levels, and we are privileged to help empower them to create that change."



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The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024.







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Editor's Note:
Class C Track and Scottle Softball stories will appear in next week's Courier due to the holiday and print deadline.

Hi-Line Ford Athlete Of The Week

Tanae Baker



Tanae Baker brought home the gold in the girls 3200 meters from the Class B State Track & Field Meet in Laurel. She won the race with a personal record 11:16.98, a 12.5 second improvement for the Scottie junior. Tanae also set a new GHS school record in the

SCOTTIES

3200 meters, unseating Vonnie Oliver, who had set the record in 1980 at 11:23.6. She also placed third in the 1600 meters.



Hi-Line Ford's Athlete of the Week!

HWY 2 EAST • GLASGOW, MT 406-228-2141 • 1-866-528-2141 www.hilineford.net

Congratulations Tanae!



Juniors Holinde and Baker both topped the podium for Glasgow. Holinde won the boys 800 meters with a personal best time of 1:57.54 and became the time of 1:57.54 and became the first Scottie to win the event at State since Doug Seiler in 1988. Baker ran away with the girls 3200 meters medal, turning in a personal best 11:16.98, knocking 12.5 seconds off her previous record. She also set a new GHS school record, unseating Vonnie Oliver who had set the record in Oliver, who had set the record in 1980 at 11:23.6. Baker is the first

ANGIE PAGE / FOR THE COURIER

Khye Gamas (I) and Kyler Whitman both set personal records in the 200 meters at the Class B State Track Meet, Gamas took fifth at 23,21 and Whitman finished in eighth at 23.53.

in the shot put with a 33-00.00 Stone claimed ninth in the

high jump after clearing 5-00.00, a personal record. Kimber Du-laney set a season record aney set a season record with 4-10.00 height and finished in

Hannah Holinde earned ninth

13th place. Stone earned a spot on the podium in the pole vault with a fifth place finish. She cleared a fifth place finish. She cleared 10-00.00 to score for the Scotties. Yoakam tied for seventh with a 9-06.00 vault.

Chappell placed 14th in the long jump with a 15-10.75 distance.

In the triple jump, Yoakam took fifth at 34-05.50 for a po-dium spot. Chappell, Stone and Runner all hit personal bests in the event. Chappell took 11th at 33-05.25 followed directly by Stone in 12th with a 32-08.75 Stone in 12th with a 32-08.75 distance. Runner jumped 31-



ANGIE PAGE / FOR THE COURIER

Eve Stone vaulted 10-00.00 to take fifth place at the Class B State Track & Field Meet in Laurel held May 24 and 25.

TOURNAMENT 2024

FMDH FOUNDATION

Saturday, June 8 at 10 am

- Team Cost: \$300
 Meals provided
 Maximum of 28 4 person teams
 Team Cost: \$300
 Merchandise Hole Prizes
 - TO REGISTER:

Visit us online at fmdh.org/golf for online registration & more details. You can also register at Sunnyside or by contacting the Foundation Coordinator.

Coordinator Info: (406) 228-3556 or taylor.hohlen@fmdh.org

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a Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Se

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宜

Have questions? Email <u>DOCConPlan@mt.gov</u>

Hudyma finished in seventh at Gamas placed fifth in the 200

Hudyma Innisned in seventh at 144-04, just missing the podium. Miller, who came into State as the defending Class B javelin champion, threw a personal best 184-00 to take second place. The record came on his last throw and marked a 15-foot record for the senior. meters with a personal best 23.21 time. Whitman finished eighth at 23.53, also a personal record. Gamas also set a personal record in the 200 meters, placing second at 50.56.
Holinde's personal best
1:57.54 won the 800 meters for
Glasgow, Tavin Boland placed
Itth at 2:07.85.
Gamas finished 10th in the
110m hurdles with a 17.64. He
finished nith in the prelims at
16.72. Adam Mickelson ran a

the senior. Solorzano cleared 12-00.00 in the pole vault to earn sixth place and a podium spot. Mickelson tied for 13th with 11-00.00 yault.

tied for 15th with 11-00.00 value.
Liam Chapman placed 20th
in the long jump at 17-10.50.
Boland took 21st in the triple
jump with a personal best 3800.25 distance.

Girls

The Glasgow girls tied with

Girls

The Glasgow girls tied with
Choteau for seventh place, fin-ishing behind Huntley Project,
104; Loyola-Sacred Heart, 87;
Broadwater, 70.33; Plains, 26,
and Columbus and Conrad, 22

and Columbus and Conrad, 22 points each.

Baker won the 3200 meters with her personal best 11:16.98 and set a new GHS school record. Haleigh Huntsman placed 14th at 13:11.22. In the 1600 meters, Baker ran a 5:20.13 for third place. Emily See took 14th at 5:40.27 at 5:49.22



 $ANGIE\ PAGE / FOR\ THE COURIER \ Vaughn Miller hits a 15-foot personal best in the javelin at the Class B State Track Meet. He took second place with a 184-00 throw.$



ANGIE PAGE / FOR THE COURIER
Mayzie Yoakam sticks the landing during the triple jump at the State Track Meet in Laurel held May 24 and 25. Yoakam earned fifth place with a season record

at 50.56

16.72. Adam Mickelson ran a 17.70 to place 15th in the prelims. In the 300m hurdles, Gamas claimed fifth, running a personal record 41.87. Mickelson also hit a personal best – 43.89 – and finished in 16th place. Gamas, Solorzano, Whitman and Babb placed ninth in the 4x100 relay prelims with a 44.98 time. They improved to a 44.93 in the finals to claim sixth place and a podium spot. In the 4x400

08.50 throw.

Babb, Vaughn and Co. Hudyma all turned in their personal best performances in the discus at State. Babb placed fourth at 150-09 and Miller hit the podium in sixth with a 148-11 throw. Co.

See placed 16th in the 800 meters with a 2:31.24 time, Gina Page, in the 200 meters, ran a 14.00 for 17th place.
Yoakam finished ninth in the 100m hurdles with a personal best 16.42, after running a 16.53

03.00 for 18th place. The Scottie boys team loses Vaughn Miller and Toryn Richards to graduation this year while the girls team sees the departure of seniors Emily See and Eve

PAGES FROM THE PAST

Editor's Note: The following entries are past headlines from the For-syth Independent Press as they appeared at the time of their initially printing on or about May 25, 1961.

RLEA SPAKER TO BE PROGRAM NEXT MONDAY

According to reports yesterday, a speaker from the Railroad Labor Executive Association will appear on the program of the noonday meeting of the Forsyth Lions Club. The group meets at noon in the Roundup Room.

Interest persons are invited to hear the speaker, who comes from St. Paul and will discuss the proposed railroad merger.

200 BUM CHECK WORTH 3 YEAR JOLT

Jim Jones of Roundup appeared in district court at Forsyth before Judge W.R. Flachenbar to answer to an information filed by Russell K. Fillner charging him with issuing a fraudulent check

The check was written in the amount of \$200 to the

Montana officials attend nuclear forum in Washington state

COLSTRIP - For mer-state Senator Duane Ankney and Jim Atchison, executive director of Southeastern Montana Development, recently attended the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) "Building Nuclear Partnerships and Projects" Forum. The Forum was held May 7-10 in Kennewick, Wash. with over 250 attendees from all over the U.S and Europe, including numerous federal agen cies, private firms, and non-profits. This was the third in a series that the ECA hosted as part of ECA's New Nuclear Initiative to define the role of local governments and the partnerships needed to develop priorities, educational resources, and outreach on new nuclear development.
The event highlighted

over 20 presentation from numerous federal agencies, private firms, and non-profits. The focus was on developing and certifying Small Modular Reactors including the challenging Supply Chain Issues.

Former state senator Duane Ankney noted, This activity will bring additional jobs and eco nomic benefits to the entire state of Montana. It was impressive," noted Jim Atchison, Executive Director of Southeastern Montana Development. "This forum highlighted what could be possible in the future at Colstrip, fur-ther diversifying and adding to our coal economy with jobs and revenue," he added.

Both Ankney and Atchison think that a local task force could be created and another community meeting later in the fall would help with communication in this

long-term process. For additional information, contact SEMDC at 406-748-2990 or email Jim Atchison at jatchison@semdc.org.

Howdy Hotel of Forsyth. The defendant waived his right to an attorney, entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to three years in the state prison at Deer Lodge.

BICYCLE PARADE PUT ON BY LIONS HAD 33 ENTRIES

The second annual bicycle parade sponsored by the Forsyth Lions Club Saturday drew 33 entries and 14 of them won prizes Eldon Rice, chairman submitted the following g

list of results: Most unusual entry: Gerald Buffington and Robert Gregory, cavemar and wife; first, Jim and Bill

Cope, Civil War tandem bike, second: Larry Ferguson and Dwane Quenz

Best costume: Rachel LaRance, Indian maiden; Cinde Gambill, Red Cross army nurse; Kathy Childers, angel.

Best decorated bike: Chris Erickson, girl with American flag; Cheryl Gregerson, red dress, and decorated bike; Becky Anderson, Indian squaw Youngest boy, Ward

Smith, youngest girl, Joyce Schiffer. Judges were Ward Koester, Bob Martinek,

nd Ted Eik The parade was headed by the Veterans Firing

The Rosebud school will soon destroy special education/Speech-language therapy records of for to the basic part of the property of the part of the p

roughne basis that is maintained on all school clinicity is used as the student's name, aborests, teerprincip-tumber, grade level completed and your completed. If he data to be destroyed shall include information collected for identification, location, evaluation, and other items directly related to special education services which the student had received. Farent of students still in school but not in special education for a least five years may also requisit that thirly inclinicity are seconds be destroyed. Farent of these students also have the right to inspect the special education records and obtain copies of the

nformation contained in those records before they are destroyed. Persons having questions about this

nd member districts will provide information stating that the records may be needed by the parents one child in an attempt to obtain social security or other benefits.

informing parents about their rights under this section Rosebud Schools Spe

those persons wishing to request that records be destroyed may contact Terry Billing at 406-

Squad as an observance of National Armed Forces Day

The committee reveals that during the transformation of costumes at the courthouse lawn, one of the competing youngsters forgot his shirt, Eldon Rice has it. Things have come to a pretty pass when a kid can lose his shirt in a deal like that

HYSHAM CHILD DROWNS IN DITCH

An 18-month-old girl drowned when she toppled into an irrigation ditch near her Hysham area farmhouse Thursday Dead is Yvonne Willems, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Charles Willems Authorities said the girl had been playing in the yard with her dog while her mother was putting another child to bed.

The tot's mother noticed little Yvonne was missing and thought her husband might have taken the girl with him. While Mrs.

Willems was searching for her husband, another farmer, Raymond Kolb, discovered Yvonne's body several hundred yards down the ditch.

The child is survived by her parents and a brother. Mrs. Willems is the former Faith Stevenson of Forsyth.



To take the survey, visit



The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.s



June 4, 2024 Primary Election Condensed Sample Ballot Rosebud County, MT

PRESIDENT

JOSEPH R BIDEN JR - DEMOCRAT DONALD J. TRUMP - REPUBLICAN

UNITES STATES SENATOR MICHAEL HUMMERT - DEMOCRAT

JOHN TESTER - DEMOCRAT

ROBERT BARB - GREEN

MICHAEL DOWNEY - GREEN BRAD IOHNSON - REPUBLICA

TIM SHEEHY - REPUBLICAN

CHARLES WALKINGCHILD SR - REPUBLICAN

US REPRESENTATIVE 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MING CAGRERA - DEMOCRAT

JOHN B DRISCOLL - DEMOCRAT

KEVIN HAMM - DEMOCRAT

STEVE HELD - DEMOCRAT ELSIE ARNTZEN - REPUBLICAN

KYLE AUSIN - REPUBLICAN

KEN BOGNER - REPUBLICAN

TROY DOWNING - REPUBLICAN RIC HOLDEN – REPUBLICAN

JOEL G KRAUTTER - REPUBLICAN

DENNY REHBERG - REPUBLICAN

FD WALKER - REPUBLICAN

STACY ZINN - REPUBLICAN

GOVERNOR & LT GOVERNOR

RYAN BU12.50SSE / RAPH GRAYBILL - DEMOCRAT JIM HUNT / JERRY DRISCOLL - DEMOCRAT GREG GIANFORTE / KRISTEN JURAS - REPUBLICAN

TANNER SMITH / RANDY PINOCCI - REPUBLICAN

SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE JAMES MULLEN - DEMOCRAT CHRISTI JACOBSEN - REPUBLICAN

ATTORNEY GENERAL

BEN ALKE - DEMOCRAT

AUSTIN KNUDSEN - REPUBLICAN LOGAN OLSON - REPLIBLICAN

STATE AUDITOR

JOHN REPKE – DEMOCRAT JAMES BROWN - REPUBLICAN

JOHN JAY WILLOUGHBY - REPUBLICAN

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

SHANON O'BRIEN - DEMOCRAT SHARYL ALLEN - REPUBLICAN

SUSIE HEDALEN - REPUBLICAN CLERK OF SUPREME COURT

ERIN FARRIS-OLSEN - DEMOCRAT

JORDAN OPHUS - DEMOCRAT JASON W ELLSWORTH - REPUBLICAN

BOWEN GREENWOOD - REPUBLICAN

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2

SUSAN BILO - DEMOCRAT

KIRK BUSHMAN - REPUBLICAN

BRAD MOLNAR - REPUBLICAN STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 21

SHARON STEWART PEREGOY - DEMOCRAT

RAE PEPPERS - DEMOCRAT GAYLE GEORGE LAMMERS - REPLIBLICAN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 35

KIM KREIDER – DEMOCRAT

GARY W PARRY - REPUBLICAN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 41

JADE SOOKTIS - DEMOCRAT DA WALLOWING BULL - REPUBLICAN

COUNTY CLERK OF COURT

FLIZABETH T BALL - REPUBLICAN

COUNTY COMMISSIONER - DISTRICT 3

ED JOINER - DEMOCRAT SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE

JEREMIAH LYNCH

DOUG MARSHALL CORY SWANSON

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE #3

KATHERINE BIDEGARAY

JERRY O'NEIL DAN WILSON

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DISTRICT 16, DEPT 1

MICHAEL HAYWORTH

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DISTRICT 16, DEPT 2

RENNIE WITTMAN

BALLOT ISSUES

COUNTY: REVIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ROSEBUD COUNTY AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FUNDING, NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILL OR \$57,373.00 OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION CONSISTING OF THREE MEMBERS TO EXAMINE THE GOVERNMENT OF ROSEBUD COUNTY AND SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE GOVERNMENT

COLSTRIP: REVIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF COLSTRIP AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION CONSISTING OF THREE MEMBERS TO EXAMINE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF COLSTRIP AND SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE GOVERNMENT.

FORSYTH: REVIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CITY OF FORSYTH AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FUNDING, NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000,00 OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION CONSISTING OF FIVE (5) MEMEBERS TO EXAMINE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF FORSYTH AND SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE GOVERNMENT

Central Montana grads make UM Dean's List

or less or no credit (NC/

NCR) in a course are not

The students listed

below made UM's spring

semester 2024 Dean's List or the President's 4.0 List. Double asterisks after a

name indicate the student

earned a 4.0 GPA. A single

eligible.

Montana, nearly 2,600 undergraduate students

made the spring semester 2024 Dean's List or President's 4.0 List

must be undergraduates earn a semester GPA of

Dan Bartel is endorsing the following candidates for the June Primary.

Governor: Tanner Smith

Lives in the Flathead. Raised in Western Montana. Current State Legislator

U.S. Senate: Tim Sheehv

No Political experience in Montana. Successful military career.

U.S. House of Representatives: Elsie Arntzen

Moderate conservative Served in the state Legislature. Will fight to close the

Montana Attorney General: Austin Knudsen A warrior for the citizens of Montana

Montana Secretary of State: Christi Jacobsen Incumbent. Fiscally responsible to the citizens of Montana

Montana State Auditor: James Brown

Extensive legal background, Fourth generation Montanan, Will cut red tape and protect Montana citizens and businesses in the financial sector.

Superintendent of Public Education: Susie Hedalen
Will bring back Education to the Basics. Honor Family and Teachers. Ensure

Montana Supreme Court: Corey Swanson, Chief Justice & Dan Wilson, Associate Justice

Both will serve the Montana Citizens and follow the law and constitution.

Public Service Commission: Suzann Nordwick Smart hardworking Montanan. Will protect citizens interests

Montana Clerk of Supreme Court: Bowen Greenwood
Current Clerk of the Supreme Court. Excellent track record on improving transparency in government and protecting public records.

Montana House Legislative District 37: Shane Klakken Supports Limited Government, Individual liberties, Free Enterprise. Will make a great Legislator

Montana House Legislative District 38: James (Jim) Bergstrom

Incumbent. Member of the: House Agriculture Committee. Member of the House Education Committee and also sits on the House Business and Labor Committee. James did a great job in the last Legislative Session and will continue to do so.

PAID FOR BY DAN BARTEL P.O.BOX 1181 LEWISTOWN MT 59457

3.5 or higher and receive grades of A or B in at least nine credits. Students who receive a grade of C+ greater than 3.5 but less than 4.0. Coffee Creek

■Rabecca Lynn Denton

■Noah Squires Hobson ■Riley Obert

Lewistown

Brinna Boettger

Thomas Brandon

■Caylee Brown ■Clayton Elmore

■ Michael Howell ■Sean Kunau

■Cael Nearhoof

■Samuel Rooney ■Brandi Ruff ■James Schoenfelder

■Grant Swan

■ Daniel Thackeray

■ Carson Weeden
■ Bella Wengappuly
■ Catherine de Guzman

Winifred

■Rebecca DeMars

SCHOLARSHIPS TO SOAR



PHOTO COURTESY OF GERRY BROWN

The Lewistown Eagles Club awarded \$1,000 in scholarships to four graduating seniors from Fergus High School last Wednesday, Receiving the scholarships were (front, from left; Kylie Molnie; Kylee Peterson; Megan Auguhr; and Brookelynn Ruckman, Presenting the scholarships were Eagles Trustees Gerry Brown and Larry Gates. The Eagles award scholarships to students who have family members within the club.

Johnson earns Dean's List honors at CSC

Irene Johnson of Roy, MT was named listed are provided by the stud to the Chadron State College Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester. Students met the requirements for the Dean's List by earning at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average. To qualify for either list, students must be enrolled in 12 credit hours of coursework, be seek-ing their first bachelor's degree, and have no incomplete grades during the semester. Cities, states, and countries

Chadron State College, which was founded in 1911, is the only four-year regionally-accredited college in the western half of Nebraska. As a public

institution with its roots in teacher education, Chadron State takes pride in its accessibility and affordability. More than 2,000 undergraduate, graduate and online students currently attend Chad





10:00 AM Registration I 11:00 AM Meeting I 12:00 PM Lunch May 29, 2024 | Fallon County Fairgounds



mt.gov/Consolidated-F or scan the QR Code





STARTING GRID | YOUR GUIDE TO THE WEEK ON THE NASCAR CIRCUIT

Johnson talks about career, family, Hall of Fame

Jimmie Johnson is, without question, one of the greatest drivers in NASCAR history. Three drivers rank at the very top of the all-time NASCAR Cup series

top of the all-time NASCAR Cap series champion standings, each with seven season titles apiece. They are Richard Petty, Dale Earnhard Sr., and Johnson.

Of those three legends, Johnson is the only one who won few titles consecutively, from 2006-2010. He was inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Pame in Charlotte in Jan-uary. Johnson is now 48 years old, the same number that he made famous driving for Hendrick Motorsports. He still competes in select events for Legacy Motor Club, which

This interview with Johnson, where he spoke about racing, family and his two cariest moments as a racer, was conducted in Daytona Reach, Fla.

You already are in the NASCAR Hall of Fame. You're 48 years old. Having accom-

Fame. You're 48 years old. Having accomplished so much, what keeps you going?
Hove competing. Hove being in the race car. I knew that in 2020 that my drive to be on the road 36 times a year to race full time in (NASCAR) Cup — that drive had left me... And with two young children and other things that I wanted to accomplish, I wanted to make 2020 my last full time year in Cup. I really tried to not use the word 'retirement! It quickly was labeled on me.

 because I was handpicked by leff wheels to four wheels? Gordon. And the equipment that he just



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jimmie Johnson, 48, is among three drivers with seven season titles in the Cup series.

won the 2001 championship with was now won the 2001 championship with was now mine. And so in the J18th) nace of my rookie season (in 2002) I was able to get that done, to ring the bell. And the weight of the world came off my shoulders at that point and I felt like I was going to have a job for a while, I It was at my home track in Southern California — Fontana Speedway.

What do you consider your most significant early win in your NASCAR Cup Career? I would say my first. I truly felt like I had a year to show what I was capable of, to win when did you make the switt

from the age of five to 13-14 and I was very accident-prone and would always end up in the hospital. I just had some crazy breaks

and surgeries.

And my parents had enough ... My dad had friends racing in off-road buggies, which were so similar to the dirt bikes. He was like: 'If we can just get a roll cage around you and keep you safe.' And so through time, he was able to pull that off.

What's the worst crash you've ever had? There are two that come to mind. Many probably have seen the Watkins Glen crash in 2000 in an Xfinity car. I had brake failure and flew off the track, headed toward a white wall, which I assumed was a concrete wall. And thankfully, it was a Styrofoam

And that was one of two moments where I felt like my life was coming to an end. And it was just this bizarre calmness that came over me. And I had the impact. I look around and realized that I'm conscious, I'm fine. And then I was so excited to be alive I got out of the car and was dancing on the roof of the car.

And then when I was racing the off-road vehicles, there's a very famous race called the Baja 1,000. And every third year it starts in Tijnana and runs all the way down the Baja Peninsula to La Pag. And I literally fell

in Cup. I really tried to not use the word retirement! It quickly was labeled on me.

Where are you living these days.
Charlott's still bome. And we will return home. We've had an amazing opportunity to travel and live abroad. We are living in but travel and live abroad. We are living in but to travel and live abroad. We are living in but to travel and live abroad. We are living in bud on for a year to travel and see Europe.

Dur kids are at a good age to do so. And it's really been amadult kind of goal and dream for my wife and I to spend a year abroad. And so we're in the middle of that now, truly enjoying our experience.

It's a bit more complicated than I thought it would be, having a business here in the States. So I'm not there (in London) as the content of the war was over and he was sent such that the living of the war was over and he was sent to be a supervisor.

Ris a bit more complicated than I thought it would be, having a business here in the States. So I'm not there (in London) as the content of the war was over and he was sent and to now.

What do you consider your most significant early win in your MASCAR Cup caree? I would say me first I truck at living the state of the same of the same in the was one would a learn that the was one wo

atong and nave two younger fortuners, us
we all eventually were old enough to ride
and race, that was our world.

When did you make the switch from two
wheels to four wheels?
I was in my mid-teens. I raced motocross

sharing stories. It was awesome,

THIS WEEK'S CUP RACE

Enjoy Illinois 300

Distance: 300 miles, 240 laps

Where: World Wide Technology Raceway

When: 1:30 p.m. Sunday TV: F51

Radio: Motor Racing Network

Last year's winner: Kyle Busch

NASCAR Cup Series

Driver	Wins	Laps led	Points
, Denny Hamlin	3	607	492
Martin Truex Jr.	0	445	487
8. Kyle Larson	. 2	649	486
1. Chase Elliott	- 1	133	475
5. William Byron	3	236	461
5. Tyler Reddick	1	305	437
Ty Gibbs	0	309	435
R. Afex Bowman	0	- 6	408
R. Brad Keselowski	- 1	47	397
O. Ross Chastain	0	118	392
1. Christopher Bell	- 2	215	387
2. Ryan Blaney	0	123	376
3, Bubba Wallace	0	35	355
4. Kyle Busch	0	115	346
S, Chris Buescher	0	100	345
6. Chase Briscoe	0	.12	334
7. Joey Logano	.0	199	315
B. Daniel Suárez	- 1	39	276
9. Josh Berry	0	38	263
20. Austin Cindric	0	67	249
21, Noah Gragson	0	10	240
22. Todd Gilliland	0	95	237
23. Michael McDowell	0	79	234
24. Carson Hoceyar	0	. 3	227
25. John H. Nemechek	- 0	20	218
Mr. Erik Janes	0	0	217
Z. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	0	- 4	206
28. Ryan Preece	0	0	203
99. Daniel Henric	0	3.0	198
Mr. Pereiro I. a fesio	-01	25	195

Forget 300 career wins

PHOENIX - losé Berrios turned

hury — even 200 career wins might be out of the question soon.

Thanks to a combination of less
as fortunat, Not far behind flurnes
usuge for starting pitchers and an
usuge for starting pitchers and an
uptick in arminjuries — particularly
Walker Buehler (47 wins at 20) and



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stions? Email DOCConPlane ont.go

A10 WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024 RANGER RE'

GMC outpatient remodel to begins this week

Glendive Medical Center was set to begin renovations of the Outpatient Registration area on Tuesday, May 28. The Outpatient Registration area, located in the lower level of the hospital, is expected to be complete by this Fall. This remodel is being funded in part by the 2023 Grill & Chill fundraiser to enhance patient privacy.

patient privacy.

"We are excited to finally start this project and bring this

enhanced experience to our patients," stated Parker Powell, CEO. "The new Outpatient Registration will be more aesthetically and functionally private and comfortable for patients." A temporary outpatient registration desk will be set up next to the Physical, Occupational, and Speech Theraw department in

A temporary outpatient registration desk will be set up next to the Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy department in the lower level. All Lab, Respiratory, Imaging, Therapy, and Visiting Physician (Cardiology, VES,

Physiatry, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, and REOH) patients will check in at this new location. Signage will be placed throughout the hospital to help guide patients to the temporary registration area. To keep this registration area private, the door to therapies will be closed. Patients will have access to the therapies department through a separate entrance located down the corridor towards the cafeteria.

Patients will still use the waiting room in the lower level to wait for their appointments, except MRI patients will be asked to use the seating outside of the MRI room in the hallway of the clinic. It is important to note that the downstairs ramp leading to the waiting room will not be open mid-lune during part of the renovation, so patients, staff, and visitors are asked to be mindful of this and plan to use the main

THE RURAL CONNECTION

entrance corridor to access the hospital from the clinic.

"We want to thank our patients in advance for their understanding during this renovation," stated Parker, "We will continue to provide excellent patient care as we anticipate this project to come to fruition. We believe our patients will appreciate the privacy it will provide, and the updated, modern design will also enhance their experience."



Dale Wellieve

EPEDC announces hiring of new Community Development Specialist

Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation recently announced the addition of a new community development specialist. Dale Welliever of

Dale Welliever of Wibaux comes to EPEDC from a career in business.

Welliever has experience from Auto Parts to
Life Insurance and everything in between. He
grew up on a farm/ranch
in Wibaux County, and
graduated from Wibaux
County High School,
Miles Community College
and MSU-Northern. He

Democratic Delegate Selection County Convention is June 6

The Dawson County Democrats are calling their 2024 Democratic Delegate Selection County Convention to be held on June 6, 2024 at 5 p.m. in the basement of the Glendive Public Library.

The group will caucus with the purpose of electing delegates to be sent to the Montana Democratic Party's Delegate Selection Convention in Havre, Saturday, June 8 to elect Montana Democrats to serve as Delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, the week of Aug. 18.

All Democrats who greated to work in the property of the present the server of the present the content of the present the purpose the present the present

All Democrats who are registered to vote in our county are invited to participate in this process. There is no cost to participate, or ganizers encourage all Democrats, including members of minority groups, to attend and be part of the County Convention. The venue for the convention is accessible to Democrats with disabilities.

brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge. He has managed corporations, owned and operated his own business(es), and has managed large groups of employees, at one time as many as

1100 employees.
"I am looking forward to this opportunity! I will work alongside the stakeholders in

these communities to provide resources that will help these cities, towns, and counties flourish," Welliever said.

He can be reached at 406-860-2871 or community developments pecialist@epedc.com. For more information about EPEDC and its community initiatives, visit epedc.





now can the State increase access to housing, community asset and economic opportunities in Montana? Let us know what you think via the Montana Fair Housing Survey.

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services invitory up to participate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey. Responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-2029 Consolidat-

The survey, which should take 8-10 minutes to complete, will help the State assess access to housing, as well as understand barriers to access, and mittigate any barriers

To take the survey, visit mmerce mt gov/Consolidated Plan/Update or scan the QR Code



The State of Montane, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing an Equity Plan to assess shift noising lisses and their underlying asses, set fair housing grasts, and outline strategies for achieving equity in housing. This plan required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to allowables, further fair housing and is part of the State's a fortist to side preactive and managingli action to revenome positions of desegration, promote inhousing notice, deviatine despitales in opporvenome positions of desegration, promote inhousing notice, deviatine despitales in oppor-

The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 202

nmence will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with middle English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than \$100 map. May 31.3 mg. and May 31.3

Departamento de Comercio hará adaptáciones razonables para las personas con discapao dedes o personas con diminio hinitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesalen un formata cocassible dementivo de materiade de presentación o servicios de aducción. Si necesifa uma adaptáción, communiques con El Departamento de Comercio en

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.go









LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

EDUCATION

Scholarship Last chance to apply for '24 Grizzly Claw Trading Senior Scholarship. Every Year we give away Be-tween \$1,000-\$2,000 to a college bound senior. Call 406-210-7627 for more infol

FOR RENT

2 Bedroom: 2 bed in 4-plex. \$750 deposit and \$750 rent. No Pets. Call Tom after 5 PM: 406-210-4970

Boat/RV Storage: 5 spots available for boat/ RV storage at Seeley Lake. Two of them measure 34ft long by 11ft wide, another two are 20ft long by 8ft wide, and the final one is smaller, measuring 20ft long by 7ft wide. These spots are located in pole barn stalls at the bottom of the property at 4064 Highway 83 North Seeley Lake MT. Call, Text, Email-Stephen Maciag @ 406-203-8610 smaciag realestateauctions@ gmail.com

FOR SALE

Can Am Side-by-Side: 2017 Can Am Defender (Equivalent to the UTV trailer \$14,000 Call: (406) 210-3332

HELP WANTED

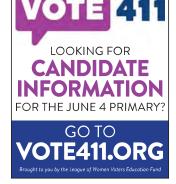
Cashier: Part time help wanted at Good Times Gifts and Clothing, cashier needed for the summer. Easy workable schedule. Pay due to experience. Apply at Good Times Gifts and Clothing.

Maintenance/Janitor: Ovando Elementary School will have a job opening for the Maintenance/Janitor position starting on July 1, 2024. The position has flexible hours with 17-18 hours a week during the school year, more hours during the summer and special occasions. Pay is a monthly salary, to be determined. Please mail a letter of intent and resume by June 1, 2024 to P.O Box 176 Questions? Or to request the job description please email Dena @ pepper5632@gmail.com

Solution for sudoku and crossword found on page 9.



7	5	3	6	1	8	9	4	2
4	8	2	9	5	7	6	1	3
9	1	6	2	4	3	7	8	5
5	3	9	7	6	4	8	2	1
8	6	7	5	2	1	3	9	4
1	2	4	8	3	9	5	6	7
2	7	5	4	8	6	1	3	9
6	4	1	3	9	5	2	7	8
3	9	8	1	7	2	4	5	6



HELP WANTED

Crystal Clear Specialty: Crystal Clear Specialty Sprayers Currently looking for 3-4 people who like to paint. Male or Female No experience necessary we will train you, Above average wages. Call Rick 503-970-9056

Double Arrow Lodge Hiring Full-Time & Part-Time Positions, Front Desk, Restaurant, Kitchen. Flexible Schedules -Competitive Pay. Please stop by front desk and pick up an application 406-677-2777 or info@ doublearrowlodge.com

Now Hiring Grizzly Claw Trading in Seelev Lake is taking applica-tions for Barista/Sales. Full time & part time positions available. Call or Text 406-210- 7627. Email: 2xbrevecap@

HELP WANTED

Rovero's hiring. Starting up to \$17.25. Apply at gwpetroleumjobs. com.

SERVICES

Pathfinder Hours: The Pathfinder office is located in the Heritage Building, 3195 Highway 83, Seeley Lake. Our office is open Monday Thursday, 10-2. Please call 406-677-2022 or email office@ seelevlake.com for an appointment. The advertising and editorial deadline is Thursday at 5 p.m. for the following Thursday issue.

Snow Removal/ Retired Roofer will remove snow off roofs and plow driveways. Larch and Fir firewood for sale. 406-499-9265

RESORT MANAGER CONTRACT: REQUEST FOR BID Resort Manager Contract Position. Immediate opening. Three (3) year contract position available. RFB available at 231 Lodge Way, Seeley Lake, by appointment. Call 406-677-2010.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEVY OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE FEE IN SEELEY LAKE-MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT, MONTANA

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on May 15, 2024, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Seeley Lake-Missoula County Sewer District, Montana (the "District") adopted a motion with their intent to levy and assess special assessments in the District for the purpose of paying the administrative costs of the District and the establishment or mainteestablishment or mainte-nance of any required re-serves (the "Administrative Fee"). The assessments are to be levied based on the equal assessment method described in 7-12-2151 (d) M.C.A. The total estimated cost of the Administrative Fee

of the Administrative Fee is \$114.200.00. A oneis \$114,200.00. A one-time transfer from District Reserves of \$83,602.16 will be applied to this Administrative Fee, leaving a balance of \$30,597.84. Each lot, tract or parcel of land in the District shall be

assessed an equal assess-ment of \$60.71. ment of \$60.71.

The full amount of the assessment with respect to each lot, tract or parcel of land in the District for the Administrative Fee will be due and payable with the payment of annual property

tax on November 30, 2024 and on May 31, 2025. and on May 31, 2025.

A complete copy of the spreadsheet, which includes the proposed assessment for each lot, tract or parcel in the District is on file at the following locations: Seeley Lake locations: Seeley Lake Library, Seeley-Swan High School, 456 Airport Road; Seeley Lake Sewer District Manager, 155 Wagon Wheel Way; and Seeley Lake Water District, 281 Rice Ridge Road, Seeley Lake, Montana and on Lake, Montana and on the Seeley Lake Sewer District website: www. SeeleySewer.org. Office hours and restrictions may apply. On June 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., the Board will conduct a utblic beging on the

a public hearing on the

proposed methodology of the special assessments for the Administrative Fee. Protests on the method of assessment must be in writing, identify the property in the District owned by the in the District owned by the protestor (as described on the property tax bill), and be signed by all the owners of the property except as provided in 7-13-2290. The . protest must be received before 4:00 p.m., June 24, 2024, the last day of the 30-day period provided for in this subsection. Send in this subsection. Send by mail to the Secretary of the District, Seeley Lake – Missoula County Sewer District, PO Box 403, Seeley Lake, MT 59868. The secretary and/or manager shall endorse the date of receipt on the protest.

of receipt on the protest. The public hearing will be held in-person at The Historic Barn, 2920 Highway 83, Seeley Lake MT, as well as via Zoom:

Computer: https:// us02web.zoom.us/ i/86464976067?pwd=dF

J864649/6067*Pwd=dF-F0UU9yUVIVZjFZQmo4ZI-RQR3VEQT09 Telephone: 1 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 864 6497 6067, Password:

032580 Further information regarding the special as-sessments or other matters sessments or other matters in respect thereof may be obtained by contacting Bill Decker 406-750-4943 or the Seeley Lake Sewer District at PO Box 403, Seeley Lake, Montana

Dated: May 15, 2024

BY ORDER OF THE BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SEELEY LAKE-MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT,

/s/ Felicity Derry

Publish in Seeley Swan Pathfinder: May 23 & 30,

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Beautiful purebred Irish Wolfhound puppies 15 weeks. Excellent companions, hunters, very protective. See puppies.com Wolf Creek 406-936-9633 To Qualified homes By Appointment Only 1800.00.

When veterinary care is able, ask for Happy Jack® animal healthcare products for cats, dogs, & horses. At Tractor Supply® (www.happyjackinc.com).

Historic newspaper in Havre hiring for editor who leads by example, general assignment and sports reporters. Contact Joshua Wood at wood saratogsun@gmail.com"

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of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1855 0.01 2000 today. 1-855-901-2620 today!

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centrator May Be Covered

by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free informa-tion kit! Call 855-762-1508 Safe Step, North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Compre-#1 Walk-In Tub. Compre-hensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-601-2865

Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexitalk and text with flexi-ble data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer - get \$50 off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-877-324-0193









or scan the QR Code



Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.g





can the State increase access to housing, communi and economic opportunities in Montana? Let us kr what you think via the Montana Fair Housing Surv

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services invite you to participate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey, Responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-2029 Consolidat-ed Plan for Housing and Community Development.

access to housing, as well as understand barriers to access, and mitigate any barriers identified.

To take the survey, visit commerce mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates or scan the QR Code.



The State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Scuises, is developing an Equity Plan to assess fair housing issues and their underlying causes, set fair housing goals, and outline strategies for achieving equity in housing. This plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to affirmatively further fair housing and is part of the State's efforts to take proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in oppor-tunities, and toster inclusive communities free from discrimination.

The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024.

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with militied English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5.00 p.m. on May 31, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapa idades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseem participar en este proceso y necestien un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de aducución. Si necestia una adaptación, communiques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 31 de mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email <u>DOCConPlan@mt.gov</u>



tun MO Toole

CAS FREN & Administrative Accident (40) 246-9911

Got News? Give us a call at 406-846-4152



velcome clean, gently used

406-846-4777 505 Main Street - Deer Lodge

10 AM-SPM







NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board for the City of Deer Lodge will hold a public hearing on Mondby, June 17th, 2024 at 10 AM in the City Council Chambers at 300 Main Street in Deer Lodge to consider a caroning application stiminited by Mike & Andrea Dunlop, representing DAM Properties, LLC. while A another During, representing to MM Properties, LLC. The applicants are requesting a rezoning of the old Pioneer Federal Savings and Loan – and the adjacent empty lot – from the F-3, High Density Residential District to the 8-L. Centhal Business District. The purpose of this rezoning re-quest is to accommodate the continued commercial use of the property for Cowpoke Ranch Supply. The previous commercial use had been a grandfathered, nonconforming use in the current residential zoning district.

The Planning Board has the authority to recommend

the rezoning request for the benefit of the City Council. Should the Planning Board vote to recommend the rezoning request at the June 17th hearing, the City Council will vote on acceptance of the request following a second public. hearing. The City Council public hearing will be held at 6 PM on Manday, June 17th in the City Council Chambers at 300 Main Street in Deer Lodge only if the Planning Board recommends acceptance. The Planning Board invites all interested parties to attend the public hearing or submit comments to the City Administrator prior to the public hear ing. The petition and all supporting materials are available for viewing at City Hall, 300 Main St., Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Jordan Green, Chief Administrative Officer City of Deer Lodge ecityofdeerlodgemt.gov (406) 846-2238

Published in the Silver State Post, Deer Lodge, MT on May 29 & June 5, 2024.

MNAXI P

NOTICE SALE OF SURPLUS GRANITE COUNTY PROPERTY

The Granite County Commissioners have declared certain property as surplus and offer it to the public by sealed bid. Written sealed bids should be clearly marked on envelope "Surplus Property Bid, June." Written bids must contain the item #. Submit written sealed bids to the Granite County Commissioners Office by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024.

LIST OF PROPERTY FOR BID CAN BE FOUND ONLINE (https://www.granitecountymt.us/commissioner) – Listed under "County Bids"

For information on bidding or to view property, please contact Commission Assistant Billie Ann Kulaski by telephone at 406-859-7023, by email at bkulaski@co.granite-

No minimum bid required. All property is offered on an "as is, where is" basis and Granite County reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason. Payment in full must be made within 2 days of notification of a successful bid. Property must be removed within 3 days of payment.

For further information on bidding contact Commission Assistant Billie Ann Kulaski by telephone at 406-859-7023 by email at bkulaski@co.granite.mt.us, by mail at P.O. Box 925, Philipsburg, MT 59858, or in person at the Granite County Courthouse, 220 North Sansome Street, Philips-To see photos of each item please visit the website isted above.

Dated this 21st day of May, 2024. The sealed bids will be opened in a public meeting before the Board of Granite County Commissioners, at their Courthouse Office, on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF GRANITE COUNTY
/s/ Blanche McLure, Chairperson

Published in the Philipsburg Mail on May 30 & June 6, 2024

3.

Lakeshore from page 1

EMS and law enforcement response time and services and best serve Georgetown Lake residents.

Commissioner Charles Hinkle stated that while he at Georgetown time to organize. "It would be hard

will not support summer maintenance on Lake-shore, he would support snow removal through one additional winter ir order to give the residents

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Powell County Planning Board will hold a public hearing at 1 PM on Thursday, June 6, 2024 in the Powell Community Center to consider a Conditional Use Permit equest submitted by Steven & Laura Pulliam. The petitioner is seeking approval of a second residence on a single parcel consisting of approximately 56 acres. The property is located in the Nevada Lake area of the Helmville area. Section 13 of Township 12N, and Range 10W. Section #V-E 3(c)(iv) of the Powell County Zoning & Development Regu-lations requires the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for multiple residential buildings on one parcel in District

The Planning Board has the authority to render a decithe Planning Boarn has the authority to render a deci-sion on a CUP equest after the public hearing portion of the meeting. The Planning Board invites all interested par-ties to attend or submit comments. The petition and all supporting materials are available for viewing at the Powell County Planning Department, 409 Missouri Ave., Suite 114. Deer Lodge, MT. Contact Amanda Cooley at 846.9729 for further information.

Published in the Silver State Post, Deer Lodge, MT on May 29 2024.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Powell County Planning Board will hold a public earing at 1 PM on Thursday, **June 6, 2024** in the Powell community Center to consider a Conditional Use Permit request submitted by Evelyn Benson for the Benson Family Ranch. The petitioner is seeking permission to construct a fourth residence on a single parcel consisting of approximately 640 acres. The property is located off of MT Highway 12 E of the Avon area, Section 20 of Township 10N, and Range OBW. Section #V-E-3(c)(iv) of the Powell County Zoning & Development Regulations requires the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for multiple residential buildings on

one parcel in District #4.

The Planning Board has the authority to render a decisior on a CUP request after the public hearing portion of the on a correquest arter the public healing bround their meeting. The Planning Board invites all interested parties to attend or submit comments. The petition and all supporting materials are available for viewing at the Powell County Planning Department, 409 Missouri Ave., Suite 114, Deer Lodge, MT. Contact Amanda Cooley at 846.9729 for further information.

Published in the Silver State Post, Deer Lodge, MT on May 29 & June 5, 2024

MNAXLP

to take for these people to suddenly not have snowplowing, I realize that," said Hinkle.

Commissioner Scott Adler also protested summer maintenance, stating he does not think the county

should have to do work on non-county roads. Commissioner Blanche McLure then asked it Hinkle and Adler would like to remove summer maintenance from Forest Roads 8686 and 406 but continue with snow plowing. Hinkle clarified that he thinks summer maintenance should continue on Forest Road 406 (Upper Georgetown Lake Road) because "we're doing it, we've been doing

it for years."
McLure followed stating, "we've been doing it for years on Lakeshore, too." Commissioner Hinkle nsisted that the existing safety hazards on 8686 which are not present on 406, distinguish the two

roads. Hinkle then motioned to continue with snow plow-ing on Forest Road 8686 through May of 2025, with no summer maintenance, while continuing with ooth maintenance and snow removal on Forest Road 406. Adler seconded the motion while McLure voted "nay," stating she believed summer mainte-

believed summer maintenance should be continued
as well. The motion passed
and carried, two to one.
While the Forest Service
is restrained by federal
policy on the type and
amount of maintenance
they are allowed to provide
on any given Forest Road,
District Ranger Cameron
Rasor has secured extra
funds for gravel this
coming summer, which
will aid residents.
While the issue is settled
for the time being, discussions on maintenance
and snow removal will
resurface in the months
before May 2025.

NOTICE THAT A TAX DEED MAY BE ISSUED IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR PROPERTY

TO: NO OCCUPANT

Heirs of Elaine M. Murph Trustee, Murphy Family Trust P.O. Box 1177

Heirs of Flaine M. Mumby Trustee, Murphy Family Trust 19616 Powder Hom Rd Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467-8701

Timothy R. Murphy Trustee, Murphy Family Trust 1699 N Terry St., Spc 207 Engene, OR 97402-7717

Clearlake, CA 95422-1177 Timothy R. Microby

Trustee, Murphy Family Trust P.O. Box 1177 Clearlake, CA 95422-1177

Granite County Treasurer P.O. Box 9 Philipsburg, MT 59858

Pursuant to 15-18-212, Montana Code Annotated, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

1. As a result of a property tax delinquency, a property tax lien exists on the following described real property in which you may have an interest:

> roperty described in the Granite County Treasurer's Office under Tax Sale Certificate No. 2020000161 and Tax Code Parcel No. 4150405 as follow

Lots 8, 9 and 10 in Block 1 of Wilson Addition to Philipsburg, a platted subdivision in Granite County, Montana, according to the official recorded plat thereof

- The property taxes became delinquent on June 1, 2021. The property tax lien was attached on August 1, 2021. The lien was attached to Guardian Tax Partners Inc. on September $\vec{\tau}_i$. 2021

As of the date of this notice, the amount of tax due is:

\$1,522.58 \$ 266.25 \$ 447.30 TAXES: PENALTY: INTEREST:

- COST: \$ 240.90
 TOTAL: \$2,477.03
 For the property tax lien to be liquidated, the total amount listed in paragraph 5. plus additional interest and costs, must be paid by August 1, 2024, which is the date that
- plus additional interest and costs, must be paid by August 1, 2021, mind a become of the redemption period expires or expired.

 7. If all taxes, penatices, interest, and costs are not paid to the county treasurer on or prior to August 1, 2024, which is the date the redemption period expires, a tax deed may be issued to the assignee or county that is the possessor of the tax lien on the day following the
- date that the redemption period expires.

 8. The business address and telephone number of the county treasurer who is responsible for issuing the tax deed is; Granite County Treasurer, 220 N. Sansome St., Philipsburg. MT 59858, (406) 859-3831.

FURTHER NOTICE FOR THOSE PERSONS LISTED ABOVE WHOSE ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN

- The address of the interested party is unknown.

 The published notice meets the legal requirements for notice of a pending tax. deed issuance.

The interested party's rights in the property may be in leopardy. DATED at Billings, Montana this 15 day of May 2024. By: Eli J. Patten Crowley Fleck PLLP PO Box 2529 Billings, MT 59103

Attorney for GUARDIAN TAX PARTNERS INC.

IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR PROPERTY hod in the Silver State Post, Deer Lodge, MF on May 15 & 27, 2024

Mountaineer Classifieds & Legals

Call Today 378-2176 & Place Your Classified Ad!

All ads must be prepaid before being placed in the paper.



"Historic newspaper in Havre hiring for editor who leads by example, general assignment and sports reporters. Contact Joshua Wood at wood.saratogasun@ gmail.com¹

Wanted



WANTED TO BUY: Old Car. Truck, Motorcycle, also old signs and license plates, gas station items or dealership items. Call 406-270-8630 any time.

For Sale



Purebred Irish Wolfhound puppies. Beautiful colors. Ex-ceed AKC standards. 9 weeks. Wolf Creek. Call Jim 406-936-

Like new DR 36" motorized Rototiller. Used less than 15 hours. We quit gardening. Call 406-378-3226 for appointment to see at 254 Michigan Ave.

Products or Services



Safe Step. North Americans #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehen-sive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a lim-ited time! Call beful: Expansion ited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-601-2865



Switch and save up to \$250/ year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flex-Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nation-wide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer - get \$50 off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-877-324-0193

Connect to the best wireless home internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 855-419-7978

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards, Call To-day! 1-855-995-3572

Get your deduction ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-901-2620 today!

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Ino-gen One. Free information kit! Call 855-762-1508

When veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® animal health-care products for cats, dogs, & horses. At Tractor Supply® (www.happyjackinc.com).

LEGAL

Permissive Mill Levy

The Boards of Supervisors of the Big Sandy Conservation District will hold a public comments time to levy an additional \$4,950.00 for the purpose of providing health insurance benefits to the Administrator of the Big Sand Conservations District. The hearing will be trator of the Big Sand Conservations District. The hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. On June 12, 2024 at the Big Sandy Conservation District Office. Questions and written comments should be directed to Barb Martin, Administrator Big Sandy Conservations District 232 1st Ave., PO Box 218, Big Sandy, MT 59520, bigsandycd@yahoo.com, or phone: 406-378-2298.

Just a reminder! The Mountaineer deadline is Noon on Friday's.

That gurantees your things will be in the next Wednesdays paper. We can't gurantee things that are submitted Mondays.





can the State increase access to housing, community a and economic opportunities in Montana? Let us know what you think via the Montana Fair Housing Survey.



The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024

nmerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons minded English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternature accessable furnation of presentation nameliase or transitions services. Flyour require an accommodation, please contact Commonds of DOCCOMPlantigm.gov no later than 500 p.m. on May 37, 2004.

urlo de Comercio haré adaptéciones razonables para las perso ursonas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en un formaio accessible alternativo de materiales de prosentación is necesita una adaptación, comuniques con El Departamenti HPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 31 de mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.ga

LEGALS

NOTICE THAT A TAX DEED MAY BE ISSUED
MAY BE ISSUED
IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND
TO THIS NOTICE, YOU
WILL LOSE YOUR PROPERTY.

TO: OKADA YOSHITO, 2760 76th Ave S.E. Apt# 506, Mercer Island, WA.98040-2769 Y. OKADA, Loma, MT 59460 CHOUTEAU COUNTY TREA-SURER, P.O. Box 459. Fort Benton, MT 59442

Pursuant to section 15-18-212, Montana Code Annotated, NO-TICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

As a result of a property tax delinquency, a property lien exists on the following described real property in which you may have an interest: LOMA ORIGINAL TOWNSITE, S07, T25N, R10E, BLOCK 002, LOT15 LOMA ORIGINAL TOWN-

SITE, S07, T25N, R10E, LOT1 OF LOT I, PARCEL No.42619 Geo: 3620-07-3-10-02-0000 3620-07-3-11-03-0000

2.The various real property taxes became delinquent after November,30 2020 and May, 31,2021

 The property tax lien wa attached on August 2, 2021 4. The lien was subsequently assigned to Fav A Allderdice assigned to Fay A Allderdice,
PO Box 133, Loma, MT 59460.

5. As of the date of this notice,
the amount of taxes due is:
TAXES:
\$346,71

PENALTY:

INTEREST: \$19.04 COST: \$355.01

TOTAL: \$720.76 6. For the property tax lien to be liquidated, the total amount listed in paragraph 5, plus additional interest and cost, must be paid by August 01, 2024, which is the date that the redemption period expired.

7. If all taxes, penalties, Inter-

est, and cost are not paid to the COUNTY TREASURER on or prior to August 01, 2024, which is the date the redemption pe-riod expires, a tax deed may be issued to the assignee or county issued to the assignee or county
that is the possessor of the tax
lien on the day following the
date that the redemption period
expires.
8.The business address and

telephone number of the County Treasurer who is responsible for issuing the tax deed is Chouteau County Treasurer, PO Box 459, Fort Benton, MT 59442. Phone: (406) 622-5032.

FUTHER NOTICE FOR THOSE PERSONS LISTED
ABOVE WHOSE ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN: 1. The address of the interest-

ed party is unknown 2.The published notice meets the legal requirements for notice of a pending tax deed

issuance 3. The interested party's rights in the property may be in jeopardy.

DATED at FORT BEN-TON, MT - 12:01 PM this MAY 15,2024 FAY A. ALLDERDICE

IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR PROPERTY

5/22, 29 MNAXLP



Notice of Voting System Exhibition and Ballot Layout:

Please note that Chouteau County's voting systems are on public exhibition at the Courthouse, 1308 Franklin Street, Fort Benton from May 30, 2024 through June 3, 2024. Please see diagrams of the voting systems and ballot arrangement and instructions on voting below. Public Testing of the election voting systems will be Friday, May 31, 2024, at 10:00 am.

IPLE BALLOT LAVOUT - BALLOT MARKED BY VOTER OR AUTOMARK VOTING SYSTEM

Sample County	State of Montana	Election Date		
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS	COUNTY (Continued)	COUNTY (Continued)		
I. TO VOTE, COMPLETELY FILL IN ●) THE OVAL USING A BLUE OR BLACK PEN.	FOR SAMPLE OFFICE 1 (VOTE FOR ONE)	FOR SAMPLE OFFICE 3 (VOTE FOR ONE)		
. To write in a name, completely	GEORGE WASHINGTON	O JAMES BUCHANAN		
fill in the oval to the left of the line provided, and on the line provided	O JOSEN ADAMS	ABRAHAM LINCOLN		
provided, and on the line provided print the name of the write-in candidate for whom you wish to	0	_ 0		
ote. B. Do not make an identifying	FOR SAMPLE OFFICE 2 (VOTE FOR ONE)			
MARK, CROSS OUT, ERASE, OR	O ANDREW JACKSON			
ISE CORRECTION FLUID. If you make a mistake or change your	MARTIN VAN BUREN			
mind, exchange your ballot for a	O WILLIAM H HARRISON			
new one.	O ROBN TYLER			
VOTE IN ALL COLUMNS (VOTE BOTH SIDES)	0			





The ExpressVote is a ballot-marking system that is available for anyone to use during the up-coming election. Its main purpose is to allow voters with disabilities and other special needs to mark a ballot privately and independently.

- I. Inform the election official that you wish to vote using ExpressVote.
 2. You will be issued a ballot card.
 3. Insert the ballot card into the ballot feed tray on the front of the machine.
 4. The screen will display instructions and the ballot choices.
 5. The following helpful options are available:
 6. Anage contrast and font size for readability
 6. Audio headphones
 7. Brittle levenue.
 8. Brittle lev

- b. Audio headphones
 c. Brillie keypad
 d. Connection for Sip.s-Puff personal device
 d. Connection for Sip.s-Puff personal device
 6. Make your selections by using the touch-screen capability, or by using the keypad.
 7. After you have completed your selections, the Express Vote will confirm your selections on the screen, and by
 audio if you select the audio option.
 8. After verifying your selections, the Express Vote will mark and print out your ballot card.
 9. Confirm your choices on the printed and marked ballot card.
 10. Return the marked ballot card to the election official.

- process

DEMO COUNTY/I DEMONSTRATION 11/83/2828 PRECINCT 1.	N ELECTION	
PRESIDENT		ANDY ANDREW
U.S. REPRESE	NTATIVE DISTRI	DAN DAVE
GOVERNOR	GER	ALDINE GEORGI
BOARD OF COM		SUSTINE JUICE KOREY KIW
VOTING DAY Q	JESTION	

Election Information

Barcodes of election information and

Votes for candidates and measures are

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO VOTE ON A DS-200 PRECINCT TABULATOR

The DS200 is a precinct level tabulator that will be available to tabulate ballots at the Courthouse

The DS200 is a precinct level tabulator that will be available to tabulate ballots at the Courthouse.

1. To vote, fill in the oval completely.

2. Vote both sides and all sheets.

3. Use only black or blue ink to mark your ballot. An optical or digital tabulator will count your ballot. If you use any other type of marking instrument, it may not be detected by the tabulator.

4. When marking your ballot, you should NOT make an X or a check mark. You should NOT cross out, erase, or use correction fluid on the ballot and if you make an error, you should request a new ballot. S. READ INSTRUCTIONS CABETULLY. If you mark more candidates than you are allowed to mark for that position, it is considered an overvote. You may request a new ballot if you overvote in any mee. If you do not correct your ballot, that race will not count because of the overvote; however, the remainder of your ballot will be counted.











HIGHWOOD HUNTER'S SAFETY – Instructors Dan Grove and Scott Tinklenberg offered a Hunter's Safety course in Highwood April 29 – May 4 with 19 students participating from Highwood and surrounding schools. Back row, from left, Ava Smith, Christopher Navarro, Rhett Bowman, Steven Stubbs, Keith Stubbs, Christopher Navarro, Bryson Stong, Harper Harrison; front row, Sam Gondeiro, Kole Alkinson, Camden Christopher, Wyatt Boyce, Everleigh Settera, Cooper Christopher and Abby Alkinson. (Four students not pictured.)

June activities at the Fort Benton Library

Highwood

News

By Kirsten Brady
The school year ended on Friday,
the 24th, right before Memorial
Day weekend. There were lots of
activities that happened during
the last couple weeks of school,
including lots of field trips, awards
assemblies, and the elementary
had their annual field day. I'm sure
everyone is looking forward to a fun
summer before school restarts the
end of August.

One fun activity that will take

One fun activity that will take place this summer is the Highwood United Methodist Church's annual night at the Centene ballpark in Great Falls. This will be on Tuesday, June 25 when the Voyagers play Billings. The Highwood UMC invites anyone in Highwood U opin the fun in the picnic/park area that has been reserved.

Cost of the event, which includes tickets and their ballpark classic meal of all you can eat hot dogs and burgers with all the trimmings, is \$27 per adult and \$27 per child. Children 5 years old and under are free. Please contact Dorothy Forder for tickets and additional details. Take yourself and your family out to the ballpark and your family out to the ballpark and your family out to the ballpark

and your family out to the ballpark for a great evening!

end of August.

Fort Benton Library

By Caroline O'Hara, Fort Benton
Library
June is here and summer is in
the air; that means summer reading
program at the library. It starts the
week of June 10.

Ages 5 (finished kindergarten)
12 (finished 6th grade) will start
Wednesday, June 12 at 11 a.m.
Ages 0.5 will start Thursday, June
13 at 10 a.m. This year's theme is
"Adventure Begins at the Library."
Adult summer reading begins
Monday, June 10.

The adults will have passports
to keep track of their reading.
On Thursday, June 6, Dennis
saprofessor of journalism and will
speak about the challenges facing
the state's news media.

In the age of 24-hour news –
and print news dwindling – how
we receive and interpret news is
critical. Join us June 6 to discuss
this important topic.

Monday, June 10, our community
conversation will feature religious
pastors from the area. The religious
pastors from the chouteau
County MSU Extension Office will
host a pic crust making class on
Tuesday, June 18 in the afternoon
and evening. Call the extension
office for more information and to
sign up. We are so lucky and happy
to coordinate programs with the
extension office.

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THROWING JAVELIN AT STATE - Class of 2024 Highwood graduate Lauren Crowder concluded her senior track & field season during the Class C State Track Meet last Saturday, May 25, placing 8th. Lauren had a consistent and successful season, securing 1st in javelin during 6 of 9 meets this year, including a 1st place throw at both Districts and Divisionals. She will compete next for the University of Providence track & field team in Great Falls.

Ava Nelson photo Geraldine Fun Day





仚



Tickets \$35 GeraldineAC.com

CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT

Positions Available at Lavina

Certified Openings for 24-25 School Year K-12 Part Time Music Elementary Teacher K-12 PE and Health

Classified Openings for 24-25 School Year Special Education Aide Part Time Assistant Cook Activity School Bus Drive Part Time Summer Groundskee per (Available Immediately)

Apply online or visit www.lavinapublicschools.com for more information. Contact Superintendent Nicole Hanson for more information. 406-636-2761 nhanson@lavinapublicschools.com. A25 tfc

Melville Elementary School is seeking a certified teacher for the 2024-25 school year. The school can assist in finding housing for can assist in finding housing for a successful candidate. Contact trustee Gary Johnson at (406) 931 0058 for more information or email cover letter, resume and three letters of reference to clerk@melvillek8.com. Successful preliminary candidates will be asked to complete a district application and background check. M28tfc

Melville Elementary School is looking for a cleaner for approxi-mately 3 hours per week during the school year. Compensation is Gary Johnson at (406) 931 0058 for more information or email resume and references to clerk@ melvillek8.com. Successful ap-plicants will be asked to complete a district application and back-ground check.M23fc

SK CONSTRUCTION. Help wanted for MDT construction project located on Highway 12 east of the Meagher and Wheat-land County Line. We are seeking land County Line. We are seeking laborers, equipment operators and commercial drivers. Candidates must be at least 18 years old, and able to pass a drug screen. Call or text 406-546-8759 for an ap-plication. EEO.M7tfc

WHEATLAND COUNTY has WHEATLAND COUNTY has a full time position open for the road department. Must be ambitious, self moitvated, work well with others and have good public relations. Must have a class A CDL driver's license or be able to aquire one in a timely manner. Dusties will include operating heavy equipment, welding and some mechanic work. Position will pay \$20-23 per hour depending on

Beautiful purebred Irish Wolf-hound puppies 15 weeks. Ex-cellent companions, huntres

very protective. See puppies. com Wolf Creek 406-936-9633 To Qualified homes By Appointment Only 1800.00. Jim

When veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® animal healthcare products for cats, dogs, & horses. At Tractor Supply®(www.happyjackinc.

Historic newspaper in Havre hiring for editor who leads by example, general assignment and sports reporters. Contact Joshua Wood at wood.sarato-gasun@gmail.com"

Switch and save up to \$250/ year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees.

Unlimited talk and text with

flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage, 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer - get \$50 off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more infor-mation, call 1-877-324-0193

Connect to the best wireless

home internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts,

experience. For more informa-tion contact Travis Schuchard at 406-632-5661. Application may be picked up at Wheatland County Courthouse from the Clerk and Recorder's office. Located at 201 A Ave NW, Harlowton, MT 406-632-4891. M2,9,16,23c

THETOWNOFJUDITHGAP

THETOWNOF JUDITH GAP is seeking a part-time Clerk-Treasurer who performs a variety of routine and complex supervisory, clerical, and accounting, finance and administrative work involving custody and safekeeping records, personnel records, and public records, personnel records, and with the mayor of the Town funds, accounting or the Town funds, accounting the Town funds of the knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles, the BARS accounting system, and relevant Montana statues affecting gov-

Montana statues affecting governmental entities.
Qualifications: College level courses and/or relevant work experience or skills in the following:

• Managing payroll including federal and state reports (unemployment insurance, federal 941 withholding); and MMIA workers' compensation and Town insurance policies;

• Utility services billing and management of customer accounts; public relations and counts; public relations and counts; public relations and customer service.

and management or Castomer service.

• Knowledge of applicable federal, state and local law, codes, regulations, policies and procedures and ability to work with federal and state agencies and other government employees.

• Providing records management, scheduing, and exhibiting familiarity with communications technology and office equipment.

• Possessing a working knowledge of Quick Books, Excel, Microsoft Windows, and Adobe; Managing Gmail and other digital communications including web-

Managing Gmail and other digital communications including website and Facebook content for public notification purposes.

- Assisting with and/or preparing the budget, Annua Financial Report, and the Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association Pension Fund AFR.

- Creating the agenda for the mayor's review; attending and recording all council meetings preparing all necessary council meeting materials; attesting to resolutions, ordinances, contracts, and maintaining public records.

 Implementing monthly ac-Implementing monthly ac-counts receivable, accounts pay-able, bank statement reconcilia-tion, and closing with required inancial reports for the Council. The successful applicant may work 25 to 30 hours a week on ne-gotiable days. The Town of Judith Gay's Council will consider split-ting the Clerk-Treasurer position into two separate positions based on applicants. Starting wage is ne-

easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 855-419-7978

Get DISH Satellite TV Hatemet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards, Call Today! 1-855-995-3572

Get your deduction ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind

and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-901-

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact de-sign and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-762-1508

Safe Step. North America Step. North America Step. North America Step. S

shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-601-2865

Statewide Classified

Advertising Network

LEGAL NOTICES

Robert W. Snively Robert W. Snively, P.C. 802 West Third Street P.O. Box 313 Phone: (406) 665-5111 Attorney for Estate

gotiable based on experience and education. Training is available.

Submit a cover letter and resume to the Town of Judith Gap, PO Dox 157, Judith Gap pMT 59453, or townofjudithgap@gmail.com. For questions, call 406-473-2249. The Town of Judith Gap is an equal opportunity employer. M9,16,23,30,J6c

EXTENSION AGENT - Agri-

EXTENSION AGENT - Agriculture and 4-H/Youth Development. Musselshell and Golden Valley Counties, Roundup, MT. Exciting career with lots of opportunity. Will be developing, implementing and evaluational programming to meet needs. Bachelor's degree required. All info and how to apply here-thirty//montana-edu/extension/careers. Equal Opportunity Employer, Veterans/Disabled.M16,23,30e

THE GOLDEN VALLEY

COUNTY Road and Bridge Department is seeking a tempo-rary, part time road and bridge worker. This will be less than 30

alcohol tests. Must be able to perform heavy

manual labor.
Starting wage is \$20.40 per hour
Application and a complete job
description are available at the
Clerk & Recorder's Office in

Ryegate, Monday through Friday 8am-5pm. Or on www.goldenval-

sam-spm. Or on www.gotdenvar-leycounty.org Golden Valley County is an equal opportunity employer. Golden Valley County reserves the right to reject any and all ap-plications.

Application will be accepted until May 31 at 5pm. M16,23,30c

THECITYOFHARLOWTON

THE CITYOFHARLOWTON is now accepting applications for a City Clerk-Treasurer. Applicant must be able to work varied hours and up to 40 hours a week. Ideal applicant will have accounting, human resources and customer service experience and must be proficient with Microsoft Office products. Position is eligible for health insurance, vacation, sick, holiday, and retirement benefits depending on hours worked. Pay will be dependent upon application experience. This position will be open until filled. Please deliver a resume and cover letter to the

be open until filled, Please deliver a resume and cover letter to the Harlowton City Hall located at 17.8 Central Ave, Hardowton or mail to City of Harlowton, PO box 292, Harlowton, MT 59036. The city of Harlowton is an equal opportunity employer. Position open until filled. The City of Harlowton reserves the right to hire from within its current employees. M30tfc

SERVICES

CENTRAL MONTANA STORAGE: Many sizes avail-able. Call to reserve your space. (406) 632-4460 or cell (406) 220-0795. J5tfc

MONTANA FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, WHEATLAND COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

DENNIS M. TANDBERG, Deceased.

PROBATE NO. DP-2024- O.S NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representa-tive of the above-named estate. worker. This will be less than Johours a week.
Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED. Experience in use of heavy equipment, road maintenance and construction preferred.
Must Submit to random drug and chapted tests. All persons having claims against All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be mailed to Arlene Tandberg, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, c/o Robert W. Sniv-

requested, c/o Robert W. Sniv-ely, P.C., P.O. Box 313, Hardin, Montana 59034, or a filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Dated this 2nd day of May,

Arlene Tandberg . Personal Representative

I declare under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct. Signed at Billings, Montana on this 2nd day of May, 2024.

Arlene Tandberg

Published in the Times Clarion Harlowton, Montana MNAXLP M16,23,30p

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The Town of Ryegate will sell at public auction 6:30 PM, June 3, 2024, during the regular Town Council Meeting at 105 Kemp Street the following described

107 First Ave East, South 40 ft of lot 12, Block 5 of the Original Townsite of Ryegate, Golden Val-ley County, Montana (known also as the old Laundromat)

The property is offered as is and will need to be surveyed for property lines. All bidders must register with the town clerk prior

Published in the Times Clarion Harlowton, Montana MNAXLP M23,30c

property;

to bidding.

Mayor, Allen Davis

Ryegate, Montana

-RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the trustees of WHEREAS, the trustees of the Lavina School District have determined that the following personal property of the District, located at 214] t St. E., Lavina, MT are obsolete, undesirable, and/ orunsuitable for school purposes.

WHEREAS, a description of WHEREAG, S. C.
the property is as follows:
Misc. technology equipment
Misc. textbooks
Misc. supplies
Misc. furniture

WHEREAS, the subject property is obsolete, undesirable, and/or unsuitable for school purposes because the items are outdated and/or have been replaced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lavina Public School District No.2 hereby resolves to sell the property identified above because it is or is about to become obsolete, undesirable, and/or

because it is or is about to become obsolete, undesirable, and/or unsuitable for school purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of this resolution shall, in accordance with § 20-20-204, be published in

with \$ 20-20-204, be published in an ewspaper of general circulation in the District on May 30, 2024, The Times-Clarion, and posted in three public places in the District.

BE IT FURTHER RE-SOLVED, that this resolution shall become effective fourteen (14) days after publication specified above unless appealed to a district court by a taxpayer in compliance with and as provided in \$ 20-6-04(4), MCA. Vote being had on the above

Vote being had on the above and foregoing Resolution and the

and foregoing Resolution and the same having been counted and found to be as follows:

In Favor

Ben Lehfeldt X

KJ Fauth X

Dan Peters X

The Chairperson declared said Resolution adopted.

Published in the Times Clarion Harlowton, Montana MNAXLP

Low Income Assistance Available to Mid-Rivers Customers

LOW INCOME ASSIS-TANCE TANCE** Mid-Rivers Communications offers Lifeline low-income assistance to qualifying subscribers with

discounts of \$9.25 per month on qualifying Internet or bundles. Larger dis-

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Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Call 1-800-452-2288, text 406-359-6887. 406-359-6887, visit www.midrivers.com/low-

income-assistance/ for more information.
Published in The Times Clarion
Harlowton, Montana

BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION RYEGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.1 GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY

At a Special meeting of the board of trustees of School District No I, Golden Valley County, Montana, held May 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ryegate School, the following resolution was introduced:

WHEREAS, the trustees of School District No.1 Golden Valley County, Montana, have made a determination that as a result of delinquent taxes from a prior school year fiscal year and any other unforeseen need of the district school year listed year and any other unforsees need of the district that cannot be posponed until the next school year without dire consequences affecting the safety of the students and district employees, or the educational functions of the district, the district from the property maintain and support the district for the entire current school liscal year of 2023 2023 4the district is budget for the fund does not provide sufficient financing to properly maintain and support the district for the entire current school liscal year of 2023 2023 4the properly maintain and support the district for the entire current school sear; and school year; and

WHEREAS, the trustees have WHEREAS, the trustees have determined that an amendment to the Ryegate School general fund budget in 2023/2024 the amount of \$50,000 is necessary under the provision of Section 20-9-161 (6) Section 20-9-161 (6) (c) the estimated amount of money required to finance the budget amendment in the general fund; for the purpose of delinquent taxes from a prior school year fiscal year and any other unforescen need of the district that cannot be postponed until other unforeseen need of the dis-trict that cannot be postponed until the next school year without dire consequences affecting the safety of the students and district em-ployees, or the educational func-tions of the district, the district budget for the general fund does not provide sufficient financing to properly maintain and support the district for the entire current school fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated source of financing the budget amendment of \$50,000 expen-ditures shall be the general fund

THEREFOREBEITRESOLVED THEREFOREBEITRESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of School District No 1., Golden Valley County, Montana, proclaims a need for an amendment to the Ryegate School District general fund budget for fiscal year 2023/2024 in the amount of \$50,000 under Section 20-9-161 (6), Section 20-9-161 (7), Proceedings of the School Country of t purpose identified above

Kerry Butler Clerk

Published in the Times Clarion Harlowton, Montana MNAXLP M30c

In general, mankind, since the improvement of cookery, eats twice as much as nature requires. —Benjamin Franklin

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Notice to Taxpayers The 2nd Half of 2023 Real Estate Taxes & 1st Half of

May 31, 2024.

*Payments postmarked after this date will be assessed penalty, interest and returned.

> Payments should be mailed to: Wheatland County Treasurer PO Box 6930 Harlowton, MT 59036-6930

Please include your Tax ID or payment stub with your check, if you think there may be an assignment against your property please call us for proper payment procedures. You can look your taxes up online

at: http://wheatlandcomt.gov/ Taxes due can also be paid online at: https://secure.

Wheatland County Treasurer

2024 Mobile home Taxes are DUE by 5:00 PM

cpteller.com/govtellerlookup/

Kari Schuchard Phone 406-632-4892

MONTANA

can the State increase access to housing, community as and economic opportunities in Montana? Let us know what you think via the Montana Fair Housing Survey.

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services invivou to participate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey. Responses will be used rou to participate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey. Responses to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-202 of Plan for Housing and Community Development.

The survey, which should take 8-10 minutes to complete, will help the State as

To take the survey, visit, commerce, mt.gov/Consoldated-Plan/Updates or scan the QR Code.



o State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing an Equity Plant to assess fair housing issues and their underlying sees, see fair housing begs, and outline stateples for achieving only in housing. This Beg-inquired by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUI) to admiration that it housing and a part of the State is effects to late prosective or meaningful action corone pattern of seggregation, promote fair Housing action, eliminate disposities in oppo-tunities, and other Housing actions the Plant Pla

The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024.

merce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with defecting proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need on alternative accessible format of presentation metalics or translations arrives. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConFlen@mt.gov no later than 5:00 pm. or May 31, 2024.

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broken irrigation siphon

By Traci Street Of the Tobacco Valley News

↑he Glen Lake Irrigation District suf-fered a siphon mal-function on April 27, but it was repaired by May 6, said Chairman of the Board Joe McAfee. "It's fixed, and we're back up and going," McAfee said.

McAfee had previously said it would take around \$20,000 worth of pipe to fix, an estimate he now says was ower than they thought. It ended up costing more than they thought, he said. "It was more than estimated. It was harder to fix, only because the type of pipe it was attached to was in pretty

poor shape," he said.

McAfee said luckily they were able to fill Glen Lake earlier than usual this year, because the Lincoln Coun-Conservation District helped out with repairs, rockwork, and re-armoring the dam. "That was awesome, working with those folks, and we had a little victory," he said.

McAfee said now that the siphon issue is fixed, they are able to maintain Costich Lake levels. He said they are leaving the pipe they fixed exposed for the season so they can continue to monitor it, and said he hopes in the future they will be able to replace aging pipe before

Dispatch

Continued FROM page 1

fectively for agencies," Cobb said. "It's just the example we're following."

Dispatch connects with

all the local ambulance, fire and search and rescue agencies. The NFPA standard of operation is "Calls are dispatched off of the main channel, the primary agency responds to that call, and once they go on scene to work that call they switch to a Tac (tactical) channel," Cobb said. "The incident commander makes the request on the main channel for whatever they need." Previously, with three local fire agencies and the Forest Service using one channel, wires could occasionally get crossed.

"So putting everybody dispatched off of one channel and then letting them split off for the duration of their call makes things much more efficient for everybody in the long run, but it takes getting used to," Cobb said.

Dispatch is contracting with InterBel for the upgrade, and "they've been really helpful and great to

work with," Cobb said. Dispatch is also changing computer aided dispatch to system consistent with the rest of the county.

All 911 calls in the Tobacco Valley go to Eureka dispatch, but deputies may dispatch if they want to, "It's up to the individual deputy to make a decision on what channel they want to use, and what dispatch they want to use based on their

needs," Cobb said.

Cobb said that though there had previously been concerns the sheriff's office would need to take over dispatch, "That is not going to happen," he said. "It's not on the radar at this time."

Dispatch is currently looking to fill at least one part time position. "The dispatchers we have now are working very, very diligently, and they're tired, but they're sticking with it," Cobb said.

The job's requirements and scheduling make it tricky to fill. "It's not for the light of heart," Cobb said. "It's something you need to know right up front that there's some ugliness that

Dispatchers have to be willing to work odd shifts, extended shifts, and to handle calls that can be very difficult. They also have to keep confidentiality, and be prepared for both quiet and

intense parts of a shift. Currently on the Eureka dispatch board are chair Donna Smith, Yvonne Le-tien, Jason Hayes, Stormy Langston, and Cobb. Lee-Ann Schermerhorn is an ex officio member and trea-





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GLID completes repairs on Officials explain county and town road budgets

By Rebecca Nelson

ommissioner Josh Letcher sees a spe-as a possible solution for looming budget challenges as the county road fund dries up, he said in an interview last week. Though many Montana counties fund their roads with road levies instituted years ago, the only means to do so through current Montana code is through a voted levy. But before a mill levy is presented to voters, there are still questions to hammer out regarding what shape such a district might

Letcher said the county has faced steep cost in-creases when it comes to maintaining its roads. "From 2019 to 2024, a load of road oil went from about \$30,000 to \$75,000," Letcher said. "And we've got just over 200 miles of road just in my district."

In the past, the county

would aim to chip seal be-tween 20 and 24 miles a year. "That kept us on a 10 year rotation," Letcher said. "Because of the cost, we are now on a 20 year rotation." Chip sealing protects the integrity of the roads from wear, and a 20 year rotation is not enough to keep the roads in good shape. "After 10 years, the chip seal starts to drastically deteriorate," he said.

Letcher said timber

money used to fund the road fund, but that's been decreasing since the 1990s. Gone are the days when the timber industry supplied the road fund with eight to 12 million dollars a year, when the fund was flush and excess went to other departments. In 2002, for instance, the road fund still had close to \$22,000,000.

"We've got five and a half million dollars left in that fund and our road departments are just over \$4 mil-lion a year," Letcher said.

Letcher said money from an interest bearing account started with Local Assis-tance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) mon-ey will also provide road funding. LATCF funds to-talled \$12 million for Lincoln County - \$6 million each for FY 2022 and 2023.

Federal "payments in lieu of taxes" money, or PILT, has also been a source of road funding, according to Letcher.

County director of finance Wendy Drake elaborated on the current fiscal state of the road fund. Cash available in the fund totals \$5,252,254, and the budget for fiscal year 2024 is \$4,508,676. Sources of funding the county re-ceived for fiscal year 2024 include \$428,836 in Bridge and Road Safety Accountability Act (BaRSAA) mon-ey that comes from taxing fuel in the state, \$498,149 in state aid and \$60,000 for

a Yaak Hill state contract. The county also receives federal funding - this year it received \$2,161,472 in Forest Reserve Act funds, the Title I portion of federal Secure Rural Schools funding. Eureka's municipal roads

are not the responsibility of the county, Letcher said. "Municipalities are responsible for maintenance of their own roads," he said. Eureka roads are funded by taxation of property within town limits. Those limits stretch from the "Entering Eureka" sign to the south, 14th Street to the north, Central Avenue to the east, and the river to the west, Mayor LeeAnn Schermerhorn said. The area known as "Midvale" in the north

was annexed in 2012. Currently, Eureka keeping up with road maintenance as best as it can, Schermerhorn said. The town uses local contractors to aid the public works department because Eureka doesn't own its own

equipment. A large water main replacement project on Sixth Street has been engineered, and Schermerhorn said it will eat up all of this year's municipal allocation of the BaRSAA gas tax payment along with most of the money built up the previous six years - around \$465,000 in total.

No chip sealing is planned in the near fu-

ture, because when the town checked with a Flathead contractor, "the price was out of this world,

Schermerhorn said. "In years past, the coun ty in the summer would come in and help us do some chip sealing," she said. "That hasn't happened in the last few years Even with funds built up in the town's road budget, the additional maintenance is not possible without the

county's help, she said. Letcher said, "W the county was real flush, they helped out the town of Eureka. But they're not flush anymore. And so we just don't have the funds to do it." Beyond helping to fill potholes, the road department no longer has the resources to share with Eureka, Letcher said. Th situation is different in Libby and Troy - Libby owns some of its own equipment, and both Libby and Troy exchange or share services with the county to some extent, he said.

In order for the county road fund to become "flush" once again, commissioners are exploring a special road district, including some form of separate tax to be put before voters.

There is no current timeline, because the commis sioners are still seeking feedback from other counties about how they've ap proached the issue.

NOTICE OF ELECTION, VOTING SYSTEM EXHIBITION, DIAGRAM OF BALLOT, VOTING INSTRUCTIONS, BALLOT PREPARATION & BALLOT COUNTING

Notice is hereby given that on **June 4th, 2024**, Lincoln County will be holding a Federal Primary Election.

The polls will be open from 7:00am, and continue to be open until 8:00pm, on election day for the following locations:

Polling Place Name	Precincts
Eureka High Road Youth Center – 130 13 th St Eureka, MT	1, 2, 4, 15, 16
Troy Activity Center - 380 N 4 th Street, Troy, MT	5, 6, 7, 8, 14
Libby Memorial Center - 111 E. Lincoln Blvd., Libby, MT	9. 10. 11. 12. 13

VOTING SYSTEM EXHIBITION

A DS450 Digital Central Scan Paper Tabulator and an ExpressVote are on display in the Lincoln County Election Center, 418 Mineral Avenue, Floor

The ES&S ExpressVote is a ballot-marking device that will be available at each of the polling locations to assist voters with disabilities in marking their ballot privately and independently. Other arrangements for reasonable accommodations may be made by contacting the Election Office at 406-283-2302



A sample diagram of the ballot layout and instructions on voting the ballot is provided below.

Sample County	State of Montana	Election Date
	FEDERAL AND STATE	NONPARTISAN - STATE
	(Continued)	(Continued)
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS	FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE	FOR DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
1. TO VOTE, BLACKEN () THE	(VOTE FOR ONE)	DISTRICT 1, DEPT. 4
OVAL COMPLETELY. An oval blackened completely to the left of	GEORGE WASHINGTON	(VOTE FOR ONE)
the candidate or ballot issue choice	◯ JOHN ADAMS	JAMES BUCHANAN
indicates a vote for that candidate or a vote on the ballot issue.	0	ABRAHAM LINCOLN
2. To write in a name, blacken the oval to the left of the line provided,	FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER (VOTE FOR TWO)	<u> </u>
and write in the name (or affix a pre-printed label) in the blank	ANDREW JACKSON	
space(s) for the write-in candidate(s) for whom you wish to vote.	MARTIN VAN BUREN	
	WILLIAM H. HARRISON	
 DO NOT CROSS OUT. If you make a mistake or change your mind, 	○ JOHN TYLER	
exchange your ballot for a new one. VOTE IN ALL COLUMNS	o	
[VOTE BOTH SIDES]	lo	

PREPARATION, RECONCILIATION AND COUNTING OF BALLOTS
Early preparation and reconciliation of ballots will be held May 30th, 2024, at 9:00 AM, in the Lincoln
County Election Center, Floor B, 418 Mineral Avenue, Libby MT. Ballots will be counted using the DS450 in
the Lincoln County Election Center on June 4th, 2024 (Election Day) beginning at approximately 10:00 AM,
at the Lincoln County Election Center, Floor B, 418 Mineral Avenue, Libby, MT. No results will be released
until after the election closes at 8:00 PM.

Montana law requires that any person participating or observing the procedures of the count is required to take an oath that they will not discuss the results of the early counting of votes at any time prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day. A person who knowingly violates this law shall be imprisoned for a term not to exceed two years and/or be fined an amount not less than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000.

Dated this 22nd day of April 2024. Melanie Howell, Election Administrator

Published as a legal ad on May 30^{th} , 2024, in the Western News. Published as a legal ad on May 29^{th} , 2024, in the Tobacco Valley News.



Of the nine candidates on the June 4 Republican primary ballot for U.S. House, one showed great political promise by suspending his campaign in April

campaign in April.

That was Ed Walker. One of the other eight, Joel Krautter, says he will not vote for Donald Trump for president this fall.

This earned him the endorsement of Marc Racicot, who won nearly 80 percent of the vote in his 1996 re-election campaign for Montana governor. Now Racicot has essentially been excommunicated from the Republican Party for failing to support Trump.

In terms of policy, it's hard to distinguish between the other seven. They don't like open borders, inflation or budget deficits, and they all plan to vote for Trump.

Denny Rehberg, a former U.S. House member, has been running ads attacking one of the candidates, State Auditor Troy Downing, for tweeting back in 2016 that Trump was "either a liar or idiot." Downing failed to note that both could be true.

Downing now says he supports Trump and blames his impolitic tweet on his 2016 backing of Ted Cruz for president. But why recant? Even the most avid Trump supporter knows deep inside that the man lies the way other people breathe. Either that or he is delusional, which is worse.

We can limit the long history to just the last week or two. At this writing it remains unclear whether a jury will convict Trump of a felony-for covering up a hush money payment to a porn star, but there is no doubt

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that he made the payment. He claims he never had sex with Stormy Daniels, which makes one ask how much he pays to porn stars with whom he did have sex.

We also know that his 2016 campaign conspired with the National Enquirer to make up damaging and utterly false stories about his political opponents. Cruz's family was a target of some of those attacks, but Cruz has made his peace with that, a necessary requirement for anyone who wishes to remain viable in today's Republican Party.

Nikki Haley said in her primary campaign against Trump that the country could not survive another four years with him as president. Last week she said she would vote for him anyway because President Biden has been a "catastrophe."

Given a choice, I suppose I would vote for catastrophe over the end of America. We have survived catastrophes before, At any rate, it's difficult to find the catastrophe in the Biden administration, which has had the strongest post-pandemic recovery in the developed world. Yet a recent Harris poll found that two-thirds of Republicans falsely believe the economy

Next to Exxon Refinery

is in recession, thanks in part to Trump's lies about the economy.

Last week also saw the release of a judge's opinion about the most open-and-shut of the four criminal cases against Trump. Judge Beryl Howell noted that classified documents were found in Trump's Mar-a-Lago bedroom even after he claimed that all documents had been turned over to the government.

over to the government.

The judge said the evidence "demonstrates that the former president willfully sought to retain classified documents when he was not authorized to do so, and knew it."

Trump also made the false claim last week that Biden attempted to assassinate him during the raid on Mar-a-Lago. Trump supporters had to pretend to be outraged, even though under Trump's theory of presidential immunity, Biden could legally have ordered the assassination, provided he could persuade 34 senators that it was necessary for the country to survive.

Trump continues to perpetuate the biggest lie of all: that the 2020 election was stolen from him. He remains the only defeated presidential candidate since concessions became customary in 1896 who refused to concede. Cable news fans are treated to the nearly daily spectacle of watching Trump's vice presidential hopefuls squirm as they avoid answering whether they will accept 2024 election results, regardless of who wins.

Montanans have seen close up the consequences of refusing to endorse Trump's lies. Liz Cheney, a capable and deeply conservative House member, lost her seat in Wyoming for denying that Trump was re-elected.

So now Downing has to disown his past remarks about Trump's honesty. One wonders: Did he lose his convictions or just his courage?

Billings Bypass...

(Continued from page 1

With this new road, more traffic will be brought to the TEDD (Targeted Economic Development District). With this increased traffic, businesses in this area will be able to grow and become more successful than they otherwise would have been. Not only does this help individual businesses, but this also helps the overall traffic flow from Billings Heights to Lockwood. The road is currently a two-lane road but is designed to become four lanes as traffic begins to increase.





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The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services invite you to perfocate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey. Responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inflorm the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

The survey, which should take 8-10 minutes to complete, will help the State assess access to housing, as well as understand barriers to access, and mitigate any barriers thentified.

To take the survey, visit commerce int gov/Consolidated Plan/Updates or scan the QR Code.



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The State of Montana, Ihmugh the Departments of Commence and Public Health and Human Sanches, is developing an Equity Plan to assess late housing sesses and their underlying causes, set fair housing goals, and outline strategies for achieving equity in housing. This plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Utban Development (HUD) to affirmatively intoher lair housing and is part of the State's efforts to take proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, primate fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in apportunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination.

The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024.

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons will limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible formul of presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 500 p.m.on. May 31, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio harà adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapac idades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y recesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. El necessata una adaptación, comuniques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPtan@mt.gov.antes de las 5.00 pm. del 31 de mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



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Weekly Sudoku Puzzle

Level: Advance

4 2

Sudoku is a puzzle based on a small number of very simple rules: -Every square has to contain a single number.

Only the numbers from 1 through to 9 can be used.

Each 3×3 box can only contain each number from 1 to 9 once.

-Each vertical column can only contain each number from 1 to 9 once, -Each horizontal row can only contain each number from 1 to 9 once,

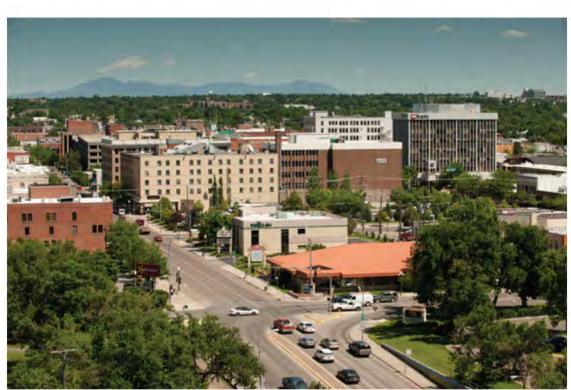
Egli, Janelle

From: Montana Department of Commerce <commerce@announcements.mt.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 10:02 AM

To: Egli, Janelle

Subject: 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey



Great Falls - Photo by Montana Department of Commerce

Montana Fair Housing Survey: Help the State Understand Fair Housing Issues

How can the State increase access to housing, community assets and economic opportunities in Montana? The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services invite you to participate in the 2024 Montana Fair Housing Survey. Responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for housing and community development.

The survey, which takes 10 minutes to complete, will help the State assess access to housing, understand barriers to access and mitigate any barriers identified.

Take Survey Here

The State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing an Equity Plan to assess fair housing issues and their underlying causes, set fair housing goals and outline strategies for achieving equity in housing. This plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to affirmatively further fair housing and is part of the State's efforts to take proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in opportunities and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination.

Questions? Need more details regarding the Consolidated Plan process or documents? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov or call 406.841.2770.

The survey will be open through Friday, May 31, 2024.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5 p.m. on May 31, 2024.

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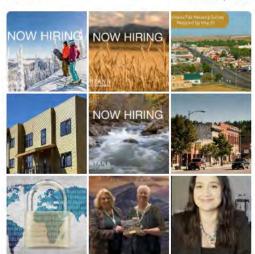
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Montana Fair Housing Survey Respond by May 31

through May 31, 2024, at commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/updates.

Montana Department of Commerce

May 6 at 10:00 AM -



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Survey responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's

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Survey responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. The survey, which should take 8-10 minutes to complete, will help the State assess access to housing, as well as understand barriers to access and mitigate any barriers identified. For more information, visit https://lnkd.in/gXGifHr7. @MontanaFairHousing @HUD #fairhousing #montana #affordablehousing #home

Montana Fair Housing Survey Respond by May 31



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Survey responses will be used to develop Montana's Equity Plan, which will inform the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. The survey, which should take 8-10 minutes to complete, will help the State assess access to housing, as well as understand barriers to access and mitigate any barriers identified. For more information, visit https://lnkd.in/gXGifHr7. @MontanaFairHousing @HUD #fairhousing #montana





0 Other: _____

Montana Fair Housing Survey

The Montana Department of Commerce is undertaking efforts to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing in Montana. This effort includes the development of a fair housing plan.

This study takes a detailed look at access to housing across the state, as well as any barriers to access, and how the Montana Department of Commerce and other state agencies can help mitigate any barriers to housing access.

We would like your help! We need input from the community to get a better understanding of what you see as the needs in your area and how we can help address those needs. Please take a few moments to complete this short survey.

1. Wh	at county in Montana do you live or work in?	5. Are you aware of the fair housing laws in the state of Montana?			
	hat housing needs do you see in your nunity? Select all that apply.	0 Yes0 No0 Somewhat			
0 0 0 0 0 0 0	More market rate single-family homes More market rate multi-family units More affordable homeowner units More affordable rental units Rental housing rehabilitation Homeowner housing rehabilitation More senior housing No housing needs Other:	6. Have you witnessed or experienced housing discrimination? (such as refusing to rent or show certain units to someone based on their race or disability) Ores ONO 7. Are you aware of any policies to promote fair housing in your community?			
	at household types have the most problems ssing housing? Select all that apply.	0 Yes 0 No			
0 0 0 0 0	Households with lower incomes (less than \$54,000 household income) Households with disabilities Senior Households Renters New residents Families with children and/or large households	8. Are you aware of any policies to promote affordable housing development in your community? O Yes O No 9. What efforts can the State of Montana make to enhance collaboration with your community?			
0	Racial and ethnic minorities Other:				
	there any barriers to housing development in community? Select all that apply.				
0 0 0 0 0 0	Development and permitting fees Zoning restrictions Cost of construction Cost of labor and materials Lack of market/ interested buyers or renters Lack of available developers Cost of land Lack of community support				

10. What efforts can the State make to increase access to housing in your area or throughout Montana?
11. Do you have any other comments about the needs in your community or in the state?
12. Would you like to participate in a Work Group to discuss the housing and community needs in the state? If so, please provide your email below. Your email will not be associated with your survey responses.

Public Hearings

April 3, 2024, 2 p.m. June 20, 2024, 2 p.m. Sept. 10, 2024, 10 a.m.

Egli, Janelle

From: Montana Department of Commerce <commerce@announcements.mt.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:02 AM

To: Egli, Janelle

Subject: 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan



Downtown Red Lodge. Photo by Montana Department of Commerce

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services Announce the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan)

The 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, which summarize the actions, activities and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF) and Emergency Solutions

Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period, are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing and general comments regarding program performance and use of program funds.

Input will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, for the AAP. Once developed, a draft AAP plan will be available for public comment from May 15, 2024, to June 13, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025.

Input will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, for the Consolidated Plan, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing. These documents, once developed, will be available for public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. on June 25, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held via Zoom; presentation materials will be available on Commerce's <u>website</u> prior to the event. This hearing will offer the public an opportunity to give initial input for the 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and associated Equity Plan. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing.



The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5 p.m. on March 27, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5 p.m. del 5 de marzo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



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This service is provided to you at no charge by Montana Department of Commerce.

This email was sent to janelle.egli@mt.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Montana Department of Commerce \cdot P.O. Box 200501 \cdot Helena, MT 59620-0501



Panama Canal averts crisis for now

PETER MILLARD, MICHAEL MCDONALD AND ERIC ROSTON **Bloomberg News**

The Panama Canal avoided the worst of a shipping crunch that threatened to upend the global economy - but at a cost to marine life and the Latin American country's supplies of drinking water.

After imposing strict limits on vessel traffic last year as drought left water levels languishing, the Panama Canal Authority is increasing the number of ships that can cross. Thanks to conservation measures, water levels fell just over a foot for the year through March 12, compared with three feet during the same period of

Those measures come with side effects. The canal recycles water from locks that vessels pass through, instead of simply flushing it into the ocean. This reused water gets saltier, and some of it infiltrates Lake Gatún, an artificial lake that forms part of the channel and is also Panama's largest source of potable supply.

The Panama Canal's challenges highlight how combating climate change carries inevitable tradeoffs.

As policymakers take action to limit the effects of global warming, there can be unintended consequences for the environment and the economy.

Time is of the essence: Drought is altering the world's trade flows, creaton the Mississippi River in interview in November in weather will be enough the U.S. and the Rhine in Europe.

had roughly two-thirds of its normal rainfall, said Fred Ogden, a former University of Wyoming civil engineering professor who has done extensive work in the country. Upgrades to the canal made the situation worse, because new locks opened in 2016 to accommodate bigger ships that require more water.

Climate change means "things are changing at a pace that is basically surprising everyone," Ogden said. The canal expansion "increased the likelihood of drought restrictions."

The Panama Canal's low water levels and efforts to conserve what's left made Lake Gatún more salty. Salinity is at the highest since 2020, when the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute began collecting data, and still growing, said Steve Paton, director of the institute's physical monitoring program.

The lake's salinity shot up after the new set of locks was inaugurated in 2016. Up until that point it was 0.05 parts per thousand, and with the increased trade flows it quickly rose and reached 0.35 parts per thousand four years ago. It's now nearing that level again and will probably hit or surpass it before the rainy season starts, Paton said.

The canal authority's chief hydrologist, Erick

that finding new sources of freshwater will be crit-This year, Panama has ical to ensuring Panama can meet growing demand from the population, shippers and local industry. One plan is to create a new reservoir at a river valley near Lake Gatún to supply additional water. The canal is also looking to invest in to help reduce salinity in the lake, he said.

> The Panama Canal usually handles about 3% of the world's maritime trade volumes and 46% of contain ers moving from Northeast Asia to the U.S. East Coast. Bottlenecks at the canal can ripple throughout the global economy, particularly as attacks by Houthis in the Red Sea add to shipping disruptions.

Last year, the El Niño weather pattern led to one of the driest years on record for the Panama Canal and forced it to slash transit. But El Niño is now fading, which means the rainy season should hit in late April or May, allowing the canal to ease shipping limits. The authority will allow 27 vessels a day to transit by late March, up from the current 24 but still well below the pre-drought capacity of 38.

"The forced reduction" in vessels "is having the desired effect of lowering total water consumption," said Jorge Luis Quijano, a consultant and former the barrier between the chief executive officer of the canal authority. "However, it is difficult to predict

to guarantee returning to 38 transits per day sometime later this year or next."

Quijano said the canal could possibly increase to 30 or 32 vessels a day after the dry season ends, and then progressively raise the limit further if rainfall is favorable.

Any increase in vessels more rainwater collection through the canal will come as a relief to shippers, some of whom paid millions of dollars to jump the queue while others took longer, costlier routes around Africa or South America.

> In the meantime, the threats to drinking water and marine life remain. The canal authority's strategy of recycling water could prompt marine species to start traveling between the Pacific and the Atlantic, disrupt coastal environments and even decimate fish stocks that communities along the Pacific and Caribbean rely on for food and tourism, Paton said.

Lionfish are an example of what can go wrong with invasive species. They are suspected to have escaped from aquariums along the U.S. East Coast during floods and storms, and now threaten native fish populations in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean. A new saltwater corridor could wreak similar havoc on both sides of Panama.

As rising salinity reduces oceans, researchers already see an increasing number of marine species in Lake

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on June 25, 2024, at 11:00 AM in the lobby of the Yellowstone

County Courthouse, 217 North 27th Street, Billings, MT, the

following described real property

situated in Yellowstone County, State of Montana: Lots 19 and 20, Block 200, of the

original Town of Billings, in the City of Billings, according to the official plat on file in the office of the clerk

and recorder of Yellowstone Coun-ty, Montana, under Document No.

More commonly known as 413 South 30th Street, Billings, MT

Jesse J. Naranjo, as Grantor, conveyed said real property to Charles J Peterson, as Trustee

to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration

Systems, Inc. as designated nominee for America's Wholesale Lender, Beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and

assigns, by Deed of Trust on January 12, 2007, and filed for

3407885, of Official Records.

for value as follows

Indenture Trustee

30, 2021

record in the records of the County

Clerk and Recorder in Yellowstone County, State of Montana, on Jan-uary 18, 2007 as Instrument No.

The Deed of Trust was assigned

Assignee: Ajax Mortgage Loan Trust 2020-D, Mortgage-Backed Securities, Series 2020-D, by U.S. Bank National Association, as

Assignment Dated: March 16,

Assignment Recorded: March

Assignment Recording Information: as Instrument No. 3965868

All in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder for Yellow-

stone County, Montana Jason J. Henderson is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substi-

tution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Yellowstone County, State of

Montana, on February 5, 2024 as Instrument No. 4067338, of Official

The Beneficiary has declared a

default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to the Grantor(s)

failure to make monthly payments beginning May 1, 2023, and each

month subsequent, which monthly

installments would have been applied on the principal and interest

due on said obligation and other

charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums

owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due

on this obligation is the principal sum of \$71,297.37, interest in the sum of \$4,145.15, escrow advanc-

es of \$1,710.07, other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$511.48 for a total amount owing

of \$77,664.07, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or

The Beneficiary anticipates and

may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real

property taxes that may become

due or delinguent unless such

amounts of taxes are paid by

are paid by the Beneficiary, the

to the obligations secured by the

Deed of Trust. Other expenses to

be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's

fees and attorney's fees, costs and expenses of the sale, and late

Beneficiary has elected and

has directed the Trustee to sell the above described property to

satisfy the obligation.
The sale is a public sale and any person, including the Beneficiary,

excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the

close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders,

checks). The conveyance will be

made by Trustee's Deed, without any representation or warranty,

certified checks or cashier's

charges, if any.

ounts or taxes will be a

the Grantor. If such amounts

may disburse such amounts as

advanced.

16312.

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the public comment period to develop the needs and strategies to be incorporated into the 2024- 2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan). The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan – which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period - are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs. suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of program funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for

firmatively furthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Wednes-day, April 3, 2024.

he associated Equity Plan for af-

All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the ad dress or email below no later than

5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2024. Montana Department of Com-merce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan

will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State of Mon-tana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adantaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino lim itado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y nece un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesi-ta una adaptación, communiques

Have questions? Email DOCCon-Plan@mt.gov EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTU-

SUMMONS

Suite 150 Boise ID 83702 Phone 801-355-2886 Facsimile: 801 328-9714 Email: lewis@hwmlawfirm.com

Attorney for Plaintiff I HWM File No. MT21174 MONTANA THIRTEENTH JUDI-CIAL DISTRICT YELLOWSTONE COUNTY Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., Plaintiff, v. Unknown Heirs and Devisees of the Estate of Eldora Kay Shartzer; Unknown Heirs and Devisees of the Estate

of Jess Roybal a/k/a Jesse James Roybal; and Unknown Parties in possession of or with an interest in the real property commonly known as: 48 Jackson Street, Billings, MT 59101. Defendants. SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION Case No.: DV-56-2024-0000015-FO To: Unknown Heirs and Devisees

Jesse James Roybal, and Un-known Parties in possession of or with an interest in the real property commonly known as: 48 Jackson Street, Billings, MT 59101 A lawsuit has been filed against you for amongst other things, foreclosure of real property located in the County of Yellowstone, State of Montana. The real property has an address of 48 Jackson Street, Billings, MT 59101 and is more particularly described as follows: The South 82.5 feet of Lots 1 and Block 2, of Fairview Subdivision. in the City of Billings, Yellowstone County, Montana, according to the official plat on file in the office

of the Clerk and Recorder of said County, under Document No. 52839 Within 21 days after service of this summons on you or (42 days if you are the State of Montana, a state agency, or a state officer or employee, or 60 days if you are the United States of America, or federal agency), you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion un-

der Rule 12 of the Montana Rules of Civil Procedure. Do not include the day you were served in your calculation of time. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, if plaintiff is represented by an attor-ney, whose name and address are

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the

Date: February 27, 2024 /s/ CLERK OF THE DISTRICT

ing chokepoints last year Córdoba, said during an if these favorable changes Gatún, Paton said.

Mouse population taking over fragile island

GERALD IMRAY **Associated Press**

CAPE TOWN, South Africa - Mice accidentally introduced to a remote island near Antarctica 200 years ago are breeding out of control because of climate change, and they are eating seabirds and causing major harm in a special nature reserve with "unique biodiversity."

Now conservationists are planning a mass extermination using helicopters and hundreds of tons of rodent poison, which needs to be dropped over every part of Marion Island's 115 square miles to ensure success.

If even one pregnant mouse survives, their prolific breeding ability means it may have all been for nothing.

The Mouse-Free Marion project – pest control on a grand scale - is seen as critical for the ecology of the uninhabited South African territory and the wider Southern Ocean. It would be the largest eradication of its kind if it succeeds.

The island is home to globally significant populations of nearly 30 bird species and a rare undisturbed habitat for wandering albatrosses — with their 10-foot wingspan and many others.

Undisturbed, at least, until stowaway house mice arrived on seal hunter ships in the early 1800s, introducing the island's first mammal predators.

The past few decades have been the most significant for the damage the mice have caused, said Dr. Anton Wolfaardt, the Mouse-Free Marion project manager. He said their numbers have increased hugely, mainly due to rising temperatures from climate change, which has turned a cold, windswept island into a warmer, drier, more hospitable home.

"They are probably one of the most successful animals in the world. They've got to all sorts of places," Wolfaardt said. But now on Marion Island, "their breeding season has been extended, and this has resulted in a massive increase in the densities of mice."

Mice don't need encouragement. They can reproduce from about 60 days old and females can have four or five litters a year, each with seven or eight babies.

Rough estimates indicate there are more than a million mice on Marion Island. They are feeding on invertebrates and, more and level, but those species will more, on seabirds - both recover. chicks in their nests and

A single mouse will feed on a bird several times its Conservationists snapped a photo of one perched on the bloodied head of a wandering albatross chick.

The phenomenon of mice eating seabirds has been recorded on only a handful of the world's islands.

The scale and frequency of mice preying on seabirds on Marion has risen alarmingly, Wolfaardt said, after the first reports of it in 2003. He said the birds have not developed the defense mechanisms to protect themselves against these unfamiliar predators and often sit there while mice nibble away at them. Sometimes multiple mice

swarm over a bird. Conservationists estimate that if nothing is done, 19 seabird species will disappear from the island in 50 to 100 years, he

"This incredibly important island as a haven for seabirds has a very tenuous future because of the impacts of mice," Wolfaardt

The eradication project is a single shot at success, with not even a whisker of room for error. Burgeoning mice and rat populations have been problematic for other islands. South Georgia, in the southern Atlantic, was declared rodent-free in 2018 after an eradication, but that was a multi-year project; the one on Marion could be the

biggest single intervention. Wolfaardt said four to six helicopters will likely be used to drop up to 550 tons of rodenticide bait across the island. Pilots will be given exact flight lines and Wolfaardt's team will be able to track the drop using GPS mapping.

The bait has been denegative impacts for the environment, Wolfaardt affected at an individual in the past.

nothing that just zaps mice and nothing else."

The eradication project is a partnership between BirdLife South Africa and the national Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, which designated Marion Island with the highest level of environmental protection. It has a weather and research station but is otherwise uninhabited and dedicated to conservation.

The department said the eradication of mice was biodiversity of the island is to be preserved."

Wolfaardt said amount of planning needed means a likely go-ahead

date in 2027. The project also needs to raise around signed to not affect the \$25 million - some of soil or the island's water which has been funded sources. It shouldn't harm by the South African govthe seabirds, who feed ernment - and get final out at sea, and won't have regulatory approvals from authorities.

Scientists have tried to said. Some animals will be control the mice of Marion

They were already pest for researchers in "There's no perfect the 1940s, so five domessolution in these kinds of tic cats were introduced. things," he said. "There is By the 1970s, there were around 2,000 feral cats on the island, killing half a million seabirds per year. The cats were eliminated by introducing a feline flu virus and hunting down

any survivors. Islands are critical to conservation efforts, but as a special nature reserve fragile. The Island Conservation organization says they are "extinction epicenters" and 75% of all species that have gone extinct lived on islands. About 95% of those were

"This really is an ecolog-"essential if the unique ical restoration project," Wolfaardt said. "It's one of those rare conservation opportunities where you solve once and for all a conservation threat."

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

Montana's Annual Application for Funding under IDEA

Montana's Annual Application for Funding under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is available for public comment until April 20, 2024. A copy of the application is available through the Special Education Web page

at: https://opi.mt.gov/Educators/School-Climate-Student-Wellness/Special-Education/IDEA-Fiscal Please submit comments in writing to: Danni McCarthy - State Special Education Director Office of Public Instruction

PO Box 202501 Helena, MT 59620-2501 dmccarthy@mt.gov March 20, 2024 COL-MT-100033 MNAXLP

Hon. Jeanne M. Walker
Justice of the Peace
Yellowstone County Justice Court
217 N. 27th St., Room 603 Billings, MT 59101 Tel: 406-256-2998

IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF YELLOWSTONE BEFORE HON. JEANNE WALKER, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE ROUNDHOUSE GROUP, INC., Plaintiff, V. JAMES VOLLBRECHT and JOHN and JANE DOES 1-10,

Cause No.: CV-910-2023-0005361-LT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

The State of Montana Sends Greetings to Defendant James Vollbrecht: YOU, DEFENDANTS HEREIN, ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint for Possession in this action, which is filed in the office of the above-named Justice Court, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to file your written answer and serve a copy thereof upon Plaintiff's attorney within five (5) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default, for the relief demanded in the Complaint. A fee of \$30.00 must accompany your answer.
GIVEN under my hand this day of 12 March 2024

Kayla Sutton

March 20, 27, April 3, 2024 COL-MT-100034 MNAXLP

including warranty of title, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, bird species. without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing con-ditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale. The Grantor, successor in interest to the Grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property has the right, at any time prior to

LEGAL NOTICES

Beneficiary, or the successor in interest to the Beneficiary, the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs

the Trustee's Sale, to pay to the

and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or to cure the default, by paying

all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Deed of Trust with Successor Trustee's and attorney's fees.
In the event that all defaults are cured the foreclosure will be dismissed and the foreclosure sale will be canceled. The scheduled Trustee's Sale may

be postponed by public proclama-tion up to 15 days for any reason. In the event of a bankruptcy filing the sale may be postponed by the Trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least every 30 days.

If the Trustee is unable to convey

title for any reason, the successfu bidder's sole and exclusive rem-edy shall be the return of monies paid to the Successor Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Dated this 21st day of February. 2024. Jason J. Henderson Substi-tute Trustee 38 2nd Avenue East Dickinson, ND 58601 Telephone: 801-355-2886 Office Hours: Mon. Fri., 8AM-5PM (MST) File No. MT21931

March 6, 13, 20, 2024 COL-MT100015 MNAXLP

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT
59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov
The public hearing will be held on
Zoom and presentation materials
will be available or Commerce's

Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates

con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 27 de marzo

NITY March 20, 2024 COL-MT-100032 MNAXLP

Lewis N. Stoddard, Bar No. 60723896 Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. 300 W. Main Street,

of the Estate of Eldora Kay Shartz-er, Unknown Heirs and Devisees of the Estate of Jess Roybal a/k/a

complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

COURT March 6, 13, 20, 2024 COL-MT100014 MNAXLP

To Advertise Call: 406-582-2600 M-F 8 am to 4 pm Email: Classifieds@DailyChronicle.com Place Ad 24/7 at www.PlaceChronicleClassified.com



Legals

Amsterdam School District #75 Notice of Intent to Increase Non-Voted Levies March 2024

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the Amster-dam SD #75 Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget, and required by law to provide notice of its intent to in- crease non-voted levies in the ensuing fiscal year. The Board of Trustees estimates the folincreases/decreases lowing in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year as provided to the district:

Fund Supported Transportation

Estimated Changes-revenue \$28,488 decrease Estimated Changes-mills 3.33 mill decrease

Estimated impact on Home w/ market value of \$100K \$4.50 annual decrease Estimated impact on home w/

market value of \$200K \$8.99 annual decrease

Estimated Changes-revenue

\$13,288 increase Estimated Changes-mills 1.55 mill increase

Estimated impact on Home w/ market value of \$100K \$2.10

annual increase Estimated impact on home w/ market value of \$200K \$4.20 annual increase

Building Reserve Estimated Changes-revenue

\$2077 increase Estimated Changes-mills 0.24 mill increase

Estimated impact on home w/ market value of \$100K \$0.33 annual increase Estimated impact on home w/

market value of \$200K \$0.66 annual increase

Decrease in revenues: \$13,123

Decrease in mills: 1.53

This notice must also document The District's expected use of its Building Reserve State Major Maintenance levies and associated funding. This year, the District expects to use those proceeds to partially fund capital improvements as stated by the Board in its Facilities Condition Inventory, approved March 14,

Legals

2024, as well as operational costs of school safety. The District estimates the funding structure will generate approximately \$33,810.00 during 2024-2025, with a net increase to taxpayers of 0.24

These estimates are based on the current year's taxable value, with no increase as required by state law. If the District's taxable value increases as expected, the mill and taxpayer cost increases will be less than presented here. These estimates are preliminary and changes are expect-ed before the final budgets are set in August. Please contact the Business Manager if you have questions or need additional information.

Amsterdam School Board 406-282-7216 sroe@amsterdamschool.org

REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS GALLATIN COUNTY **COURTS FURNITURE**

Requests for sealed bids from companies to provide and in-stall office and courtroom furniture at the Gallatin County Courts Building, 515 S 16th Avenue, Bozeman, Montana will be received in the Clerk and Recorders office in the County Courthouse, 311 West Main Street, Room 203, Bozeman, Montana 59715 until 10:00 AM local time on April 18, 2024. Offers will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time. Submittals received after the stipulated time shall be returned unopened.

The work generally consists

Providing office and courtroom furniture for the new constructed Gallatin County Courts Building. Scope of work includes design, delivery and installation on or around September of 2024. Building construction is expected to be completed by October 1, 2024.

To request bidding documents

Gallatin County Nick Borzak 311 W. Main Street Bozeman, MT 59715 nick.borzak@gallatin.mt.gov

Legals

Request for Proposals (RFP) Hidden Creek Community

TO ALL INTERESTED ENGI-NEER FIRMS: United Housing Partners LLC (UHP), an affordable housing developer, in partnership with the Human Resource Development Council of District IX Inc (HRDC), is seeking Request for Proposal from ENGINEER firms to pro-vide ENGINEER and DESIGN SERVICES for three sepa-rate disciplines: 1)CIVIL, 2) STRUCTURAL, 3)MECHANI-CAL, ELECTRICAL, PLUMB-ING for the site planning, subdivision, design, and eventual construction of Hidden Creek Community, a permanently affordable housing development located north of Gallatin County's (the County) rest home at 1221 Durston in Bozeman, Montana. *Firms may submit for a single or all three disciplines. Hidden Creek Community is

three separate projects that will be built on the vacant north acres of the approximately 9.51 acre that has yet to be subdivided. The Project will require subdividing the parcel into four new lots and the con-struction of approximately 150 rent restricted apartments.

This RFP is intended to solicit proposals for each engineering discipline that will be part of the design team for Hidden Creek. Please contact Seth O'Con-

nell at 406.422.6852 or Seth@uhousingpartners.com to request a copy of the full RFP. Respondents are en-couraged to have strong experience and success in large scale multi-family construction projects, staff capacity for the project, along with the ability to provide routine preconstruc-tion feedback to the design

All proposals in response to the RFP must be submitted by no later than 5PM MDT, March

25, 2024. Section 3 business entities, minority, disadvantaged, and women-owned businesses are encouraged to submit a

MONTANA 18th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT GALLATIN COUNTY

In the Matter of the Name Change Rhonda Rae Newman, Petitioner

Legals

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

This is notice that Petitioner has asked the District Court for a change of name from Rhonda Rae Newman to Ezmay Lenora Newman. The hearing will be 4/11/2024 at 9:30 a.m.

The hearing will be at the Law and Justice Center Courthouse in Gallatin County.

March 8, 2024 /s/ Sandy Erhardt Clerk of District Court By: Deputy Clerk of Court

TOWN OF WEST YELLOWSTONE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town Council of the Town of West Yellowstone will hold a formal amended budget hearing for the fiscal year 2023-2024. Said hearing will be held during the regular Town Council meeting, Tuesday, March 19, 2024, which begins at 7:00 PM, The hearing will be held in the Town Hall Coun-cil Chambers, located at 440 Yellowstone Avenue.

The public hearing will review the sewer fund regarding the revenue expected. The public is invited to attend, and any taxpayer or resident may be heard, for or against, the pro-posed amended budget.

The proposed amended budget is available for public review at the Town Offices, located at 440 Yellowstone Avenue, West Yellowstone, Montana. Personnel at the Town Offices can be reached at 406-646-

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the public comment period to develop the needs and strategies to be incorporated into the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated

The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan – which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for

Legals

the State of Montana's Com-munity Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program comments regarding program performance and use of program funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19. be received from March 19 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Eqfurthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029. uity Plan for affirmatively

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertain-ing to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consol idated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the informa-

Legals

commerce.mt.gov/Consolida ted-Plan/Updates.

The Department of Com-merce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficien-cy who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation please contact the Department of Commerce at <u>DOCConPlan@mt.gov</u> no lat-er than 5:00 p.m. on March 27

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del in-glés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible al-ternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@ mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 27 de marzo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

MONTANA EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF GALLATIN IN THE MATTER OF THE **ESTATE OF**

SALLY ANN GRIFFIN, Deceased.

Probate No. DP-24-36 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed

to the Personal Representa-tive, c/o Stuart R. Whitehair, Attorney at Law, 2123 Durston Road, Suite 17, Bozeman, Montana 59718, return receipt required, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.
Dated this 12th day of March,

/s/ Constance Susan Griffin Personal Representative



SOUTHWESTMONTANASERVICES.COM

Public Notices

You have the right to know what's going on in your community. Read notices below and online at daily interlake, com and montanapublic notices.com.

NO. 30090

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of Flathead County, Montana, hereby gives notice, pursuant to Section 76-2-205(1), M.C.A., that it will hold a public hearing to consider a change in the zoning designation in a portion of the Hodgson Road Zoning District from SAG-10 (Suburban Agricultural) to SAG-5 (Suburban Agricultural) for property located at 125 Wagon Wheel Road, Whitefish, MT 59937.

The boundary of the area proposed to be amended from SAG-10 (Suburban Agricultural) to SAG-5 (Suburban Agricultural) are described as:

A tract of land situated, lying and being in the South Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 20, Township 30 North, Range 21 West, P.M.M., Flathead County, Montana, and more particularly described as Tract 3A on Certificate of Survey No. 6366 and Tract 1 on Certificate of Survey No. 9495

The regulations defining the SAG-10 and SAG-5 zones are contained in the Flathead County Zoning Regulations on file for public inspection at the Office of the Board of Commissioners 800 South Main, Room 302, Kalispell, Montana, at the Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office, 40 11th Street West, Kalispell, Montana, and on the Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office's website at: http:// flathead.mt.gov/planning_zoning/downloads.php. Documents related to the proposed zone change are also on file for public inspection at the Commissioners' Office and at the Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office.

The public hearing will be held on the 26th day of March, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers, Third Floor, Old Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana. At the public hearing, the Board of Commissioners will give the public an opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed change to the Hodgson Road Zoning District.

Written comments are encouraged and will be reviewed by the Commissioners if received prior to the hearing.

DATED this 25th day of January, 2024

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMIS-SIONERS Flathead County, Montana

By: /s/Randy L. Brodehl Randy L. Brodehl, Chairman

March 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30091

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of Flathead County, Montana, hereby gives notice, pursuant to Section 76-2-205(1), M.C.A., that it will hold a public hearing to consider a change in the zoning designation in a portion of the Highway 93 North Zoning District from 'SAG-5 Suburban Agricultural' to 'R-2.5 Rural Residential' for property located at 58 Wintercrest Ridge near Kalispell, Montana.

The boundaries of the areas proposed to be amended from 'SAG-5 Suburban Agricultural' to 'R-2.5 Rural Residential' are described as:

Parcel 1:

Parcel A of Certificate of Survey No. 17314, a tract of land situated, lying, and being in the SE ¼ of Section 7, Township 29 North, Range 21 West, P.M.M., Flathead County, Montana.

Parcel 2:

A 60-foot easement as described in Easement recorded March 1, 1977 as Instrument No. 2409 and as depicted on Certificate of Survey No. 1964.

A 60-foot Private Road and Utility Easement granted in Quitclaim Deed recorded May 31, 2006 as Instrument No. 2006-151-11170, and depicted on Certificate of Survey No. 12739 and Certificate of Survey No. 17314, records of Flathead County, Montana.

The regulations defining the SAG-5 and R-2.5 zones are contained in the Flathead County Zoning Regulations on file for public inspection at the Office of the Board of Commissioners, 800 South Main, Room 302, Kalispell, Montana, at the Flathead County Planning and

Zoning Office, 40 11th Street West, Kalispell, Montana, and on the Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office's website at: https://flathead.mt.gov/department-directory/planning-zoning/ meeting-information. Documents related to the proposed zone change are also on file for public inspection at the Commissioners' Office and at the Flathead Coun-

ty Planning and Zoning Office.

The public hearing will be held on the 26th day of March, 2024 at 10:45 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers, Third Floor, Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana. At the public hearing, the Board of Commissioners will give the public an opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed change to the Highway 93 North Zoning District.

Written comments are encouraged and will be reviewed by the Commissioners if received prior to the hearing.

DATED this 25th day of January, 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMIS-SIONERS Flathead County, Montana

By: /s/Randy L. Brodehl Randy L. Brodehl, Chairman

March 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30139

Notice of Application

Notice is given that application has been made to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC"), the Montana Division of Banking and Financial Institutions (the "Montana DBFI"), and the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, Division of Banking (the "Colorado DOB"), by Glacier Bank, 49 Commons Loop, Kalispell, Montana 59901, for approval to acquire certain assets and assume certain liabilities of HTLF Bank, 1800 Larimer Street, Suite 100, Denver, Colorado 80202. The assets to be acquired and the liabilities to be assumed of HTLF Bank are at six branch locations in the State of Montana (the "Branches"), located at: (i) 2615 King Ave. W., Billings, Montana 59102; (ii) 2929 3rd Ave. N., Billings, Montana 59101 (the "3rd Avenue Branch"); (iii) 2901 W. Main St., Bozeman, Montana 59718 (the "Bozeman Branch"); (iv) 115 E. First Ave., Plentywood, Montana 59254; (v) 220 Main St., Stevensville Montana 59870; and (vi) 101 E. Legion St., Whitehall, Montana 59759, Following consummation of the acquisition and assumption, it is contemplated that all of the offices of Glacier Bank and HTLF Bank will continue to be operated, with the exception of the 3rd Avenue Branch, the Bozeman Branch, and two Glacier Bank branches located at 2675 King Ave., W., Billings, Montana 59102 and 318 Main St. Stevensville, Montana 59870, each of which will be closed, the four Bran being closed will be operated as branch offices of Glacier Bank.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the FDIC at the FDIC's San Francisco Regional Office at 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300 San Francisco, California 94105 not later than April 4, 2024 (unless the comment period has been extended or reopened in accordance with 12 C.F.R. § 303.9(b)(2)). The nonconfidential portions of the application are on file in the appropriate FDIC office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the nonconfidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request.

March 5, 19, 29, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30140

The Blackfeet Tribe is accepting sealed proposals from qualified firms for the purpose of entering into an agreement to provide property insurance services to the Blackfeet Tribe.

Deadline: sealed proposals submitted must be received by 2:00 P.M. MST, Friday June 14, 2024. Proposals received after the deadline will not be opened and shall be considered void and unacceptable.

Delivery address: Please submit one (1) marked original and three (3) exact duplicate copies of your complete proposal and RFP Description to:

Blackfeet Tribe

Procurement Department #8 Old Person Street P.O. Box 850 Browning, MT 59417

Bids sent via courier must be sealed in a separate envelope inside of the mailer.

POINT OF CONTACT: All inquiries regarding this RFP and to request bid packets must be made in writing to Xavier Old Chief, the Procurement Officer, xoldchief@blackfeetnation.com The Blackfeet Tribe shall not be responsible for any verbal communication between any employee of the Blackfeet Tribe and any potential firm. Only written requirements and qualifications will be considered.

The Blackfeet Tribe reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive irregulations, and to accept the bid deemed the most adventurous to the Tribe.

Deadline for submission of questions is June 7, 2024, by 10:00 A.M.

March 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30152

BATAVIA SELF STORAGE NOTICE OF AUCTION BY PUB-LICATION On Saturday, March 23rd 2024, at 11:00AM Batavia Self Storage, pursuant to MCA 70-6-607, will auction to the highest bidder by silent written bid the contents of abandoned storage units owing delinquent storage rent for the following unit numbers: 13, 180, 183, 209, 214, 234, 283, 349, 366, 394, 435, YD010. The units contain household goods, furniture, tools, electronic equipment, sporting goods, and an RV. Buyer's bid will be for the entirety of the contents of each unit. Only cash, cashier's checks and money orders accepted for pay ment NO CHECKS OR CREDIT CARDS. Batavia Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid or to cancel or postpone the auction for all or part of the units scheduled for sale and also to bid on the units on behalf of Batavia Self-Storage

March 12, 15, 19, 22, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30177

Montana Department of Commerce

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the public comment period to develop the needs and strategies to be incorporated into the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan).

The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan - which summarize the available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period - are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing devel-opment needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of program funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2024.

Montana Department of Com-

merce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce. mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/ Updates prior to the public hear ing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 27,

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en

DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 27 de marzo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

Equal Housing Opportunity

March, 19. 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30179

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO PROTEST TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages License

BIGFORK STAGE STOP INC (Josef Pastor, Owner(s)) has applied to transfer Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages License No. 07-999-0701-001 to be operated at BIG FORK STAGE STOP, 8267 Mt Highway 35, Bigfork, Flathead County. The public may protest this license transfer in accordance with the law.

Who can protest this transfer? Protests will be accepted from residents of the county of the proposed location Flathead County, residents of adjoining Montana counties, and residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in 16-4-207(4)(d), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), are met.

What information must be included? Protest letters must be legible and contain (1) the protestor's full name, mailing address, and street address; (2) the license number 07-999-0701-001 and the applicant's name BIGFORK STAGE STOP INC; (3) an indication that the letter is intended as a protest; (4) a description of the grounds for protesting; and (5) the protestor's signature. A letter with multiple signatures will be considered one protest letter.

What are valid protest grounds? The protest may be based on the applicant's qualifications listed in 16-4-401, MCA, or the grounds for denial of an application in 16-4-405, MCA. Examples of valid protest grounds include: (1) the applicant is unlikely to operate the establishment in compliance with the law; (2) the proposed location cannot be properly policed by local authorities; and (3) the welfare of the people in the vicinity of the proposed location will be adversely and seriously affected.

How are protests submitted? Protests must be postmarked to the Department of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604-5805 on or before April 5, 2024.

What happens if the transfer is protested? Depending on the number of protests and the protest grounds, a public hearing will be held in Helena or Bigfork. All valid protestors will be notified of the hearing's time, date

and location. Hearings typically are scheduled within 90 days. A protester's hearing testimony is limited to the grounds in the protester's letter. Following the hearing, the Department of Revenue will notify the public whether the license transfer is approved or denied.

How can additional information be obtained? The cited MCA statutes are online at leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/. Questions may be directed to Brennan Smith, Compliance Specialist for the Department of Revenue's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, at 444-5871 or Brennan.Smith@mt.gov.

March 19, 26, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30180

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO PROTEST ISSUANCE OF ONE NEW Montana Retail On-Prem-

Consumption Beer and Wine with Catering Endorsement License

GLACIER PARK INC (Ruth Maughan and VIAD CORP (a publicly traded company), Owner(s)) has applied for one new Montana Retail On-Premises Consumption Beer and Wine with Catering Endorsement License No. 07-999-0706-302 to be operated at GLACIER NATIONAL PIZZA, 200 Going To The Sun Rd, West Glacier, Flathead County. The public may protest this license transfer in accordance with the law.

Who can protest this transfer? Protests will be accepted from residents of the county of the proposed location Flathead County, residents of adjoining Montana counties, and residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in 16-4-207(4) (d), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), are met.

What information must be included? Protest letters must be legible and contain (1) the protestor's full name, mailing address, and street address; (2) the license number 07-999-0706-302 and the applicant's name GLACIER PARK INC; (3) an indication that the letter is intended as a protest; (4) a description of the grounds for protesting; and (5) the protestor's signature. A letter with multiple signatures will be considered one protest letter.

What are valid protest grounds? The protest may be based on the applicant's qualifications listed in 16-4-401, MCA, or the grounds for denial of an application in 16-4-405, MCA. Examples of valid protest grounds include: (1) the applicant is unlikely to operate the establishment in compliance with the law; (2) the proposed location cannot be properly policed by local authorities; and (3) the welfare of the people in the vicinity of the proposed location will be adversely and seriously affected.

How are protests submitted? Protests must be postmarked to the Department of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604-5805 on or before April 19, 2024.

What happens if the transfer is protested? Depending on the number of protests and the protest grounds, a public hearing will be held in Helena or West Glacier. All valid protestors will be notified of the hearing's time, date and location. Hearings typically are scheduled within 90 days. A protester's hearing testimony is limited to the grounds in the protester's letter. Following the hearing, the Department of Revenue will notify the public whether the license transfer is approved or denied.

How can additional information be obtained? The cited MCA statutes are online at leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/. Questions may be directed to Brennan Smith, Compliance Specialist for the Department of Revenue's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, at 444-5871 or Brennan.Smith@mt.gov.

March 19, 26 and April 2, 9, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30181

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO PROTEST TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages License

KALISPELL WING COMPANY (Grube Family Investments IV, LLC, Owner(s)) has applied to transfer Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages License No. 07-901-2527-001 to be operated at BUFFALO WILD WINGS GRILL & BAR-KALISPELL, 115 Hutton Ranch Rd, Kalispell, Flathead County. The public may protest this license transfer in accordance with the law.

Who can protest this transfer? Protests will be accepted from residents of the county of the proposed location Flathead County, residents of adjoining Montana counties, and residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in 16-4-207(4) (d), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), are met.

What information must be included? Protest letters must be legible and contain (1) the protestor's full name, mailing address, and street address; (2) the license number 07-901-2527-001 and the applicant's name KALISPELL WING COMPANY; (3) an indication that the letter is intended as a protest; (4) a description of the grounds for protesting; and (5) the protestor's signature. A letter with multiple signatures will be considered one protest letter.

What are valid protest grounds? The protest may be based on the applicant's qualifications listed in 16-4-401, MCA, or the grounds for denial of an application in 16-4-405, MCA. Examples of valid protest grounds include: (1) the applicant is unlikely to operate the establishment in compliance with the law; (2) the proposed location cannot be properly policed by local authorities; and (3) the welfare of the people in the vicinity of the proposed location will be adversely and seriously affected.

How are protests submitted? Protests must be postmarked to the Department of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604-5805 on or before April 5, 2024.

What happens if the transfer is protested? Depending on the number of protests and the protest grounds, a public hearing will be held in Helena or Kalispell. All valid protestors will be notified of the hearing's time, date and location. Hearings typically are scheduled within 90 days. A protester's hearing testimony is limited to the grounds in the protester's letter. Following the hearing, the Department of Revenue will notify the public whether the license transfer is approved or denied.

How can additional information be obtained? The cited MCA statutes are online at leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/. Questions may be directed to Brennan Smith, Compliance Specialist for the Department of Revenue's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, at 444-5871 or Brennan.Smith@mt.gov.

March 19, 26, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30183

Montana 11th Judicial District Court Flathead County

In the Matter of the Name Change of Leighton Wayne Worley: Mindy Pfankuch-Zaragoza Petitioner

Cause No.: DV-24-356

Dept. No.: AMY EDDY

Notice of Hearing on Name

Change of Minor Child

This is notice that Petitioner has asked the District Court to change a child's name from Leighton Wayne Worley to

The hearing will be on 4/30/24 at 8:30 a.m.

Leighton Mark Zaragoza

The hearing will be at the Courthouse in: Flathead County.

Date: March 12, 2024

Peg L. Allison Clerk of District Court

By: /s/ Rachael Parra Deputy Clerk of Court

March 19, 26 and April 2, 9, 2024 MNAXLP



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Bids & Proposals

Blackfeet Tribe is accepting sealed proposals from qualified firms for the purpose of entering into an agreement to provide property insurance services to the Blackfeet Tribe.

Deadline: sealed proposals submitted must be received by 2:00 P.M. MST, Friday June 14, 2024. Proposals received after the deadline will not be opened and shall be considered void and unaccept-

able.
Delivery address: Please submit one (1) marked original and three (3) exact duplicate copies of your complete proposal and RFP Description to: **Blackfeet Tribe**

Procurement Department #8 Old Person Street P.O. Box 850

Browning, MT 59417 Bids sent via courier must be sealed in a separate envelope inside of the mailer. POINT OF CONTACT: All

inquiries regarding this RFP and to request bid packets must be made in writing to Xavier Old Chief, the Procurement Director, x.oldchief@ blackfeetnation.com The Blackfeet Tribe shall not be responsible for any communication between any employee of the Blackfeet Tribe and any potential firm. Only written requirements and

Bids & Proposals

qualifications considered. The Blackfeet Tribe reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive irregulations, and to acc3ept the bid deemed the

Deadline for submission of questions is June 7, 2024, by 10:00 A.M. March 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 2024 9934555 MNAXLP

most adventurous to the

Request for Proprosals Request for Proposals Professional Services for Road and ADA Overall Condition Index, O.F. 1819.0

The City of Great Falls, on behalf of the Great Falls Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and in cooperation with Cascade County, is seeking proposals from highly experienced professional consulting firms to conduct a street pavement assessment to support develop-ment of both City and County Pavement Management Systems. Specifically, the consultant will collect pavement condition for County paved roads and paved area trails, as well as ADA ramp compliance and curb and gutter information to support an Overall Condition Index (OCI) for the City of Great

Sealed proposals must be received at City Engineering Office located at 1025 25th Ave NE, Great Falls, MT 59404 by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (MST) on Monday, April 8, 2024. Proposals received after the scheduled time and date will not be considered. All supporting materials and documentation must be included with the proposal. The responsibility of timely delivery lies solely with the Consul-tant. Faxed and E-Mailed proposals are not accept-

Through the RFP process, the City of Great Falls

Bids & Proposals

intends to screen proposals and select a firm to collect condition data on pavement, curb and gutter, ADA ramps, and shared use paths (trails) with data integrated into asset management software (Cartegraph and ArcGIS).

Interested parties may pick up a formal RFP at the City of Great Falls, Public Works Department, Engineering Division or by contacting the Project Manager: Amanda Brownlee, PE,

Civil Engineer Telephone: (406) 455-8122

Published at Great Falls, Montana, this 19th day of March 2024.

Lisa Kunz, City Clerk (1st Publication): March 19th, 2024 P.O. Box 5021 Publication): March 31st, Great Falls, Montana 59403-5021 MNAXLP March 19, 31 2024 LMTS0075097

Govt Public Notices

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public and Human Health Services announce the public comment period to develop the needs and strategies to be incorpo-rated into the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan).

The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan - which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montang's Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Invest-ment Partnerships Program (HOME), Hous-ing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period – are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is

Govt Public Notices

encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of program funds. funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering affirmatively furthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024. All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2024. Montana Department of

Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website

Govt Public Notices

commerce.mt.gov/Consolid ated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolid ated-Plan/Updates.

Department Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce DOCConPlan@mt.gov

later than 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adapta-ciones razonables para las personas con discapaci-dades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 27 de marzo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov #9961363; 03/19/2024 MNAXLP

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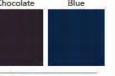
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The Art Center presents Watercolor Workshop. Roberta J. Burruss. April 20-21 9am-4:30pm at Montana Wild - Helena. Roberta is a signature member of MWS. Information call Marlene Perrin 406-459-3387 or mjperrin56@gmail.com

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Montana Departments of Commerce
The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the public comment period to develop the needs and strategies to be incorporated into the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan). The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan – which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period – are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of program funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029

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El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 27 de marzo

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov March 19, 2024 188267 MNAXLP

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RESOLUTION #237 EAST HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCREASE NONVOTED LEVIES MARCH 11, 2024

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the East Helena Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. The East Helena Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year as provided to the district:

	2023-24 Actual Levies \$ Mills		2024-2025 Projections			
Fund			Est. Change Of Revenue	Est. Change Of Mills	Est. Change in Annual Tax Impact \$100K home	Est. Change in Annual Tax Impact \$200K home
Transportation	690450.00	21.85	49500.00	1.57	2.12	4.23
Bus Depreciation	152669.52	4.83	60000.48	1.90	2.56	5.13
Adult Ed	31601.00	1.00	0	0	0	0
Flexibility	61628.00	1.95	0	0	0	0
Tuition	413556.49	13.09	101429.98	3.21	4.33	8.67
Building Reserves	103627.00	3.28	8495.36	.27	.36	.73
Total	1453532.01	46.0	219425.82	6.95	9.37	18.76

This notice must also document the District's expected use of its Building Reserve State Major Maintenance levies and associated funding. This year, the District expects to use those proceeds to partially fund capital improvements, as well as operational costs of school safety and security.

These estimates are based on the current year's taxable value with no increase, as required by State law. If the District's taxable value increases as expected, the mill and taxpayer cost increases will be less than presented here. These estimates are preliminary and changes are expected before the final budgets are set in August.

Dated this 11th day of March, 2024.

March 19, 2024 MNAXLP

DOGS



AKC German Shepherd puppies. Shots, wormed, papers, chipped. \$1500. 406-438-3191



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AKC FRENCH BULLDOG puppies, ready now, only 2 left, 1 male & 1 female. 1st shots, wormed, vet certificate, great personalities, very affectionate. Home raised & paper trained. Facebook: Frontier Mountain French Bulldogs. 406-755-3961



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Greg Zeller 406-439-2939 BRO #109309 zmancbmountainside.com Coldwell Banker Mountainside Realty 55 W. 14th Street Ste. 103 Helena, MT 59601

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NAIA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Former Lady Griz spark Carroll College

406MTSPORTS.COM daniel.shepard@ 406mtsports.com

HELENA - Carroll College, for the third straight season, is off to Sioux City, Iowa, and the NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship Tournament Round of 16, and Jamie Pickens and Maddie Geritz might just carry head coach Rachelle Sayers all the way there.

The two super-seniors, each playing in their final de facto home game, hoisted Sayers atop their shoulders Saturday - while fellow senior Erica Nessan smiled with the opening-round trophy - not five minutes after the buzzer sounded on the Saints' 61-46 victory over No. 7 seed Oregon Tech in a second-round game.

"That explains the whole season - me and Maddie messing around with her, keeping things light," said Pickens, a former Montana Lady Griz standout. "We're super thankful to have a coach like her. Not a lot of people get the opportunity to have someone in their life that cares about them, not only as a basketball player but outside basketball as well...

"Obviously we're gonna celebrate this, but we have bigger fish to fry."

Sayers' 400th game at Carroll - and 279th victory - came with special memories of her first -ever NAIA National Tournament victory, the 11th anniversary of which passed Wednesday.

Kalee Junkermier and Alison Sullivan, freshmen Sayers said committed to previous head coach Shawn Nelson but stuck around through a leadership change, prompted the Absarokee native to remind her team how dangerous a team without much playoff experience could be.

"I told our players that story," Sayers said. "They were talking about it being Embry-Riddle's first trip to the national tournament. I said, 'hey, our very first trip, practices and games that I we won our first game, so can." you gotta be ready."

That was Friday ponent, one the Saints fouled out with 1:09 to play smoked by 40.

A 14-0 game-starting run Saturday gave Carroll a double-digit lead it wouldn't surrender.

"It's amazing to be at one place that long," Sayers said. "I've had the pleasure of coaching great players and I have the best assistants and the most loyal assistants in the country."

Pickens, for perhaps the first time in her life, stepped off a Helena basketball court knowing it was her last time playing for hometown fans.

She and Willa Albrecht paced the Saints with 18 points, but Pickens secured mentioned? her 23rd double-double in 31 games with 12 rebounds.



GARY MARSHALL PHOTOS, BMGPHOTOS.COM

Carroll graduate student and former Montana Lady Griz player Jamie Pickens, playing in her final game inside the PE Center in Helena Saturday, notched an 18-point, 12-rebound double-double, her 23rd in 31 games this season.

ens, who grew up attending Saints basketball camps, the seconds leading up to games. game time.

"During the national anthem is when I kinda realized, 'wow,' and I said to Maddie, 'last one'," Pickens said. "It was kinda like a surreal moment. It went so fast...

"Great day to finish off on, I thought."

Pickens, now within 120 points of Carroll's all-time lead, is four career rebounds shy of 1,000.

As if her career needed further validation as one of the greatest in Carroll history, Pickens would be just the second Saints women's basketball player to reach that plateau.

"She's been the heart and soul of our program and of the Helena community," Sayers said. "People come out just to see her...

"For her to come back and give us one more chance, one more run – there's just not gonna be another one [like her] that we get the honor of coaching. I'm relishing every moment to coach her for as many more

Geritz, who tallied six points and six rebounds and the game in hand.

A standing ovation from some 1,500 fans ushered the sixth-year senior and 1,000-point scorer to the bench.

"It was bittersweet." Geritz said. "I've had a lot of great memories here the last six years and I feel like Jamie, Erica and I, especially, have been through a lot together...

"All good things gotta come to an end, but I felt like we left it all out here this year and obviously wanna keep winning."

Those bigger fish Pickens

Exorcising some Round of 16 demons that've Hours before Carroll tripped Carroll up each of punched its ticket, Pick- the last two seasons.





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victory over No. 7 seed Oregon Tech Saturday.

Never in Sayers' 13vear Carroll tenure have

fought nerves and emo- the Saints won more than tions that re-emerged in two national tournament

LEGAL NOTICES

A victory Thursday over they've already done that," No. 6 seed Loyola (La.) Sayers said. would change that.

fear of losing that game - makes us deadly."

7-for-12 shooting, in the Saints' 61-46 NAIA National Championship Tournament second round

"I think the experience, "[The players] know what the leadership, as well as this means and there's no our ability to shoot the ball

Email Daniel Shepard at daniel. shepard@406mtsports.com or find him on Twitter/X @IR DanielS.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

SUMMONS By Publication

To: Frank Joseph Pongratz III
You have been sued by Taylor Lauren England, the plaintiff, in the District Court in and for LEMHI County, Idaho, Case No. CV 30-24-27.
The nature of the claim against you is for Divorce.

Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this Summons, the court may enter a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that time you have filed a written response in the proper form, including the case number, and paid any required filing fee to the Clerk of the Court at the Seventh Judicial District, Lemhi County, and served a copy of your response on the other party, whose mailing address and telephone number are: 509 Courthouse Dr, Salmon, ID,

83407.
A copy of the Summons and Complaint/Motion can be obtained by contacting either the Clerk of the Court or the other party. If you wish legal assistance, you should immediately retain an attorney to advise you in this matter.

Jana Eagle
Typed/printed name
March 19, 26 April 2, 2024 COL-MT-400064 MNAXLP

Legals

Invitation to Bid Missoula County Airport Authority
Missoula Montana Airport

The Missoula County Airport Authority (MCAA), is formally requesting electronic bids for construction services for the SRE Remodel Project. The Airport will select one contractor based on the lowest, responsive and responsible bid submittal that fits within their budget. Parties interested in submitting a bid for this project should contact Shaun Shea with Morrison-Maierle at sshea@m-m.net or by calling (406) 542.4846. Electronic bid request will be accepted until 3:00 pm, local time on March 20, 2024. The full invitation to bid may be seen on Missoula Montana Airport's website at www.flymissoula.com or on Morrison-Maierle's website at www.men tet (under the heading of "Moutt" and "Projects"). website at www.m-m.net (under the heading of "About" and "Projects

January 30, 2024. March 7, 12, 19, 2024 COL-MT400041 MNAXLP

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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MONTANA FOURTH JUDICIAL DIS-TRICT COURT, MISSOULA COUNTY

Cause No. DP-24-53

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM M. LINNELL, a/k/a William Mark Linnell, Deceased. Dept. No. 1

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representa tive of the above-named Estate.
All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to KADY S. LINNELL, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, c/o Garlington, Lohn & Robinson, PLLP, P.O. Box 7909, Missoula, Montana 59807 or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of

Montana that the foregoing is true SIGNED this 6 day of March,

/s/KADY S. LINNELL Personal Representative

/s/ SCOTT W. FARAGO Attorneys for Personal Representative March 12, 19, 26, 2024 COL-March 12, 19, 26, 2024 COL-MT-400056 MNAXLP

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS MONTANA ELDER LAW, INC. 2687 Palmer Street, Ste. D Missoula, MT 59808 Phone: (406) 549-0306 Fax: (406) 206-2305

makenzi@mtelderlaw.com Attorney for Personal MONTANA FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
MISSOULA COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ES-

TATE OF THOMAS R. JORDAN

CAUSE NO. DP-24-55
DEPT. NO. 3
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the undersigned has been
appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to Jeffrey A. Jordan, Personal Representative, return receipt re-quested, at 2687 Palmer Street, Ste. D, Missoula, MT 59808, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of

Montana that the foregoing is true DATED March 5, 2024 Jeffrey A. Jordan
Personal Representative
MONTANA ELDER LAW, INC. Makenzi Mansfield Attorney for Personal Representative

March 19, 26 April 2, 2024 COL-MT-400083 MNAXLP

Public Auction

Frenchtown Mini Storage will auction unit F15 at StorageTrea-sures.com on March 25, 2024 at 10 a.m. through April 1, 2024 at 11 a.m.

Frenchtown Mini Storage will auction unit H1 at StorageTrea-sures.com on March 26, 2024 at 10 a.m. through April 2, 2024 at 11 a.m. March 19, 2024 COL-MT-400084

MNAXLP

An audit of the affairs of Hellgate Elementary School, District No. 4, Missoula County, Missoula, Montana, has been conducted by Donald Nolan Davies, P.C., Certified Public Accountant. The audit covered the fiscal year en curricular Fund for pupil functions which is included in the financial statements of the District.
Section 2-7-521, MCA, requires that this publication concerning the au-

dit report include a statement that such report is on file in its entirety and open to public inspection at the school district, and that the district will send a copy of the audit report to any interested person upon request. March 19, 2024 COL-MT-400085 MNAXLP

Notice to Creditors

Kaden Keto JACKSON, MURDO & GRANT, P. C. 203 N. Ewing St Helena, MT 59601 Telephone: 406-442-1300 Facsimile: 406-443-7033 E-Mail: kketo@jmgattorneys.com

Attorney for Personal Representative MONTANA FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, IN RE THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF:
PATRICIA HILGERS,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SCOTT HILGERS has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to SCOTT HILGERS, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, in care of Jackson, Murdo & Grant, P. C., 203 N. Ewing Street, Helena, MT 59601, or filed with the Clerk of the phase Court

the above Court.
DATED this 5th day of February, 2024. /s/ SCOTT HILGERS, Personal Representative March 5, 12, 19, 2024 COL-MT400037 MNAXLP

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public realinal and Human Services announce the public comment period to develop the needs and strategies to be incorporated into the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan).

The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan – which summarize the actions, activities, and resources excitable for the State of Montana's Community Development Block

available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block available for the State of Montania's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period - are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and extractions for efficiently and the state of the state actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of program funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the period program of the program of the period program of the associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

All comments nectaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan.

Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on June

25, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT
Division Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov
The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation
materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/
Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State of
Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during
the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To
participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at merce's website at

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates.
The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations

for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficien-cy who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communiques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 27 de marzo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



March 19, 2024 COL-MT-400086 MNAXLP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Kevin S. Jones JONES & HOUSTON, PLLC 2625 Dearborn Ave., Ste. 102 Missoula, MT 59804 Missoula, MT 59804
Telephone: 406-541-3333
Facsimile: 406-541-3444
E-Mail: kevin@jonesmtlaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative

MONTANA FOURTH
JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,
MISSOULA COUNTY Cause Number: DP-24-60 Department Number: 4

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE

DAVID R HETZLER,

Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that AMY JO HETZLER has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to AMY JO HETZLER, Personal Representative actually actually account of the part of fouriers.

seritative, return receipt requested, in care of Kevin S. Jones / Jones & Houston, PLLC, 2625 Dearborn Ave., Ste. 102, Missoula, MT 59804, or

filled with the Clerk of the above Court.
DATED this 12th day of March, 2024.
/s/ AMY JO HETZLER, Personal Representative
March 19, 26 April 2, 2024 COL-MT-400087 MNAXLP



Caitlyn Jenner speaks at a press conference on Monday in Mineola, N.Y. The former Olympic gold medalist threw her support behind a local New York official's order banning female sports teams with transgender athletes from using county-owned facilities.

Jenner backs NY county's ban on transgender female athletes

Associated Press

MINEOLA, N.Y. - Olympic gold medalist Caitlyn Jenner on Monday said she supported a local New York official's order banning female sports teams with transgender athletes from using county-owned facilities.

The ban applies to over 100 athletic facilities in New York City's Long Island suburbs. Speaking alongside Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman at his office in Mineola, Jenner said allowing transgender athletes like herself to compete against other women will "ruin women's sports" for years to come.

"Let's stop it now while we can," said the reality television star, who came out as a transgender woman

The LGBT Network, a Long Island-based advocacy group, called Jenner's comments a "baffling contradiction" to her own identity as a transgender woman that is "not only hypocritical but also harmful" to the LGBTQ community.

witness someone who has receive federal funds. experienced the challenges of being marginalized actively contribute to the oppression of others within the same community," David Kilmnick, the group's president, said in a statement. "Such actions only serve to amplify the voices of intolerance and detract from the collective efforts Angeles area and ran untowards a more inclusive successfully for California

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Blakeman, a Republican 2021. elected in 2022, issued an executive order in February requiring any teams, leagues or organizations seeking a permit from the county's parks and recreation department to "exthey are for male, female or coed athletes.

Any teams designated as "female" would be denied permits if they allow transgender athletes to partici-

The ban doesn't apply to men's teams with transgender athletes. It covers all Nassau County-owned facilities, including ballfields, basketball and tennis courts, swimming pools and

Jenner, 74, competed against men when she won the Olympic gold medal in the decathlon in 1976. She said she has "sympathy" for LGBTQ people and "understands their struggles" but argued that allowing transgender people to compete with women would undermine gains female athletes achieved under Title IX, a law banning sex discrir "It is disheartening to ination in programs that

> "All I'm trying to do is protect women," Jenner said

> Jenner, a supporter of former President Donald Trump, has been a vocal opponent of transgender athletes competing in women's sports. A New York native, she has long lived in the Los governor as a Republican in

Blakeman has argued the ban is intended to both foster fair play and protect girls and women from getting injured if they play against transgender women. His executive order, however, pressly designate" whether also covers sports like swimming, gymnastics, figure skating and track, where there is no physical contact between competitors.

can play out of the hands of the league, called Jenner's leagues and gives it to the government.

The Long Island Roller Rebels, a local women's roller derby league, asked a New York court to invalidate violates the state's anti-discrimination laws.

The New York Civil Lib-

The executive order also erties Union, which filed own lawsuit asking a federal takes decisions about who the lawsuit on behalf of appearance "another disgraceful attempt" to target and villainize transgender women and girls. Attorney General Letitia James, a Democrat, said Blakeman's the county order, saying it order is "transphobic and discriminatory" and vio-

lates state law.

court in New York to affirm that the order was legal.

The order is part of a growing number of anti-transgender athletic restrictions imposed nationwide. Bills banning trans youth from participating in sports have passed in some 24 states, though some have been blocked by ongoing

litigation.

LEGAL NOTICES

Blakeman has filed his

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO SOLICIT COMMENTS REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL

YEAR 2023-2024 BUTTE-SILVER BOW BUDGET FOR

UNANTICIPATED REVENUES

Notice is hereby given that the Council of Commissioners of the City-County of Butte-Silver Bow, State of Montana, shall conduct a public hearing as required

by 7-6-4006 (4), MCA, to consider resolutions that will amend the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget to allow for increased expenditures of unanticipated

revenues from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to be used within the City-County Health Department Fund. The unanticipated

contract revenue is in the amount of \$160,607. The funds will be used in the Butte-Silver Bow Immunization Program to provide routine, including COVID-19,

vaccine outreach, education, and planning.

The public hearing will be held at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council

The public hearing will be held at a regularly scheduled meeting in the Council Chambers. of Commissioners at 7:30 p.m., on March 20, 2024, in the Council Chambers. Third Floor, Room 312, Courthouse Building, 155 West Granite Street, Butte, Montana. Any interested persons may appear and speak for or against the proposed budget amendments at the public hearing or submit, in writing, any

Butte-Silver Bow Finance and Budget Office, Room 207, Courthouse Building 155 West Granite Street, Butte, Montana, 406-497-6323.

Any person requiring an accommodation for a disability please contact James Ouellette, Jr, Butte-Silver Bow ADA Coordinator, 155 West Granite Street, Suite

209, Butte, Montana, 59701, telephone number 406-497-6433, fax number 406-497-6328, prior to 1:00 p.m., on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS THIS 6TH DAY OF

comments prior to or during said public hearing. For additional information on the action to be taken, interested parties may contact Danette Gleasor

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

DV-24-49 SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATIONS

Liza L. Dennehy Frank J. Joseph PC Attorney at Lav 2801 S. Montana

Butte, Montana 59701

Telephone: (406) 782-0484

MONTANA SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, SILVER BOW COUNTY CLARK WARD, Plaintiff

VS NORA THIVRIDGE, FRANK Z. THIVIERGE, GEORGE SWINTON, ANGELE THIVIERGE, MRS. ANNIE O'BRIEN, JOSEPHINE L. GENERAUX, LORI BAKER-PATRICK, TREASURER OF BUTTE- SILVER BOW COUNTY, BUTTE SILVER BOW, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA; BUTTE SILVER BOW WATER DEPARTMENT; MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, an agency of the State of Montana; MONTANA DEPARTMENT of TRANSPORTATION, an agency of the State of Montana; and other persons unknown or claiming or who might claim and right, title, estate or interest in lien or encumbrance upon the Plaintiff's ownership or any cloud upon the Plaintiff's title thereto, whether such claim or dower, inchoate or accrued. Defendants.

MONTANA SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, SILVER BOW COUNTY THE STATE OF MONTANA SENDS GREETINGS TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS

You are required to appear and answer the Complaint of CLARK WARD, with the clerk of this court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this summons, and set forth what interest or lien, if any, you have in or upon that certain real properties or any part of the real properties situated in Silver Bow County, State of Montana, more particularly described as

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

SHORT OF GRUB MINING CLAIM SURVEY #7982 PATENT BOOK J PAGE

274 SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST

CANADIAN MINING CLAIM SURVEY #3569 PATENT BOOK C PAGE 524 SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST PARCEL #1701400

You are further notified that, unless you appear and answer the Plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint. This action is being brought for the purpose of

quieting title to the real properties situated in Silver-Bow, County, Montana Reference is made to the Complaint on file in the office of the Clerk of the

above-entitled Court for full particulars. WITNESS my hand and seal of Court this 4 day of March 2024
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT SILVER BOW COUNTY SEAL MONTANA CLERK OF COURT

BY: BETH PARKS Deputy Clerk March 12, 19, 26, 2024 COL-MT-300023 MNAXLP

Notice to Creditors IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LINDA R. KREPPS,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that FRED E. KREPPS JR. has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to FRED E. KREPPS JR., the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at Liza L. Dennehy, 2801 S. Montana St., Butte, MT 59701, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. DATED

March 12, 19, 26, 2024 COL-MT-300022 MNAXLP

Advertisement for Bids

City and County of Butte-Silver Bow, Montana Moulton Dam No. 1 Spillway and Embankment Improvements Project

General Notice Butte-Silver Bow (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following

Moulton Dam No. 1 Spillway and Embankment Improvements Project Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Office of Clerk and Recorder located at 155 Wesi Granite Street, Room 208, Butte, MT 59701 until March 27 at 4:30 p.m. local time. At that time, the Bids received will be publicly

opened and read. The Project includes the following Work:

The Project is located in Butte-Silver Bow County approximately 5 miles north of Butte, Montana on Yankee Doodle Creek. The project work will provide armorng on the upstream face of Moulton Dam No. 1 and will replace the spillway. Obtaining the Bidding Documents

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be obtained at the following designated website:

https://montanabid.com

Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website. Prospective Bidders are required to register with the designated website as a Bidding Documents holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a third-party plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated websile will be updated periodically with Addenda, lists of registered Bidding Documents holders, reports on the Site, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, Addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: HDR Engineer, Inc.

465 E. Galena Street (E-Suite) Butte, MT 59701

Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. local time and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from

sources other than the Issuing Office.
Paper copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office for a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 per set. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, paper Bidding Documents will be sent via the prospective Bidder's delivery service. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method chosen. Make check out to "HDR Engineering, Inc."

Pre-bid Conference A mandatory pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on March 19th 2024 at 10.00 a.m. at the Moulton Water Treatment Plant 2105 N Main St Butte, Montana 59701. Bids will not be accepted from Bidders that do not attend the

mandatory pre-bid conference. Instructions to Bidders. For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the

Bidding Documents. Owner: Butte-Silver Bow

Date: 3/7/24

By: Linda Sajor-Joyce Title: Clerk and Recorder

March 12, 19, 26, 2024 COL-MT-300024 MNAXLP

Montana men's basketball to play Sunday in CBI

UM SPORTS INFORMATION

MISSOULA - The Montana men's basketball team the College Basketball Invitational on Sunday in Daytona Beach, Florida.

The event is taking place on Saturday through March reached the Big Sky Cham-27 with all games in the 15team field being played at the Ocean Center. The Grizzlies earned the No. 5 seed in the event and will open on Sunday at 11 a.m. Mountain against the Presbyterian Blue Hose.

The Blue Hose went 14-18 this season and 6-10 in the Big South. They were eliminated in the quarterfinals of the conference tournament in a 61-60 loss to Gardner-Webb.

It's the first postseason tournament for Montana since 2019 and the first ap-

pearance in the CBI since the 2015-16 season. The Grizzlies will be appearing will continue its season at in the event for the third time in program history, making first-round exits in 2011 and 2016.

Montana is 23-11 and pionship game for the first time since 2019 in Boise last week. The 23 wins are the most for Montana since winning 26 in back-to-back seasons in 2018 and 2019.

First and second round games will be streamed on FloHoops.com, while the semifinal and championship game will be broadcast on ESPN2.

The field also features Northern Colorado, which finished second in the Big Sky regular season but were upset in the quarterfinals of the conference tournament.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Hu Services announce the public comment period to develop the needs and strategies to be incorporated into the 2024- 2025 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan)

The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan - which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period - are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding rogram performance and use of program funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024. All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024, All com-ments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email

below no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates. The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communiques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 27 de marzo de 2024. Have questions? Email DOGConPlan@mt.gov

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY March 19, 2024 COL-MT-300030 MNAXLP

Montana State to face Grambling State in First Four

VICTOR FLORES 406MTSPORTS.COM

victor.flores@406mtsports.com

BOZEMAN - The Montana State men's basketball team will face Grambling State in the First Four of the NCAA Tournament on Wednesday in Dayton, Ohio, the tournament selection committee announced Sunday.

Wednesday's game between MSU (17-17) and Grambling State (20-14) will tip off at 4:40 p.m. Mountain Time. It will be broadcast on TruTV and live streamed on NCAA.com.

The winner of that game will be the No. 16 seed in the Midwest Region of the bracket and face No. 1-seeded Purdue in the first round on Friday in Indianapolis (5:25 p.m. MT on TBS).

"We get to be the only show in town as people get ready for March Madness," said MSU head coach Matt Logie. "A great opportunity for us to go out and showcase what these guys have built here this season."

The Bobcats earned an NCAA Tournament berth because of their 85-70 win over rival Montana on Wednesday in the Big Sky Conference Tournament title game. It was MSU's third straight conference tourney title win and third straight trip to the NCAA tourney. The Big Sky is an auto-bid league.

"It's crazy because some teams only go to it once in their four-year and in the Midwest Region. They careers," said MSU junior forward would meet MSU in the second



BEN ALLAN SMITH, MISSOULIAN

Montana State's men's basketball players celebrate their victory over Montana during in Big Sky Conference Tournament championship game at Idaho Central Arena in Boise, Idaho, on Wednesday.

take it all in. It's awesome."

Logie is in his first season as MSU's head coach after leading Point Loma to four Division II NCAA Tournaments and Whitworth to seven D-III NCAA tourneys. He replaced Danny Sprinkle, who earned 2023-24 Mountain West coach of the year honors after leading Utah State to the regular season conference championship. The Aggies, led by MSU transfers Darius Brown II and Great Osobor, are a No. 8 seed

Sam Lecholat. "You've just got to round if they win their first round game against No. 9-seeded TCU and MSU beats Grambling and

> "That'd be kind of cool," Lecholat said of facing his former coach and teammates. "Just stay level-headed and think of the first game. If it plays out like that, let's

Neither Logie nor the four MSU players who talked to the media Sunday know much about Grambling State, a team from Louisiana that doesn't share any common opponents with the Cats this season. MSU junior wing Ty-

ler Patterson said he texted former teammate Nick Gazelas after the MSU-Grambling State matchup was unveiled because Gazelas faced the Tigers twice this season as a member of the SWAC's Prairie View A&M. Grambling State has won 18 of its last 22 games.

"An opportunity to get the cobwebs out and play against somebody that's probably more like you than not," Logie said. "If you're lucky enough to advance, you've got that experience now in the tournament and the bright lights and all that comes with it.

"So I think it's a great opportunity for us. Ultimately, we're playing our best basketball, so being able to do that sooner than later is a good thing too."

While the First Four isn't on the same level as the Round of 64, a win Wednesday would count as MSU's first at the NCAA Tournament in six trips.

"It is cool going in there and not facing such a massive opponent," Patterson said. "But it's cool either way."

The Cats received No. 14 seeds in each of the past two NCAA Tournaments. They lost to Texas Tech 97-62 in 2022 and to Kansas State 77-65 last March.

"The first year was really, really cool. Last year, same thing," Lecholat said. "This year, with a bunch of brand new guys, I'll probably just take a back seat to it and watch these guys and see how they take it all in."

There are five healthy Bobcats who were on last season's roster: Lecholat, Patterson, All-Big Sky guard Robert Ford III, guard Carter Ash and guard Jed Miller. Gazelas, Brown, Osobor and All-Big Sky guard RaeQuan Battle all transferred last year after Sprinkle left, and starters Jubrile Belo and Caleb Fuller exhausted their college eligibility after last sea-

The emergence of senior big man John Olmsted, who mainly rode the bench before five impactful performances in March, is one of many reasons the Cats feel confident going into their third straight Big Dance.

"As our coach would say, 'Our best is enough,'" Ford said, adding, "We're very competitive. We're going to come in and give our best."

Olmsted is the lone Bobcat with First Four experience. Last March, Olmsted played one minute in Arizona State's 98-73 First Four win over Nevada (he didn't play in the No. 11-seeded Sun Devils' 72-70 first round loss to TCU).

"Being in the tournament, even though it was the First Four, is still something you dream of," Olmsted said. "It's the beginning of madness, so anything can happen when you go there."

Email Victor Flores at victor. flores@406mtsports.com and follow him on Twitter/X at @VictorFlores406

NAIA BASKETBALL

Carroll punches ticket to NAIA tournament

DANIEL SHEPARD 406MTSPORTS.COM daniel.shepard@406mtsports.

HELENA - Carroll College, for the third straight season, is off to Sioux City, Iowa, and the NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship Tournament Round of 16, and Jamie Pickens and Maddie Geritz might just carry head coach Rachelle Sayers all the way there.

The two super-seniors, each playing in their final de facto home game, hoisted Sayers atop their shoulders Saturday - while fellow senior Erica Nessan smiled with the opening-round trophy - not five minutes after was kinda like a surreal mothe buzzer sounded on the ment. It went so fast Saints' 61-46 victory over No. 7 seed Oregon Tech in a I thought." second-round game.

"That explains the whole season - me and Maddie messing around with her, keeping things light," Pickens said. "We're super thankful to have a coach like her. Not a lot of people get the opportunity to have someone in their life that cares about them, not only as a basketball player but outside basketball as well...

"Obviously we're gonna celebrate this, but we have bigger fish to fry."

Sayers' 400th game at Carroll - and 279th victory came with special memories of her first-ever NAIA National Tournament victory, the 11th anniversary of which passed Wednesday.

Kalee Junkermier and Alison Sullivan, freshmen Sayers said committed to previous head coach Shawn points and six rebounds, Nelson but stuck around through a leadership change, prompted the Absarokee native to remind her team how dangerous a team without much playoff experience could be.

"I told our players that story," Sayers said. "They were talking about it being Embry-Riddle's first trip to the national tournament. I said, 'hey, our very first trip, we won our first game, so you gotta be ready.""

That was Friday's opponent, one the Saints smoked

A 14-0 game-starting run Saturday gave Carroll a double-digit lead it wouldn't surrender.

"It's amazing to be at one place that long," Sayers said. "I've had the pleasure of coaching great players and I have the best assistants and the most loyal assistants in the country."

Pickens, for perhaps the No. 6 seed Loyola (La.) would

first time in her life, stepped change that. off a Helena basketball court knowing it was her last time playing for hometown fans.

She and Willa Albrecht paced the Saints with 18 points, but Pickens secured her 23rd double-double in 31 games with 12 rebounds.

Hours before Carroll punched its ticket, Pickens, who grew up attending Saints basketball camps, fought nerves and emotions that re-emerged in the seconds leading up to game

"During the national anthem is when I kinda realized. 'wow,' and I said to Maddie, 'last one," Pickens said. "It

"Great day to finish off on,

Pickens, now within 120 points of Carroll's all-time lead, is four career rebounds shy of 1,000.

As if her career needed further validation as one of the greatest in Carroll history, Pickens would be just the second Saints women's basketball player to reach that plateau.

"She's been the heart and soul of our program and of the Helena community," Sayers said. "People come out just to see her...

"For her to come back and give us one more chance, one more run - there's just not gonna be another one [like her] that we get the honor of coaching. I'm relishing every moment to coach her for as many more practices and games that I can."

Geritz, who tallied six fouled out with 1:09 to play and the game in hand.

A standing ovation from some 1,500 fans ushered the sixth-year senior and 1,000-point scorer to the

"It was bittersweet," Geritz said. "I've had a lot of great memories here the last six vears and I feel like Jamie, Erica and I, especially, have been through a lot together ...

"All good things gotta come to an end, but I felt like we left it all out here this year and obviously wanna keep winning."

Those bigger fish Pickens mentioned?

Exorcising some Round of 16 demons that've tripped Carroll up each of the last two seasons.

Never in Sayers' 13-year Carroll tenure have the Saints won more than two national tournament games.

A victory Thursday over

"[The players] know what already done that," Sayers makes us deadly."

"I think the experience, this means and there's no fear the leadership, as well as of losing that game - they've our ability to shoot the ball

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

Stevensville Elementary School District Resolution Under SB 307 Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the Stevens-ville Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. The Stevensville Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year as provided to the district: 2024-25 Projections using 2023-24 Taxable Value

	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Fund Sup-	Change in	Change in	Impact, Home	Impact, Home
ported Adult Educa-	Revenues' \$1,913	Mills* 0.07 increase	of \$100,000° \$0.10 in-	of \$200,000* \$0.20 in-
tion Bus Depreci-	s7,687	0.29 increase	crease/YR S0.40 in-	crease/YR \$0.79 in-
ation Transportation	\$73,853	2.82 Increase	crease/YR S3.81 in-	crease/YR \$7.61 in-
Tuition	s95,891		crease/YFI S4.94 in-	crease/YR
	increase	3.66 increase	crease/YR	\$9.88 in- crease/YB
Building	\$2,524	0.10 increase	S0.13 in-	\$0.26 in-
Reserve Total	increase \$181.868	6.94 increase	crease/YR S9.37 in-	crease/YR \$18.75

All estimates are based on the current year's taxable value with no increase, as required by state law. If the District's tax-able value increases as expected, the mill and taxpayer cost increases will be less than presented here. These estimates are preliminary and changes are expected before the final budgets are set in August

This notice must also document the District's expected use of its Build Reserve and associated funding. This year, the District Expects to use those proceeds to partially fund deferred maintenance and replacement of safety and security systems as well as school safety operational costs.

This notice requirement is an estimate only. None of the budget changes have officially been adopted for the 2024-2025 school year. Action will not be taken on these items until the final Budgets are approved.

Values are rounded to the nearest dollar Dated this 12th day of March 2024. March 19, 2024 COL-MT-500017 MNAXLP

increase

Stevensville High School District Resolution Under SB 307 Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the Stevens-ville Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. The Stevensville Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year as provided to the district:

2024-25 Projections using 2023-24 Taxable Value

Fund Sup-	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
ported	Change in	Change	Impact_Home	Impact, Home
Adult Educa-	Revenues* \$4,045	in Mills' 0.12 increase	of \$100,000° \$0.16 in-	of \$200,000° \$0.31 in-
tion Bus Depreci-	Increase \$15,458	0.44 Increase	crease/YR \$0.59 in-	\$1.19 in-
ation Transportation	s81,458	2,32 increase	crease/YR S3.13 in-	crease/YR \$6.27 in-
Tultion	increase \$84,041	2 40 increase	crease/YR \$3.23 in-	crease/YR \$6.47 in-
Building	Increase \$1.992	0.06 increase	crease/YR S0.08 in-	crease/YR \$0.15 in-
Reserve Total	increase \$186,993	5.33 Increase	crease/YR	crease/YR

All estimates are based on the current year's taxable value with no increase, as required by state law, If the District's taxable value increases as expected, the mill and taxpayer cost increases will be less than presented here. These estimates are preliminary and changes are expected before the final budgets are set in August.

crease/YR

increase/YR

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increase

LEGAL NOTICES

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Legals

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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The 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan – which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period - are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of program funds. Input for the 2024-2025 AAP will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024. The 2024-2025 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan will be received from March 19, 2024, to April 17, 2024, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029. For more information and to provide oral comments,

the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan.

must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2024. Montana Department of Commerce

Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov The public hearing will be held on Zoom and pre-

sentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To partici-pate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communiques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m., del 27 de marzo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



March 19, 2024 COL-MT-500019 MNAXLP

Natalie Bergen-Henengouwen DATSOPOULOS, MacDONALD & LIND, P.C. 201 West Main, Suite 201 Central Square Bldg. Missoula, Montana 59802 Telephone: (406) 728-0810 Email:jrcasillas@dmllaw.com; nbergenhenengouwen@dmllaw.com; areiber@dmllaw.com

Attorneys for Personal Representative

MONTANA TWENTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
RAVALLI COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
EMILY MAE MARTIN, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Valerie Carl has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against said deceased are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the

date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred Claims must either be mailed to Valerie Carl, Personal

Representative, return receipt requested, in care of Datsopoulos, MacDonald & Lind, P.C., Altn: J.R. Casillas and Natalie Bergen-Henengouwen, 201 W. Main St., Suite 201, Missoula, MT 59802, or filed with the Clerk of the above court. DATED this 13th day of February, 2024.

J.R Casillas Attorney for Personal Representative

February 27, March 12, 19, 2024 COL-MT500001 MNAXLP

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF CUSTER

I, Margo Kelsey, Legal Specialist being first duly sworn, depose and say that I am the principal clerk of the publisher of the Bozeman Daily Chronicle a newspaper in general circulation, Bozeman, Gallatin County, Montana; that I know from my personal knowledge that the Legal # MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE The M a printed copy of which is hereto annexed, was published in the entire issue of said newspaper for: 1

Insertion(s) in the following issues: 03/19/24

Total Cost: \$66.00

Subscribed and sworn by March, in the year of 2024

Notary Public for the State of Montana Residing at; Miles City, Montana.



DANIEL HANCE
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Miles City. Montana
My Commission Expires
August 24, 2027

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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All comments pertaining to the AAP and Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consol idated-Plan/Updates prior to

the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolida ted-Plan/Updates.

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Denice Page Montana Newspaper Association 825 Great Northern BLVD # 202 Helena MT 59601-3340

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Great Falls Tribune, a daily newspaper of general circulation in Cascade County, State of Montana, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue:

03/19/2024

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CONSOLIDATED PLAN

Contact

Fair Housing

Updates

UPDATES

The Consolidated Plan Updates page provides information regarding any Consolidated Plan meetings, documents, and hearings. Questions and comments regarding the Consolidated Plan may be submitted through the contact form, or submitted to the Montana Department of Commerce, Community MT Division, Attn: ConPlan, 301 S. Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200523, Helena, MT, 59620-0523.

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2024 Montana Housing and Community Needs Survey

When: March 18, 2024, to April 30, 2024

Participate by completing the online form here or by filling out the printable form here and submitting it to the address or email below. Paper copies and alternative formats of the survey are available upon request.

Montana Department of Commerce

Community MT Attn: Con Plan

PO Box 200523

Helena, MT 59620-0523

DOCConPlan@mt.gov

2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan

When: April 3, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Zoom Webinar

Register in advance for the Zoom webinar here.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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Contact Information

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PO Box 200501 Helena, MT 59620-0501

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2024-25 Annual Action Plan and 2025-29 Consolidated Plan

Accepting Comments Through April 19, 2024 on Housing and Community Development

Welcome to the official Community MT Division website.

The Community MT Division helps Montana communities offer safe, efficient and quality public facilities, including streets, water and sewer services, schools, excellent health care facilities and social services, a vibrant economy, and job opportunities. The Community MT Division has resources, including financial and technical assistance, to help your community attain its goals.



Planning

Community Technical Assistance

Planning (Community Development

Land Use



Community and Economic Vitality

Montana Main Street Program

Economic Development (Community Development Block Grant)

Montana Historic Preservation Grant



Infrastructure

Montana Coal Endowment Program

Planning (Community Development Block Grant)



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Consolidated Plan

Income and Rent Limits

Census and Target Rate

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Contact Information

Community MT
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523

Send us an Email

P: 406.841.2770 F: 406.841.2771 TDD: 406.841.2702

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The Montana Department of Commerce works with statewide and local partners, private industry, and small businesses to enhance and sustain economic prosperity in Montana. The The Montana Department or Commerce works with statewide and local partners, private industry, and small businesses to enhance and sustain economic prosperity in Montana. The Department works to improve the state's economy through business creation, expansion, retention, and diversification of the states' exist and the direct exhinical assistance, grants and loans for Montana's entrepreneurs, businesses and their employees; strengthens the economy through the promotion of tourism development, promoting and protecting historic sites, and marketing Montana as a travel and fimmaking destination; promotes access to new markets, both foreign and domestic, for Montana goods and services; providing first homeownership and retraal assistance opportunities for Montana families; and develops and improves public infrastructure and housing for Montana citizens by providing grants and technical assistance to Montana communities and counties.

Department of Commerce employee contact information is available on the State employee directory.



Our Vision

At the Montana Department of Commerce, we work to enhance and sustain a healthy economy so Montana businesses, communities, and people can prosper.



Destination MT

The Destination MT Division markets Montana's spectacular, unspoiled nature, vibrant and charming small towns, breathtaking experiences, relaxing hospitality, and competitive business climate to promote the state as a place to visit.



Business MT

The Business MT Division supports innovative industries and entrepreneurs to grow businesses across the state, which strengthens Montana's economy and creates job opportunities for hardworking



Montana is where ideas grow into opportunities. Are you and your business a good fit for Montana? Let us show you the difference a state can make.



The Community MT Division helps Montana communities offer safe, efficient, and quality public facilities including streets, water, and sever services, schools; excellent health care facilities and social services; a vibrant economy; and job opportunities.



Montana Housing works to ensure that all Montanans have homes that they can afford. We partner with local housing organizations across the state to leverage the federal funding that is made available to Montana.

At the Department of Commerce, we work alongside private industry and local organizations to create jobs, grow businesses, develop affordable housing and improve community infrastructure.



Funded Projects



Consolidated Plan



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Updates.

UPDATES

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Needs and Strategies Comment Period for 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan, 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development Extended through April 19, 2024.

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services Announce the Extension of the Needs and Strategies Public Comment Period for the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. Input will be received through Friday, April 19, 2024, 5:00 pm. Please submit comments to O Montana Department of Commerce, Community MT Division, Attention Con Plan, 301 5. Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200523, Helena, MT 59620-0523.

2024 Montana Housing and Community Needs Survey

When: March 18, 2024, to April 30, 2024

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Montana Department of Commerce

Community MT

Attn: Con Plan

PO Box 200523

Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan

When: April 3, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Zoom Webinar

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Contact Information

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Welcome to the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services

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2025-2029 Consolidated Plan



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Public Participation Process

The State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing a 5-year plan to guide policy and investment for housing, economic, and other community development projects.

This 5-year plan, also known as the "Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development" is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assess Montana's needs and current conditions, as well as to determine priorities and allocate HUD funding.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Public Participation Process

The perspectives and opinions shared by participants during this portion of the public hearing will inform the development of the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan including the Year 1 (2025-2026) Annual Action Plan and associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing.

We hope that with your input, we can ensure housing and community development needs across Montana are identified and addressed.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Goals and Objectives

- The objectives of Montana's Consolidated Plan include:
 - Provide decent housing
 - Provide a suitable living environment
 - Expand economic opportunities
- The goals of Montana's current Consolidated Plan are:
 - Goal 1 Preserve and Construct Affordable Housing
 - Goal 2 Plan for Communities
 - Goal 3 Improve and Sustain Public Infrastructure
 - Goal 4 Revitalize Local Economies
 - Goal 5 Reduce Homelessness



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Programs

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - Housing (Rental Development / Single Family Rehabilitation)
 - Public and Community Facilities
 - Economic Development
 - Planning
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
 - Rental Development / Single Family Development / Rental Rehabilitation
 - Homebuyer Assistance
- Housing Trust Fund (HTF)
 - Rental Development / Rental Rehabilitation
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
 - Street Outreach / Emergency Shelter / Homelessness Prevention / Rapid Re-housing



2025-2029 Consolidated PlanPlanning Process

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data regarding need
- Engage the public, agencies, and stakeholders to get input about need
- Identify priority needs
- Develop a strategy in response to identified needs
- Direct funding to strategies



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Documents

Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

- Under a HUD Proposed Rule, Montana will develop an Equity Plan every five years that will serve the purpose of assessing fair housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as setting fair housing goals and outlining strategies for achieving equity in housing, increasing access to community assets, and broadening economic opportunities
- The mandate to affirmatively further fair housing requires proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in opportunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination

Five-Year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Con Plan)

 Consolidated Plans are strategic plans prepared every five years that guide housing and community investments

Annual Action Plan (AAP)

 AAPs are prepared each year of the Consolidated Plan and outline specific activities, goals, and objectives for the given program year

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

 CAPERs are annual reports that detail use of funds and progress towards meeting goals and objectives for AAPs



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development

- Under HUD's Proposed Rule, the State will oversee a more streamlined analysis of fair housing compared to what was required under the 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule. Furthermore, the State will oversee a more robust community engagement effort to identify fair housing needs and opportunities.
- At least three public hearings will be held before the State's Equity Plan is submitted to HUD.
 - Two hearings will be held before the publication of the Equity Plan and will provide the public opportunity for identifying fair housing needs and informing fair housing strategies.
 - One hearing will be held after the publication of the Equity Plan and will provide the public opportunity to comment on the published plan document.
- Through today's hearing the first of the two initial hearings the State is seeking input about fair
 housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as asking for recommendations for fair housing goals
 and strategies.
- Initial input will be accepted through **June 25, 2024**. Feedback regarding the to-be-published Equity Plan will be accepted during a comment period to be announced.
- As part of its outreach efforts, the State will gather data to inform Equity Plan development via the
 Montana Fair Housing Survey, which will open May 1, 2024, and close May 31, 2024. Once available, the
 survey will be available at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates (or in alternative formats upon
 request).



2025-2029 Consolidated PlanEquity Plan Adoption and Evaluation

- Once developed (tentatively in September 2024), the Equity Plan will be submitted to HUD. Upon receipt, HUD will publish the plan and make it available for a 60-day public review period.
- After HUD accepts Montana's Equity Plan, it will be published on Commerce's website, and its fair housing goals and strategies will be incorporated into the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and associated Annual Action Plans.
- Progress evaluations for the Equity Plan will be required annually after the Equity Plan is adopted.
 - Before submitting its Annual Progress Evaluations for the Equity Plan to HUD, the State will
 make available to interested parties the proposed evaluation for a comment period of no less
 than 15 calendar days.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Document Review

- Once drafted, documents will be available:
 - On Commerce's website at <u>commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-</u> <u>Plan/Documents</u>
 - Several depositories throughout the state (see website for list)
 - By request



2025-2029 Consolidated PlanSurveys and Upcoming Meetings

- As mentioned above, as part of its outreach efforts, the State will gather data to inform Equity Plan development via the Montana Fair Housing Survey.
 - The survey will be available May 1, 2024, through May 31, 2024.
- The State will also gather data to inform broad Consolidated Plan development via the Montana Housing and Community Needs Survey.
 - The survey was made available March 18, 2024, and will be open through April 30, 2024.

All interested parties are encouraged to participate in the State's surveys and public meetings. To participate in our surveys and for information about upcoming public meetings, visit

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Contact Information

Montana Department of Commerce

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2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Contact Information

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Website: <u>www.dphhs.mt.gov</u>



2025-2029 Consolidated PlanComments

Comments regarding needs and strategies pertaining to the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan including the Year 1 (2025-2026) Annual Action Plan and associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing are now being accepted.

If you have a comment and are joining via webinar, please raise your hand so we can unmute you. If you are joining via phone, please press *9 to indicate you have a comment and then press *6 to unmute/re-mute yourself.

When providing comment

- Please state and spell your name
- Please state the organization you represent (if applicable)

Written comments should be addressed to the address or email below and will be accepted

- Until 5:00 p.m. **April 17, 2024**, for the 2024-2025 AAP and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan
- Until 5:00 p.m. **June 25, 2024**, for the Equity Plan

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Attn: Con Plan PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov



In The Matter Of:

Needs and Strategies Public Hearing from 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan

Transcript of Proceedings
April 3, 2024

Lesofski Court Reporting, Inc. 7 West Sixth Avenue, Suite 2C Helena, MT 59601 406-443-2010

Min-U-Script® with Word Index

1	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
2	OF THE STATE OF MONTANA
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4	NEEDS AND SEDAMESTES DUDI IS HEADING FOR MUS
5	NEEDS AND STRATEGIES PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2024-2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
6	AND 2025-2029 CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
7	FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
8	
9	
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11	TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
12	
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14	On April 3, 2024, beginning at 2:02 p.m., the
15	public hearing regarding the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan
16	and the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and
17	Community Development was held via Zoom, before
18	Cheryl Romsa, Court Reporter.
19	
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1	APPEARANCES		
2	PANELISTS:		
3	Rosie Goldich		
4	Megan Brace Janelle Egli		
5	PARTICIPANTS:		
6	Shyla Patera Sam Forstag Cheryl Cohen Galen Steffens		
7	Mackenzie Espeland Julie Flynn Stephanie Crider Jason Hanson		
8	Megan Surginer Nicole Newman Chandler Rowling Sharon Lofftus		
9	Jennifer Stepleton Kelsey Stewart Melissa Higgins Julles Engel		
10	Rachel Singer		
11			
12	INDEX		
13		PAGE	
14	2024-2025 Annual Action Plan		
15	Presentation by Rosie Goldich	3	
16	Comment by Shyla Patera		
17	2025-2029 Consolidated Plan		
18	Presentation by Megan Brace	11	
19	Presentation by Janelle Egli	21	
20	Comment by Shyla Patera	24	
21	Concluding remarks	27	
22	Court Reporter's Certificate	29	
23			
24			
25			

WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had: 1 MS. GOLDICH: Hi, everyone. I'm going to go 2 ahead and get started, if that's okay with everyone. Good 3 afternoon, and welcome to the needs and strategies public 4 5 hearing --Actually, Janelle, can you start the recording, 6 7 please? Okay. Good afternoon, and welcome to the needs and 8 9 strategies public hearing for the 2024-to-2025 Annual Action Plan, or the AAP, and the 2025-to-2029 Consolidated 10 Plan. My name is Rosie Goldich, and I am the CDBG 11 coordinator here at the Department of Commerce, Community 12 MT Division. Today we'll be receiving public comments on 13 14 the community needs and suggested strategies for the 15 2024-to-2025 Annual Action Plan. First a couple of housekeeping notes. We'll be taking 16 comments at the end of this section of the presentation. 17 18 Please hold your comments and until then. While making a 19 comment, please state and spell your name, then any 20 organization that you are representing today. Please take 21 a moment to ensure that you are muted before we begin. This meeting will be recorded and available on our website 22 23 for you to review. 24 So first we'll be discussing the 2024-to-2025 Annual

Action Plan. The State of Montana, through the

25

Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing the 2024-to-2025 Annual Action Plan, which covers the period from April 1st, 2024, to March 31st, 2025. This plan, also known as the AAP, is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to assess Montana's immediate needs, and it will guide investment for housing, economic, and other community development projects during Year 5 of the 2024-2020 -- 2020-to-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development, which was initially approved by HUD in 2021.

The perspectives and opinions shared by participants of this public hearing will inform the development of the 2024-to-2025 AAP. We hope that with your input we can ensure housing and community development needs across Montana are identified and addressed.

There are four programs between the Department of Commerce and DPHHS that are covered in the AAP. The Community Development Block Grant, CDBG, Program includes housing, containing rental and single-family rehabilitation; public and community facilities; economic development; and planning.

The HOME Investment Partnerships Program includes rental development, single-family development, rental rehabilitation, and homebuyer assistance.

Housing Trust Fund, or HTF, includes rental development and rental rehabilitation.

Lastly, the Emergency Solutions Grant, or ESG, covers emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, and rapid rehousing.

HUD has yet to announce its 2024-to-2025 Community Planning and Development, or CPD, allocations for CDBG, HOME, HTF, and ESG. The State is currently seeking initial input on the way CPD funds which are to be announced should be utilized to meet housing and community development needs in Montana.

The draft 2024-to-2025 AAP is scheduled to be available for public comment between May 15th, and a public hearing for the document is planned for May 29th. During the comment period and public hearing of the draft 2024-to-2025 AAP, the State will seek input on the published plan. The final 2024-to-2025 AAP is due to HUD no later than August 16th, 2024, but will be submitted as early as June 28, 2024, to ensure successful implementation of the plan.

If HUD has not announced CPD allocations by the time the State must publish its draft 2024-to-2025 AAP for public review, the State will provide estimated funding amounts and explain how it will adjust the plan to match allocation amounts once they are known.

So this year, this program year runs from April 1st, 1 2024, to March 31st, 2025. During Plan Year 5 -- Oh. 2 This is for last year. Excuse me. So during Plan Year 4, 3 which that year ran from April 1st, 2023, to March 31st, 4 2024, \$6,541,090 was allocated to the CDBG Program; 5 \$3,450,234 has been allocated to the HOME Program; 6 7 \$3,066,413 was allocated to Housing Trust Fund, or HTF; \$741,200 has been allocated to the ESG Program. 8 For more detail on how each of these funding sources allocated their dollars, please visit Commerce.mt.gov/ 10 consolidated-plan/documents. Once drafted, the documents, 11 including the 2024-to-2025 AAP, will be available on 12 Commerce's website at Commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/ 13 14 documents, several repositories throughout the state, 15 which are available on our website, and also by request to the Department of Commerce. You can contact the 16 Department of Commerce at 301 South Park Avenue in Helena, 17 18 Montana, Zip Code 59601, or P.O. Box 200523 in Helena, Montana, at 59620-0523. 19 20 Our division administrators are Galen Steffens from 21 the Community MT Division and Cheryl Cohen from Montana Housing. I am the CDBG coordinator, Rosie Goldich. 22 Janelle Egli is the program specialist. You can reach us 23 24 by phone at 406-841-2770, by TDD at 406-841-2702, by fax at 406-841-2771. You can also email at DOCConPlan@mt.gov, 25

and you can also find the Consolidated Plan documents on our website, which is Commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan.

You can also inquire at DPHHS, which is located at 1400 Carter Drive in Helena, Montana 59601. You can reach out to the P.O. box, which is P.O. Box 202956 in Helena, Montana, Zip Code 59620-2956. The administrator is Jessie Counts. The bureau chief is Sara Loewen. The phone number is 406-447-4265. The fax is 406-447-4287. And the website is www.dphhs.mt.gov.

Okay. We are now accepting public comments on the needs and strategies for the 2024-to-2025 AAP. If you have a comment and are joining via webinar, please raise your hand so we can unmute you. If you are joining via phone, please press star-9 to indicate you have a comment, and then press star-6 to unmute and remute yourself. While you are providing comment, please first state your -- state and spell your name and state the organization that you represent if that is applicable.

Written comments should be addressed to the address or email below and will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on April 17th, 2024. You can send your public comment to the Montana Department of Commerce, Community MT, Attention: Con Plan, P.O. Box 200523 in Helena, Montana; the Zip Code is 59620-0523. And you can also email your comment to D-O-C-C-O-N-P-L-A-N@mt.gov. So that's DOCConPlan@mt.gov.

1 So do we have any comments?

Okay, Shyla. You can go ahead and unmute yourself.

MS. PATERA: Good afternoon. My name is
Shyla Patera. That's spelled S-H-Y-L-A, last name,
P-A-T-E-R-A. And I represent North Central Independent
Living Services in Black Eagle, Montana. And I thank you
for holding this idea hearing about the Annual Action Plan
and Consolidated Plan.

One of the ideas that my agency and the Montana Independent Living, Community Living Task Force, always recommends is more visitable, affordable, universal designed single-family and multifamily homes as well for those that need disability access as well. One of the other things that we've been working on is also keeping an eye on how to work with tiny homes and different options for community housing for people with disabilities. And we know that Montana needs those very -- housing desperately, even if it's just as transitional housing.

So we're hopeful that some HOME activities can go to that, as well as some HTF activities in certain communities. Because not every, not every planning grant or plan that each community has is eligible for each pot of funding, and not everyone is able to access the Housing Trust Fund, at least in past go-rounds. So that is a huge need for us.

We also have talked about, in previous plans, that we don't want to see people with disabilities without getting their needs met in emergency shelter grants and different options. So that if someone is in a hospital or institution, which is classified as even a nursing home, if they've had a rehab, fall or whatever, and they want to go home, we'd like to see some funding for small ADA repairs and modifications through the Montana Housing and Department of Commerce, even if it's just through CDBG; or I'm not sure, as a person who has been a longtime housing advocate, if the small ADA rehab/construction that used to be housed in CDBG is still active.

And when I was trying to get people's homes modified to ADA standards, current ADA standards, smaller or mid-sized communities often found it difficult, and there were lots of needs. So if anything, we can hopefully work on those things.

In the realm of homelessness, I know it's partially -it's split between DPHHS and Montana Housing, but I would
like to recommend that we work with the DPHHS to ensure
that all of our housing components in the Annual Action
Plan and Consolidated Plan work with housing components in
each of the Medicaid waivers, not just mental health.
It's been a great opportunity through the Behavioral
Health Commission that has come forth, but all of us who

have disabilities may need accessible housing at some point.

And as far as fair housing, we'd like to see just definitions on when, when and how a person is done with their crime or sentence or how someone is classified or helped as domestic violence -- a domestic violence survivor with disabilities. And this might be the wrong section of the hearing, but I hope everyone will take a chance and take a look, because it's really important.

And we also hope that Montana Housing will look at the disparate impacts that sometimes can happen when not everyone takes their HUD subsidies and has some of those barriers that I've mentioned before.

And I thank you for taking my comments.

MS. GOLDICH: Thank you, Shyla.

Do we have any other comments during this time?

Okay. So I'm seeing no other comments.

So just a reminder that we will be accepting written comments on the 2024-to-2025 AAP through April 17th, which is two weeks from today, until 5:00 p.m. So you can mail those comments to Montana Department of Commerce, Community MT, Attention: Con Plan, P.O. Box 200523 in Helena, Montana 59620-0523. And you can email at DOCConPlan@mt.gov.

So I believe we are going to finish this portion of

the AAP presentation, and then we are going to transition over to discussing the Con Plan, the Consolidated Plan.

4 * * * *

MS. BRACE: My name is Megan Brace, and I am the senior advisor with Community and Policy Advisors. We are working with the State of Montana, the Department of Commerce, to develop their Consolidated Plan and their Fair Housing Plan. So I'm going to take a few minutes to talk about each of those, and then, again, we will open it for comments at the end.

Just so all of you are aware, again, this is being recorded. And please hold your comments until the end, and we'll do kind of the same process that we just undertook with the Action Plan.

Next slide, please.

Thank you.

So I'm going to take a few minutes and just talk about what the Consolidated Plan is, what we're doing, why we're doing this, and the steps that we're taking now and in the future to make sure that this is an inclusive process.

So the State of Montana is working through the Department of Commerce, as well as the Public Health and Human Services Department, to create this five-year plan.

And with this five-year plan, it helps guide policy and investment for housing, economic, and community development projects, really, under those funding options that Rosie mentioned earlier in the presentation. So I'll

talk about those a little bit more.

- But what this five-year plan, this Consolidated Plan does, is it gives us the framework and the outline for how we are going to spend those dollars over the next five years. It's required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD, and it helps us assess Montana's needs, the current conditions that we're seeing in housing and economics, demographics, as well as determining priorities and how we're going to allocate that HUD funding.
- 15 Next slide, please.
- 16 Thank you.

- So part of this is this public participation process. So we're trying to get perspective and opinions shared by the participants of today's meetings, as well as additional public input processes where you can provide your input. So we're going to have a public input hearing, this is the first of them, to inform in the development of this 2025-to-2029 Consolidated Plan.
- This also includes the first year of the Annual Action Plan. So Rosie was talking about the Annual Action Plan

that's going to be initiated soon. That will start in 2024. The development of this 25 -- 2025, excuse me, Consolidated Plan will include that first Action Plan, which will start next year, in 2025.

We're also talking about the Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. So we hope that with your input, we can ensure housing and community development needs across Montana are identified and addressed. So this is really just an opportunity to discuss what that looks like at this point and opportunities for you to comment in the future.

Next slide, please.

I wanted to give you all some background on what this looks like and the overarching goals and objectives. So the objectives of the Consolidated Plan actually align with the national objectives of these programs; you know, the CDBG, those HOME programs that we were talking about just a few minutes ago.

There's some national objectives that align with all those, and these include providing decent housing, providing suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunity. So when we look at those overarching objectives, we then define goals that can fall under that and then also meet those needs that we're going to talk about in a minute.

So the past Consolidated Plan that is ending this program year, so it was from 2020 to 2024, had five different goals. These were goals that were defined by the State of Montana under those objectives to how we can use those HUD funds to meet the needs of Montana citizens.

The first goal was to preserve and construct affordable housing. The second goal was to plan for communities. The third goal was to improve and sustain public infrastructure. The fourth goal was to revitalize local economies. And the fifth goal was to reduce homelessness. So as part of this process, we're looking at these goals. Some of these might change in this revision of the Consolidated Plan; some of them might stay the same. The process is really to understand if these goals will continue or if they'll change based on the findings that we have.

Next slide, please.

So those programs that Rosie talked about, I'll just briefly go through those again that we're including in the Consolidated Plan. There's four different programs. We have the Community Development Block Grant, or CDBG. This is the widest program. It allows for some housing funding. It allows for community development. Within housing, there's rental development, single-family

rehabilitation. We also have public and community facilities, economic development, and planning. So that really allows for the widest range of funding options.

The second program we're talking about is the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, or HOME. This really focuses on housing alone. So we look at rental housing development, single-family development, rental housing rehabilitation, as well as homebuyer assistance.

The Housing Trust Fund is very similar to the HOME Program, with a couple exceptions. It's focused primarily on very low income households, and it's focused primarily on rental development and rental rehabilitation.

The last program is the Emergency Solutions Grant, or ESG. This funding is targeted to households that are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and it can include things like street outreach, emergency shelters, homelessness prevention, and rapid rehousing.

Next slide, please.

As we're going through this consolidated planning process, we're doing a variety of steps. The first step that we're doing right now is we are collecting data. This includes both quantitative and qualitative data; quantitative data being, you know, those numbers that we're looking at to see what trends are changing demographically, housing, economically within the state,

but also qualitative data. We're collecting survey data, which Janelle is going to talk about our surveys in a couple minutes. And we're also collecting data from public input.

So the second part of this process is engaging the public, agencies, and stakeholders to get input about need that you're seeing in your communities. Sometimes, the data that we collect may or may not reflect the need that you are seeing, so this is the second source of data that we're collecting.

Once we compile all of that together, we conduct analysis of that, and then we identify needs within the state. These needs can vary regionally, by different groups. And then we look at what needs we can address with this funding that we're talking about.

So once we've identified those priority needs, we start to develop a strategy in response to needs. Those strategies go back to those goals that -- those five goals that I talked about that we had with the last plan. Each of those goals will be aligned with different targeted communities, different targeted outreach groups, and also a direction of funding to address those strategies over this five-year period. So we're really looking at, you know, the, the larger picture of the five-year period with this consolidated plan.

Next slide, please.

Once we have finished with this process, we're going to have a number of documents. So the first document is, you know, number two on the list, if you're viewing this presentation, is that five-year Consolidated Plan. And this will show you all that data we've collected, all the analysis we've done, those priority needs, and then those goals and strategic plans that will guide housing and community investments over the five-year period.

Each year after that, we have the Annual Action Plan, or AAP, and this outlines specific activities, goals, and objectives for that given program year.

After that, we have the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report, or the CAPER. And what this does, is it's an annual report that details the use of funds, measures progress towards meeting goals and objectives that were identified in the Annual Action Plan and as well as the overarching Consolidated Plan. So that really provides a scorecard for maybe where we're meeting our goals and maybe where we need to make some adjustments.

The last thing that -- document that will be prepared is actually, you know, first on this list if you're looking at the presentation, and it's the Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. So what this

Equity Plan is, is it's a plan that will be developed every five years that will serve the purpose of assessing fair housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as setting fair housing goals and outlining strategies for achieving equity in housing, increasing access to community assets, and broadening economic opportunities.

And the mandate to affirmatively furthering fair housing requires proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in opportunity, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination.

So what the overarching goal of the Equity Plan or this Fair Housing Plan is, is to look at any barriers to accessing housing. If there's any systemic issues, identifying those, and how the state and other agencies can mitigate that over the next five years.

Next slide, please.

As we're working on that Equity Plan, I'm going to take just a couple minutes to talk about what that looks like in conjunction with the Consolidated Plan. We are doing a similar process. We're collecting data, and we're also engaging in this public input process.

Under the proposed rule that HUD has put out for this plan, the State will oversee a more streamlined analysis of fair housing compared to what was required in 2015 with

the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule. The State will also see a more robust community engagement effort to identify fair housing needs and opportunities.

As part of this effort, the State will be conducting at least three public hearings to engage comments on the state Equity Plan. Two of these meetings will be held before the publication of the Equity Plan to provide opportunity for comment, and then one hearing will be held after the publication of the Equity Plan.

Today's hearing is the first of those initial two hearings. And the State is seeking input about fair housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as asking for recommendation for fair housing goals and strategies. You'll also have additional opportunities to provide those comments as we proceed through this process.

This initial input will be accepted through June 25th, 2024. Feedback regarding the to-be-published Equity Plan will be accepted during a comment period to be announced; again, that public review period that I mentioned.

As part of its outreach efforts, the State will gather data to inform the Equity Plan development via the Montana Fair Housing Survey. This survey will be open for the month of May. It will start on May 1st and then close on May 31st. And then once it's available, the survey will be available at Commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/updates.

And Janelle will talk a little bit more about this in a couple of slides as well.

Next slide, please.

So once this plan is developed, again, this really is looking at the overarching access to housing and how that can be addressed. Some of these goals and issues will be integrated into this Consolidated Plan development as well. We're looking at September 2024 for that initial development. The Equity Plan will be submitted to HUD. Upon receipt, HUD will publish it for about 60 days for a public review period. And then after HUD accepts the Montana Equity Plan, it will be published on the Commerce's website.

It will include fair housing goals and strategies to be incorporated into the State's Consolidated Plan and the associated Annual Action Plans. Progress evaluations for the Equity Plan will be required annually, similar to that CAPER I talked about, after the Equity Plan is adopted. Before submitting its annual progress evaluations for the Equity Plan to HUD, the State will make available to interested parties the proposed evaluation for a comment period of no less than 15 days.

Next slide, please.

So I am going to turn this over to Janelle, and she is going to talk about how you can access these documents and

make additional comments or additional opportunities for public input. Thank you.

Janelle.

MS. EGLI: Thank you so much, Megan.

Megan has been wonderful to work with us and keep us trekking along as we undertake this process. And I also wanted to say thank you to Rosie for providing her portion of the presentation as well since these are two separate but very connected efforts that we're undertaking.

So for those of you who may not know me, I am a program specialist with Montana Housing. And I am going to talk with you a little bit about how to engage with the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan process.

Okay. So let's see here. So once drafted, our documents are going to be available on our website, and that is Commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/documents. Specifically, you can look for the Consolidated Plan and our Equity Plan as Megan described. Those documents will -- once they are published, will also be available at repositories throughout the state. For a list of our repositories, you can look at our website, and we will also have those documents available by request and in alternative formats as requested.

Next slide.

Okay. So how can you participate in this process? We

have lots of different options for you. So as we mentioned above, as part of our outreach effort, the State is gathering data to inform Equity Plan development via the Montana Fair Housing Survey. The survey will be available, as Megan said, May 1st, 2024, through May 31st, 2024.

And we have an additional survey which is actually online right now. We're gathering data to inform broad Consolidated Plan development via the Montana Housing and Community Needs Survey. This survey was made available March 18th and will be open through April 30th. So the clock is ticking. If you haven't participated in that survey yet, we encourage you to do so.

Both of these survey efforts are very important to us in our development of our Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan development. So yes, please do give us your input, your feedback, and we will read them and analyze our data and make sure that we use all of that to inform our ultimate plan. So if you're interested in participating in the surveys or if you want to participate in upcoming public meetings that will be a part of this process, go ahead and visit Commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/updates.

Next slide.

Okay. So if you wish to ask questions or submit

- comments outside of this hearing, we are going to just 1 share our contact information for you. So first we have 2 Montana Department of Commerce. You can reach us at 3 301 South Park Avenue, Helena, Montana 59601; 4 P.O. Box 200523 Helena, Montana 59620. 5 The division administrators that oversee this effort 6 7 are Galen Steffens with Community MT and Cheryl Cohen with Montana Housing; CDBG coordinator, Rosie Goldich; and me, 8 program specialist, Janelle Egli. Our phone number is 9 406-841-2270, TDD is 406-841-2702, and our fax number is 10 406-841-2771. You can email us at DOCConPlan@mt.gov. 11 And, of course, our website is Commerce.mt.gov/ 12 13 consolidated-plan. And just as a reminder, the programs that Commerce 14 15 oversees that are a part of this Consolidated Plan are the CDBG, HOME, and HTF programs. 16 And then next slide. 17 18
 - So DPHHS, our partner agency, they oversee the ESG Program, and any questions and comments that you may have or wish to make outside of this hearing you can direct their way. They're at 1400 Carter Drive in Helena, Montana 59601; P.O. Box 202956, Helena, Montana 59620.

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Their administrator overseeing this effort is

Jessie Counts; bureau chief, Sarah Loewen. Phone number,

406-447-4265, fax is 406-447-4287, and their website is

www.dphhs.mt.gov.

Next slide.

All right. So we will now move into our commenting portion of this part of our presentation. So verbal comments regarding needs and strategies pertaining to the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, including the Year 1 AAP that spans from 2025 to 2026, and the associated Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing are now being accepted. Please note that this is a separate commenting portion, so if you have comments, even if they are, you know, related to what we discussed in the AAP, please make those here so that we have them for this process.

If you have a comment and are joining via webinar, please raise your hand so we can unmute you. And if you are joining via phone, please press star-9 to indicate you have a comment and then press star-6 to unmute and remute -- reunmute yourself -- remute yourself. Sorry about that. And I'll repeat those instructions once as we go along in case you missed them.

So we'll go ahead and go to our comments, and I see that we have Shyla ready to go.

MS. PATERA: Hello. My name, for the record, is Shyla Patera. My -- that is spelled S-H-Y-L-A, P-A-T-E-R-A. And I represent North Central Independent Living, Center for Independent Living, and Disability

Advocacy Agency in Black Eagle, Montana, Great Falls,
Montana, but we serve a 17-county area.

And again, we would also encourage visitable, universally designed housing, any housing, working on ESG and CDBG with a small ADA program. One thing I forgot to mention last comment section was a possible idea for CDBG is accessible sidewalks. Because without accessible sidewalks and transportation, you cannot have fully inclusive neighborhoods. And we also hope that the HOME and Housing Trust Fund can further the goals of enhancing accessible, affordable rehab and repair and single-family and multifamily construction for people with disabilities, as well as home ownership.

One of the ideas I have for the Equity Plan beyond previously mentioned is allowing citizens who may have lived experience or advocates like myself to be trained in rental or housing counseling, similar to fair housing testers. Because a lot of the consumers that I see and I deal with, when they try to do eviction prevention, they, they don't really know if the perceived, perceived and lived experience matches, matches the level of legal discrimination.

So one of the things I would like to see as part of the affirmatively furthering fair housing in the Equity Plan is definitely some training and some avenues for citizen training so that -- Because we know the home -- the person potentially being evicted doesn't need a representative in court, but I've had to help them write their answers, and sometimes they don't understand how their lived experience transfers into legal languages.

So that is one of the things that I would like to see, along with the disability and tribal supports we'll be building in, as well as those who may have criminal past histories but their sentences are done or completed and they can show that in a court of law. How do we help those individuals expunge those needs, particularly when they do need accessible housing?

There is so much more I will say, but I probably have to put that into written comment. But I thank you for your time.

MS. EGLI: Thank you so much, Shyla.

And Shyla was good enough to follow the instructions that I didn't give, which was to, when providing comment, state and spell your name and to also state the organization you represent if applicable.

So thank you, Shyla, for being so on it. And thank you for your comment. We will address that as part of this process.

So I'll just repeat the instructions once again. In case there's anybody attending via phone, if you have a

comment and are joining via phone, please press star-9 to indicate you have a comment, and then press star-6 to unmute and then remute yourself. And we have a little bit more time, so any other comments, please raise your hand if you're on webinar, and please press star-9 if you are joining via phone.

Okay. Not hearing any additional comments.

Our -- Julie Flynn with Montana Housing went ahead and shared our survey link in the Q&A, and I added that to the chat, so that's there for your convenience should you wish to complete that survey in response to this presentation.

And I will also indicate as a wrapping up that written comments should be addressed to the address or email that we have listed here on the screen. And those comments regarding the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and our Equity Plan will be accepted until 5 o'clock p.m. on April 17th, 2024. Well, I should, I should clarify. So through April 17th for the AAP and also the Consolidated Plan, and then through June 25th for the Equity Plan. So those are separate comment periods to be aware of.

And if you want to send your comments to the

Department of Commerce, you can send them to Montana

Department Commerce, Community MT, P.O. Box 200523,

Helena, Montana 59620. And the email that you can submit

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comments to is DOCConPlan@mt.gov.
1
        So I just want to say thank you to everybody who has
2
    joined us today, whether you're joining from another
3
    department here at Commerce or you are joining from
4
    another agency or are a member of the public representing
5
    specific needs that are happening in our communities.
6
7
    This is a very, very important process that will help us
    address real needs that we see throughout Montana.
8
9
    we're so thankful for your input and to be embarking on
10
    this process that will help us really guide our
11
    investments here in Montana. So thank you, everybody who
    has joined us, and we look forward to continuing to hear
12
13
    from you throughout this process. And that's it for me.
        Rosie and Megan, anything else to add?
14
15
             MS. GOLDICH: I don't think so.
        Thanks, everyone, for joining today.
16
17
             MS. BRACE: Yes.
                               Just echoing those sentiments.
18
    Thank you for joining, and your input is valuable.
19
             MS. EGLI: All right. Thank you so much,
20
    everybody, and have a wonderful rest of your day.
21
    care.
22
        (The proceedings concluded at 2:50 p.m.)
23
24
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	2
1	COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	STATE OF MONTANA) ss.
4	COUNTY OF LEWIS AND CLARK)
5	
6	
7	I, CHERYL A. ROMSA, Court Reporter, residing in
8	Helena, Montana, do hereby certify:
9	
10	That the foregoing proceedings were reported by
11	me in shorthand and later transcribed into typewriting;
12	and that the foregoing -28- pages constitute a true and
13	accurate transcription of my stenotype notes of the
14	proceedings.
15	
16	DATED this the 9th day of April, 2024.
17	
18	/s/Cheryl A. Romsa CHERYL A. ROMSA
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	address (6)	alone (1)	back (1)	CDBG (13)
\$	7:19;16:14,22;	15:6	16:18	3:11;4:19;5:7;6:5,
Φ	26:22;27:13;28:8	along (3)	background (1)	22;9:9,12;13:17;
\$2.0 <i>CC</i> 412 (1)	addressed (5)	21:6;24:19;26:7	13:13	14:22;23:8,16;25:5,6
\$3,066,413 (1)	4:16;7:19;13:9;	alternative (1)	barriers (2)	Center (1)
6:7	20:6;27:13	21:23	10:13;18:13	24:25
\$3,450,234 (1)	adjust (1)	always (1)	based (1)	Central (2)
6:6	5:24	8:10	14:16	8:5;24:24
\$6,541,090 (1)	adjustments (1)	amounts (2)	begin (1)	certain (1)
6:5	17:21	5:24,25	3:21	8:20
\$741,200 (1)	administrator (2)	analysis (3)	Behavioral (1)	chance (1)
6:8	7:6;23:23	16:12;17:7;18:24	9:24	10:9
${f A}$	administrators (2)	analyze (1)	below (1)	change (2)
A	6:20;23:6	22:17	7:20	14:13,16
A A D (16)	adopted (1)	announce (1)	beyond (1)	changing (1)
AAP (16)	20:18	5:6	25:14	15:24
3:10;4:4,14,18;	advisor (1)	announced (3)	bit (4)	chat (1)
5:12,16,17,22;6:12; 7:11;10:19;11:1;	11:7	5:10,21;19:18	12:5;20:1;21:12;	27:10
17:11;24:6,11;27:18	Advisors (1)	Annual (14)	27:3	Cheryl (2)
able (1)	11:7	3:9,15,24;4:2;8:7;	Black (2)	6:21;23:7
8:23	Advocacy (1)	9:21;12:24,25;17:10,	8:6;25:1	chief (2)
above (1)	25:1	13,15,17;20:16,19	Block (2)	7:7;23:24
22:2	advocate (1)	annually (1)	4:19;14:22	choice (1)
accepted (5)	9:11	20:17	both (2)	18:10
7:20;19:16,18;	advocates (1)	applicable (2)	15:22;22:14	citizen (1)
24:9;27:16	25:16	7:18;26:20	Box (8)	26:1
accepting (2)	Affirmatively (6)	approved (1)	6:18;7:5,5,23;	citizens (2)
7:10;10:18	13:6;17:25;18:7;	4:10	10:22;23:5,22;27:24	14:6;25:15
accepts (1)	19:1;24:8;25:24	April (8)	BRACE (3)	clarify (1)
20:11	affordable (3)	4:3;6:1,4;7:21;	11:6,6;28:17	27:17
access (5)	8:11;14:8;25:11	10:19;22:11;27:17,	briefly (1)	classified (2)
8:13,23;18:5;20:5,	afternoon (3)	18	14:20	9:5;10:5
25	3:4,8;8:3	area (1)	broad (1)	clock (1)
accessible (5)	again (7)	25:2	22:8	22:12
10:1;25:7,7,11;	11:11,13;14:20;	assess (2)	broadening (1)	close (1)
26:12	19:19;20:4;25:3;	4:6;12:11	18:6	19:23
accessing (1)	26:24	assessing (1) 18:2	building (1) 26:8	Code (3) 6:18;7:6,23
18:14	agencies (2) 16:6;18:15	assets (1)	bureau (2)	Cohen (2)
achieving (1)	agency (4)	18:6	7:7;23:24	6:21;23:7
18:5	8:9;23:18;25:1;	assistance (2)	1.1,23.24	collect (1)
across (2)	28:5	4:25;15:8	C	16:8
4:15;13:8	ago (1)	associated (2)		collected (1)
Action (14)	13:18	20:16;24:7	can (38)	17:6
3:10,15,25;4:2; 8:7;9:21;11:16;	ahead (5)	attending (1)	3:6;4:14;6:16,23,	collecting (5)
12:24,25;13:3;17:10,	3:3;8:2;22:22;	26:25	25;7:1,3,4,13,21,24;	15:21;16:1,3,10;
17;18:8;20:16	24:20;27:8	Attention (2)	8:2,19;9:16;10:11,	18:21
active (1)	align (2)	7:22;10:22	20,23;12:20;13:7,23;	comment (21)
9:12	13:15,19	August (1)	14:5;15:15;16:13,	3:19;5:13,15;7:12,
activities (3)	aligned (1)	5:18	14;18:16;20:6,25;	14,16,21,24;13:11;
8:19,20;17:11	16:20	available (12)	21:17,21,25;23:3,11,	19:8,18;20:21;24:13,
Actually (4)	allocate (1)	3:22;5:13;6:12,15;	20;24:14;25:10;	16;25:6;26:14,18,22;
3:6;13:15;17:23;	12:13	19:24,25;20:20;	26:10;27:23,25	27:1,2,20
22:7	allocated (5)	21:15,19,22;22:5,10	CAPER (2)	commenting (2)
ADA (5)	6:5,6,7,8,10	Avenue (2)	17:14;20:18	24:3,9
9:7,11,14,14;25:5	allocation (1)	6:17;23:4	care (1)	comments (27)
add (1)	5:25	avenues (1)	28:21	3:13,17,18;7:10,
28:14	allocations (2)	25:25	Carter (2)	19;8:1;10:14,16,17,
added (1)	5:7,21	aware (2)	7:4;23:21	19,21;11:12,14;19:5,
27:9	allowing (1)	11:13;27:21	case (2)	15;21:1;23:1,19;
additional (6)	25:15 allows (3)	В	24:19;26:25	24:5,10,20;27:4,7, 13,14,22;28:1
12:20;19:14;21:1,	14:23,24;15:3	D	causes (2) 18:3;19:12	13,14,22;28:1 Commerce (15)
1;22:7;27:7	17.23,27,13.3		10.5,17.12	Commerce (13)
	·	·	·	

	T	T	T	
3:12;4:1,18;6:16,	27:15,19	decent (1)	13:10	23
17;7:22;9:9;10:21;	consolidated-plan (1)	13:20	discussed (1)	efforts (3)
11:9,24;23:3,14;	23:13	define (1)	24:11	19:20;21:9;22:14
27:23,24;28:4	consolidated-plan/documents (1)	13:23	discussing (2)	Egli (5)
Commercemtgov/ (2)	6:11	defined (1)	3:24;11:2	6:23;21:4;23:9;
6:10;23:12	construct (1)	14:3	disparate (1)	26:16;28:19
Commercemtgov/consolidated- (1)	14:7	definitely (1)	10:11	eligible (1)
22:22	construction (1)	25:25	disparities (1)	8:22
	25:12	definitions (1)	18:10	eliminate (1)
Commercemtgov/consolidated-plan (1) 7:2		10:4	Division (4)	18:10
–	consumers (1)			
Commercemtgov/consolidated-plan/ (1)	25:18	demographically (1)	3:13;6:20,21;23:6	else (1)
6:13	contact (2)	15:25	DOCConPlan@mtgov (5)	28:14
Commercemtgov/consolidated-plan/documents (1)	6:16;23:2	demographics (1)	6:25;7:25;10:24;	email (7)
21:16	containing (1)	12:12	23:11;28:1	6:25;7:20,24;
Commercemtgov/consolidated-plan/updates (1)	4:20	Department (16)	D-O-C-C-O-N-P-L-A-N@mtgov (1)	10:23;23:11;27:13,
19:25	continue (1)	3:12;4:5,17;6:16,	7:25	25
Commerce's (2)	14:16	17;7:22;9:9;10:21;	document (3)	embarking (1)
6:13;20:13	continuing (1)	11:8,24,25;12:9;	5:14;17:3,22	28:9
Commission (1)	28:12	23:3;27:23,24;28:4	documents (8)	Emergency (5)
9:25	convenience (1)	Departments (1)	6:11,14;7:1;17:3;	5:3,4;9:3;15:13,16
communities (7)	27:10	4:1	20:25;21:15,18,22	encourage (2)
8:21;9:15;14:9;	coordinator (3)	described (1)	dollars (2)	22:13;25:3
16:7,21;18:11;28:6	3:12;6:22;23:8	21:18	6:10;12:8	end (3)
Community (27)	counseling (1)	designed (2)	domestic (2)	3:17;11:12,14
3:12,14;4:8,10,15,	25:17	8:12;25:4	10:6,6	ending (1)
19,21;5:6,10;6:21;	Counts (2)	desperately (1)	done (3)	14:1
7:22;8:10,16,22;	7:7;23:24	8:18	10:4;17:7;26:9	engage (2)
10:22;11:7;12:2;	couple (5)	detail (1)	DPHHS (5)	19:5;21:12
13:7;14:22,24;15:1;	3:16;15:10;16:3;	6:9	4:18;7:3;9:19,20;	engagement (1)
17:9;18:6;19:2;	18:19;20:2	details (1)	23:18	19:2
22:10;23:7;27:24	course (1)	17:15	draft (3)	engaging (2)
compared (1)	23:12	determining (1)	5:12,15,22	16:5;18:22
18:25	court (2)	12:13	drafted (2)	enhancing (1)
compile (1)	26:3,10	develop (2)	6:11;21:14	25:10
16:11	covered (1)	11:9;16:17	Drive (2)	enough (1)
complete (1)	4:18	developed (2)	7:4;23:21	26:17
27:11	covers (2)	18:1;20:4	due (1)	ensure (5)
completed (1)	4:3;5:3	developing (1)	5:17	3:21;4:15;5:19;
26:9	CPD (3)	4:2	during (6)	9:20;13:7
components (2)	5:7,9,21	Development (31)	4:8;5:15;6:2,3;	environments (1)
9:21,22	create (1)	4:6,8,10,13,15,19,	10:16;19:18	13:21
Con (3)	11:25	22,24,24;5:2,7,11;	10.10,13.16	Equity (24)
	crime (1)		\mathbf{E}	
7:23;10:22;11:2	` /	12:3,10,23;13:2,8;	E	13:5;17:24;18:1,5,
concluded (1)	10:5	14:22,24,25;15:2,7,	E 1 (2)	12,18;19:6,7,9,17,
28:22	criminal (1)	7,12;19:21;20:7,9;	Eagle (2)	21;20:9,12,17,18,20;
conditions (1)	26:8	22:3,9,15,16	8:6;25:1	21:18;22:3,16;24:7;
12:11	current (2)	different (8)	earlier (1)	25:14,25;27:16,20
conduct (1)	9:14;12:11	8:15;9:3;14:3,21;	12:4	ESG (6)
16:11	currently (1)	16:13,20,21;22:1	early (1)	5:3,8;6:8;15:14;
conducting (1)	5:8	difficult (1)	5:19	23:19;25:4
19:4		9:15	echoing (1)	estimated (1)
	T	: /d>		
conjunction (1)	D	direct (1)	28:17	5:23
18:20		23:21	economic (6)	Evaluation (2)
18:20 connected (1)	data (14)	23:21 direction (1)	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22;	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21
18:20 connected (1) 21:9	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1,	23:21 direction (1) 16:22	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2)
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31)	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21;	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5)	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1)	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31) 3:10;4:9;7:1;8:8;	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21; 19:21;22:3,8,18	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5) 8:16;9:2;10:1,7;	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1) 15:25	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19 even (4)
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31) 3:10;4:9;7:1;8:8; 9:22;11:2,9,20;12:6,	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21;	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5) 8:16;9:2;10:1,7; 25:12	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1) 15:25 economics (1)	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19 even (4) 8:18;9:5,9;24:10
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31) 3:10;4:9;7:1;8:8; 9:22;11:2,9,20;12:6, 23;13:3,15;14:1,14,	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21; 19:21;22:3,8,18	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5) 8:16;9:2;10:1,7; 25:12 disability (3)	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1) 15:25	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19 even (4)
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31) 3:10;4:9;7:1;8:8; 9:22;11:2,9,20;12:6,	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21; 19:21;22:3,8,18 day (1) 28:20 days (2)	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5) 8:16;9:2;10:1,7; 25:12 disability (3) 8:13;24:25;26:7	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1) 15:25 economics (1)	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19 even (4) 8:18;9:5,9;24:10
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31) 3:10;4:9;7:1;8:8; 9:22;11:2,9,20;12:6, 23;13:3,15;14:1,14,	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21; 19:21;22:3,8,18 day (1) 28:20	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5) 8:16;9:2;10:1,7; 25:12 disability (3)	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1) 15:25 economics (1) 12:12	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19 even (4) 8:18;9:5,9;24:10 everybody (3)
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31) 3:10;4:9;7:1;8:8; 9:22;11:2,9,20;12:6, 23;13:3,15;14:1,14, 21;15:19;16:25;	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21; 19:21;22:3,8,18 day (1) 28:20 days (2)	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5) 8:16;9:2;10:1,7; 25:12 disability (3) 8:13;24:25;26:7	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1) 15:25 economics (1) 12:12 economies (1)	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19 even (4) 8:18;9:5,9;24:10 everybody (3) 28:2,11,20
18:20 connected (1) 21:9 Consolidated (31) 3:10;4:9;7:1;8:8; 9:22;11:2,9,20;12:6, 23;13:3,15;14:1,14, 21;15:19;16:25; 17:5,13,18;18:20;	data (14) 15:21,22,23;16:1, 1,3,8,9;17:6;18:21; 19:21;22:3,8,18 day (1) 28:20 days (2) 20:10,22	23:21 direction (1) 16:22 disabilities (5) 8:16;9:2;10:1,7; 25:12 disability (3) 8:13;24:25;26:7 discrimination (2)	economic (6) 4:7,21;12:2;13:22; 15:2;18:6 economically (1) 15:25 economics (1) 12:12 economies (1) 14:11	Evaluation (2) 17:14;20:21 evaluations (2) 20:16,19 even (4) 8:18;9:5,9;24:10 everybody (3) 28:2,11,20 everyone (6)

				_
evicted (1)	five-year (7)	17:12	Hi (1)	
26:2	11:25;12:1,6;	gives (1)	3:2	I
eviction (1)	16:23,24;17:5,9	12:7	histories (1)	1
25:19	Flynn (1)	goal (6)	26:9	:1 (2)
exceptions (1)	27:8	14:7,8,9,10,11;	hold (2)	idea (2)
15:10	focused (2)	18:12	3:18;11:14	8:7;25:6
Excuse (2)	15:10,11	goals (18)	holding (1)	ideas (2)
6:3;13:2	focuses (1)	13:14,23;14:3,3,	8:7	8:9;25:14
expanding (1)	15:6	13,16;16:18,18,20;	HOME (14)	identified (4)
13:21	follow (1)	17:8,11,16,20;18:4;	4:23;5:8;6:6;8:19;	4:16;13:8;16:16;
				17:17
experience (3)	26:17	19:13;20:6,14;25:10	9:5,7;13:17;15:5,5,	identify (2)
25:16,21;26:5	following (1)	GOLDICH (6)	10;23:16;25:9,13;	16:12;19:3
experiencing (1)	3:1	3:2,11;6:22;10:15;	26:2	identifying (1)
15:15	Force (1)	23:8;28:15	homebuyer (2)	18:15
explain (1)	8:10	Good (4)	4:25;15:8	immediate (1)
5:24	forgot (1)	3:3,8;8:3;26:17	homelessness (5)	4:6
expunge (1)	25:5	go-rounds (1)	5:4;9:18;14:12;	impacts (1)
26:11	formats (1)	8:24	15:15,17	10:11
eye (1)	21:23	Grant (5)	homes (3)	implementation (1)
8:15	forth (1)	4:19;5:3;8:21;	8:12,15;9:13	5:20
	9:25	14:22;15:13	hope (5)	important (3)
${f F}$	forward (1)	grants (1)	4:14;10:8,10;13:6;	10:9;22:14;28:7
	28:12	9:3	25:9	improve (1)
facilities (2)	foster (1)	great (2)	hopeful (1)	14:9
4:21;15:2	18:10	9:24;25:1	8:19	include (4)
fair (20)	found (1)	groups (2)	hopefully (1)	13:3,20;15:16;
10:3;11:10;13:6;	9:15	16:14,21	9:16	20:14
17:25;18:3,4,7,9,13,	four (2)	guide (4)	hospital (1)	includes (5)
25;19:1,3,11,13,22;	4:17;14:21	4:7;12:1;17:8;	9:4	
20:14;22:4;24:8;	fourth (1)	28:10	housed (1)	4:19,23;5:1;12:24;
25:17,24	14:10	20.10	9:12	15:22
fall (2)	framework (1)	H	households (2)	including (3)
9:6;13:23	12:7		15:11,14	6:12;14:20;24:6
Falls (1)	free (1)	hand (3)	housekeeping (1)	inclusive (3)
rans (1)				
25.1				11:22;18:11;25:9
25:1	18:11	7:13;24:14;27:4	3:16	income (1)
far (1)	18:11 fully (1)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1)	3:16 Housing (66)	income (1) 15:11
far (1) 10:3	18:11 fully (1) 25:8	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9;	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7;	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3,	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14,	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14,	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22;	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21;
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5)	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23;	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13)	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22;	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14;	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10,	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12) 3:16,24;7:16;	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G Galen (2)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1) 24:22	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10, 11,20	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8 initially (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12) 3:16,24;7:16; 12:22,24;13:3;14:7;	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G Galen (2) 6:20;23:7	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1) 24:22 help (4)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10, 11,20 huge (1)	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8 initially (1) 4:10
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12) 3:16,24;7:16; 12:22,24;13:3;14:7; 15:20;17:3,23;	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G Galen (2) 6:20;23:7 gather (1)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1) 24:22 help (4) 26:3,10;28:7,10	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10, 11,20 huge (1) 8:24	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8 initially (1) 4:10 initiated (1)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12) 3:16,24;7:16; 12:22,24;13:3;14:7; 15:20;17:3,23; 19:10;23:2	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G Galen (2) 6:20;23:7 gather (1) 19:20	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1) 24:22 help (4) 26:3,10;28:7,10 helped (1)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10, 11,20 huge (1) 8:24 Human (2)	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8 initially (1) 4:10 initiated (1) 13:1
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12) 3:16,24;7:16; 12:22,24;13:3;14:7; 15:20;17:3,23; 19:10;23:2 five (5)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G Galen (2) 6:20;23:7 gather (1) 19:20 gathering (2)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1) 24:22 help (4) 26:3,10;28:7,10 helped (1) 10:6	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10, 11,20 huge (1) 8:24	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8 initially (1) 4:10 initiated (1) 13:1 input (16)
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12) 3:16,24;7:16; 12:22,24;13:3;14:7; 15:20;17:3,23; 19:10;23:2 five (5) 12:9;14:3;16:18;	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G Galen (2) 6:20;23:7 gather (1) 19:20 gathering (2) 22:3,8	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1) 24:22 help (4) 26:3,10;28:7,10 helped (1) 10:6 helps (2)	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10, 11,20 huge (1) 8:24 Human (2)	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8 initially (1) 4:10 initiated (1) 13:1 input (16) 4:14;5:9,16;12:20,
far (1) 10:3 fax (4) 6:24;7:8;23:10,25 Feedback (2) 19:17;22:17 few (3) 11:10,19;13:18 fifth (1) 14:11 final (1) 5:17 find (1) 7:1 findings (1) 14:17 finish (1) 10:25 finished (1) 17:2 First (12) 3:16,24;7:16; 12:22,24;13:3;14:7; 15:20;17:3,23; 19:10;23:2 five (5)	18:11 fully (1) 25:8 Fund (5) 5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9; 25:10 funding (11) 5:23;6:9;8:23;9:7; 12:3,14;14:24;15:3, 14;16:15,22 funds (3) 5:9;14:5;17:16 further (1) 25:10 Furthering (6) 13:6;17:25;18:7; 19:1;24:8;25:24 future (2) 11:22;13:11 G Galen (2) 6:20;23:7 gather (1) 19:20 gathering (2)	7:13;24:14;27:4 happen (1) 10:11 happening (1) 28:6 Health (4) 4:1;9:23,25;11:24 hear (1) 28:12 hearing (13) 3:5,9;4:13;5:14, 15;8:7;10:8;12:22; 19:8,10;23:1,20;27:7 hearings (2) 19:5,11 held (2) 19:6,8 Helena (11) 6:17,18;7:4,5,23; 10:23;23:4,5,21,22; 27:25 Hello (1) 24:22 help (4) 26:3,10;28:7,10 helped (1) 10:6	3:16 Housing (66) 4:5,7,9,15,20;5:1, 10;6:7,22;8:16,17, 18,23;9:8,10,19,21, 22;10:1,3,10;11:10; 12:2,10,12;13:6,7, 20;14:8,23,25;15:6, 7,8,9,25;17:8,25; 18:3,4,5,8,9,13,14, 25;19:1,3,12,13,22; 20:5,14;21:11;22:4, 9;23:8;24:8;25:4,4, 10,17,17,24;26:12; 27:8 HTF (5) 5:1,8;6:7;8:20; 23:16 HUD (13) 4:11;5:6,17,21; 10:12;12:10,14; 14:5;18:23;20:9,10, 11,20 huge (1) 8:24 Human (2)	income (1) 15:11 incorporated (1) 20:15 increasing (1) 18:5 Independent (4) 8:5,10;24:24,25 indicate (4) 7:14;24:15;27:2, 12 individuals (1) 26:11 inform (6) 4:13;12:22;19:21; 22:3,8,18 information (1) 23:2 infrastructure (1) 14:10 initial (4) 5:9;19:10,16;20:8 initially (1) 4:10 initiated (1) 13:1 input (16)

11 OH 2021 2028 11 Hide	i rection i tun			p
19.22.10.11.16	5.10	N. (14)	4.6.12.11	
18:22;19:11,16;	5:18	May (14)	4:6;12:11	
21:2;22:17;28:9,18	law (1)	5:13,14;10:1;16:8,	month (1)	O
inquire (1)	26:10	8;19:23,23,24;21:10;	19:23	
7:3	least (2)	22:5,5;23:19;25:15;	more (8)	objectives (8)
institution (1)	8:24;19:5	26:8	6:9;8:11;12:5;	
9:5	1		18:24;19:2;20:1;	13:14,15,16,19,23;
	legal (2)	maybe (2)		14:4;17:12,17
instructions (3)	25:21;26:5	17:19,20	26:13;27:4	o'clock (1)
24:18;26:17,24	less (1)	meaningful (1)	move (1)	27:16
integrated (1)	20:22	18:8	24:3	often (1)
20:7	level (1)	measures (1)	MT (6)	9:15
interested (2)	25:21	17:16	3:13;6:21;7:22;	
20:21;22:19	link (1)	Medicaid (1)	10:22;23:7;27:24	once (11)
				5:25;6:11;16:11,
into (5)	27:9	9:23	much (4)	16;17:2;19:24;20:4;
20:7,15;24:3;26:5,	list (3)	meet (3)	21:4;26:13,16;	21:14,19;24:18;
14	17:4,23;21:20	5:10;13:24;14:5	28:19	26:24
investment (4)	listed (1)	meeting (3)	multifamily (2)	One (7)
4:7,23;12:2;15:5	27:14	3:22;17:16,19	8:12;25:12	
investments (2)	little (4)	meetings (3)	must (1)	8:9,13;19:8;25:5,
				14,23;26:6
17:9;28:11	12:5;20:1;21:12;	12:19;19:6;22:21	5:22	online (1)
issues (4)	27:3	Megan (6)	muted (1)	22:8
18:3,14;19:12;	lived (3)	11:6;21:4,5,18;	3:21	open (3)
20:6	25:16,21;26:5	22:5;28:14	myself (1)	11:11;19:22;22:11
	Living (6)	member (1)	25:16	, ,
J		28:5	23.10	opinions (2)
J	8:6,10,10;13:21;		N.T	4:12;12:18
	24:25,25	mental (1)	N	opportunities (5)
Janelle (7)	local (1)	9:23		13:11;18:6;19:3,
3:6;6:23;16:2;	14:11	mention (1)	name (8)	14;21:1
20:1,24;21:3;23:9	located (1)	25:6	3:11,19;7:17;8:3,	opportunity (5)
Jessie (2)	7:3	mentioned (5)	4;11:6;24:22;26:19	
, ,	Loewen (2)	10:13;12:4;19:19;		9:24;13:9,22;
7:7;23:24			national (2)	18:10;19:8
joined (2)	7:7;23:24	22:2;25:15	13:16,19	options (5)
28:3,12	longtime (1)	met (1)	need (8)	8:15;9:4;12:3;
joining (10)	9:10	9:3	8:13,25;10:1;16:6,	15:3;22:1
7:12,13;24:13,15;	look (9)	mid-sized (1)	8;17:20;26:2,12	organization (3)
27:1,6;28:3,4,16,18	10:9,10;13:22;	9:15	needs (26)	
Julie (1)	15:6;16:14;18:13;	might (3)	3:4,8,14;4:6,15;	3:20;7:18;26:20
				out (2)
27:8	21:17,21;28:12	10:7;14:13,14	5:11;7:11;8:17;9:3,	7:5;18:23
June (3)	looking (6)	minute (1)	16;12:11;13:8,24;	outline (1)
5:19;19:16;27:19	14:12;15:24;	13:25	14:5;16:12,13,14,16,	12:7
	16:23;17:24;20:5,8	minutes (5)	17;17:7;19:3;22:10;	outlines (1)
K	looks (3)	11:10,19;13:18;	24:5;26:11;28:6,8	17:11
	13:10,14;18:19	16:3;18:19	neighborhoods (1)	
Iroon (1)				outlining (1)
keep (1)	lot (1)	missed (1)	25:9	18:4
21:5	25:18	24:19	Next (16)	outreach (4)
keeping (1)	lots (2)	mitigate (1)	11:17;12:8,15;	15:16;16:21;
8:14	9:16;22:1	18:16	13:4,12;14:18;	19:20;22:2
kind (1)	low (1)	modifications (1)	15:18;17:1;18:16,	outside (2)
11:15	15:11	9:8	17;20:3,23;21:24;	` ,
known (2)	15.11	modified (1)	22:24;23:17;24:2	23:1,20
	M			over (6)
4:4;5:25	1V1	9:13	North (2)	11:2;12:8;16:22;
		moment (1)	8:5;24:24	17:9;18:16;20:24
${f L}$	mail (1)	3:21	note (1)	overarching (5)
	10:20	Montana (41)	24:9	13:14,23;17:18;
languages (1)	making (1)	3:25;4:16;5:11;	notes (1)	
26:5	3:18	6:18,19,21;7:4,6,22,	3:16	18:12;20:5
				overcome (1)
larger (1)	mandate (1)	23;8:6,9,17;9:8,19;	number (6)	18:9
		10.10 21 22.11.0 22.	7:8;17:3,4;23:9,	oversee (3)
16:24	18:7	10:10,21,23;11:8,23;		Oversee (5)
16:24 last (6)	18:7 March (4)	13:8;14:4,5;19:21;	10,24	
last (6)	March (4)	13:8;14:4,5;19:21;	10,24	18:24;23:6,18
last (6) 6:3;8:4;15:13;	March (4) 4:4;6:2,4;22:11	13:8;14:4,5;19:21; 20:12;21:11;22:4,9;	10,24 numbers (1)	18:24;23:6,18 overseeing (1)
last (6) 6:3;8:4;15:13; 16:19;17:22;25:6	March (4) 4:4;6:2,4;22:11 match (1)	13:8;14:4,5;19:21; 20:12;21:11;22:4,9; 23:3,4,5,8,22,22;	10,24 numbers (1) 15:23	18:24;23:6,18 overseeing (1) 23:23
last (6) 6:3;8:4;15:13; 16:19;17:22;25:6 Lastly (1)	March (4) 4:4;6:2,4;22:11 match (1) 5:24	13:8;14:4,5;19:21; 20:12;21:11;22:4,9; 23:3,4,5,8,22,22; 25:1,2;27:8,23,25;	10,24 numbers (1) 15:23 nursing (1)	18:24;23:6,18 overseeing (1) 23:23 oversees (1)
last (6) 6:3;8:4;15:13; 16:19;17:22;25:6 Lastly (1) 5:3	March (4) 4:4;6:2,4;22:11 match (1) 5:24 matches (2)	13:8;14:4,5;19:21; 20:12;21:11;22:4,9; 23:3,4,5,8,22,22; 25:1,2;27:8,23,25; 28:8,11	10,24 numbers (1) 15:23	18:24;23:6,18 overseeing (1) 23:23
last (6) 6:3;8:4;15:13; 16:19;17:22;25:6 Lastly (1)	March (4) 4:4;6:2,4;22:11 match (1) 5:24	13:8;14:4,5;19:21; 20:12;21:11;22:4,9; 23:3,4,5,8,22,22; 25:1,2;27:8,23,25;	10,24 numbers (1) 15:23 nursing (1)	18:24;23:6,18 overseeing (1) 23:23 oversees (1)

110m 2021 2028 11muu	i riction riun	T	T	11p111 0, 202
25:13	24;24:15;26:25;	press (7)	28:5	14:11
	27:1,6	7:14,15;24:15,16;	publication (2)	reflect (1)
P	picture (1)	27:1,2,5	19:7,9	16:8
	16:24	prevention (3)	publish (2)	regarding (3)
Park (2)	Plan (85)	5:4;15:17;25:19	5:22;20:10	19:17;24:5;27:15
6:17;23:4	3:10,11,15,25;4:3,	previous (1)	published (3)	regionally (1)
part (11)	4,9;5:17,20,24;6:2,3;	9:1	5:17;20:12;21:19	16:13
12:17;14:12;16:5;	7:1,23;8:7,8,22;9:22,	previously (1)	purpose (1)	rehab (2)
	22;10:22;11:2,2,9,	25:15	18:2	, ,
19:4,20;22:2,21;				9:6;25:11
23:15;24:4;25:23;	10,16,20,25;12:1,6,6,	primarily (2)	put (2)	rehab/construction (1)
26:22	23,25,25;13:3,3,5,	15:11,12	18:23;26:14	9:11
partially (1)	15;14:1,8,14,21;	priorities (1)		rehabilitation (6)
9:18	16:19,25;17:5,10,17,	12:13	Q	4:21,25;5:2;15:1,
participants (2)	18,24;18:1,1,12,13,	priority (2)		8,12
4:12;12:19	18,20,24;19:6,7,9,17,	16:16;17:7	Q&A (1)	rehousing (2)
participate (2)	21;20:4,7,9,12,15,17,	proactive (1)	27:9	5:5;15:17
21:25;22:20	18,20;21:13,17,18;	18:8	qualitative (2)	related (1)
participated (1)	22:3,9,15,16,19;	probably (1)	15:22;16:1	24:11
22:12	23:15;24:6,7;25:14,	26:13	quantitative (2)	reminder (2)
participating (1)	25;27:15,16,19,20	proceed (1)	15:22,23	10:18;23:14
22:20	plan/updates (1)	19:15	13.22,23	remute (4)
participation (1)	22:23	proceedings (2)	R	7:15;24:17,17;
12:17		3:1;28:22	N.	27:3
	planned (1)		. (2)	
particularly (1)	5:14	process (20)	raise (3)	rental (11)
26:11	planning (5)	11:15,22;12:17;	7:12;24:14;27:4	4:20,24,24;5:1,2;
parties (1)	4:22;5:7;8:21;	14:12,15;15:20;	ran (1)	14:25;15:6,7,12,12;
20:21	15:2,19	16:5;17:2;18:21,22;	6:4	25:17
partner (1)	plans (3)	19:15;21:6,13,25;	range (1)	repair (1)
23:18	9:1;17:8;20:16	22:22;24:12;26:23;	15:3	25:11
Partnerships (2)	please (26)	28:7,10,13	rapid (2)	repairs (1)
4:23;15:5	3:7,18,19,20;6:10;	processes (1)	5:4;15:17	9:8
past (3)	7:12,14,16;11:14,17;	12:20	reach (3)	repeat (2)
8:24;14:1;26:8	12:15;13:12;14:18;	Program (18)	6:23;7:4;23:3	24:18;26:24
PATERA (4)	15:18;17:1;18:17;	4:19,23;6:1,5,6,8,	read (1)	Report (2)
8:3,4;24:22,23	20:3,23;22:16;24:9,	23;14:2,23;15:4,5,	22:17	17:14,15
P-A-T-E-R-A (2)	11,14,15;27:1,4,5	10,13;17:12;21:11;	ready (1)	repositories (3)
8:5;24:24	pm (4)	23:9,19;25:5	24:21	6:14;21:20,21
patterns (1)	7:20;10:20;27:16;	programs (7)	real (1)	represent (4)
18:9	28:22	4:17;13:16,17;	28:8	7:18;8:5;24:24;
		14:19,21;23:14,16		
people (3)	PO (8)		really (11)	26:20
8:16;9:2;25:12	6:18;7:5,5,23;	progress (3)	10:9;12:3;13:9;	representative (1)
people's (1)	10:22;23:5,22;27:24	17:16;20:16,19	14:15;15:3,6;16:23;	26:3
9:13	point (2)	projects (2)	17:19;20:4;25:20;	representing (2)
perceived (2)	10:2;13:10	4:8;12:3	28:10	3:20;28:5
25:20,20	Policy (2)	promote (1)	realm (1)	request (2)
Performance (1)	11:7;12:1	18:9	9:18	6:15;21:22
17:14	portion (4)	proposed (2)	receipt (1)	requested (1)
period (9)	10:25;21:7;24:4,	18:23;20:21	20:10	21:23
4:3;5:15;16:23,24;	10	provide (4)	receiving (1)	required (4)
17:9;19:18,19;20:11,	possible (1)	5:23;12:20;19:7,	3:13	4:5;12:9;18:25;
22	25:6	15	recommend (1)	20:17
periods (1)	pot (1)	provides (1)	9:20	requires (1)
27:20	8:22	17:19	recommendation (1)	18:8
person (3)	potentially (1)	providing (5)	19:13	response (2)
9:10;10:4;26:2	26:2	7:16;13:20,21;		16:17;27:11
			recommends (1)	1
perspective (1)	prepared (1)	21:7;26:18	8:11	rest (1)
12:18	17:22	public (27)	record (1)	28:20
perspectives (1)	presentation (8)	3:4,9,13;4:1,13,21;	24:22	reunmute (1)
4.17	3:17;11:1;12:4;	5:13,14,15,23;7:10,	recorded (2)	24:17
4:12				
pertaining (1)	17:5,24;21:8;24:4;	21;11:24;12:17,20,	3:22;11:14	review (4)
		21;11:24;12:17,20, 21;14:10;15:1;16:4,	3:22;11:14 recording (1)	review (4) 3:23;5:23;19:19;
pertaining (1)	17:5,24;21:8;24:4;			
pertaining (1) 24:5	17:5,24;21:8;24:4; 27:11	21;14:10;15:1;16:4,	recording (1)	3:23;5:23;19:19;

rom 2024-2025 Annu	ai Action Plan		T	April 5, 20
14:14	4:2;8:6;11:25	21:17	suggested (1)	together (1)
revitalize (1)	setting (1)	spell (3)	3:14	16:11
14:10	18:4	3:19;7:17;26:19	suitable (1)	towards (1)
right (4)	several (1)	spelled (2)	13:21	17:16
15:21;22:8;24:3;	6:14	8:4;24:23		
	II		supports (1)	trained (1)
28:19	share (1)	spend (1)	26:7	25:16
risk (1)	23:2	12:8	sure (3)	training (2)
15:15	shared (3)	split (1)	9:10;11:22;22:18	25:25;26:1
robust (1)	4:12;12:18;27:9	9:19	survey (13)	transfers (1)
19:2	shelter (2)	stakeholders (1)	16:1;19:22,22,24;	26:5
Rosie (8)	5:4;9:3	16:6	22:4,4,7,10,10,13,14;	transition (1)
3:11;6:22;12:4,25;	shelters (1)	standards (2)	27:9,11	11:1
14:19;21:7;23:8;	15:16	9:14,14	surveys (2)	transitional (1)
28:14	show (2)	star-6 (3)	16:2;22:20	8:18
rule (2)	17:6;26:10	7:15;24:16;27:2	survivor (1)	transportation (1)
18:23;19:1	Shyla (8)	star-9 (4)	10:7	25:8
runs (1)	8:2,4;10:15;24:21,	7:14;24:15;27:1,5	sustain (1)	trekking (1)
6:1	23;26:16,17,21	start (5)	14:9	21:6
0.1	S-H-Y-L-A (2)	3:6;13:1,4;16:17;	systemic (1)	trends (1)
\mathbf{S}	8:4;24:23	19:23	18:14	15:24
· ·			16.14	
yama (2)	sidewalks (2) 25:7,8	started (1)	T	tribal (1)
same (2)		3:3	1	26:7
11:15;14:15	similar (4)	state (27)		Trust (5)
Sara (1)	15:9;18:21;20:17;	3:19,25;5:8,16,22,	talk (9)	5:1;6:7;8:24;15:9;
7:7	25:17	23;6:14;7:16,17,17;	11:11,19;12:5;	25:10
Sarah (1)	single-family (6)	11:8,23;14:4;15:25;	13:25;16:2;18:19;	try (1)
23:24	4:20,24;8:12;	16:13;18:15,24;19:1,	20:1,25;21:12	25:19
scheduled (1)	14:25;15:7;25:11	4,6,11,20;20:20;	talked (4)	trying (2)
5:12	slide (13)	21:20;22:2;26:19,19	9:1;14:19;16:19;	9:13;12:18
scorecard (1)	11:17;12:15;	State's (1)	20:18	turn (1)
17:19	13:12;14:18;15:18;	20:15	talking (5)	20:24
screen (1)	17:1;18:17;20:3,23;	stay (1)	12:25;13:5,17;	two (5)
27:14	21:24;22:24;23:17;	14:14	15:4;16:15	10:20;17:4;19:6,
second (4)	24:2	Steffens (2)	targeted (3)	11;21:8
14:8;15:4;16:5,9	slides (1)	6:20;23:7	15:14;16:20,21	11,21.0
section (3)	20:2	step (1)	Task (1)	U
3:17;10:8;25:6	small (3)	15:20		U
	` /		8:10	1424 (1)
seeing (4)	9:7,11;25:5	steps (2)	TDD (2)	ultimate (1)
10:17;12:12;16:7,	smaller (1)	11:21;15:20	6:24;23:10	22:19
9	9:14	still (1)	testers (1)	under (4)
seek (1)	Solutions (2)	9:12	25:18	12:3;13:24;14:4;
5:16	5:3;15:13	strategic (1)	thankful (1)	18:23
seeking (2)	someone (2)	17:8	28:9	underlying (2)
5:8;19:11	9:4;10:5	strategies (10)	Thanks (1)	18:3;19:12
segregation (1)	sometimes (3)	3:4,9,14;7:11;	28:16	undertake (1)
18:9	10:11;16:7;26:4	16:18,22;18:4;	third (1)	21:6
send (3)	soon (1)	19:14;20:14;24:5	14:9	undertaking (1)
7:21;27:22,23	13:1	strategy (1)	three (1)	21:9
senior (1)	Sorry (1)	16:17	19:5	undertook (1)
11:7	24:17	streamlined (1)	throughout (4)	11:16
sentence (1)	source (1)	18:24	6:14;21:20;28:8,	universal (1)
10:5	16:9	street (1)	13	8:11
sentences (1)	sources (1)	15:16		universally (1)
26:9	6:9		ticking (1) 22:12	25:4
	II	submit (2)		
sentiments (1)	South (2)	22:25;27:25	tiny (1)	unmute (6)
28:17	6:17;23:4	submitted (2)	8:15	7:13,15;8:2;24:14,
separate (3)	spans (1)	5:18;20:9	to-be-published (1)	16;27:3
21:8;24:9;27:20	24:7	submitting (1)	19:17	up (1)
September (1)	specialist (3)	20:19	Today (5)	27:12
20:8	6:23;21:11;23:9	subsidies (1)	3:13,20;10:20;	upcoming (1)
serve (2)	specific (2)	10:12	28:3,16	22:21
		successful (1)	today's (2)	Upon (1)
18:2;25:2	17:11;28:0	Successiui (1)	touay 5 (2)	
18:2;25:2 Services (3)	17:11;28:6 Specifically (1)	5:19	12:19;19:10	20:10

Urban (2)	working (5)	2020-to-2024 (1)	
4:5;12:10	8:14;11:8,23;	4:9	5
use (3)	18:18;25:4	2021 (1)	S
14:5;17:15;22:18	wrapping (1)	4:11	5 (3)
used (1)	27:12	2023 (1)	4:8;6:2;27:16
9:11	write (1)	6:4	1 1
utilized (1)	26:3	2024 (13)	5:00 (2)
5:10	Written (4)	4:3;5:18,19;6:2,5;	7:20;10:20
3.10	7:19;10:18;26:14;	7:21;13:2;14:2;	59601 (4)
${f V}$	27:12	19:17;20:8;22:5,6;	6:18;7:4;23:4,22
<u> </u>	wrong (1)	27:17	59620 (3)
volueble (1)	10:7	2024-2020 (1)	23:5,22;27:25
valuable (1) 28:18	wwwdphhsmtgov (2)	4:9	59620-0523 (3)
	7:9;24:1	2024-to-2025 (13)	6:19;7:24;10:23
variety (1)	7:9;24:1		59620-2956 (1)
15:20	Y	3:9,15,24;4:2,14;	7:6
vary (1)	I	5:6,12,16,17,22;	
16:13	V (12)	6:12;7:11;10:19	6
verbal (1)	Year (13)	2025 (5)	
24:4	4:8;6:1,1,2,3,3,4;	4:4;6:2;13:2,4;	60 (1)
via (10)	12:24;13:4;14:2;	24:7	20:10
7:12,13;19:21;	17:10,12;24:6	2025-2029 (3)	
22:3,9;24:13,15;	years (3)	21:13;24:6;27:15	
26:25;27:1,6	12:9;18:2,16	2025-to-2029 (2)	
viewing (1)	-	3:10;12:23	
17:4	Z	2026 (1)	
violence (2)		24:7	
10:6,6	Zip (3)	202956 (2)	
visit (2)	6:18;7:6,23	7:5;23:22	
6:10;22:22	-	25 (1)	
visitable (2)	1	13:2	
8:11;25:3		25th (2)	
-	1 (1)	19:16;27:19	
${f W}$	24:6	28 (1)	
	24:6 1400 (2)	5:19	
waivers (1)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21	5:19 29th (1)	
waivers (1) 9:23	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1)	5:19	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22	5:19 29th (1) 5:14	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1)	5:19 29th (1)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13	5:19 29th (1) 5:14	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13	5:19 29th (1) 5:14	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2,	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21;	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17,	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24;	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1) 3:1	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5) 4:3;6:1,4;19:23; 22:5	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5 4 4 (1)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1) 3:1 widest (2)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5) 4:3;6:1,4;19:23;	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5 4 4 (1) 6:3	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1) 3:1 widest (2) 14:23;15:3	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5) 4:3;6:1,4;19:23; 22:5	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5 4 4 (1) 6:3 406-447-4265 (2)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1) 3:1 widest (2) 14:23;15:3 wish (3)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5) 4:3;6:1,4;19:23; 22:5	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5 4 4 (1) 6:3 406-447-4265 (2) 7:8;23:25	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1) 3:1 widest (2) 14:23;15:3 wish (3) 22:25;23:20;27:10 Within (3)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5) 4:3;6:1,4;19:23; 22:5 2 2:50 (1)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5 4 4 (1) 6:3 406-447-4265 (2) 7:8;23:25 406-447-4287 (2) 7:8;23:25	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1) 3:1 widest (2) 14:23;15:3 wish (3) 22:25;23:20;27:10 Within (3) 14:24;15:25;16:12	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5) 4:3;6:1,4;19:23; 22:5 2 2:50 (1) 28:22	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5 4 4 (1) 6:3 406-447-4265 (2) 7:8;23:25 406-447-4287 (2)	
waivers (1) 9:23 way (2) 5:9;23:21 webinar (3) 7:12;24:13;27:5 website (10) 3:22;6:13,15;7:2, 9;20:13;21:15,21; 23:12,25 weeks (1) 10:20 welcome (2) 3:4,8 WHEREUPON (1) 3:1 widest (2) 14:23;15:3 wish (3) 22:25;23:20;27:10 Within (3) 14:24;15:25;16:12 without (2)	24:6 1400 (2) 7:4;23:21 15 (1) 20:22 15th (1) 5:13 16th (1) 5:18 17-county (1) 25:2 17th (4) 7:21;10:19;27:17, 18 18th (1) 22:11 1st (5) 4:3;6:1,4;19:23; 22:5 2 2:50 (1) 28:22 200523 (5)	5:19 29th (1) 5:14 3 301 (2) 6:17;23:4 30th (1) 22:11 31st (5) 4:4;6:2,4;19:24; 22:5 4 4 (1) 6:3 406-447-4265 (2) 7:8;23:25 406-447-4287 (2) 7:8;23:25 406-841-2270 (1) 23:10	
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Egli, Janelle

From: Montana Department of Commerce <commerce@announcements.mt.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 20, 2024 2:03 PM

To: Egli, Janelle

Subject: Public Hearing: Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Needs and Strategies



Photo by Montana Department of Commerce

Joint Public Hearing Notice: June 3, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, which summarize the actions, activities and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing and general comments regarding program performance and use of funds.

Input for the development of the plans will be received through June 20, 2024, for the Consolidated Plan, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan. These documents, once developed, will be available for further public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 9:30 a.m. MST on June 3, 2024.

REGISTER HERE

The public hearing will be held on Zoom; presentation materials will be available on Commerce's <u>website</u> prior to the hearing. This event will provide the public an opportunity to give initial input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and associated Equity Plan. The State will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing.

All comments pertaining to the Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. on June 20, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. on June 25, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5 p.m. on May 29, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5 p.m. del 29 de Mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



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You will need to use your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please visit <u>subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com</u>.

This service is provided to you at no charge by Montana Department of Commerce.



SouthwestMontanaLegals.com

To Advertise Call: 406-582-2600 M-F 8 am to 4 pm Email: Classifieds@DailyChronicle.com Place Ad 24/7 at www.PlaceChronicleClassified.com



DATE: 5/18/24 SUBJECT: DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE PROPERTY

According to state law, dis-tricts may resolve to dispose of property that is or is about to become abandoned, obsolete, undesirable or unsuitable for the school purposes of the District. The District must then comply with certain notice requirements and then dispose of such property in accordance with 20-6-604, MCA.

It is recommended that the Board sell or otherwise dispose of the following equip-

Desk Chairs Laminator Library Chair

The obsolete property will be disposed of in the manner most beneficial to the District on 6/1/24. Please contact Mike Waterman with questions - 522-6097.

Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period on Water Quality Standards Rulemaking Before the Montana Department of **Environmental Quality**

On April 26, 2024, the Monon April 26, 2024, the Mon-tana Department of Environ-mental Quality (department) initiated rulemaking on pro-posed NEW RULE I, NEW RULE II, Department Circular DEQ-15, and rule amend-ments and repeals. This action implements statute at 75-5-321, MCA, and Senate Bill 358 which was adopted in 2021 by the Montana Legislature, Statute at 75-5-321, MCA requires the department to adopt rules related to narrative nutrient standards and an Adaptive Management Program. Senate Bill 358 also requires that the department amend rules to delete all references to Department Circular DEQ-12A, Department Circular DEQ-12B, base numeric nutrient standards, and nutrient standards variances. NEW RULE I (Translation of Narrative Nutrient Standards) describes how narrative nutrient standards will be translated to determine if water quality standards are met in state surface waters. NEW RULE II (Implementation of the Adaptive Management Program for Narrative Nutri-ent Standards) describes the implementation of an Adap-tive Management Program tive Management Program within the Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permitting program. Department Circular DEQ-15 procedures and requirements related to both new rules. This action also (a) incorporates permit fees related to the new Adaptive Management Program; (b) amends related nondegradation rules; (c) re-peals the framework rule ARM 17.30,1388 which is rendered

unnecessary and redundant per adoption of the new rules; (d) repeals ARM 17.30.660 and (e) improves rule clarity On June 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., a public hearing will be held in room 111 of the Metcalf Building, 1520 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, Montana, to consider rule adoption, amendment, and repeal as proposed in MAR 17-434 in the Montana Administrative Register, You may also join the hearing virtually via Zoom. The notice of public hearing on proposed adoption, amendment, and repeal, and more information, is available on the department's

website at https://deq.mt.gov/ public/water-public. The depublic/water-public. The de-partment will make reason-able accommodation for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this rulemaking process or need an alternative accessible format of this notice (see the MAR notice on the website for details). Copies of Department Circu-lar DEQ-15 may be obtained from the Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, or on the department's website at https://deg.mt.gov/

<u>public/water-public</u>. You are invited to submit data, views or arguments on the proposed action either orally or in writing at the hearing. Written data, views, or arguments may also be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quali-ty, 1520 E. Sixth Avenue, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901; faxed to (406) 444-4386; or e-mailed to DE QMAR17-434@mt.gov must be received no later than

5:00 p.m. on June 10, 2024. To

be guaranteed consideration, mailed comments must be

postmarked on or before that

date.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIV-EN that the Gallatin County

Legals

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In re TruConnect Communications, Inc.'s Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

> Docket 2024,04,050 May 16, 2024

Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline

1. On April 19, 2024, TruConnect Communications, Inc. ("TruConnect") filed an Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") with the Montana Public Service Commission ("Commission") pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2), 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.101-54.207, and Montana law, including Montana Code Annotated § 69-3-TruConnect seeks ETC

designation solely to provide Lifeline Services to qualifying Montana customers. TruCon-nect currently offers prepaid wireless telecommunications services using the underlying networks of facilities-based providers T-Mobile USA, Inc. and Verizon Wireless on a wholesale basis, TruConnect requests ETC designation that is statewide in scope to allow the Company to provide Lifeline service wherever its underlying, facilities-based underlying, facilities-based providers have wireless coverage, including federally recog-

nized tribal lands.

3. A copy of the filing is publicly available at the Commission's business office, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, MT 59601, and online at the Commission's website (psc. mt.gov) under Docket No. 2024.04,050. A copy of the filing may also be available at the office of the Montana Consumer Counsel ("MCC"), which represents consumer interests before the Commission, 111 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, Helena, MT 59601, (406) 444-2771, Interested parties can register on the Commission's website to receive notice of filings in this docket. Instructions for sub-scribing to notices of filings are available at psc.mt.gov/

4. The Commission invites any interested party affected by TruConnect's filing to intervene in this docket. To intervene, a party must file a petition to in-tervene with the Commission no later than May 31, 2024. A party seeking intervention must file an electronic petition on the Commission's web-site at reddi.mt.gov. All filings must be made in REDDI and hard copies are not required. A party seeking intervention must also mail a copy of the petition to MCC at 111 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, P.O. Box 201703, Helena, MT 59620, and to TruConnect's attorney, Peter G. Scott, Peter G. Scott, Law Offices, PLLC, 682 S Ferguson Ave. Ste 4, Boze-man, Montana 59718-6491.

The Commission invites members of the public who do not wish to formally intervene to submit written public comments on the matter to the Commission at 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620 or by email to pschelp@mt.gov. Public to pschelp@mt.gov. Public comment may also be submitted in REDDI. Instructions for submitting public comments in REDDI are available at psc.mt.gov/reddi-help (select "Submit a Public Comment"). All comments received will be public records. Personal or private information should not be included in comments,

6. The Commission's juris-diction over this matter is provided in Title 69 and Title 2, Chapter 4 of the Montana Code Annotated; Title 38, Chapters 2 and 5 of the Montana Administrative Rules; and any prior orders of the Commission relevant to the issues

DONE and DATED this 16th day of May by the Montana Public Service Commission through delegation to staff.

JAMES BROWN, JENNIFER FIELDER, Vice President TONY O'DONNELL, Commissioner RANDALL PINOCCI, DR. ANNIE BUKACEK, Commissioner

Gallatin County

NOTICE OF FLOODPLAIN PERMIT APPLICATION

Floodplain Administrator will consider a floodplain permit application submitted on be-

Legals

half of Chris Smith to conduct a new residential structure and garage with associated utilities and fill within the floodplain of Madison River. The project site is located at 220 Town Road on Lots & Lots 13-18, in the SW1/4 of Section 19, T02N, R02E, P.M.M., Gallatin County, MT.

A copy of the application is available for public review at the Gallatin County Plan-ning Department, Room 108. W. Main, Bozeman, MT. Written comments will be accepted through June 3, 2024. Please contact the Gallatin County Planning Department with any questions, (406) 582-

GALLATIN COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING

The Gallatin Canyon/Big Sky Zoning Advisory Committee ("BSZAC") will consider the following items at its monthly meeting on Monday, June 3rd, 2024 at 9:30 AM, at the Big Sky Water and Sewer District office, 561 Little Coyote Rd, Big Sky, MT and will be virtu-ally streamed and members of the public can participate virtually. The BSZAC is an advisory arm of the Gallatin County Planning and Zoning Commission and invites the Big Sky Community to attend meetings and participate in discussions concerning Big Sky planning matters.

 Edward Jordan Holdings, LLC Sign Setback Variance (Z2024-071). The purpose of the public hearing is to con-sider a request by Edward Jor-dan Holdings, LLC (Applicant) for approval of a Variance from Section 29.5.a.3.v of the Gallatin Canyon/Big Sky Zoning Regulation. Specifically, the Applicant is requesting an after-the-fact variance for an Entrance Portal Sign within the required 10' property line the required 10' property line setback. The existing sign is currently 3.52' from the eastern property boundary. The Subject Property consists of approximately 2.9-acres and is legally described as Tract 6A-1 of Rainbow Retreat Subdivision located in S28 T07S division, located in S28, T07S, R04E, P.M.M., Gallatin Coun-ty, MT. The Subject Property is addressed as 42895 Gallatin Road, Big Sky, Montana.

Town Center Phase II, LLC Zone Map Amendment (Z2024-079). The purpose of the public hearing is to con-sider a Zone Map Amendment (ZMA) request by Bechtle Architects (Applicant), on behalf of Town Center Phase II, LLC (Landowner), to change the zoning designation on por-tions of a 71.24-acre parcel from Town Center Residential (TCR) to Town Center Com-mercial (TCC). The Subject Property is legally described as Tract 1A of Certificate of Survey No. 2343A located in Section 1, Township 7 South (T07S), Range 3 East (R03E), PM.M., Gallatin County, Mon-tana. Generally, the Subject Property is in the southern portion of the Big Sky Town

Town Center Phase II, LLC Zone Text Amendment (Z2024-078). The purpose of the public hearing is to con-sider a Zone Text Amendment (ZTA) request by Bechtle Architects (Applicant) on behalf of Town Center Phase II, LLC (Property Owner) to amend the text of the Town Center Commercial (TCC) sub-dis-trict of the Gallatin Canyon/ Big Sky Zoning Regulation. Specifically, the Applicant re-quests to strike the provision quests to strike the provision that the following permitted uses be limited to second and subsequent stories in the TCC sub-district: Multi-family Dwelling Units, Multi-family Workforce Housing, Work-force Housing Commercial, Workforce Housing Dormitory, and Workforce Housing Mixed Use (see Section 14.3 of the Gallatin Canyon/Big Sky Zoning Regulation). The Applicant also proposes to add a Special Requirements section to the TCC sub-district, which states that the aforementioned uses are limited to second level and subsequent stories on any building fronting Town Center Avenue, Huntley Drive (north of the roundabout), or Lone Peak Drive.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services an-nounce the Needs and Strat-egies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated

Legals

Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan). The 2025-2029 Consolidated

Plan and Equity Plan - which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) pro-grams for each respective peiod - are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use

Input for the development of the plans will be received through June 20, 2024, for the Consolidated Plan, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan. These documents, once developed, will be avail-able for further public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 9:30 am MST on Monday, June 3,

The public hearing will be held on Zoom, and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at

commerce.mt.gov/ Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearng, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/ ConsolidatedPlan/Updates.

All comments pertaining to the Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST on June 20, 2024. All comments pertain-ing to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST on June 25,

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division ttention 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

Commerce will make reaaccommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presenta-tion materials or translation services. If you require accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@ mt.gov no later than 5:00 pm on May 29, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible al-ternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communiques con El Departamento de communiques Comercio en DOCConPlan@ mt.gov antes de las 5:00 pm del 29 de mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Gallatin County Board of Canvassers and Gallatin County Commission will meet at 10 a.m., Monday, May 20th in the Community Room of the Gallatin County Courthouse at 311 West Main Street, Bozeman, MT 59715 to canvass votes for the 2024 Special Purpose District Election and to hold a public hearing and decision on resolutions to declare the organization of the territory of the Firelight Mead-ows County Water and Sewer

Dated this 15th day of May, 2024

Eric Semerad, Election Administrator, Gallatin County, Bozeman, Montana

Legals

Request for Proposals (RFP) Fire Service Data Analytics CITY OF BOZEMAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the City of Bozeman (City) is seeking proposals from firms to supply a data analytics software as a service (SaaS) for Bozeman Fire Department. The software will allow Bozeman Fire to analyze historical response data and use predictive modeling to plan for future organizational needs.

Copies of the Request for Pro-posals are available on the City's website.

All proposals must be provided as a single, searchable PDF document file and be submitted digitally as an email attachment to the RFP Re-cipient email address below. espondents are advised that Recipient's email attachment size limit is 25MB and that only one PDF file will be allowed per response. The subject line of the transmittal email shall clearly identify the RFP title, company name and due date/time. File sizes greater than 25MB in size may be uploaded to bzncloud. bozeman.net upon special ar-rangement of the Recipient; however, it is the respon-dent's sole responsibility to ensure the file upload is completed, and that the Re-cipient is separately notified via email of same, prior to the given deadline.

Deliver RFPs via email to the City Clerk by May 30th, 2024 at 5 pm MST. It is the sole responsibility of the proposing party to ensure that proposals are received prior to the closing time as late sub-mittals will not be accepted.

The email address for submission is: procurement@bozeman.net

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL PAY

The City of Bozeman is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Discrimination in the per-formance of any agreement awarded under this RFP on the basis of race, color, reli-gion, creed, sex, age, mari-tal status, national origin, or actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or disability is prohibited. This prohibition shall apply to the hiring and treatment of the awarded entity's employees and to all subcontracts

As such, each entity submitting under this notice shall include a provision wherein the submitting entity, or entities, affirms in writing it will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, sex, age, marital status, national origin, or because of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or disability and which also recognizes the eventual contract will contain a provision prohibiting discrimination as described above and that this prohibition on discrimination shall apply to the hiring and treatment of the submitting entity's employees and to all subcontracts

In addition, pursuant to <u>City</u> Commission Resolution 5169, the entity awarded a contract under this RFP and any subcontractors must abide by the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and ection 39-3-104, MCA (the Montana Equal Pay Act), and affirm it will abide by the above and that it has visited the State of Montana Equal Pay for Equal Work "best practices" website, or equivalent practices publication and has read the material. Any administrative questions

regarding proposal procedures should be directed to: City Clerks' Office 406.582.2320, procurement@bozeman.net.

Questions relating to the RFP should be directed to: James Short, Battalion Chief, 406.599.8591 jshort@bozeman.net.

DATED at Bozeman, Montana, this May 15th, 2024.

Mike Maas City Clerk City of Bozeman

Notice of School Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of Bozeman School District No. 7 will meet on:

May 22, 2024 - BSF Worthy Student Award Ceremony -BHS Auditorium - 7:00 PM

To view the Board Agendas

please go to www.bsd7.org

Legals

Public Notice of Vacancies for the Bozeman City Boards and Invitation to Submit Application

The Bozeman City Commission notifies the citizens of the City of Bozeman that applica-tions are available and will be accepted until June 3, 2024, for the board positions listed

<u>Library Board of Trustees</u> 1 At-large position Term expiring June 30, 2029

Sustainability Board 1 At-large position Term expiring December 31,

Urban Parks & Forestry

Board 1 At-large position Term expiring December 31,

Downtown Business Improvement District Board Term expiring June 30, 2028 Downtown Urban Renewal

Board 3 Mayoral Appointment Term expiring June 30, 2028 Fire Code Board of Appeals
3 At-large Commission Ap-

pointments Terms expiring December 31, 1 At-large Commission Ap-

Term expiring December 31, 1 At-large Commission Appointment

Term expiring December 31,

Building Code Board of Appeals
3 At-large Commission Ap-

Terms expiring December 31. 1 At-large Commission Ap-

pointment Term expiring December 31, 1 At-large Commission Ap-

pointment Term expiring December 31,

More information:

Perspective applicants are encouraged to review the en-abling legislation that specifidentifies the individual board purpose, focus areas, duties, powers, and member composition. Applicants are also encouraged to review the established recruitment and selection, standards for communication, and norms of behavior for boards, Information is available on the Citizen Advisory Board Page (www.bozeman.net/boards) or from the Clerks' Office by request.

Resolution 5323 - Re-cruitment and Selection, Standards for Commu-nication, and Norms of

After the application period has closed, applications will be directed to the assigned interview panel for screening and scheduling of interviews.

Per Resolution 5323, "[d]uring the recruitment process, the City will focus on diversi-ty, equity, and inclusion, and will actively work to achieve membership that reflects, at the least, the demographics of our community — as outlined in, but not limited to the gaps analysis and equity indictors report and available census data - across all board mem-bership."

Applications are available at www.bozeman.net/boards or may be requested in paper form from the City Clerk's Office either by phone at 406.582.2320, in person at 121 N. Rouse Ave in the Administration Suite on the second floor or by mail at ond floor, or by mail at:

City Clerks' Office PO BOX 1230 Bozeman, MT 59771

DATED at Bozeman, Montana, this 2nd day of May, 2024.

Mike Maas, City Clerk

MONTANA EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, GALLATIN COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of Murray Pine, Deceased PROBATE NO. DP-16-2024-

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the deceased are re-

Public Notices

You have the right to know what's going on in your community. Read notices below and online at dailyinterlake.com and montanapublicnotices.com.

NO. 30299

Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period on Water Quality Standards Rulemaking Before the Montana Department of Environmental Quality

On April 26, 2024, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (department) initiated rulemaking on proposed NEW RULE I, NEW RULE II, Department Circular DEQ-15, and rule amendments and repeals. This action implements statute at 75-5-321, MCA, and Senate Bill 358 which was adopted in 2021 by the Montana Legislature. Statute at 75-5-321, MCA requires the department to adopt rules related to narrative nutrient standards and an Adaptive Management Program. Senate Bill 358 also requires that the department amend rules to delete all references to Department Circular DEQ-12A, Department Circular DEQ-12B, base numeric nutrient standards, and nutrient standards variances. NEW RULE I (Translation of Narrative Nutrient Standards) describes how narrative nutrient standards will be translated to determine if water quality standards are met in state surface waters. NEW RULE II (Implementation of the Adaptive Management Program for Narrative Nutrient Standards) describes the implementation of an Adaptive Management Program within the Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permitting program. Department Circular DEQ-15 (March 2024 edition) provides procedures and requirements related to both new rules. This action also (a) incorporates permit fees related to the new Adaptive Management Program; (b) amends related nondeg-radation rules; (c) repeals the framework rule ARM 17.30.1388 which is rendered unnecessary and redundant per adoption of the new rules; (d) repeals ARM 17.30.660; and (e) improves rule clarity. On June 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., a public hearing will be held in room 111 of the Metcalf Building, 1520 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, Montana, to consider rule adoption, amendment, and repeal as proposed in MAR 17-434 in the Montana Administrative Register. You may also join the hearing virtually via Zoom. The notice of public hearing on proposed adoption. amendment, and repeal, and more information, is available on the department's website at https://deq.mt.gov/public/water-public. The department will make reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this rulemaking process or need an alternative accessible format of this notice (see the MAR notice on the website for details). Copies of Department Circular DEQ 15 may be obtained from the Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, or on the department's website at https:// deq.mt.gov/public/water-public. You are invited to submit data, views, or arguments on the proposed action either orally or in writing at the hearing. Written data, views, or arguments may also be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality, 1520 E. Sixth Avenue,

May 5, 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

.O. Box 200901

, Helena,

Montana 59620-0901; faxed to

(406) 444-4386; or e-mailed to

DEQMAR17-434@mt.gov and

must be received no later than

5:00 p.m. on June 10, 2024. To be guaranteed consideration, mailed comments must be post-

marked on or before that date.

NO. 30318

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICA-TIONS CSKT Safe Streets and Roads for All- Safety Action Plan Professional Services CSKT ROADS PROGRAM

The Confederated Salish and

Kootenai Tribe's Roads Program invites interested Engineering Consulting Firms to submit proposals to conduct a study that gathers and analyzes data, engages stakeholders and recommends strategies and projects to improve safety on roads within the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Requests for Qualifications may be obtained from: Confederated

Reservation.
Requests for Qualifications may be obtained from: Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Roads Program, Attn: Scott B. Johnston, P.O. Box 278, Pablo, MT 59855, Phone 406-676-2600 or by email at scott.johnston@cskt.org. Specifications and proposal requirements may also be viewed and downloaded at the following website: https://www.csktnrd.org/water-management/sod

Proposals must be submitted via email to Scott B. Johnston at scott.johnston@cskt.org, no later than 2:00 PM (local time) on May 20th, 2024.

May 5, 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30320

Crowe Law Office Gary A. Crowe Esq. State Bar #1820 P.O Box 924 Kalispell, MT 59903 Email: elknuts@centurytel.net Attorney for Personal Representative

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF FLATHEAD

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Donnafred Mae Berglund,
Deceased.

PROBATE NO. DP-15-2024-0000092-IT Judge Amy Eddy District Court Judge

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to Natalie Jean Berglund, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, c/o Crowe Law Firm, P.O. Box 924 Kalispell, MT 59903 or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court.

DATED this 30th day of April, 2024

/s/Natalie Jean Berglund Natalie Jean Berglund Personal Representative

Submitted by: /s/Gary A. Crowe Esq. Crowe Law Office by: Gary A. Crowe Esq. Attorney for Personal Representative

May 5, 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30343

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Kalispell City Council is considering an amendment to the Kalispell Growth Policy – Plan It 2035 on approximately 110.5 acres on the north side of Tronstad Road between Highway 93 North and Whitefish Stage Road, opposite of Sirucek Lane, in Section 18, Township 29 North, Range 21 West, P.M.M., Flathead County, Montana.

The Kalispell City Planning Commission has considered the amendment, held a public hearing on April 9, 2024, and presented Resolution KGPA-24-01 to the Kalispell City Council recommending adoption of the amendment. The Kalispell City Council, on May 6, 2024, passed a Resolution of Intention to Adopt, Revise, or Reject a Recommended Amendment to the Kalispell Growth Policy -- Plan It 2035.

On May 20, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers, 201 First Avenue East, Kalispell, the Kalispell City Council will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed amendment to the Kalispell Growth Policy – Plan It 2035. The proposed amendment can be viewed on the city's website at www.kalispell.com/679/Council-Public-Hearings or in the office of the City Clerk at 201 First Avenue East, Kalispell.

Any person wishing to address the proposed amendment may appear at this hearing and make oral statements or present same in writing. Written comments may also be submitted for council consideration by delivering the same to the City Clerk at 201 First Avenue East, Kalispell, MT 59901, or by email to publiccomment@kalispell.com prior to the hearing.

For additional information please contact the City Clerk at (406) 758-7756.

Judi Funk Deputy City Clerk

May 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30344

CITY OF KALISPELL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON STREET MAINTENANCE AS-SESSMENT INCREASE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 3rd day of June 2024, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 201 1st Avenue East, Kalispell, Montana, the City Council of the City of Kalispell shall hold a Public Hearing on a proposal to increase assessments on real property within the City of Kalispell for the costs of the Street Maintenance District (Special Maintenance District No. 1).

Any person wishing to address the proposed assessment rate increase may appear at this hearing and make oral statements or present the same in writing. Written comments may also be submitted for Council consideration by delivering the same to the City Clerk at 201 First Avenue East, Kalispell, MT 59901 (PO Box 1997, 59903), or by email to publiccomment@kalispell.com prior to the hearing.

Proposed street maintenance district assessments include programmed assessment increases over seven years which should maintain the level of service currently enjoyed by the users of the city's street system through the fiscal year 2031, thereafter starting in fiscal year 2032 an increase will be applied annually to match the pervious years average construction cost index.

Tables showing the proposed assessment increase, and the average residential and commercial assessment payment amounts is available for review online at www.kalispell.com/679/Council-Public-Hearings, or in the Clerk's Office at City Hall, 201 First Avenue East, or calling to request. If there are questions that might be answered by telephone, please call (406)

Judi Funk, Deputy City Clerk May 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30345

INVITATION TO BID

Online electronic sealed Bids will be received by the City of White-fish until 11:00 AM, local time, Thursday, May 30, 2024, for construction of the Grouse Mountain Parking Lot. All received Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the City of Whitefish, Council Chambers Conference Room, 418 East 2nd Street, Whitefish, Montana 59937.

The proposed work involves the reconstruction of approximately 12,600 square feet of parking lot for the Grouse Mountain City Park Rest Area in Whitefish, Montana. The proposed work generally includes demolition, construction of a new parking lot, new storm drain system, grading, and other miscellaneous improvements.

For this project, bids will only be received and accepted via the online electronic bid service through QuestCDN. A contractor may view the contract documents at no cost prior to becoming a Planholder. Project bid documents and addenda must be downloaded from QuestCDN, which will add your company to the Planholder List and allow access to vBid online bidding, for the submittal of your bid. Complete digital project bidding documents are available to download at www.questcdn.com, (eBidDoc #9076888) for a non-refundable charge of \$22.00. Bidders will be charged an additional fee of \$42.00 to submit a bid electronically. Contact QuestCDN Customer Support at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in membership registration, downloading digital project information and vBid online bid submittal.

The contract documents, consisting of half size Drawings and Project Specifications, may be examined or obtained at the office of Robert Peccia and Associates, located at 102 Cooperative Way, Suite 300, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 752-5025 for a non-refundable fee of \$100 per set. In addition, the Drawings and Project Specifications may also be examined at all plan room centers available through MontanaBid.com.

A prebid conference will be held at the Whitefish City Hall Council Chambers Conference Room, 418 East 2nd Street in Whitefish, Montana, commencing at 11:00 AM, Wednesday May 22, 2024. Those interested in bidding the project are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Each bidder shall submit a certified check, bid bond, cashier's check, bank money order or bank draft payable to the City of Whitefish and drawn and issued by a national banking association located in the State of Montana or by any banking corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Montana for an amount which shall not be less than ten percent (10%) of the bid, as a bid security. The bid security shall identify the same firm as is noted on the bid proposal forms.

Within 10 calendar days after the Notice of Award, the successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Labor and Materials Payment Bond guaranteeing faithful performance and the payment of all bills and obligations arising from the performance of the contract. The bonds will each be equal to 100 percent of the contract amount.

Completion of the work is required within 30 calendar days following commencement of work. Construction shall be substantially completed by Friday, October 25, 2024. The project includes liquidated damages that will be assessed as set forth in the Special Provisions per calendar day if the work is not complete within the allotted contract time.

Each bidder will be required to be registered with the State of Montana, Department of Labor and Industry prior to bidding this

CONTRACTORS and any of the CONTRACTOR'S subcontractors doing work on this project will be required to obtain registration with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI). Forms for registration are available from the Department of Labor and Industry, P.O. Box 8011, 1805 Prospect, Helena, MT 59604-8011. Information on registration can be obtained by calling (406) 444-7734. CON-TRACTORS are not required to have registered with the DLI prior to bidding on this project but must have registered prior to execution of the construction agreement. All laborers and nechanics employed by CON-TRACTORS or subcontractors in performance of the construction work shall be paid wages at rates according to the current Montana Prevailing Wage Rates The CONTRACTOR must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

No Bid may be withdrawn within a period of 60 days after the date for opening bids.

The City of Whitefish reserves the right to reject all Bids, to waive informalities, and to reject nonconforming, irregular, non-responsive or conditional Bids. THE CITY OF WHITEFISH By: /s/ Michelle Howke Whitefish City Clerk

May 12, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30356

Sealed proposals for construction of the Bissell Septic Improvements are being made by invitation only for General entractors and will be received by the Olney_Bissell School at the Jackola Engineering and Architecture office located at 2250 Highway 93 South, Kalispell 59901 until 12:00 Noon local time on May 29th, 2024, and will be privately opened and shortly thereafter. Bids will be received for a single contract. This project consists of removal and replacement of the school's septic system. The proposed system will be an Orenco Advan-Tex treatment system with an

and replacement of the school's septic system. The proposed system will be an Orenco Advan-Tex treatment system with an approximate capacity of 2,000 gallons per day. The project includes but is not limited to new gravity piping, primary tankage, (2) AX100 AdvanTex filter pods, recirculation and dose tanks, pumps, controls, and associated drainfield.

The Contract Documents consisting of the Drawings and Project Manual and may be examined and obtained by calling Jackola Engineering and Architecture at 406-755-3208 or viewed at www.Montanabid.com. Each general contractor bidding the project must contact Jackola to be added to the plan holders list to be notified of addendums. Additional paper copies can be acquired for \$90,00 per set, none of which will be refunded. The Drawings and Project Manual may also be examined at the following locations: Jackola Engineering & Archi-

tecture 2250 Hwy. 93 South Kalispell, MT 59901 406-755-3208 There will be a pre-bid conference and tour for this project commencing at the Olney Bissell School, 5955 Farm to Market Road in Whitefish at 1 pm on Thursday, May 16th, 2024. Interested contractors are encour-

aged to attend.

Each bid or proposal must be accompanied by a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond payable to Olney Bissell School in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid. Successful Bidder shall furnish an approved Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount. Insurance meeting required limits shall be provided by the successful Bidder as evidenced by a certificate of insurance.

No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled time for the opening of bids as set forth above. The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals received, to waive informalities, to postpone the award of the contract for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) days, and to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid which is the best interest of the Owner.

May 12, 19, 26, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30376

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER FOR SALE FLATHEAD NA-TIONAL FOREST

The Farm To Mill DxP Sale is located within Portions of sections 8-16, 21-23, 26-28, 33,34, T30N, R23W; Flathead County, State of Montana, PMM. The Forest Service will receive Sealed and Oral bids at SO, Kalispell, MT before or at the time of public bid opening at 2:00 PM local time on 06/18/2024 followed by oral bidding for an estimated volume of 14131 ton of Douglas-fir and Other sawtimber, and 3556 ton of Lodgepole Pine sawtimber marked or otherwise designated for cutting. In addition, there is within the sale area an estimated volume of 7671 ton of Combined Softwood non-saw that the bidder agrees to remove at a fixed rate. Sale contains specified roads with an estimated public works construction cost of \$254,500.82. Bidders qualifying as small business concerns under the Small Business Act may, when submitting a bid, elect for the Forest Service to build permanent roads. Additional information concerning this option is in the prospectus. The Forest Service reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Interested parties may obtain a prospectus from the office listed below. A prospectus, bid form, and complete information concerning the timber, the conditions of sale, and submission of bids is available to the public from the Flathead National Forest Supervisor's Office, 650 Wolf Pack Way Kalispell, MT USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

May 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30377

Montana 11th Judicial District Court Flathead County

In re the Marriage of: Ashley Walters, Petitioner and Scott Walters,

Respondent.

Case No: DR-24-99

DANNI COFFMAN

Summons for Publication

NOTICE TO: Respondent Scott

You are named in a petition to dissolve your marriage. Unless you respond in 21 days, the court may decide against you without you being heard and give Petitioner everything asked for in the petition. You must submit your written response within 21 calendar days. The 21 day period starts the day after the last date of publication of this notice. If the final day falls on a weekend or court holiday, you may file your response on the next business day.

You must file your written response with the Clerk of District Court at: 920 South Main and serve a copy of your answer on the Petitioner.

Date this 15th day of April, 2024.

(Seal)

PEG L. ALLISON Clerk of Court

/s/Meagan Ngo

Deputy Clerk

May 19, 26 and June 2, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30378

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the requirements of § 2-2-302, MCA, the Board of Trustees of Deer Park School District No. 2 intend to take action on the following matter at a Board meeting to be held on the 4th day of June 2024, at 8:15a.m. in the Deer Park School office:

The possible employment of a Tana Anderson who is related to Gary Anderson by affinity (marriage) within the second degree for the position of Food Service Director/Office Aide, and;

The possible employment of a Samantha Marcus who is related to Gary Anderson by consanguinity (blood relation) within the first degree for the position of Paraeducator, and;

Kelly Lundie who is related to Patrick Lundie by affinity (marriage) within the second degree for the position of Volleyball Coach.

The possible employment of a

ments or objections prior to said Board Meeting, please direct all such inquiries to:

If you have any questions, com-

Sheri Modderman, Superintendent
Deer Park School District #2
Phone Number: 892-5388
Fax Number: 892-3504

May 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30380

Public Notice

On Wednesday July 10th, 2024. Treweek Mini Storage will be having an auction at 3220 US Hwy 93 South, Kalispell, MT. Starting at 5:30 pm. In pursuant of Montana Code Annotated 70-6-411, 70-6-601, and 70-6-420. Proceeds to satisfy lien. Unit goes to the highest bidder for cash. Auction is subject to redemption by tenants on or before July 1st, 2024. Units are as follows:
Donald Kaufmann-306 Michelle Rice-212
Don Leuty-278
John Nord-170
Thomas Harding-260
Donald Kaufmann-305
Tabbetha Clouse-168
Stephan Thompson-6701
Kimberly Purser-7501

May 19 and June 30, 2024 MNAXLP

Ann Mccortison-148

Joseph Mihalko-92

Garrett Myers-234

NO. 30381

Montana Department of Com-

Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan – which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and **Emergency Solutions Grant** (ESG) programs for each respective period – are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of funds.

Input for the development of the plans will be received through June 20, 2024, for the Consolidated Plan, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan. These documents, once developed, will be available for further public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is

invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 9:30 am MST on Monday, June 3, 2024.

The public hearing will be held on Zoom, and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/ConsolidatedPlan/Updates.

All comments pertaining to the Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST on June 20, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST on June 25, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 pm on May 29, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 pm del 29 de mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

May, 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30382

Canvas of Votes and Declaration of Results

CANVASS OF VOTES CAST AT THE BIFORK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38 ELECTION, FLATHEAD & LAKE COUNTIES, ON THE 7th DAY OF MAY, 2024

OFFICE NAME OF CANDIDATE NUMBER OF VOTES

Bigfork High School Trustee Dan W. Elwell 239

Bigfork High School Trustee Carrie Garber

We hereby certify that this constitutes a full, true and complete canvass of the number of votes cast, and declaration of results of Bigfork School District, No. 38, Flathead and Lake Counties for the offices and propositions enumerated and we hereby declare elected the individuals listed receiving the highest number of votes.

Attest my hand this 15th day of May, 2024.

Board of Trustees: Paul Sandry Zack Anderson Deb Johnson Ben Woods Carol Field Julie Kreiman Dan Elwell

Lacey Porrovecchio, Election Administrator

May 19, 2024 MNAXLP

NO. 30384

Montana 11th Judicial District Court Flathead County

In the Matter of the Name Change of Alyvia Rose Bisbee: Alyvia Rose Bisbee, Petitioner

Cause No.: DV-24-552

Notice of Hearing on Name Change

Robert B Allison

This is notice that Petitioner has asked the District Court for a change of name from Alyvia Rose Bisbee to Liv Rose. The hearing will beheld at the Justice Center in Flathead County, 920 South Main, Kalispell Montana on 06/12/2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Date: April 17, 2024

PEG L. ALLISON Clerk of District Court

BY: /s/ Michelle Davis Deputy Clerk of Court Michelle Davis

May 19, 26 and June 2, 9, 2024 MNAXLP

LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 Announces the Fourth Five-Year Review for the Upper Familia Creek Mining Area Superfued Site In Lewis and Clark County, Montains The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Hogon 8 An-nounces the Fourth Five-Year Review for the Upper Termite Announces the Fourth Five-Year Review for the Upper Termite

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Barnicoal dans Sepa gov est current site informal on is only available online at: www.eps.gov/juperfund/upper-termin May 23, 28, 2004 COL MT-20026# MNAXLP

Legals

Twin Creek Housing Invitation to Bid INVITATION FOR BIDS NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS for the Twin Creek

Housing project.
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Section 3 reporting requirements and project bidding information.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be viewed at
the office of Mosaic Afchiscore Isolated at 317 K. Crisis Are.

The office of Mosaic Afchiscore Isolated at 317 K. Crisis Are.

Include the Heiner MT. Construction Decisionates soft with only
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and subcontractors must have an active registration in

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Department of Commerce prior to contract or subcontract

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Board of Housing, Morians Department of Commerce

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Notice of Heisring on Name Change Montana First Judicial District Court Lewis & Clark County Cause No: CDU2024-24 in the Matter of the Name Change of Matthe Elizabeth Rodriguez De Schooz. The since the Period County of the Name Change of Name Period County of the County of the Name Change of Institute Court for a change of name from Martine Elizabeth Rodriguez De Schooz. The same School. The theorem with the orthogonal district Court for a change of name for the Rodriguez De School. The theorem with the orthogonal district Court for a change of name of the Rodriguez De School. The theorem with the orthogonal district County of the Rodriguez De School. The theorem with the County of the Rodriguez De School. The Rodriguez De Rodriguez De School. The Rodriguez De Rodrigue

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Notice to Creditors - Halverson Estate

Notice to Creditors - Halverson Est Chourt July 1 (1975) (

BRET A. HALVERSON,
Decosand
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HALVERSON, all AREESA ANDREWS, Personal Representations, from mooget requested, in caste of Robord Jack Crowley, Flood P.L.P. 900 N. Lad Chance Galich, Suite 200, Nelsona, M.T.

SROT, or filed with the Claim of the above-emitted Court.

Control of the State of Bret A. Halverson
May 16, 23, 30, 2024 COL-MT-900234 MNAXLP

Robert L Myers

Hover R. Goulbu P. Gover L. Myers GOETTEL LAW PE GOETTEL MYERS Allorney for the Estate MONTANA FIRST LOYEN ALLOR AND CLARK COUNTY CAUSE NO CAUSE NO. A DOP-2024-29 CAUSE NO

Cause No.: ADP-2024-5, Judge: Mike Menahan IN RETHE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF, ROBERT L. MYERS, Deceased:

Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HERRBY GIVEN that Susan Artice And Thomas

Anton has been appointed as the Personal Representative of
the above-names statute. At persons honory claims against fire
asid decedent are required to present their claims within foar
(al) months after the date of the first politication of the relico or
and claims will be relieved barren.

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Court GOETTEL LAW P.C.

Attorney for the Estate of Robert L. Myers May 16, 23, 30, 2024 COL-MT-200238 MNAXLP

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Petition for Name Change (Adult) Montana First Judicial District Court Lewis And Clark County Cause No. 50V-2024-245 n the Matter of the Name Change of whether Res London.

Notice of Hearing on Name Change
This is notice that Petromer has tasked the Detrict Court for a
Change of name from Annable size Losofski to Amanca Bair
Station. The heating will be on \$564-2024 at \$3,00m The
heating will be at the Counthouse in Lewis And Clark Countly.
Date Get 15:0024.

The Get LARANCE Clark
Old LARANCE Clark
New 2, 5, 18, 3,004.001.017-208201 MNAXLP

Cause No: DDG-2024-1, in the Matter of Guardianship of m-nor Madison Whitman. This publication serves as Notice Of Helang and for June (30%, 2024 at 1/30pm at the Lewis & Cotek County Countrouse Served by Wolf & Carri Whitman,

May 14, 16, 23, 2024 COL-MT-200222 MNAXLP

NOTICE OF HEARING
MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2028
The Mondam Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2028
The 2025-2023 Coresolation Consolated Plan for Hearing of Community Development (Development Hearing)
The 2025-2023 Coresolation Plan and Equity Plan — which summarize the actions activities, and resources available for the State of Mondama's Community Development Black Geart (Hearing)
The 2025-2023 Coresolation Plan and Equity Plan — which summarize the Actions activities, and resources available for the State of Mondama's Community Development Black Geart (Hearing)
(ESG) programs for each respective period — are being draft-els. To inform the development of these plans in the public is officially in the Public of the State Other Community and toucking directly ment of the Public of the State Other Community and toucking directly ment of the Public of the State Other Community and toucking directly ment of the Public of t

merce at DOCCIANFAMILMI gov no later than 5 x0 pm on May 252.202.

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Imago de 3294.

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Cray D. Chanton
Motice To Cruditors
SMITH LAW FIRM, PLC
SWINS SIGH Avenue PO Box 1691
Helena, MT 59034
Telephone (2004) 442-2980
E-Mail Construction Standard, Mainten
Alloway to the Estimate Standard, Mainten
MONTANA FIRST
JUDICIAL DISTRICT COUNTY
Cause Judge: Mike Menahan
the THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
SANDRAM MAILLIN
CENTER OF THE ESTATE OF
SANDRAM MAILLIN
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GYEN may Broops Bartisch has been aboonted as the Postroonal Representative of the above-rained estate. All postors having claims against the sact decedent are required to present their claims within tour (4) months after the date of the first publication of the notice or said claims will be hovere barried.

Network barried.

Clemins must either be mailed to BRIDGET BARTSCH. Personal Flepresemative, router feccient, required, in care of symil Law Firm. P.C., P.O. Box. 1591 Holena, MT 5960A. or Symil Law Firm. P.C. and bove-millibled Coom.

SMITH_LAW Firm. P.C. and bove-millibled Coom.

Altomay for the Estate of Spanica M. Hamire May 22, 30, June 9, 2024 COL. MT-500265 MMAXLIP.

Notice of Hearing on Name Change Montana First Judicial District Court Lewis And Clark County Cause No: 8DV-2024-274 the Malbir of the Name Change of athryn Rone Sunton

Notice of Nearing on Name Change.
This is notice that Penticese has asked the Detrict Court for a change of name from Rathryn Rose.
Van Horn. The hearing will be on 0.4424 at 9.30 am. The hearing will be at the Courthouse in Lewes And Clark County.
Date 472-428.
April 242-428.
April 242-428

Baseball

From B1

championship in the second season of baseball being an all-class sport in Montana. More Class AA schools with larger enrollments are expected to be joining the sport come next year.

Two Class AA teams were playing this year. Florence beat them a total of three times, including knocking out East division champion Belgrade in the state semifinals.

"Don't underestimate the B schools," Roth said. "We beat two AA teams this year. eliminated one. It was fun."

The baseball championship continues the run of state crowns Florence has won. The Falcons are the three-time defending State B football champions.

Many of the players on the baseball team also were on the football squad.

"We just kept the culture alive," Wagner said. "It's kind of an expectation. Our teammates battle each other pretty hard. It keeps competition in the organization. It's really cool that we get to experience state championships as a B school."

Florence's run through the state tournament featured three different types of games. The Falcons built a big lead and held off Eureka's comeback bid to win 11-7 in the quarterfinals.

They defeated Belgrade, 8-0, in the semifinals behind junior Mason Arlington's no-hitter, which Hinsdale called "probably the best pitching performance I've ever seen." They then "Ithought to myself, 'Man, toughed out a low-scoring they doubted me. It's my win over Hamilton.

"It means the world to me." Roth said. "We put in the work. We never had a day off all season. We were working every day. These boys deserve it. The energy was electric. It was a great atmosphere to be

The title tilt was an all-Bitterroot affair between towns separated by less than 30 minutes. It was also an all-Southwest division affair between regular-season champion Florence and runner-up Hamilton.

Three teams from the Southwest finished in the top four at state. Butte, the hadn't been here before and No. 3 seed from the division, lost to Columbia Falls in the third-place game.

"This season on ence was really tough," Hinsdale said. "We had three do. teams out of the last four that were left in the tournament. The competition just all year long just made our team tougher. Every game we couldn't take a day off. We had that grind all the way through. I think it made us a better team towards the end."

rubber match between Florence and Hamilton. The teams split their two regular-season games, a 1-0 Hamilton road win on March 22 and a 6-5 Florence road win on April 11.

championship game would be another nail-biter. The Falcons built a 2-0 lead in the third inning, saw Hamilton tie it in the fourth but Florence fought back to go ahead in the fifth.

"I'm just blown away;" Wagner said. "I'm so proud of my teammates and myself. We got a sophomore infield that last game. Really just impressed with how we worked through adversity when adversity struck. Teammates just kept up in the dugout. Everybody mattered that game."

Florence finished the season with an 18-1 record. The Falcons kept their focus to win 17 consecutive games to close their campaign.

"For the most part, they play pretty loose," Hinsdale said. "Our practices are pretty fun. They know they can win every game. Every school that we played, most of them have been tough games, but they work hard and they just get it done."

Florence's championship came in Hinsdale's first season as head coach. He had been an assistant last year for then-head coach Patrick Duchien Sr.

"Everything was basically the same as last year," Hinsdale said. "The kids stepped up this year. We lost some good players from last year, but we had other ones step up. We had four eighth graders on our roster going into this tournament. That tells you something about the future of Florence baseball."

Roth, one of just three seniors, played the role of shutdown pitcher who hadn't thrown much before this season. His specialty is catching, which is what he's going to play at Blue Mountain Community College in

He stepped up later in the season by taking on more of a pitching role and he came through on the biggest stage. The righty limited Hamilton to two runs on four hits and four walks while striking out eight over seven innings.

"I tried to stay calm," he said after losing a 2-0 lead. "Emotions got a little to me in the dugout, but we came back very well. Said sorry because those are my runs I gave up. Came back hot and I thank my boys for it."

Wagner was the sophomore who rose to the occasion in a major way at the plate. His RBI sacrifice fly in the fifth inning broke a 2-2 tie as he drove in older brother Drew Wagner.

another pressure-packed situation after Hamilton intentionally walked Mason Arlington with two outs in the sixth inning. Wagner smacked an RBI single for an insurance run and a 4-2 lead after a dropped foul ball gave him new life.

"I thought to myself, 'Man, time to shine," he said.

Wagner had both of Florence's RBIs. The Falcons' other two runs came on fielding errors by Hamilton in the third inning.

The Broncs, who pulled off comeback wins over Columbia Falls and Butte earlier in the tournament, erased the 2-0 deficit in the fourth inning on Atticus Southwell's two-out RBI single and Andrew Ricklefs' bases-loaded walk. However, they left the bases packed that inning and stranded eight runners in the

"For a few of our guys, they the moment was a little big and it showed," Hamilton head coach Jason Goligoski said. "We made some mistakes that we don't normally

"That's not to take anything away from Florence. I tip my hat to them. But you can see where those three football titles in a row paid off. They've been there. The moment wasn't too big. They embrace it. They took it."

Hamilton finished the sea-The championship game son 16-4 and put together a served as the season-long 12-game winning streak before the loss in the finale. The Broncs' four defeats came by a total of six runs, and none of those losses were by more than two tallies.

They'll graduate five seniors from this year's team It was only fitting that the and will return a young nucleus that includes sophomores Cash Lawrence and Jackson Lubke who both started on the mound at state. Lubke held Florence to four runs (two earned) on seven hits and three walks over five innings.

> "It's a growing, learning process," Goligoski said. "We're still really, really young. The foundation is built in Hamilton to have a quality baseball team. I expect us to be here the next three, four, five years.

> "The bright spot is last year we placed fourth, this year we're second. We got one more spot to get and I think with this group that's where our goals will be."

Columbia Falls 16, **Butte 2, third-place**

After finishing the regular season with a bang in winning a Northwest Conference title, Columbia Falls finished off its first trip to the state baseball tournament with fireworks Saturday night.

It wasn't the state championship the Wildcats were hoping for at the start of the week, but it was an impres-



TANNER ECKER MISSOULIAN

The Hamilton Broncs cheer after scoring the tying run during the State All Class Baseball Tournament championship game between the Hamilton Broncs and the Florence-Carlton Falcons at Ogren-Allegiance Park in Missoula on Saturday.

Ogren-Allegiance Park in the third-place game. They raced to a five-run lead in the first three innings and finished off Butte in five by virtue of the 10-run rule, 16-2.

Columbia Falls awarded its first state baseball trophy afterwards.

The Wildcats (18-3) advanced to the third-place game by outlasting Belgrade, 10-9, in extra innings in a loser-out game on Saturday morning. The Bulldogs (12-8) moved on to the trophy round by racing past Eureka, 11-6.

Wildcats coach Chad Green got a little emotional after his team's season-ending win.

"You know, they had ad-He came to bat again in versity last year - we lose our head coach Billy Sapa. and the boys made it their goal to get here this year and get a trophy," Green said. "This one was for Billy. And then we also had a player last year, Josiah Kilman, who was murdered down in college this year. This one is for

Green went with Billy Sapa's son, junior Reggie Sapa, as his starting pitcher. He pitched two scoreless frames before being forced to leave due to pitch count guidelines.

sive performance at blustery win, with help from relievers Nico Young and Dawson Iuntunen.

> "Reggie is dealing with the adversity the most, losing his dad during baseball season," Green said of 2023. "I'm super proud of Reggie and all the boys."

> Take away that one rough inning against Hamilton in Thursday's quarterfinal round and Columbia Falls might have been playing for a title Saturday night.

"That's baseball," Sapa said with a smile. "But this was pretty awesome, and we're looking to come back and maybe get first place next year.

"Pitching gets a little tighter when you have to play four games instead of three, being in the consolation bracket. But pitching was one of our strengths - we've got a lot of guys that can throw strikes — and we've got good defense?

Good defense, indeed. Senior center fielder Kellen Kroger made two rally-killing shoestring catches and senior Cody Schweikert made a diving highlight-reel catch at first base that stymied another Butte rally.

"We were definitely really tired after last game, going

and we just came out and basically said hey, this is our last time we get to play, might as well dive for everything," said Schweikert, a University of Montana football recruit who played quarterback for the Wildcats.

"Usually on first base you don't get much action because a majority of the batters are righties. So luckily these guys have a lefty who pulled one hard and I just, I don't know, I didn't even think I was going to catch it. I basically closed my eyes and dove."

The Wildcats piled up 14 hits to nine for Butte, who hurt itself with five errors. Columbia Falls freshman Jett Pitts was most impressive of all, going 4 for 4 with five RBIs. Sapa had two hits, including a triple, and two RBIs. Kroger and AC Chilson also had two hits apiece.

Sophomore Logan Carden had a big game for Butte. He had three hits, including a double, and drove in a run. Senior teammate Alex Jorgensen had a pair of singles.

Columbia Falls 10, Belgrade 9, loser-out

Columbia Falls' Dayne Tu delivered a walk-off single to center field that scored AC Chilson from second base with two outs in the bottom of the eighth inning in a loser-out game on Saturday morning.

Chilson had tied the game at 9-9 when he drove in Cody Schweikert with a one-out double to right field. Schweikert, a Montana Grizzlies football signee, had started the inning with a walk against 1-2 at the state tournament. relief pitcher Gage Banks

That marked the third consecutive inning the Wildcats had erased a deficit after leading 5-1 through three frames. They scored one run on an error in the sixth to tie frank.gogola@406mtsports. Reggie ended up with the (extra innings) with Belgrade, it 6-6, two in the seventh on com.

sacrifice flies by Reggie Sapa and Kellen Kroger to knot it 8-8 and two in the eighth to win the game.

Belgrade had gone ahead 9-8 in the top of the eighth when Landon Wanders drew a one-out walk, advanced on an error, reached third on a wild pitch and scored on Sawyer Olson's sacrifice bunt against reliever Kroger.

Columbia Falls finished with 13 hits to Belgrade's 10. The Panthers committed four errors to the Wildcats' three, leading to six unearned runs.

Belgrade (15-5) finished 1-2 at the tournament after placing third last year.

Butte 11, Eureka 6, loser-out

Butte scored three runs in three separate innings to win going away in a loser-out game on Saturday morning.

Logan Carden helped pace the Bulldogs by going 2 for 4 with four RBIs and one run scored. Cayde Stajcar was 3 for 3 with a home run, one RBI and four runs scored.

Quinn Cox and Matthew Donaldson both drove in two runs for Butte and Tocher Lee scored twice. The Bulldogs put up seven runs against starter Tristan Butts and finished with nine hits and

nine walks. Stajcar got the win on the mound, throwing four innings of no-hit ball. He allowed one run while walking seven and striking out eight. Eureka totaled four hits, 13 walks and left the bases loaded in the seventh.

Eureka (16-5-1) finished

Frank Gogola is the Senior Sports Reporter at the Missoulian and 406 MT Sports. Follow him on X @ FrankGogola or email him at

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

Invitation to Bid

Notice is hereby given that the Board to Trustees of School District No. 1, Butte-Silver Bow, MT will receive sealed bids up to 2:30 P.M. (local time) on June 4, 2024, at the Butte School District Administration Building, located at 111 N. Montana Street in Butte, MT and will be publicly opened and read aloud in the District Clerks Office Area Room for Diesel Fuel. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Bids shall be submitted on the Bid Form provided with the specification documents. Specification documents may be secured at the School District No. 1 Business Office, 111 N.

Bidder shall clearly identify on envelope

Bid Diesel Fuel 2024/2027 Bidder may not withdraw his bid for at least thirty (30) days after the scheduled time for receipt of bids. The successful bidder shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal ordinances, regulations, and requirements.
Bids or proposals received after the time specified will not be

The Board of Trustees, School District No. 1, Butte, Montana

reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, and waive any irregularities or informalities. By Order of Board of Trustees

Butte School District No. 1 Ann Boston, Chairperson ATTEST: Kevin Patrick, District Clerk May 21, 28, June 1, 2024 COL-MT-300112 MNAXLP

DP-24-55

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID LEE REDFERN,

Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DANIEL REDFERN has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the abovenamed estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to LIZA L. DENNEHY, ESQ., the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 2801 S. Montana St. Butte, MT 59701, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. DATED this 13 day of May, 2024. May 21, 28, June 4, 2024 COL-MT-300130 MNAXLP

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PHILL CABLE, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that LIZA L. DENNEHY has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the abovenamed estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months af-ter the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to LIZA L. DENNEHY, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR, AS PERSONAL REP-RESENTATIVE, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 155 W. Granite St., Rm. 206B, Butte, Montana 59701, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. DATED this 1 day of May, 2024.

May 7, 14, 21, 2024 COL-MT-300105 MNAXLP

DG-21-19 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARILYN FROST, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DAVE FENCHAK has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to LIZA L. DEN-NEHY, ESQ, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 2801 S. Montana St., Butte, Montana, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. DATED this 1 day of May,

May 7, 14, 21, 2024 COL-MT-300106 MNAXLP

LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Hearing MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2024
The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan - which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period - are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furenerai comments regarding performance and use of funds. Input for the development of the plans will be received through

June 20, 2024, for the Consolidated Plan, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan. These docu-ments, once developed, will be available for further public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 9:30 am MST on Monday, June 3, 2024. The public hearing will be held on Zoom, and presentation ma-

terials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce. mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce. mt.gov/Consolidated- Plan/Updates. All comments pertaining to the Consolidated Plan must be sub-

mitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST on June 20, 2024, All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to

the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST on June 25, 2024. Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division

Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alterna tive accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 pm on May

29, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 pm del 29 de

mayo de 2024. Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNIT

May 21, 2024 COL-MT-300128 MNAXLP

INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given that Carpenters Union Hall, Inc. is requesting sealed bids or proposals for the Carpenters Union Hall Elevator, located at 156 West Granite Street, Butte, Montana. Bids are hereby invited and will be received at or prior to the hour of 4:00 P.M., Thursday, June 13th, 2024, at Carpenters Union Hall, 156 West Granite Street, Butte, Montana 59701. Said Bids or proposals will be privately opened and evaluated by The Carpenters Union Hall, Inc., Board of Directors.

Bids shall be submitted for GENERAL CONSTRUCTION on the forms provided with the contract documents. A single set of contract documents may be procured by bidding General Contractors, Sub-Contractors, and Major Suppliers at the office of the Architect, WALTER H. HINICK & ASSOCIATES, 100 East Broadway, Butte, Montana, 59701, with a non-refundable fee of \$150.00 for each plan set.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted at the Carpenters

Union Hall, 156 West Granite Street, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 30th, 2024, for interested bidders. Attendance by authorized representatives of General Contractors & Sub-Contractors is encouraged for all bidders.

Accordingly, Carpenters Union Hall, Inc. reserves the right to negotiate an agreement based upon fair and reasonable compensation for the scope of work and services proposed, as well as the right to reject any or all bids and accept the bid deemed to represent the best interests of Carpenters Union Hall, Inc. May 16, 18, 21, 23, 2024 COL-MT-300120 MNAXLP

Hardin's Mariah Aragon wants to 'pave the way' for other Native kids

BRIAR NAPIER 406 MT Sports

LAUREL - Mariah Aragon has done more than enough in her high school running career to earn a NCAA Division I scholarship, but until recently, a road block stood in front of her on the way to the finish line.

The Hardin senior, who is a Class A state champion in both the 1,600and 3,200-meter runs and placed in the top five at the Class A state cross country meet in three consecutive years, had been offered for some time to run collegiately at Santa Clara. But when she applied, was accepted and got her financial aid letter back, her heart sank.

The school offered what she said was a "generous" aid package between a partial athletic scholarship and some academic ones, but being a private institution in California's notoriously expensive San Francisco Bay Area, Aragon was still about \$37,000 short of first-year costs after receiving her aid package.

But as she had fallen in love with the school after she toured the campus in February and built a relationship with people in Santa Clara's cross country and track and field programs, Aragon persisted on making it happen.

She filed an appeal letter to the school's financial aid office in which she sold herself by listing her credentials - such as her running achievements and her be-running history, Aragon

ing that she, being enrolled Northern Cheyenne and part Crow, would add to Santa Clara University's Native American population, which was .1% of the student body in 2019.

Aragon got a response back from the school Tuesday - and it was to let her know that she earned a full scholarship.

It was a no-brainer to Aragon to sign with the Broncos at that point, and her family proudly announced it over social media Friday.

Aragon, meanwhile, is thankful that the stress and uncertainty of her future plans is over, especially ahead of the final meet of her high school career.

"It was really such a great moment," Aragon said of her reaction to getting receiving a full ride. "I prayed about it a lot, like every single day ... I truly have no other way to explain it but it being God's favor and God's goodness, because there was nothing else I could really do at that point but just wait and pray.

"I just know that I'm going to get faster (at Santa Clara). I know I have so much potential and the coaches, they see that and I'm just so thankful that they do. And I'm just ready to set some new PRs and really inspire my community to go Divi-

Another standout in the Bulldogs' vaunted distance

ing Hardin's Class of 2024 pulled off the 1,600 and valedictorian — while not- 3,200 state-title double in 2022 as a sophomore at the Class A state meet in Butte. Her consistent high-placing finishes in cross country (third in 2021, second in 2022 and fourth in 2023) also helped Hardin win back-toback Class A titles in 2022 and 2023, too.

More hardware could be in store for Aragon at her final Class A state meet — scheduled to be held May 24 and 25 at the Laurel Sports Complex as per Saturday evening's most recently updated Class A rankings from this season on athletic.net, she ranks second in the 800 (2 minutes, 18.33 seconds), third in the 1,600 (5:15.42) and fifth in the 3,200 (11:42.74). But for Aragon, the legacy she wants to leave behind goes beyond fast times.

Aragon went at-length in describing how she wants to "pave the way" for talented athletes and/or students both at Hardin and across Native American reservations to branch out and shoot for a D-I college, go out of the state for future schooling, or both, much like former Hardin runner Sydney Little Light (who won a NAIA national championship at Rocky Mountain College before spending this year as a graduate transfer at Eastern Kentucky) has done.

Aragon hopes that her future move to a West Coast Conference college acts as a potential spark.



Hardin's Mariah Aragon crosses the finish line in first place for the girls 3,200-meter run during the 2022 Montana State Class A Track Meet in Butte on May 27, 2022.

opportunity," Aragon said. "I'm really blessed that I've had a supportive family and a supportive community to just help me push myself, and it took a lot of work. I just knew when I started my career, I was like, 'I want to be the best in the classroom and on the field? I made those goals for myself, and I think the only part that limits people is their commitment and dedication."

In a bit of a warmup for the state meet, Aragon and Hardin got ready for the big stage at Friday's Eastern A Divisional meet at Laurel from Friday to Saturday, with the Bulldogs finishing third to winner Havre (128) and runner-up Laurel (96).

Aragon won the 800 in her aforementioned PR time while finishing 1-2 with teammate Karis Bright wings-Pease in the 1,600, only crossing .04 behind in second place with a 5:18.93. Hardin coach Cindy Farmer said Aragon was scratched from the 3,200 on Saturday as Aragon had already run the 800 earlier that after-"It means a lot, it's a great noon, wanting to avoid in-

jury risk so close to state.

Aragon should be roaring and ready to go the next time she steps on Laurel's track soon, however, and she'll be doing it with a clear mind and her college worries at

But regardless of how she finishes her high school career, her impact at Hardin as a top-of-the-class runner and student going on to see the world beyond Montana

has already been solidified. "You have to apply yourself," Aragon said, "and I

just feel like I'm just kind of a beacon to show people like, if you apply yourself and you put in the effort, you can do it. The only thing that limits you is yourself."

Email Briar Napier at briar. napier@406mtsports.com or follow him on Twitter/X at @BriarNapier

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Legals

AUDIT PUBLICATION STATEMENT An audit of Darby Public Schools has been conducted by Den-

ning, Downey & Associates, CPA's, P.C. The audit covered the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Section 2-7-521, MCA, requires the publication of the following summary of significant

Summary of Significant Findings

The audit report for Darby Public Schools for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, were unmodified.

The audit report also contained several other auditors' reports. Following is a list of the reports and a summary of the findings included in each. This is only a summary and is not intended to

be used as an audit report.

1. Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards. This report contained findings in the following matters: a) 2023-001 Payroll Liabilities Related to Health Insurance b) 2023-002 State Transportation Revenue Classification

2. Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guid-ance. This report contained findings in the following matters: None were reported for this audit.

3. Report on Prior Audit Report Recommendations. This report summarized the findings from the prior audit report, and noted the action taken on them.

a) 2022-001 Accounts Payable (Implemented) b) 2022-002 Unrecorded Due from Other Governments (Im-

plemented) c) 2022-003 Budget Overdraft - Repeated 2021-002 (Imple-

Public Inspection of Audit Report

The complete audit report is on file in its entirety and open to public inspection at the Darby Public Schools Business Office.

Very Truly Yours,

Lisa Poe - Business Manager

Darby Public Schools May 21, 2024 COL-MT-500066 MNAXLP

NOTICE OF HEARING

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2024
The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan). The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan — which

summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), lousing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period - are being draft-ed. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively fur-thering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of funds.

Input for the development of the plans will be received through June 20, 2024, for the Consolidated Plan, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan. These documents, once developed, will be available for further public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 9:30 am MST on Monday, June 3, 2024.
The public hearing will be held on Zoom, and presentation ma-

terials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce. mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce. mt.gov/Consolidated- Plan/Updates.

All comments pertaining to the Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST

on June 20, 2024. All comments pertaining to the Equity Plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 pm MST on June

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division

Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue

P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 pm on May

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 pm del 29 de

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY May 21, 2024 COL-MT-500067 MNAXLP

MHSLA DIVISION I LACROSSE

A Dynasty Continues: Bozeman lacrosse rolls to seventh MHSLA state championship

DANIEL SHEPARD 406 MT SPORTS

EAST HELENA — Six breast and sporting g Bozeman's All-State lacrosse honorees returned to their comrades sitting in a semi-circle on the turf like gladiators returning from

Occupying half the Montana High School Lacrosse Association first-team, Pi Taylor, Bodin Flair, Harrison Wolpoe, Jack Mayr, Carter Fust, and Austin Baller. were cheered by hundreds gathered Saturday as they accepted accolades, their gear (helmets, gloves, sticks) strewn on the battlefield in the foreground of a setting

State champions once again, Bozeman tossed that gear airborne celebrating a 10-4 victory over Northwest Avalanche (Kalispell), a seventh consecutive title (in eight years).

"It's really just hard to describe," Taylor, a threetime state champion, said. "Probably one of the better feelings I've had in my entire

"[The feeling] after so much stress but also excitement for the win kinda combined is such a crazy feeling," Wyatt Stoddart, another three-timer, said. "Last game. I don't know how to describe it. It's hon-

estly just a magical feeling." Bozeman, fittingly, scored seven straight goals to seize control Saturday.

Stoddart, Cooper Walker and Bode Naffziger (assist Sawyer Rogers) all scored within a 90-second avalanche to conclude the second quarter.

Wolpoe assisted on two goals less than three minutes into the third, and Flair's second score of the game pushed Bozeman into double figures.

"We've been trying to put a full game together all season, and I think we finally



state champion goalie, said.

"To play our best [in] the last game of the season is pretty special. I think all the gears were starting to click and we were playing the way we should."

Avenging a week-old 9-8 overtime loss to Kalispell, different Bozeman players (Stoddart, Flair, Walker, Henry Scott) each scored two goals Saturday.

"Honestly, this is the best I've seen this team [focused], ever, this last week," Taylor, an aspiring NAVY fighter pilot, said. "We got punched in the face a little last weekend and we came back ready to

"We knew they were coming for our spot and this time we were ready for them."

Baller, a senior who ended two different sporting careers (football) with a state title, leaves an unmatched legacy.

Victory No. 60 in 64 attempts over a four-year span, only Bozeman's team name graced a plaque on the silver state hardware, their 2019 title and three since (four counting Saturday) sandwiching "the lost season" that was 2020

Turning back opponents' best since 2021, Baller picked up All-State selection No. 4 Saturday, completing his club career with only two in-state losses (both to Kalispell) - the same number cause we do things right and

did it," Baller, a four-time of state titles won against Kalispell.

> "His attention to detail," Wolpoe said of what makes Baller so good. "He just knows the game...

"He knows where people are and he's a true teammate, a true captain, and an allaround great person...He's always been the best leader. You can't deny him in the goal, he's a brick wall."

Legacy, by one definition. means "something that is passed on."

For Bozeman, that's how

Handed down from class to class like the trophy float ing from player-to-player for celebratory photos Sat-

Stoddart said it's a mentality, "getting the best shot for our team," a system where players anticipate the best opportunities and patterns, both offensively and defensively, learned only from watching and replicating and compounding under good tutelage.

As the victorious team spilled from the sideline, their shadows long on the green turf, Bozeman players flung bits required for battle into the air, no longer

Some lifted teammates off the ground, others grabbed each other around the neck. All smiled.

"We've built a legacy here," Baller said. "It's be-

Bozeman's boys lacrosse team captured its seventh-High School Lacrosse Association Division I State Championship with a 10-4 victory over Northwest Avalanche (Kalispell) on Saturday in East Helena.

GARY MARSHALL,

вмдрнотоз.com

"We've built a really good culture here that knows how to win. We keep upholding our legacy year after year."

we work really hard...

Elsewhere in

Division I (men's) No. 5 seed Missoula Wild

beat No. 6 Helena West 11-6 to claim third place. Helena East beat Beartooth

12-8 for fifth place.

Email Daniel Shepard at daniel.shepard@406mtsports. com and find him on Twitter/X @IR DanielS.

LEGAL NOTICES

Stevensville Elementary School District AUDIT STATEMENT

An audit of the affairs of the Stevensville Public Schools Stevensville, Montana has been conducted by Denning, Downey &Associates, P.C. The audit covered the fiscal year(s) ended June 30, 2023.

Section 2-7-521, MCA, requires that this publication concerning the audit report nclude a statement that the audit report is on file in its entirety and open to public inspection at Ravalli Repubc, and that the Stevensville Public Schools will send a copy of the audit report to any interested person upon request.

/s/ Christy McLaren Business Manager May 21,

Sincerely

MT-500065 MNAXLP



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

_ DEFAULT Montana Newspaper Association 8789 S Redwood RD # 200 West Jordan UT 84088-5747

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Great Falls Tribune, a daily newspaper of general circulation in Cascade County, State of Montana, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue:

05/19/2024

and that the fees charged are legal. Sworn to and subscribed before on 05/19/2024

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Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

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KATHLEEN ALLEN Notary Public State of Wisconsin



Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan – which summarize the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period – are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing, and general comments regarding program performance and use of funds.

Input for the development of the plans will be received through June 20, 2024, for the Consolidated Plan, and from now until June 25, 2024, for the associated Equity Plan. These documents, once developed, will be available for further public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 9:30 am MST on Monday, June 3, 2024.

The public hearing will be held on Zoom, and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The State will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates.

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Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena. MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

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Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



Independent Record

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Helena Independent Record 2222 N. Washington St Helena, Montana 59602 (123) 456-7890

State of Florida, County of Duval, ss:

Hadley Christman, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Helena Independent Record, a newspaper of general circulation published that is a "legal newspaper" as that is published daily in the City of Helena, in the County of Lewis and Clark, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

If this certification is for the State of Montana, I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18 7 204 and 18 7 205 , MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of \$65.00 , is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

PUBLICATION DATES: May. 23 2024

NOTICE ID: 9ctn9MmTSiQvC39m4o6J

PUBLISHER ID: COL MT 200259

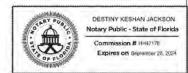
NOTICE NAME: Notice of Hearing MT Order 24053MM0

Publication Fee: \$65.00 Hadley Chroman

(Signed)

VERIFICATION

State of Florida County of Duval



Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 05/29/2024

Desting k Docker

Notary Public
Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

NOTICE OF HEARING MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE of Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 202

Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2024
The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and
Human Services announce the Needs and Strategies Public
Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and
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MST on June 20, 2024, All

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Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan

301 S. Park Avenue

P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523

DOCConPlan@mt.gov

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Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY May 23, 2024 COL-MT-200259 MNAXLP



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Montana Standard PO Box 627 Butte, Montana 59701 (406) 496-5500

State of Florida, County of Duval, ss:

Nichole Seitz, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Montana Standard, a newspaper of general circulation published that is a "legal newspaper" as that is published daily in the City of Butte, in the County of Silver Bow, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

If this certification is for the State of Montana, I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205 , MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of \$65.00 , is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

PUBLICATION DATES: May. 21 2024

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PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-300128

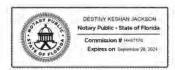
NOTICE NAME: Notice of Hearing Order 24053MM0

Nichole Sets

/Signed)

VERIFICATION

State of Florida County of Duval



Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 05/21/2024

Desting k. Ockean

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Notice of Hearing
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Joint Public Hearing: Monday, June 3, 2024 The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing

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Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division

Attention: Con Plan

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY May 21, 2024 COL-MT-300128 MNAXLP

Egli, Janelle

From: Egli, Janelle

Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 12:49 PM

To: Flynn, Julie; Megan Brace; Goldich, Rosie

Cc: Singer, Rachel

Subject: Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Needs and Strategies Public Hearing -

6/20 2 PM

All June 3rd Registrants Contacted via BCC

Good afternoon,

I am writing to notify you that Commerce has rescheduled the June 3rd Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan. The new date/time is **Thursday, June 20th, 2024, 2:00 pm**. If you are available, please register for the virtual hearing using the link highlighted below.

As a reminder, comments for Montana's Equity Plan will be accepted until Tuesday, June 25th, 2024, 5:00 pm, while comments for Montana's Consolidated Plan will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the plan is developed and a final date for document review is announced. Additionally, we will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and/or meeting. To request an accommodation, please respond to this email or call 406-841-2926.

Again, we apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your flexibility.

Best,

JANELLE EGLI Housing Development Program Specialist

MONTANA HOUSING

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
T: 406.841.2926 | M: 614.955.1446
COMMERCE.MT.GOV | HOUSING.MT.GOV

Join Zoom Meeting

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Password: 358169

Find your local number: https://mt-gov.zoom.us/u/kdCSJ1z1Jv

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JANELLE EGLI

Housing Development Program Specialist

MONTANA HOUSING

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
T: 406.841.2926 | M: 614.955.1446
COMMERCE.MT.GOV | HOUSING.MT.GOV

From: Egli, Janelle

Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 5:22 PM

To: Flynn, Julie < Julie.Flynn@mt.gov>; Megan Brace < megan.brace@candpadvisors.com>; Goldich, Rosie

<Rose.Goldich@mt.gov>

Cc: Singer, Rachel < Rachel. Singer 2@mt.gov>

Subject: Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Needs and Strategies Public Hearing

Hello,

If you attempted to login for the Consolidated Plan / Equity Plan public hearing scheduled for this morning at 9:30 am, you know that we were unable to conduct our meeting as planned. Unfortunately, we encountered some Zoom-related technical issues and were unable to access the platform until late today.

Please know that we are working to reschedule this public meeting and that we will share information with you directly once it is available.

Thank you for engaging in this process and for your patience as we pivot,

JANELLE EGLI

Housing Development Program Specialist

MONTANA HOUSING

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
T: 406.841.2926 | M: 614.955.1446
COMMERCE.MT.GOV | HOUSING.MT.GOV

Egli, Janelle

From: Montana Department of Commerce <commerce@announcements.mt.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 10:02 AM

To: Egli, Janelle

Subject: New Public Hearing Date and Time: Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan

Needs and Strategies





Photo by Montana Department of Commerce

Joint Public Hearing Notice: June 20, 2024

Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Needs and Strategies

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the rescheduled Needs and Strategies Public Hearing for the 2025-2029

Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, which summarize the actions, activities and resources available for the State of Montana's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs for each respective period are being drafted. To inform the development of these plans, the public is encouraged to share their community and housing development needs, suggested strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing and general comments regarding program performance and use of funds.

Initial input concerning the Equity Plan will be accepted until June 25, 2024, while initial input for the Consolidated Plan will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the Consolidated Plan is drafted in the fall of 2024. Plan documents, once developed, will be available for further public comment during comment periods to be announced. The 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan will cover the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2 p.m. MST on Thursday, June 20, 2024.

REGISTER HERE

The public hearing will be held on Zoom; presentation materials will be available on Commerce's <u>website</u> prior to the hearing. This event will provide the public an opportunity to give initial input for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and associated Equity Plan. The State will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing.

All written comments pertaining to the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan can be submitted to the address or email below.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523

Helena, MT 59620-0523

DOCConPlan@mt.gov

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Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



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Montana's Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and Associated Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Equity Plan

Public Hearing
June 20, 2024
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation services.

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2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Statewide Planning

The State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing a 5-year plan to guide policy and investment for housing, economic, and other community development projects.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Statewide Planning

This 5-year plan, also known as the "Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development," is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assess Montana's needs and current conditions, as well as to determine priorities and allocate HUD funding.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Statewide Planning

In conjunction with the Consolidated Plan, Montana is developing an **Equity Plan** to affirmatively furthering fair housing. Deep dive into the Equity Plan to come...





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Public Participation

There will be multiple opportunities for citizens and stakeholders to engage throughout the Equity Plan and Consolidated Plan processes.

- Upcoming Regional Meetings
 - Libby (July 24)
 - Glasgow (August 1)

Dates subject to change. See website for current information.

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Public Participation (cont'd)

- Focus groups
- Public hearings
- Surveys
 - Housing and Community Needs
 - Fair Housing
- Documents
 - Formal reviews with public comment periods TBA

See website for current information.

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Objectives

- The objectives of Montana's Consolidated Plan include:
 - Provide decent housing
 - Provide a suitable living environment
 - -Expand economic opportunities





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Goals

- The goals of Montana's <u>current</u> Consolidated Plan are:
 - Goal 1 Preserve and ConstructAffordable Housing
 - Goal 2 Plan for Communities
 - Goal 3 Improve and Sustain Public
 Infrastructure
 - Goal 4 Revitalize Local Economies
 - Goal 5 Reduce Homelessness





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Programs

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Housing (Rental Development / Single Family Rehabilitation),
 Public and Community Facilities, Economic Development,
 Planning

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

Rental Development / Single Family Development / Rental,
 Rehabilitation, Homebuyer Assistance

Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

Rental Development / Rental Rehabilitation

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Street Outreach / Emergency Shelter / Homelessness
 Prevention / Rapid Re-housing





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Planning Process

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data regarding need
- Engage the public, agencies, and stakeholders to get input about need
- Identify priority needs
- Develop a strategy in response to identified needs
- Direct funding to strategies





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Documents

Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

- Under a HUD Proposed Rule, Montana will develop an Equity
 Plan every five years that will serve the purpose of assessing fair
 housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as setting
 fair housing goals and outlining strategies for achieving equity in
 housing, increasing access to community assets, and
 broadening economic opportunities
- The mandate to affirmatively further fair housing requires proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in opportunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Documents (cont'd)

Five-Year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Con Plan)

 Consolidated Plans are strategic plans prepared every five years that guide housing and community investments

Annual Action Plan (AAP)

 AAPs are prepared each year of the Consolidated Plan and outline specific activities, goals, and objectives for the given program year

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

 CAPERs are annual reports that detail use of funds and progress towards meeting goals and objectives for AAPs





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development

Under HUD's Proposed Rule, the State will oversee a more streamlined analysis of fair housing compared to what was required under the 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule. Furthermore, the State will oversee a more robust community engagement effort to identify fair housing needs and opportunities.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

- At least three public hearings will be held before the Equity Plan is submitted to HUD.
 - Two hearings before the publication of the Equity Plan to provide the public opportunity to identify fair housing needs and inform fair housing strategies.
 - First hearing was April 3, 2024, and the second hearing is today, **June 20, 2024**
 - One hearing after the publication of the Equity Plan to provide the public opportunity to comment on the published plan document.
- Initial input will be accepted through June 25, 2024. Feedback regarding the to-be-published Equity Plan will be accepted during a comment period to be announced.
- As part of its outreach efforts, the State gathered data to inform Equity Plan development via the Montana Fair Housing Survey.
 - Opened May 1, 2024; closed May 31, 2024.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

Fair Housing Analysis

- Demographics
- Segregation and integration
- Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPS)
- Access to community assets
- Access to affordable housing opportunities
- Access to homeownership and economic opportunity
- Local and state policies and practices impacting fair housing

Fair Housing Issues

- Identify issues with data and local knowledge
- Prioritize issues based on data collected and public input

Fair Housing Strategies and Goals

Commit to taking responsive actions to address fair housing issues





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Data - Demographics

	1990	1990 Trend		2000 Trend		2010 Trend		2020	
Race/Ethnicity	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
White	556,529	91.4%	618,450	89.2%	666,393	87.8%	657,407	83.3%	
Black	1,103	0.2%	2,275	0.3%	4,179	0.6%	2,648	0.3%	
Hispanic	7,969	1.3%	11,912	1.7%	19,169	2.5%	28,565	3.6%	
Asian or Pacific									
Islander	2,432	0.4%	4,558	0.7%	7,104	0.9%	5,371	0.7%	
Native American	40,296	6.6%	54,443	7.9%	61,823	8.1%	53,132	6.7%	

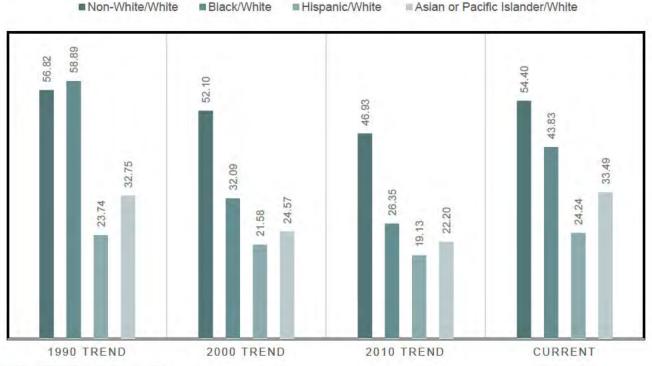
Data Source: AFFH, Census, ACS

Non-Entitlement Areas of Montana





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Data - Segregation



Dissimilarity Index

Low Segregation <40

Moderate Segregation 40-54

High Segregation >55

Racial/Ethnic Dissimilarity Index



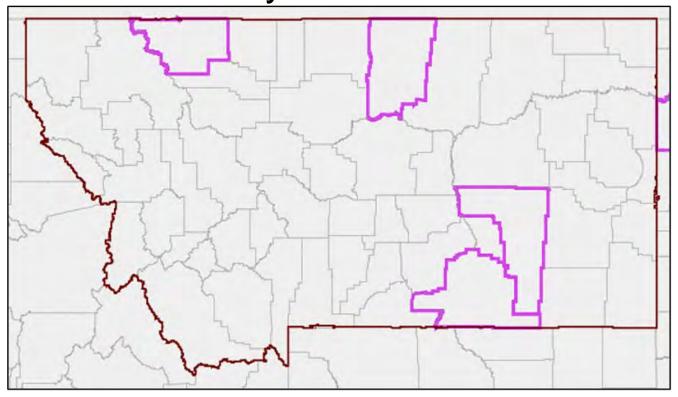




2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

Preliminary Data – R/ECAPs

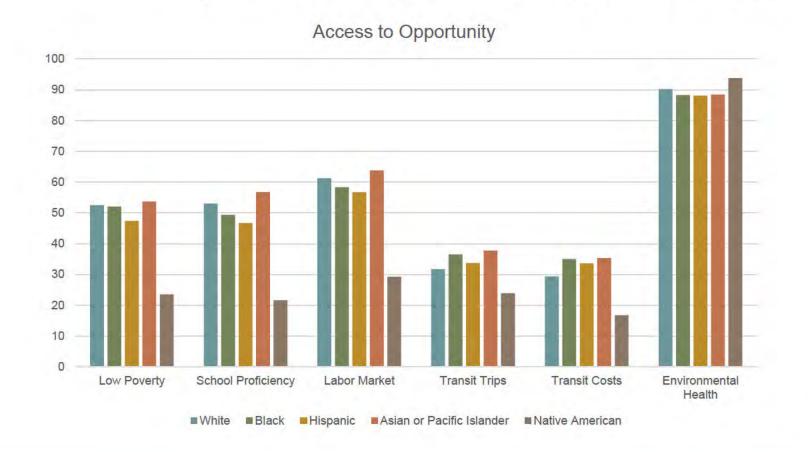


Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Data – Access to Opportunities

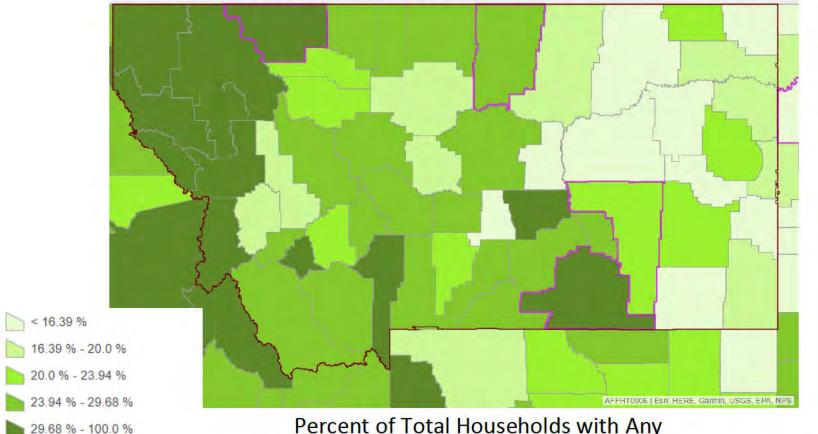


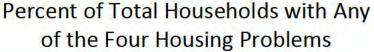




2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

Preliminary Data - Access to Affordable Housing









2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Data – Access to Homeownership

Mortgage Denial Rates by Race

Race or Ethnicity	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian or Alaska Native	23.6%	23.0%	17.5%	16.7%	26.1%
Asian	13.7%	15.4%	14.1%	9.8%	16.8%
Black or African American	16.5%	24.0%	14.9%	15.8%	22.3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	11.8%	16.0%	26.8%	6.7%	26.2%
White	13.3%	12.0%	9.2%	9.7%	13.6%
Two or More Races	21.4%	23.8%	13.6%	12.8%	42.1%
Not Available	7.8%	6.8%	7.0%	7.8%	10.2%
Total	12.4%	11.2%	8.9%	9.4%	13.1%

Data Source: HMDA Data State of Montana





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

Preliminary Data - Access to Economic Opportunities

Poverty by Family Type

Household Types	% in poverty		
In family households	9.2%		
In married-couple	4.9%		
In Female householder, no spouse present	27.2%		
In other living arrangements	24.2%		

Data Source: 2022 Five-Year ACS State of Montana

Poverty by Disability Status

Disability Status	% in poverty		
With any disability	19.1%		
No disability	11.3%		

Data Source: 2022 Five-Year ACS State of Montana

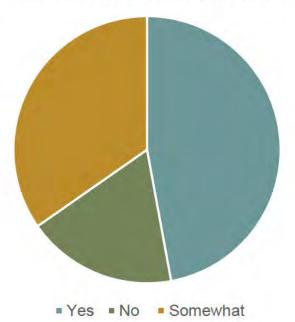




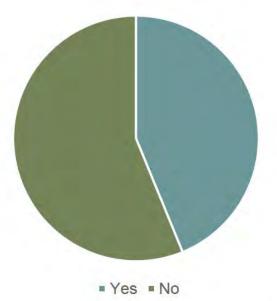
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

Preliminary Data - Survey

Are you aware of fair housing laws in Montana?



Are you aware of any policies to promote affordable housing development in your community?







2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Findings

- Demographics
 - Growing diversity
- Segregation and integration
 - Low to moderate levels of segregation based on HUD measures
- Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPS)
 - Four county R/ECAPs
- Access to community assets
 - Native American households experience lower levels of access to opportunities overall
- Access to affordable housing opportunities and economic opportunities
 - Native American applicants experience higher mortgage denial rates
 - Female-headed, "other" living situations and households with disabilities experience poverty at higher rates





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Adoption and Evaluation

- Once developed (tentatively in September 2024), the Equity Plan will be submitted to HUD. Upon receipt, HUD will publish the plan and make it available for a 60-day public review period.
- After HUD accepts Montana's Equity Plan, it will be published on Commerce's website, and its fair housing goals and strategies will be incorporated into the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and associated Annual Action Plans.
- Progress evaluations for the Equity Plan will be required annually after the Equity Plan is adopted.
 - Before submitting its Annual Progress Evaluations for the Equity Plan to HUD, the State will make available to interested parties the proposed evaluation for a comment period of no less than <u>15</u> <u>calendar days</u>.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Document Review, Engagement

- Once drafted, Equity Plan and Consolidated Plan documents will be available:
 - On Commerce's website at <u>commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-</u> Plan/Documents
 - Several repositories throughout the state (see website for list)
 - By request
- All interested parties are encouraged to review published documents and to participate in the State's public meetings. For information about upcoming meetings and comment periods, visit <u>commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates</u> and/or subscribe to Commerce's Consolidated Plan email listsery.





2025-2029 Consolidated PlanCommerce Contact Information

Montana Department of Commerce

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PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523

Division Administrators: Galen Steffens, Cheryl Cohen

CDBG Coordinator: Rosie Goldich

Program Specialist: Janelle Egli

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TDD: 406.841.2702

Fax: 406.841.2771

Email: <u>DOCConPlan@mt.gov</u>

Website: commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan DPHHS Contact Information

DPHHS

1400 Carter Drive Helena, MT 59601 PO Box 202956 Helena, MT 59620-2956

Administrator: Jessie Counts

Bureau Chief: Sara Loewen

Phone: 406.447.4265

Fax: 406.447.4287

Website: <u>www.dphhs.mt.gov</u>





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Comments

If you would like to provide a written comment or qualitative data (anecdotes) pertaining to the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and/or its associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing, our physical address and email address are below.

Montana Department of Commerce

Community MT

Attn: Con Plan

PO Box 200523

Helena, MT 59620-0523

DOCConPlan@mt.gov

Note that written comments for Montana's Equity Plan will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. **June 25, 2024**, while written comments for Montana's Consolidated Plan will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the plan is developed in the fall of 2024.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan We Need Your Feedback!

Comments regarding needs and strategies pertaining to the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan including the Year 1 (2025-2026) Annual Action Plan and associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing are now being accepted.

If you have a comment and are joining via webinar, please raise your hand so we can unmute you. If you are joining via phone, please press *9 to indicate you have a comment and then press *6 to unmute/re-mute yourself.

When providing comment

- Please state and spell your name
- Please state the organization you represent (if applicable)



In The Matter Of:

Department of Commerce and DPHHS For the Consolidated Plan

Transcript of Proceedings via Zoom June 20, 2024

Lesofski Court Reporting, Inc. 7 West Sixth Avenue, Suite 2C Helena, MT 59601 406-443-2010

Min-U-Script® with Word Index

1	STATE OF MONTANA
2	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE and
3	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
4	
5	Public Hearing for Montana's
6	Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development
7	and Associated Affirmatively Furthering
8	Fair Housing Equity Plan
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS (VIA ZOOM)
16	
17	
18	
19	BE IT REMEMBERED, that the proceedings in the
20	above-captioned matter was heard via Zoom on the 20th
21	day of June, 2024, beginning at the hour of 2:00
22	p.m., before Gregory A. Frank, RPR, Notary Public for
23	the State of Montana.
24	
25	

Transcript of Proceedings via Zoom

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2
1
      DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL PRESENT:
 2
      Janelle Egli
 3
      Julie Flynn
 4
5
      Megan Brace
6
7
      ATTENDEES:
8
      Shayla Patera
9
      Jen Chapla
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11
      Jim Morton
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     Kristen Newman
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MS. EGLI: I'll just quickly introduce myself. My name is Janelle Egli and I'm with the Montana Department of Commerce. I'd like to welcome you to today's hearing. And for those of you who tried to join us the first time we attempted to have this hearing, apologies again, but we had some Zoom issues, but I'm glad that we're able to hold it now and glad that you're joining us, so welcome.

Today we're going to be talking about

Montana's Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community

Development and the Associated Affirmatively

Furthering Fair Housing Equity Plan. Today's hearing

will consist of a presentation by Megan Brace. And

she is our consultant with CNPA, who is assisting the

State with consolidated planning efforts.

At the end of our hearing, we will provide an opportunity for everybody to provide comments. So as we're going through our presentation, please feel free to jot down some notes, jot down some questions that you have and we can open up the floor at the end of the presentation for those comments and questions.

All comments and questions will be given a formal response through our document and you will see that once we publish our documents and get those for

review to the public in a period to be announced. So

I'll go ahead and turn the mic over to Megan and

she'll get us started. Thank you.

MS. BRACE: Thank you, Janelle. Next slide, please.

As Janelle mentioned, my name is Megan

Brace, I am the Senior Policy Advisor with Community

and Policy Advisors. I'm working with the Department

of Commerce and the Department of Public Health and

Human Services.

THE COURT REPORTER: Can you get a little bit clearer?

(Discussion held off the record.)

MS. BRACE: I'm sorry. Thank you. Is this a little bit better? Closer to the mic. Perfect.

I'm working with them on their Consolidated Plan and their Equity Plan. And we're going to talk about what those are and the process of what those mean for the State and for communities across the State.

So part of this is statewide planning, so the Department of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services is developing this 5-year plan to help guide policy and investment for housing, economic and other community development projects. Next slide, please.

This is called the Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. This is required every five years by the Department of Housing Urban Development or HUD. What this does is, it assesses Montana's housing needs. It also assesses Montana's community development needs.

What we're really looking at is what's happening in Montana. What's happening with the demographics. What's changing. What kind of housing needs are we seeing. What needs are we seeing in our communities, and how can we address those needs with the funds that we're receiving from HUD.

So we'll talk about what those funds are and what we can spend that money on and how we can use these funds to address those goals over the next five years. Next slide, please.

As part of this process, we are also developing an Equity Plan. And what an Equity Plan is, is it gives us the opportunity to look at housing wholistically and to see if there's any way that housing is being -- there's barriers to accessing housing in the State. Are there any groups that have less access to housing, are there ways that we can mitigate that. So we're going to talk about that in a little bit more detail throughout this

presentation. Next slide, please.

Throughout this process, we have a very robust public participation. This meeting today is just one of many opportunities to participate in this process. We have regional meetings coming up. The next one is in Libby on July 24th. After that, we have another regional building in Glasgow on August 1st. All of these dates are subject to change, but you can see the website for current information. That's available at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Upates. Next slide, please.

Additionally, we have public input opportunities that include focus groups. These are targeted towards different topics such as homelessness, affordable housing, infrastructure, and really gives opportunity for stakeholders and service providers to provide their input on what they are seeing in their communities and how we can address the need in the State.

We also have the public hearings, like the one we're having today, as well as additional public hearings throughout the process. We had two surveys that went out, the housing and community need survey. This was out in April and into May.

And we also had a Fair Housing Survey that went out as well.

At the culmination of this process, we will have documents that will go out for formal review and we'll allow for public comment and these will also be available on Commerce website, which we'll talk about that public review process as well. Our next slide, please.

The Consolidated Plan has a number of objectives that are aligned with the federal objectives, excuse me. These are to provide decent housing, provide suitable living environments, and to expand economic opportunities. Next slide, please.

The current Consolidated Plan, which is ending this program year, ending in 2025, the next Consolidated Plan will begin in 2025, has five goals. These goals are the goals that we are evaluating. Are these goals that we will continue to use in the next Consolidated Plan, are these going to change, are these things that we're going to continue or not.

So what we have right now is the first goal is to preserve and construct affordable housing. The second goal is to plan for communities. The third goal is to improve and sustain public infrastructure.

The fourth goal is to revitalize local economies and the fifth goal is to reduce homelessness. Next slide, please.

Now, these programs that we're talking about come primarily from four funds that are coming from HUD from the federal government. When we're talking about our Community Development Block Grant or CDBG, this funding is our widest funding source, it has the most funding options.

It can go to things like housing, which includes rental development, single family rehabilitation, but it can also go to public and community facilities. It can go to economic development, or public services, excuse me, it can go to planning. So this really has wide reaching and more flexibility than other funding sources.

We also have the Home Investment

Partnerships Program or the HOME fund. This is

primarily going to housing. It can go to rental

development, single family development, rental rehab,

home buyer assistance and the like. We also have

the Housing Trust Fund. This is very similar to

the HOME fund except it is targeted only to extremely

low income households.

And then we have the Emergency Solutions

Grant, or ESG. This is targeted to households that are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This can go to things like street outreach, emergency shelters, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing.

So when we're talking about these funds and these goals, these are what we're talking about.

These are the types of activities that we can fund and these are the types of activities that these goals are targeted towards. Next slide, please.

So throughout this consolidated planning process what we're doing is we're starting with analyzing data. There's a lot of information. We're looking at trends in the State. Again, we're looking at demographics. We're looking at housing. We're looking at economics.

How are these changing. How has it changed in the last five years. How is that need changing in each community in the State. How does that change the need that we're seeing. And then we're also, you know, on the other hand engaging the public, engaging their various agencies and stakeholders to get their input about the need that they are seeing in their communities.

So we're taking both of those facets and

bringing them together to identify priority needs that we're seeing across the state and those needs and how they will be addressed, once we have identified those needs for developing strategies in response to those needs.

And then the final step is to direct the funding that we just talked about and strategies to those needs over the next five years. Next slide, please.

So on the other hand we have the Consolidated Plan. We also have, as I mentioned briefly, this Equity Plan. There's a lot of words on this page. I'm going to just briefly talk about what this Equity Plan is.

This Equity Plan will come out every five years and it serves to assess housing issues and how households can access housing if there's issues in accessing housing across the state. Once we identify those issues, there will be fair housing goals and strategies, excuse me, to increase access to housing as well as community assets to help broaden access to housing as well as economic opportunities.

This helps meet the mandate to affirmatively further fair housing, to proactively and

meaningfully, excuse me, overcome patterns of segregation to help promote fair housing choice and eliminate disparities in access to housing. Next slide, please.

So what we're going to come out with at the end of process is a number of documents. We're going to come out with that five-year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and that again will be that plan that helps be that guide for planning over the next five years with those strategies and goals for how we're going to spend funds over the course of five years.

Each year after that we'll have an Annual Action Plan. This outlines how those funds will be spent each year on individual projects to help address those five-year goals on an annual basis.

At the end of each program year we have the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report, the CAPER. This lets us look back at each year to see how we're making progress towards each goal. Next slide, please.

We're also developing that Equity Plan as we have been discussing. So the next few slides we're going to talk about what that means. We're going to look at some of the data that we're collecting and

kind of understand what that means in terms of equity in terms of how we can measure that. So under the proposed rule we are looking at how housing can be accessed by different groups of people. So next slide, please.

So through this process, there is another public input process as well. There's going to be at least three public hearings for the Equity Plan, two of these public hearings need to be held before the release of the plan. The first one was held on April 3rd, the second one is being held today. After the release of the plan for public review, there will be that third public meeting, and that will be at a later date.

The initial input is being accepted through June 25th, and that is during this period right now. As part of its outreach effort, the State gathered data in the form of the Fair Housing Survey that I mentioned earlier and that was open from May 1st through the 31st of this year. Next slide.

Throughout this process the Fair Housing
Analysis includes a number of steps to analyze
access to housing, access to opportunities. We're
looking at demographics, segregation, integration,
racially or ethnically concentrated areas of

poverty. I'll describe what that means in a minute. Access to community assets. Access to affordable housing opportunities. Access to home ownership and economic opportunity. Local and state policies and practices impacting fair housing.

So all of these things we're looking at different data sets, and different public input opportunities to describe how these impact fair housing and access to housing across the State. Once we looked at these and analyzed these, we identify fair housing issues.

Then once we have identified these issues, they are prioritized based on data collected as well as public input and then these issues are paired with strategies and goals in which the State can commit to taking responsive actions to address those fair housing issues. Next slide, please.

Let me take a few minutes to talk about some of the data that we have collected. This is just a snippet of some of the information. I'm just going to outline some of it. I encourage you, once the document is out for public review, to take the time to look at it and really see what's there because there's a lot of information and this just really gives you a preview.

So this is just giving you some percentages of the racial and ethic makeup of Montana going back to 1990. What we're really seeing is a shift in the racial and ethic makeup of the State. The White population is declining. We're seeing an uptick in the Hispanic population, so we are seeing a little bit increase in the racial and ethnic diversity within the State.

I also just want to mention we don't have, you know, the data here. We're also seeing an aging population, so the demographics of the State are changing. What does that mean for housing. What does that mean for the future of housing in Montana. Next slide, please.

So as part of this as well, HUD has designed what is called the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing or AFFH data tool. And within this tool there are a lot of different measures. One of these measures is the Dissimilarity Index. And this really is just a calculation of how we can look at segregation geographically. So White versus non-White population, the level of segregation in a geographic area.

So if we can look at the current graph on the far right, the first bar, the darkest bar is the

non-White versus White population. We're looking at almost 55 would be high segregation or the Black and White is, you know, 44 which is moderate segregation.

So, you know, we're seeing moderate to high segregation in those areas in Montana, low segregation for Hispanic and White populations based on these calculations. So a very, you know, a range based on what we're looking at on racial or ethnic makeups by these calculations.

It is has gone down over time and, again, this is based on these HUD calculations. And a lot of what we're seeing here with this, the non-White versus White is based on Native American versus White populations and primarily based geographically around Native American reservations. Next slide, please.

Another part of this plan that we're looking at is what I mentioned before is those racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty. The definition of what that is, is at least 40 percent of the population must be living in poverty and at least 50 percent of the population must be a racial or ethic minority.

So there's four counties in the State that

meet that definition. All of these four counties 1 also contain at least one Native American 2 reservation, but, again, at least 40 percent of 3 the population also would have to be living in 4 5 poverty. So that is, you know, something to 6 7 consider. Comparing this to 2010, there were only two counties that qualified, so we are seeing an 8 increase in the areas that qualify as a recap in the 9 State. Next slide, please. 10 11 MS. EGLI: Megan, can you confirm that I did not skip over a slide? 12 13 MS. BRACE: Let me look at my papers really 14 fast. You did not. We're good. 15 Another part of this Equity Plan is looking at access to opportunity. So opportunities are 16 defined as, you know, things that are in your 17 18 communities, schools, jobs, transportation, environmental health, air quality, things like 19 20 that. And we look at that in this measure by race 21 ethnicity. 22 These numbers are based on index levels that 23 are prescribed by HUD and they are based on national 24 levels. So, you know, we see that environmental

health and the numbers for Montana are very high

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because the environmental health, which is primarily based on air quality is high in Montana based on national data.

We see transit trips is relative low for the State because public transit based on national data is relatively low. What we're looking at really is, we're comparing within the State between different racial groups.

So, you know, for school proficiency, the White, you know, that blue bar versus the Native American, that brown bar, we're seeing discrepancies between these racial and ethic groups or access to these opportunities within communities.

So what does that mean for households within Montana. What does that mean for the larger communities when we're seeing these discrepancies between different racial and ethic groups. Next slide, please.

We're also looking at, you know, housing costs and other housing problems as they are defined by HUD. So HUD defines a housing problem as one of four things. The first is if you are overcrowded. The second is if you are missing a complete kitchen. The third is if you are missing complete plumbing facilities. And the fourth is if you are cost

burdened.

This is the most common. It accounts for the vast majority of housing problems and you are considered to be cost burdened if you spend more than 30 percent of your household income on housing. So the darker the green is the bigger percentage of households that are considered to have housing problems.

So I would encourage you to look at the report once it comes out because we are showing by county the percentages of households that do have cost burdens. But this just shows us geographically in the State what areas are experiencing higher rates of these housing problems, so what areas are harder for households to find housing that suit their needs.

And this, again, is just part of this process of understanding housing needs in Montana in accessing housing equitably for households. Next slide, please.

Part of accessing housing is also being able to buy housing or buy houses, excuse me. Access to mortgages. So what we look at is through the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act or HMDA data. This information provides denial rates. We like to look

at denial rates overall and then compare them by race ethnicity.

So you know you can be denied by a mortgage for a variety of reasons, debt to income ratio, your credit store, a variety of reasons. But that, those denials should be kind of equal across the board by race and ethnicity.

What we do see is that the average denial rate overall is about half of what it is for, you know, American Indian or Alaska Native households in the State. Year to year it is about the same. So in 2022, American Indian or Alaska Native applicants had about a 26 percent denial rate and the totals for the State was about 13 percent.

We do see, you know, two or more races was about 42 percent, but the number of those was very low, so it is not statistical, statistically relevant. I just wanted to point that out if you're looking at those numbers. But, you know, the Native American applicant that we're seeing consistently have, is much higher rates.

So, again, just looking at households for applicants in this case, they are having additional barriers in accessing housing for mortgages in the State. Next slide, please.

We're also looking at things like poverty.

Are there certain populations that are experiencing poverty at higher rates. So overall in Montana, the poverty rate in 2022 was about 12 percent. In family households, about 9.2 percent. In female-headed households, is about 27 percent, so significantly higher.

If you are considered in other living arrangement households, 24 percent. If you are living with a disability, you're living in a rate of poverty of about 19 percent. So, again, accessing housing with these rates of poverty creating barriers for households, looking at these through this process as well. Next slide, please.

As I mentioned a few minutes ago, we did that Fair Housing Survey and I just wanted to share some of the results that we had from that. One of the questions we asked is if you were aware of fair housing laws in Montana.

So a little under half of the respondents were aware of fair housing laws and, you know, a little over a third were somewhat aware. So that means not too bad in results of that. Then about 40 percent of respondents who were aware of any policies within their communities to promote housing

development. So, again, just some of those results that I wanted to share with you. Next slide, please.

I wanted to take just a minute to go over some of that information we shared. The demographics you know, in the State, there's growing diversity, we're seeing changes in racial and ethnic makeup of the State. We're seeing aging population. What does that mean for housing and the future of housing.

We're seeing low to moderate levels of segregation. We're also seeing high levels of segregation. We're talking about, you know, those Native American populations. We're seeing those four counties that have those racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty.

And we're talking about community assets.

We're talking about Native American households with lower levels of access to opportunity. And we're talking about access to affordable housing opportunities. We're talking about Native American applicants experience higher mortgage denial rates.

We're talking about economic opportunities, female-headed households, people living in other living situations and households with disabilities are experiencing poverty at higher rates.

So, again, these are all things that we're looking at in their connection to accessing housing. What does that mean for households and their equity in accessing housing in Montana and within their communities. Next slide, please.

MS. EGLI: Megan, I just wanted to let you know, we are having some mic, like it is trailing off just a little bit in volume, so I just wanted to see if we could get maybe get a little closer to the mic. I can hear you fine, but there is a difference in volume, I just wanted to mention.

MS. BRACE: Thank you, Janelle.

MS. EGLI: You're welcome.

MS. BRACE: So we have the Equity Plan that will be going out for adoption and evaluation. So once this information is put together, it will be going out to public review. This is tentatively scheduled for September of this year that it will be going out for public review.

Once this happens and it has gone out for that period, it will then be submitted to HUD, which will be available after a 60-day public review period, excuse me. After HUD accepts the Montana Equity Plan it will be published on the Commerce's website.

Its fair housing goals and strategies will be incorporated into the State's Consolidated Plan and the Associated Annual Action Plans. Progress evaluations for the Equity Plan will be required annually after the Equity Plan is adopted.

Before submitting its annual process evaluations for the Equity Plan to HUD, the State will make available to interested parties the proposed evaluation for a comment period of no less than 15 calendar days. Next slide, please.

And I believe I'm going to hand it back over to you, Janelle.

MS. EGLI: Okay. Thank you so much, Megan. We really appreciate all the work that Megan has done to crunch data and to help us with moving this effort along.

Okay. So document review and engagement.

Once we have drafts of our plans, they will be available on Commerce's website at commerce.Mt.Gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents. They will also be available at several repositories throughout the State.

That list is on your website, so please see that if you are interested in looking at a hard copy at a repository near you. And of course we will have

the plans available by request. So if you need a copy, feel free to reach out to us.

All interested parties are encouraged to review published documents and to participate in the State's public meetings. And that's what you are doing today, so thank you for that. And for information about upcoming meetings and comment periods, you can go to our website commerce.Mt.Gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates.

You can also subscribe describe to our Consolidated Plan listserv and that subscription option is on our website. If you would like to contact Commerce either to provide input or to ask questions about this process, we are at 301 S. Park Avenue in Helena, Montana, zip code 59601. Our P.O. Box is 200523 in Helena, Montana 59620-0523.

The Division Administrators over the Consolidated Plan are Galen Steffens and Cheryl Cohen. If you wanted to reach out, Rosie Goldich and me, Janelle Egli, are also available to answer questions.

The phone number that you can use for Commerce is 406-841-2770. TDD is 406-841-2702. Our fax is 406-841-2771. Our e-mail is DOCConPlan@mt.gov. And our website is

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan.

DPHHS, our partner in this work is also available if you wish to reach out to them. They are located at 1400 Carter Drive in Helena, Montana 59601. Their P.O. Box is 202956 in Helena, Montana 59620-2956. Jessie Counts is the administrator over this effort for DPHHS and Sara Loewen is the Bureau Chief. Phone number is 406-447-4265. And the fax is 406-447-4287.

Their website is www.dphhs.mt.gov. So if you would like to provide written comments or qualitative data pertaining to our Consolidated Plan or our Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, our physical address and e-mail address are given on this slide and we just reviewed those in the previous slide.

Please note if you are planning on submitting a written comment that we are accepting comments for the Equity Plan until 5:00 p.m. on June 25th, 2024, and that's coming right up, so I wanted to note that for everybody.

And we are continuing to accept comments on the Consolidated Plan on an ongoing basis until the plan is developed and a good target for submitting comments would be fall of 2024. We will publish the

dates of our actual comment period once we have that draft published.

Now, we will go ahead and delve into our verbal comments. So if you would like to provide a comment, this is your time. I'm going to just re-situate my screen here, okay.

Comments regarding needs and strategies pertaining to the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan including the Year 1 or 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan and associated Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing are now being accepted.

If you have a comment and are joining via webinar, please raise your hand so we can unmute you. If you are joining via phone, please press star 9 to indicate you have a comment, and then star 6 to unmute and then re-mute yourself.

So, again, if you are joining via phone, that's star 9 to indicate you have a comment and then star 6 to unmute and re-mute yourself. When providing comment, please state and spell your name and please also state the organization you represent if applicable.

So I will go ahead and mute myself and we'll turn the floor over to you.

MS. FLYNN: Jen, do you want to go ahead?

MS. CHAPLA: Yeah. Okay. My name is Jen Chapla, spelled C-H-A-P-L-A. I am the Tenancy Specialist for AWARE. I have noticed that there are a lot of seemingly great resources out there to help people pay rent and get into houses once they find them. The PSH voucher is a fantastic example of helping people get over their homelessness, right.

We have got this great voucher that doesn't have a long wait list. The problem is there's no supply in our community. I talk to landlords pretty regularly, and the general consensus is they can get way more on the open market than they are going to get for any of the vouchers.

Tenants with vouchers regularly destroy units and they don't want to take them. There's also just a shortage of units that would be appropriate for that demographic. And I'm wondering if there is going to be anything in the plan to help incentivize landlords to work with some of the existing resources maybe in the form of tax rebates or guarantees for financial assistance when things go south.

MS. EGLI: Thank you, Jen. We will provide a comment, or response to your comment rather. We really appreciate you find providing that feedback.

MS. CHAPLA: Thank you.

MS. EGLI: All right. Next I will go to Shayla Patera, she looks like she's next on my screen. So, Shayla, go ahead and state and spell your name and give your organization and your comment when you are ready.

MS. PATERA: Hi. For the record, my name is Shayla Patera. I'm employed by and serve North Central Independent Living Services in Black Eagle, Montana and I'm a longtime housing advocate with these for independent living centers.

And what I would like to say is regards to the Equity Plan. Many times as you probably heard it before, I think we are trying to do a great job as best we can with the resources we have, but it is, as Jen said, it is quite hard, particularly if there aren't enough housing stock places accessible and affordable to homeless citizens or people with disabilities, which is the population that I help serve.

And sometimes it seems like the thing, one of the things that we really need to look for besides building more affordable, accessible affordable housing stock is making sure that there are like maybe source of income, legislation or different

types of incentive as other people have said in the past to ensure that there is opportunities for those to get housing.

I would also like to see, because I also deal with citizens with disabilities that are homeless who oftentimes have criminal records or coming out of state and private-run institutions. So I would like to see our feedback on how we're going to implement the new reducing barriers rule from HUD regarding criminal, criminal convictions and how to help people who oftentimes have nothing or cannot work.

Because it is great when someone can work, but what happens when their disability changes or their age becomes a factor for them, then there is no, oftentimes very limited places to go for people who need HUD or a lot of times we're all competing for the same unit.

And one of the other things I would like to say before, because I don't want to monopolize the time, is we need to really check and see if there aren't any disparate impact in how we onboard somebody into housing and keep someone into apartment housing and making sure that multi-family and single family duplexes and apartments and

different housing options we have are wheelchair accessible.

Because sometimes people who are on limited or no income, such as SSI, SSDI, they can't, they can't often keep it. Even though we, we look at the 30 percent or what the voucher covers, if there is a medical emergency or they have to choose between healthcare and housing, sometimes that's a choice, too.

So this, along with other written comments, which I will submit as part of my comment. So thank you for having this hearing today.

MS. EGLI: Thank you so much, Shayla. And as always, we really appreciate your input and we will provide a response to that comment as well.

And next I have Jim Morton on my list. So, Jim, when you are ready, go ahead and unmute yourself, you can provide your name and your organization and comment.

MR. MORTON: Good afternoon. For the record, my name is Jim Morton. The last name is spelled M-O-R-T-O-N, and I'm commenting on behalf of HRC Cottages, Incorporated.

First, I want to compliment the staff of the Montana Department of Commerce and the Department of

Public Health and Human Services for their work on the Consolidated Plan. And as usual I have to say that I in general agree with what Shayla has commented on.

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But about HRC Cottages, we're a nonprofit that develops and owns housing that serves households with lower incomes. Our apartments are rent restricted and some of the apartments that we have actually have tenant-based rental assistance. However, as you know, more tenant-based rental assistance is needed.

We use a variety of sources to develop, including the HOME Investment Partnership, the Housing Tax Credit Program, CDBG, Rural Development and of course other sources. And it is getting more and more difficult to develop housing given the high cost of land and in some cases lack of labor the contractors are facing, as well as the volatility in materials for building.

We develop in communities that have larger populations, of course, but we also develop in unincorporated areas where they do not have a variety of public services, which again would make the cost developing affordable housing a little bit higher in those areas.

And that would be a concern I think for the funders that are part of this Consolidated Plan in terms of determining how to the award funding. I do appreciate the attention that MDOC and the Department of Public Health have given to providing affordable housing to a wide variety of populations from elderly, victims of domestic violence, veterans, those with special needs and those who are houseless or at risk of becoming houseless, just to mention a few of the populations.

But one comment I would like to make in addition would be that simply discussing building more housing as the solution to a lack of affordable housing really does not recognize the need to take a more wholistic view.

And I think as you heard a couple of comments about that, that would include the needs of lower income households, including higher paying jobs, the need for support for childcare and health insurance, more access to training and educational opportunities.

And then pleased of what you're talking about does take a wider view of our lack of affordable housing in a crisis that is across our great State. And I'm especially pleased that you are

addressing racial segregation and what impact that does have not only on the communities but also the individuals who live in those communities.

So winding up, thank you for the opportunity to participate and that concludes my comments.

MS. EGLI: Thank you so much, Jim, we really appreciate that comment, we'll provide our response. And Kristen Newman is who I have next.

Kristen, when you are ready, go ahead and provide your comment, name and organization.

MS. NEWMAN: Hi, my name is Kristen Newman, K-R-I-S-T-E-N, N-E-W-M-A-N, I'm the ADA Accessibility Specialist out of Ability Montana. We're a center for independent living that serves 14 counties in southwest Montana.

I just wanted to talk a little bit about access to housing as far as actual accessibility. I know we talk about access a lot as easily access by affordability, things like that, but often I think sometimes we forget about the actual physical accessibility of apartments.

And what we're running into are people having to move out of their communities of their choice because there isn't enough accessible housing

options available in the cities that they are living in. This could, you know, be adaptable units, elevators, wheelchair accessibility.

So I would really like to encourage thinking about how can we incentivize more actual physically accessible units. And sometimes we have run into, there may be several accessible units like on a ground floor, but if somebody with a disability isn't on a wait list right then, the landlords will rent them out to somebody who doesn't have a disability which creates more barriers to housing.

So those are just a few issues that I wanted to bring attention to. And I appreciate this opportunity to hear about the plan and participate.

MS. EGLI: Thank you so much, Kristen, and we will provide a response to your comment. Thank you.

Is there anybody else that would like to provide a comment at this time? For folks who are joining us on the phone, a little reminder that you can press star 9 to indicate you have a comment and star 6 to unmute and re-mute yourself. It looks like, Julie, you have your hand raised?

MS. FLYNN: Yeah. Janelle, I was just going to ask for those folks who haven't provided comment,

if you wouldn't mind putting what organization you're with in the chat, that would be great, that would help us know who we're getting the word out to about this process and who we're not getting the word out.

So if you wouldn't mind typing in the chat what organization you are with, that would be great. Thanks so much.

MS. EGLI: That's a great, great request, thank you. We'll wait a few more minutes, if anybody has a comment that they would like to share, go ahead and jump in when you're ready and hearing nothing we'll conclude momentarily.

Okay. Final call for comment? All right. Well, we just want to say thank you once again for everybody who took time out of their busy day to join us and to provide feedback. It is very helpful for us to know what's happening all across the State.

Montana is a very big state and we really couldn't have eyes everywhere, so we really rely on each of you to help us know what the climate is and what the needs are.

So thank you for taking the time for providing comments, those of you who provided comments. We look forward to responding to your

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comments and incorporating them into our planning
1
     documents and we'll go ahead and wrap up.
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3
              Megan and Julie, is there anything else that
     we would like to share today?
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               MS. BRACE: No. Just thank you all for
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     being here.
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               MS. EGLI: Okay. Well, thank you so much
     again and have a wonderful rest of your day.
8
9
     everybody.
               (The proceedings were concluded at 2:53
10
     p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	
3	STATE OF MONTANA)
4) ss. County of Cascade)
5	I, Gregory A. Frank, RPR, Court Reporter and
6	Notary Public for the State of Montana, residing in
7	Great Falls, Montana, do hereby certify:
8	That I was duly authorized to and did report
9	the transcript of proceedings in the above-entitled
LO	proceeding;
11	That the foregoing pages of this transcript
12	of proceeding constitute a true and accurate
13	transcription of my stenotype notes of the testimony.
L4	I further certify that I am not an attorney
15	nor counsel of any of the parties, nor a relative or
16	employee of any attorney or counsel connected with
17	the action, nor financially interested in the action.
18	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
19	hand and seal on this the 24th day of June, 2024.
20	
21	Consequent A Francis DDD
22	Gregory A. Frank, RPR Notary Public, State of Montana Regiding in Creat Falls, Montana
23	Residing in Great Falls, Montana. My Commission expires: 2/10/2027.

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A	addressed (1)	always (1)	Associated (3)	15:2;28:9
\mathbf{A}	, ,	30:14	3:11;23:3;26:10	
	10:3			Block (1)
Ability (1)	addressing (1)	American (10)	attempted (1)	8:7
33:14	33:1	15:14,16;16:2;	3:5	blue (1)
able (2)	administrator (1)	17:11;19:10,12,20;	ATTENDEES (1)	17:10
3:7;18:21	25:6	21:13,17,20	2:7	board (1)
accept (1)	Administrators (1)	Analysis (1)	attention (2)	19:6
25:22	24:17	12:22	32:4;34:13	both (1)
accepted (2)	adopted (1)	analyze (1)	August (1)	9:25
12:15;26:11	23:5	12:22	6:7	Box (2)
	adoption (1)	analyzed (1)	available (10)	24:16;25:5
accepting (1)	22:15	13:10	6:10;7:6;22:22;	Brace (9)
25:18	Advisor (1)	analyzing (1)	23:8,19,21;24:1,20;	2:5;3:13;4:4,7,14;
accepts (1)	4:7	9:13	25:3;34:1	16:13;22:12,14;36:5
22:23			Avenue (1)	
access (20)	Advisors (1)	announced (1)		briefly (2)
5:23;10:17,20,22;	4:8	4:1	24:15	10:12,13
11:3;12:23,23;13:2,	advocate (1)	Annual (6)	average (1)	bring (1)
2,3,9;16:16;17:12;	28:10	11:13,16,18;23:3,	19:8	34:13
18:22;21:18,19;	AFFH (1)	6;26:9	award (1)	bringing (1)
32:20;33:18,19,19	14:17	annually (1)	32:3	10:1
accessed (1)	Affirmatively (5)	23:5	aware (5)	broaden (1)
12:4	3:11;10:24;14:16;	apartment (1)	20:18,21,22,24;	10:22
Accessibility (4)	25:13;26:10	29:24	27:3	brown (1)
	affordability (1)	apartments (4)		17:11
33:13,18,22;34:3	33:20	29:25;31:7,8;	В	building (4)
accessible (6)	affordable (11)	33:22	В	6:7;28:23;31:19;
28:17,23;30:2;	6:16;7:23;13:2;	apologies (1)	hook (2)	32:12
33:25;34:6,7		3:6	back (3)	
accessing (8)	21:19;28:18,23,23;		11:19;14:2;23:11	burdened (2)
5:21;10:18;18:19,	31:24;32:5,13,24	applicable (1)	bad (1)	18:1,4
21;19:24;20:11;	afternoon (1)	26:22	20:23	burdens (1)
22:2,4	30:20	applicant (1)	bar (4)	18:12
accounts (1)	again (14)	19:20	14:25,25;17:10,11	Bureau (1)
18:2	3:6;9:14;11:8;	applicants (3)	barriers (5)	25:7
across (7)	15:11;16:3;18:17;	19:12,23;21:21	5:21;19:24;20:12;	busy (1)
4:19;10:2,18;13:9;	19:22;20:11;21:1;	appreciate (6)	29:9;34:11	35:16
19:6;32:24;35:18	22:1;26:17;31:23;	23:14;27:25;	based (11)	buy (2)
	35:15;36:8	30:14;32:4;33:8;	13:13;15:7,9,12,	18:22,22
Act (1) 18:24	age (1)	34:13	14,15;16:22,23;17:2,	buyer (1)
	29:15	appropriate (1)	2,5	8:21
Action (3)	agencies (1)	27:17	basis (2)	Bye (1)
11:14;23:3;26:9	9:22	April (2)	11:16;25:23	36:8
actions (1)				30.6
13:16	aging (2)	6:25;12:10	becomes (1)	C
activities (2)	14:10;21:8	area (1)	29:15	C
9:8,9	ago (1)	14:23	becoming (1)	
actual (4)	20:15	areas (9)	32:9	calculation (1)
26:1;33:18,21;	agree (1)	12:25;15:6,20;	begin (1)	14:20
34:5	31:3	16:9;18:13,14;	7:16	calculations (3)
actually (1)	ahead (9)	21:15;31:22,25	behalf (1)	15:8,10,12
31:9	4:2;26:3,23,25;	around (1)	30:22	calendar (1)
ADA (1)	28:4;30:17;33:10;	15:16	besides (1)	23:10
33:13	35:12;36:2	arrangement (1)	28:22	call (1)
	air (2)	20:9	best (1)	35:14
adaptable (1)	16:19;17:2	assess (1)	28:15	called (2)
34:2	Alaska (2)	10:16	better (1)	5:1;14:16
addition (1)	19:10,12	assesses (2)	4:15	can (34)
32:12				
additional (2)	aligned (1)	5:4,5	big (1)	3:20;4:11;5:11,14,
6:22;19:23	7:10	assets (3)	35:19	14,23;6:9,19;8:10,
		10:21;13:2;21:16	bigger (1)	12,13,14,19;9:3,8;
Additionally (1)	allow (1)			
Additionally (1) 6:13	7:5	assistance (4)	18:6	10:17;12:2,3;13:15;
6:13			18:6 bit (7)	14:20,24;16:11;
6:13 address (7)	7:5	assistance (4)	18:6	14:20,24;16:11; 19:3;22:10;24:8,10,
6:13	7:5 almost (1)	assistance (4) 8:21;27:21;31:9,	18:6 bit (7)	14:20,24;16:11;

1 of the Consonanteu 1	1411	T	T	June 20, 202
28:15;29:13;30:18;	13:13,19	35:13	4:11	denials (1)
34:5,21	collecting (1)	concluded (1)	covers (1)	19:6
CAPER (1)	11:25	36:10	30:6	denied (1)
11:19	coming (4)	concludes (1)	creates (1)	19:3
Carter (1)	6:5;8:5;25:20;29:7	33:5	34:11	DEPARTMENT (9)
25:4	comment (25)	confirm (1)	creating (1)	2:1;3:3;4:8,9,21;
case (1)	7:5;23:9;24:7;	16:11	20:12	5:3;30:25,25;32:4
19:23	25:18;26:1,5,12,15,	connection (1)	credit (2)	describe (3)
cases (1)	18,20;27:24,24;28:5;	22:2	19:5;31:14	13:1,8;24:10
31:17	30:11,15,19;32:11;	consensus (1)	criminal (3)	designed (1)
CDBG (2)	33:8,11;34:16,19,21,	27:11	29:6,10,10	14:15
8:7;31:14 center (1)	25;35:11,14 commented (1)	consider (1) 16:7	crisis (1) 32:24	destroy (1) 27:14
33:14	31:4	considered (3)	crunch (1)	detail (1)
centers (1)	commenting (1)	18:4,7;20:8	23:15	5:25
28:11	30:22	consist (1)	culmination (1)	determining (1)
Central (1)	comments (15)	3:13	7:3	32:3
28:9	3:17,21,23;25:11,	consistently (1)	current (3)	develop (4)
certain (1)	19,22,25;26:4,7;	19:20	6:9;7:14;14:24	31:12,16,20,21
20:2	30:10;32:17;33:6;	Consolidated (20)		developed (1)
change (3)	35:24,25;36:1	3:10,15;4:16;5:1;	D	25:24
6:8;7:20;9:19	Commerce (7)	7:9,14,16,19;9:11;		developing (5)
changed (1)	3:3;4:9,21;7:6;	10:11;11:7,18;23:2;	darker (1)	4:22;5:18;10:4;
9:17	24:13,23;30:25	24:11,18;25:12,23;	18:6	11:22;31:24
changes (2)	commercemtgov/Consolidated-Plan (1)	26:8;31:2;32:2	darkest (1)	Development (13)
21:7;29:14	25:1	construct (1)	14:25	3:11;4:24;5:2,4,6;
changing (4)	commerceMtGov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents (1)	7:23	data (13)	8:7,11,14,20,20;
5:9;9:17,18;14:12 Chapla (4)	23:20	consultant (1) 3:14	9:13;11:25;12:18; 13:7,13,19;14:10,17;	11:8;21:1;31:14 develops (1)
2:10;27:1,2;28:1	commercemtgov/Consolidated-Plan/Upates (1) 6:11	contact (1)	17:3,5;18:24;23:15;	31:6
C-H-A-P-L-A (1)	commerceMtGov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates (1)	24:13	25:12	difference (1)
27:2	24:9	contain (1)	date (1)	22:10
chat (2)	Commerce's (2)	16:2	12:14	different (9)
35:2,6	22:24;23:19	continue (2)	dates (2)	6:15;12:4;13:7,7;
check (1)	commit (1)	7:18,20	6:8;26:1	14:18;17:7,17;
29:21	13:16	continuing (1)	day (2)	28:25;30:1
Cheryl (1)	common (1)	25:22	35:16;36:8	difficult (1)
24:18	18:2	contractors (1)	days (1)	31:16
Chief (1)	communities (14)	31:18	23:10	direct (1)
25:8	4:19;5:11;6:19;	convictions (1)	deal (1)	10:6
childcare (1) 32:19	7:24;9:24;16:18;	29:10	29:5	disabilities (3) 21:24;28:19;29:5
choice (3)	17:13,16;20:25; 22:5;31:20;33:2,3,24	copy (2) 23:24;24:2	debt (1) 19:4	disability (4)
11:2;30:8;33:25	Community (14)	cost (5)	decent (1)	20:10;29:14;34:8,
choose (1)	3:10;4:7,24;5:2,6;	17:25;18:4,12;	7:11	11
30:7	6:24;8:7,13;9:19;	31:17,23	declining (1)	Disclosure (1)
cities (1)	10:21;11:8;13:2;	costs (1)	14:5	18:24
34:1	21:16;27:10	17:20	defined (2)	discrepancies (2)
citizens (2)	compare (1)	Cottages (2)	16:17;17:20	17:11,16
28:18;29:5	19:1	30:23;31:5	defines (1)	discussing (2)
clearer (1)	Comparing (2)	counties (5)	17:21	11:23;32:12
4:12	16:7;17:7	15:25;16:1,8;	definition (2)	Discussion (1)
climate (1)	competing (1)	21:14;33:15	15:21;16:1	4:13
35:21	29:17	Counts (1)	delve (1)	disparate (1)
Closer (2) 4:15;22:9	complete (2)	25:6	26:3	29:22
4:15;22:9 CNPA (1)	17:23,24 compliment (1)	county (1) 18:11	demographic (1) 27:17	disparities (1)
3:14	30:24	couple (1)	demographics (5)	Dissimilarity (1)
code (1)	concentrated (3)	32:16	5:9;9:15;12:24;	14:19
24:15	12:25;15:20;21:15	course (4)	14:11;21:5	diversity (2)
Cohen (1)	concern (1)	11:12;23:25;	denial (5)	14:7;21:6
24:19	32:1	31:15,21	18:25;19:1,8,13;	Division (1)
collected (2)	conclude (1)	COURT (1)	21:21	24:17

DOCConPlan@mtgov (1) 24:25	e-mail (2) 24:24;25:14	example (1) 27:6	8:2	24:18
	*		final (2) 10:6;35:14	gathered (1) 12:18
document (3)	Emergency (3)	except (1)		
3:24;13:22;23:17	8:25;9:3;30:7	8:23	financial (1)	general (2)
documents (5)	employed (1)	excuse (6)	27:21	27:11;31:3
3:25;7:4;11:6;	28:8	7:11;8:14;10:20;	find (3)	geographic (1)
24:4;36:2	encourage (3)	11:1;18:22;22:23	18:15;27:5,25	14:23
domestic (1)	13:21;18:9;34:4	existing (1)	fine (1)	geographically (3)
32:7	encouraged (1)	27:20	22:10	14:21;15:15;18:12
done (1)	24:3	expand (1)	first (6)	given (4)
23:14	end (4)	7:13	3:5;7:22;12:10;	3:23;25:15;31:16;
down (3)	3:16,21;11:6,17	experience (1)	14:25;17:22;30:24	32:5
3:19,19;15:11	ending (2)	21:21	five (8)	gives (3)
DPHHS (2)	7:15,15	experiencing (4)	5:3,15;7:16;9:18;	5:19;6:17;13:25
25:2,7	engagement (1)	9:2;18:13;20:2;	10:8,15;11:10,12	giving (1)
draft (1)	23:17	21:25	five-year (2)	14:1
26:2	engaging (2)	extremely (1)	11:7,16	glad (2)
drafts (1)	9:21,21	8:23	flexibility (1)	3:7,8
23:18	enough (2)	eyes (1)	8:16	Glasgow (1)
Drive (1)	28:17;33:25	35:20	floor (3)	6:7
25:4	ensure (1)	33.20	3:20;26:24;34:8	goal (6)
duplexes (1)	29:2	\mathbf{F}	5:20;20:24;34:8 Flynn (3)	7:22,24,25;8:1,2;
29:25		I.	2:4;26:25;34:24	11:21
	environmental (3) 16:19,24;17:1	foots (1)	focus (1)	goals (12)
during (1) 12:16	environments (1)	facets (1)	6:14	
12:10		9:25		5:15;7:17,17,17,
${f E}$	7:12	facilities (2)	folks (2)	18;9:7,10;10:20;
L	equal (1)	8:13;17:25	34:19,25	11:11,16;13:15;23:1
E 1 (1)	19:6	facing (1)	forget (1)	Goldich (1)
Eagle (1)	equitably (1)	31:18	33:21	24:19
28:9	18:19	factor (1)	form (2)	good (3)
earlier (1)	Equity (21)	29:15	12:18;27:20	16:14;25:24;30:20
12:19	3:12;4:17;5:18,18;	Fair (18)	formal (2)	government (1)
easily (1)	10:12,14,15;11:22;	3:12;7:1;10:19,25;	3:24;7:4	8:6
33:19	12:1,8;16:15;22:4,	11:2;12:18,21;13:5,	forward (1)	Grant (2)
economic (6)	14,24;23:4,5,7;	8,11,17;14:16;20:16,	35:25	8:7;9:1
4:23;7:13;8:13;	25:13,19;26:10;	18,21;23:1;25:13;	four (5)	graph (1)
10:22;13:4;21:22	28:13	26:11	8:5;15:25;16:1;	14:24
economics (1)	ESG (1)	fall (1)	17:22;21:14	great (9)
9:16	9:1	25:25	fourth (2)	27:4,8;28:14;
economies (1)	especially (1)	family (4)	8:1;17:25	29:13;32:25;35:2,7,
8:1	32:25	8:11,20;20:4;	free (2)	9,9
educational (1)	ethic (5)	29:25	3:19;24:2	green (1)
32:20	14:2,4;15:24;	fantastic (1)	fund (4)	18:6
effort (3)	17:12,17	27:6	8:18,22,23;9:8	ground (1)
12:17;23:15;25:7	ethnic (3)	far (2)	funders (1)	34:8
efforts (1)	14:7;15:9;21:7	14:25;33:18	32:2	groups (6)
3:15	ethnically (3)	fast (1)	funding (6)	5:22;6:14;12:4;
Egli (15)	12:25;15:20;21:14	16:14	8:8,8,9,16;10:7;	17:8,12,17
2:3;3:1,2;16:11;	ethnicity (3)	fax (2)	32:3	growing (1)
22:6,13;23:13;	16:21;19:2,7	24:24;25:8	funds (7)	21:6
24:20;27:23;28:2;	evaluating (1)	federal (2)	5:12,13,15;8:5;	guarantees (1)
30:13;33:7;34:15;	7:18	7:10;8:6	9:6;11:11,14	27:21
35:9;36:7	Evaluation (3)	feedback (3)	further (1)	guide (2)
either (1)	11:18;22:15;23:9	27:25;29:8;35:17	10:25	4:23;11:9
24:13	evaluations (2)	feel (2)	Furthering (4)	,
elderly (1)	23:4,7	3:18;24:2	3:12;14:16;25:13;	Н
32:7	Even (1)	female-headed (2)	26:11	
elevators (1)	30:5	20:5;21:23	future (2)	half (2)
34:3	everybody (4)	few (6)	14:13;21:9	19:9;20:20
eliminate (1)	3:17;25:21;35:16;	11:23;13:18;	11.13,21.7	hand (5)
11:3	36:9	20:15;32:10;34:12;	G	9:21;10:10;23:11;
else (2)	everywhere (1)	35:10	J	26:13;34:23
34:18;36:3	35:20	fifth (1)	Galen (1)	happening (3)
٥٦.10,٥٥.٥	33.20	mm (1)	Gaich (1)	nappening (3)
-	*	•		*

Tor the consonance i	1411	I	1	June 20, 2021
5:8,8;35:18	19:10,22;20:5,6,9,	incomes (1)	25:6	lets (1)
happens (2)	13;21:17,23,24;22:3;	31:7	Jim (5)	11:19
22:20;29:14	31:6;32:18	incorporated (2)	2:11;30:16,17,21;	level (1)
hard (2)	houseless (2)	23:2;30:23	33:7	14:22
23:24;28:16	32:8,9	incorporating (1)	job (1)	levels (5)
harder (1)	houses (2)	36:1	28:14	16:22,24;21:10,11,
18:15	18:22;27:5	increase (3)	jobs (2)	18
Health (8)	Housing (88)	10:20;14:7;16:9	16:18;32:19	Libby (1)
4:9,21;16:19,25;	3:10,12;4:23;5:2,	Independent (3)	join (2)	6:6
17:1;31:1;32:5,19	3,5,9,19,21,22,23;	28:9,11;33:15	3:5;35:16	limited (2)
healthcare (1)	6:16,24;7:1,12,23;	Index (2)	joining (5)	29:16;30:3
30:8	8:10,19,22;9:15;	14:19;16:22	3:8;26:12,14,17;	list (4)
hear (2)	10:16,17,18,19,21,	Indian (2)	34:20	23:23;27:9;30:16;
22:10;34:14	22,25;11:2,3,8;12:3,	19:10,12	jot (2)	34:9
heard (2)	18,21,23;13:3,5,9,9,	indicate (3)	3:19,19	listserv (1)
28:13;32:16	11,17;14:12,13,17;	26:15,18;34:21	Julie (3)	24:11
hearing (6)	17:19,20,21;18:3,5,	individual (1)	2:4;34:23;36:3	little (11)
3:4,6,12,16;30:12;	7,14,15,18,19,21,22;	11:15	July (1)	4:11,15;5:25;14:6;
35:12	19:24;20:12,16,19,	individuals (1)	6:6	20:20,22;22:8,9;
hearings (4) 6:21,23;12:8,9	21,25;21:9,9,19; 22:3,4;23:1;25:14;	33:3 information (8)	jump (1) 35:12	31:24;33:17;34:20 live (1)
0.21,23,12.8,9 held (4)	26:11;28:10,17,24;	6:9;9:13;13:20,24;	June (2)	33:3
4:13;12:9,10,11	29:3,23,24;30:1,8;	18:25;21:5;22:16;	12:16;25:19	living (12)
Helena (4)	31:6,14,16,24;32:6,	24:7	12.10,23.17	7:12;15:22;16:4;
24:15,16;25:4,5	13,14,24;33:18,25;	infrastructure (2)	K	20:8,10,10;21:23,24;
help (11)	34:11	6:16;7:25		28:9,11;33:15;34:1
4:22;10:21;11:2,	HRC (2)	initial (1)	keep (2)	local (2)
15;23:15;27:4,18;	30:23;31:5	12:15	29:23;30:5	8:1;13:4
28:19;29:11;35:3,21	HUD (13)	input (9)	kind (3)	located (1)
helpful (1)	5:4,12;8:6;14:15;	6:13,18;9:23;12:7,	5:9;12:1;19:6	25:4
35:17	15:12;16:23;17:21,	15;13:7,14;24:13;	kitchen (1)	Loewen (1)
helping (1)	21;22:21,23;23:7;	30:14	17:23	25:7
helping (1) 27:7	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17	30:14 institutions (1)	17:23 Kristen (5)	25:7 long (1)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12;	25:7 long (1) 27:9
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2;	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3,	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24;	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24;	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23;	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 J	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6 homelessness (5)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2) 6:14;32:17	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 Janelle (8)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2) 20:19,21	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19 low (6)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6 homelessness (5) 6:16;8:2;9:2,4;	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2) 6:14;32:17 includes (2)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 Janelle (8) 2:3;3:2;4:4,6;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2) 20:19,21 least (5)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19 low (6) 8:24;15:6;17:4,6;
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6 homelessness (5) 6:16;8:2;9:2,4; 27:7	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2) 6:14;32:17 includes (2) 8:11;12:22	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 Janelle (8) 2:3;3:2;4:4,6; 22:12;23:12;24:20;	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2) 20:19,21 least (5) 12:8;15:21,22;	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19 low (6) 8:24;15:6;17:4,6; 19:17;21:10
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6 homelessness (5) 6:16;8:2;9:2,4; 27:7 household (1)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2) 6:14;32:17 includes (2) 8:11;12:22 including (3)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 Janelle (8) 2:3;3:2;4:4,6; 22:12;23:12;24:20; 34:24	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2) 20:19,21 least (5) 12:8;15:21,22; 16:2,3	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19 low (6) 8:24;15:6;17:4,6; 19:17;21:10 lower (3)
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6 homelessness (5) 6:16;8:2;9:2,4; 27:7 household (1) 18:5	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2) 6:14;32:17 includes (2) 8:11;12:22 including (3) 26:9;31:13;32:18	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 Janelle (8) 2:3;3:2;4:4,6; 22:12;23:12;24:20; 34:24 Jen (5)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2) 20:19,21 least (5) 12:8;15:21,22; 16:2,3 legislation (1)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19 low (6) 8:24;15:6;17:4,6; 19:17;21:10
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6 homelessness (5) 6:16;8:2;9:2,4; 27:7 household (1) 18:5 households (20)	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2) 6:14;32:17 includes (2) 8:11;12:22 including (3) 26:9;31:13;32:18 income (6)	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 Janelle (8) 2:3;3:2;4:4,6; 22:12;23:12;24:20; 34:24 Jen (5) 2:10;26:25;27:1,	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2) 20:19,21 least (5) 12:8;15:21,22; 16:2,3 legislation (1) 28:25	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19 low (6) 8:24;15:6;17:4,6; 19:17;21:10 lower (3) 21:18;31:7;32:18
helping (1) 27:7 helps (2) 10:24;11:9 Hi (2) 28:7;33:12 high (6) 15:2,5;16:25;17:2; 21:11;31:16 higher (8) 18:13;19:21;20:3, 7;21:21,25;31:24; 32:18 Hispanic (2) 14:6;15:7 HMDA (1) 18:24 hold (1) 3:7 Home (7) 8:17,18,21,23; 13:3;18:23;31:13 homeless (2) 28:18;29:6 homelessness (5) 6:16;8:2;9:2,4; 27:7 household (1) 18:5	21;22:21,23;23:7; 29:9,17 Human (3) 4:10,22;31:1 I identified (2) 10:4;13:12 identify (3) 10:1,19;13:10 impact (3) 13:8;29:22;33:1 impacting (1) 13:5 implement (1) 29:9 improve (1) 7:25 incentive (1) 29:1 incentivize (2) 27:19;34:5 include (2) 6:14;32:17 includes (2) 8:11;12:22 including (3) 26:9;31:13;32:18 income (6) 8:24;18:5;19:4;	30:14 institutions (1) 29:7 insurance (1) 32:20 integration (1) 12:24 interested (3) 23:8,24;24:3 into (9) 6:25;23:2;26:3; 27:5;29:23,23; 33:23;34:7;36:1 introduce (1) 3:1 investment (3) 4:23;8:17;31:13 issues (9) 3:7;10:16,17,19; 13:11,12,14,17; 34:12 Janelle (8) 2:3;3:2;4:4,6; 22:12;23:12;24:20; 34:24 Jen (5)	17:23 Kristen (5) 2:12;33:9,10,12; 34:15 K-R-I-S-T-E-N (1) 33:13 L labor (1) 31:17 lack (3) 31:17;32:13,23 land (1) 31:17 landlords (3) 27:10,19;34:9 larger (2) 17:15;31:20 last (2) 9:18;30:21 later (1) 12:14 laws (2) 20:19,21 least (5) 12:8;15:21,22; 16:2,3 legislation (1)	25:7 long (1) 27:9 longtime (1) 28:10 look (14) 5:19;11:19,25; 13:23;14:20,24; 16:13,20;18:9,23,25; 28:22;30:5;35:25 looked (1) 13:10 looking (20) 5:7;9:14,14,15,16; 12:3,24;13:6;15:1,9, 18;16:15;17:6,19; 19:19,22;20:1,13; 22:2;23:24 looks (2) 28:3;34:22 lot (8) 9:13;10:12;13:24; 14:18;15:12;27:4; 29:17;33:19 low (6) 8:24;15:6;17:4,6; 19:17;21:10 lower (3)

For the Consolidated P	'lan	1		June 20, 2024
majority (1)	mitigate (1)	near (1)	35:15	paired (1)
18:3	5:24	23:25	one (12)	13:14
makeup (3)	moderate (3)	need (12)	6:4,6,22;12:10,11;	papers (1)
14:2,4;21:7	15:3,5;21:10	6:20,25;9:18,20,	14:18;16:2;17:21;	16:13
	momentarily (1)	23;12:9;24:1;28:22;	20:17;28:21;29:19;	Park (1)
makeups (1) 15:10	35:13		32:11	24:14
		29:17,21;32:14,19		
making (3)	money (1)	needed (1)	ongoing (1)	part (10)
11:20;28:24;29:24	5:14	31:11	25:23	4:20;5:17;12:17;
mandate (1)	monopolize (1)	needs (16)	only (3)	14:15;15:18;16:15;
10:24	29:20	5:5,6,10,10,11;	8:23;16:7;33:2	18:17,21;30:11;32:2
many (2)	Montana (22)	10:1,2,4,5,8;18:16,	open (3)	participate (4)
6:4;28:13	3:3;5:8;14:2,13;	18;26:7;32:8,17;	3:20;12:19;27:12	6:4;24:4;33:5;
market (1)	15:6;16:25;17:2,15;	35:22	opportunities (13)	34:14
27:12	18:18;20:3,19;22:4,	new (1)	6:4,14;7:13;10:23;	participation (1)
materials (1)	23;24:15,16;25:4,5;	29:9	12:23;13:3,8;16:16;	6:3
31:19	28:10;30:25;33:14,	Newman (4)	17:13;21:20,22;	particularly (1)
May (3)	16;35:19	2:12;33:9,12,12	29:2;32:21	28:16
6:25;12:19;34:7	Montana's (3)	N-E-W-M-A-N (1)	opportunity (8)	parties (2)
maybe (3)	3:10;5:5,5	33:13	3:17;5:19;6:17;	23:8;24:3
22:9;27:20;28:25	more (15)	Next (36)	13:4;16:16;21:18;	partner (1)
MDOC (1)	5:25;8:16;18:4;	4:4,24;5:15,16;	33:5;34:14	25:2
32:4	19:15;27:12;28:23;	6:1,6,11;7:7,13,15,	option (1)	Partnership (1)
mean (7)	31:10,15,16;32:13,	19;8:2;9:10;10:8,8;	24:12	31:13
4:18;14:12,13;	15,20;34:5,11;35:10	11:3,10,21,23;12:4,	options (3)	Partnerships (1)
17:14,15;21:9;22:3	Mortgage (3)	20;13:17;14:14;	8:9;30:1;34:1	8:18
meaningfully (1)	18:24;19:3;21:21	15:16;16:10;17:17;	organization (6)	past (1)
11:1	mortgages (2)	18:19;19:25;20:14;	26:21;28:5;30:19;	29:2
means (4)	18:23;19:24	21:2;22:5;23:10;	33:11;35:1,7	Patera (4)
11:24;12:1;13:1;	Morton (4)	28:2,3;30:16;33:9	out (25)	2:9;28:3,7,8
20:23	2:11;30:16,20,21	nonprofit (1)	6:24,25;7:1,4;	patterns (1)
measure (2)	M-O-R-T-O-N (1)	31:5	10:15;11:5,7;13:22;	11:1
12:2;16:20	30:22	non-White (3)	18:10;19:18;22:15,	pay (1)
measures (2)	most (2)	14:22;15:1,13	17,19,20;24:2,19;	27:5
14:18,19	8:9;18:2	North (1)	25:3;27:4;29:7;	paying (1)
medical (1)	move (1)	28:8	33:14,24;34:10;35:3,	32:18
30:7	33:24	note (2)	5,16	people (10)
meet (2)	moving (1)	25:17,21	outline (1)	12:4;21:23;27:5,7;
10:24;16:1	23:15	notes (1)	13:21	28:18;29:1,11,16;
meeting (2)	much (7)	3:19	outlines (1)	30:3;33:23
6:3;12:13	19:21;23:13;	noticed (1)	11:14	percent (14)
meetings (3)	30:13;33:7;34:15;	27:3	outreach (2)	15:21,23;16:3;
6:5;24:5,7	35:8;36:7	number (6)	9:3;12:17	18:5;19:13,14,16;
Megan (9)	multi-family (1)	7:9;11:6;12:22;	over (14)	20:4,5,6,9,11,24;
2:5;3:13;4:2,6;	29:24	19:16;24:22;25:8	4:2;5:15;10:8;	30:6
16:11;22:6;23:13,	must (2)	numbers (3)	11:10,11;15:11;	percentage (1)
14;36:3	15:22,23	16:22,25;19:19	16:12;20:22;21:4;	18:6
		10.22,23,19.19		
mention (3) 14:9;22:11;32:9	mute (1) 26:23	0	23:11;24:17;25:6;	percentages (2)
		U	26:24;27:7	14:1;18:11
mentioned (5)	myself (2)	abiantinas (2)	overall (3)	Perfect (1) 4:15
4:6;10:11;12:19;	3:2;26:23	objectives (2)	19:1,9;20:3	
15:19;20:15	N	7:10,11	overcome (1)	Performance (1)
mic (4)	19	off (2)	11:1	11:18
4:2,15;22:7,9	(11)	4:13;22:7	overcrowded (1)	period (6)
mind (2)	name (11)	often (2)	17:22	4:1;12:16;22:21,
35:1,6	3:2;4:6;26:20;	30:5;33:20	ownership (1)	23;23:9;26:1
minority (1)	27:1;28:5,7;30:18,	oftentimes (3)	13:3	periods (1)
15:24	21,21;33:11,12	29:6,11,16	owns (1)	24:8
minute (2)	national (3)	onboard (1)	31:6	PERSONNEL (1)
13:1;21:4	16:23;17:3,5	29:22	n	2:1
minutes (3)	Native (10)	once (13)	P	pertaining (2)
13:18;20:15;35:10	15:14,16;16:2;	3:25;10:3,18;13:9,	(4)	25:12;26:8
missing (2)	17:10;19:10,12,19;	12,21;18:10;22:16,	page (1)	phone (5)
17:23,24	21:13,17,20	20;23:18;26:1;27:5;	10:13	24:22;25:8;26:14,
-	1	L	L	1

				,
17;34:20	16:23	34:25;35:24	18:14,25;19:1,21;	34:20
physical (2)	PRESENT (1)	providers (1)	20:3,12;21:21,25	re-mute (3)
25:14;33:21	2:1	6:18	rather (1)	26:16,19;34:22
physically (1)	presentation (4)	provides (1)	27:24	rent (3)
34:6	3:13,18,21;6:1	18:25	ratio (1)	27:5;31:7;34:10
places (2)	preserve (1)	providing (4)	19:4	rental (5)
28:17;29:16	7:23	26:20;27:25;32:5;	reach (3)	8:11,19,20;31:9,10
Plan (47)	press (2)	35:24	24:2,19;25:3	Report (2)
3:10,12;4:16,17,	26:14;34:21	PSH (1)	reaching (1)	11:19;18:10
22;5:1,18,18;7:9,14,	pretty (1)	27:6	8:15	REPORTER (1)
16,19,24;10:11,12,	27:10	public (29)	ready (4)	4:11
14,15;11:7,9,14,22;	prevention (1)	4:1,9,21;6:3,13,21,	28:6;30:17;33:10;	repositories (1)
12:8,10,12;15:18;	9:4	22;7:5,7,25;8:12,14;	35:12	23:21
16:15;22:14,24;23:2,	preview (1)	9:21;12:7,8,9,12,13;	really (19)	repository (1)
4,5,7;24:11,18;	13:25	13:7,14,22;17:5;	5:7;6:17;8:15;	23:25
25:12,13,19,23,24;	previous (1)	22:17,19,22;24:5;	13:23,24;14:3,19;	represent (1)
26:8,9,10;27:18;	25:16	31:1,23;32:5	16:13;17:6;23:14;	26:21
28:13;31:2;32:2;	primarily (4)	publish (2)	27:25;28:22;29:21;	request (2)
34:14	8:5,19;15:15;17:1	3:25;25:25	30:14;32:14;33:8;	24:1;35:9
planning (7)	prioritized (1)	published (3)	34:4;35:19,20	required (2)
3:15;4:20;8:15;	13:13	22:24;24:4;26:2	reasons (2)	5:2;23:4
9:11;11:9;25:17;	priority (1)	put (1)	19:4,5	reservation (1)
36:1	10:1	22:16	rebates (1)	16:3
Plans (3)	private-run (1)	putting (1)	27:20	reservations (1)
23:3,18;24:1	29:7	35:1	recap (1)	15:16
please (31)	proactively (1)	33.1	16:9	re-situate (1)
3:18;4:5,25;5:16;	10:25	Q	receiving (1)	26:6
6:1,12;7:8,13;8:3;	probably (1)	~	5:12	resources (3)
9:10;10:9;11:4,21;	28:13	qualified (1)	recognize (1)	27:4,20;28:15
12:5;13:17;14:14;	problem (2)	16:8	32:14	respondents (2)
15:17;16:10;17:18;	17:21;27:9	qualify (1)	record (3)	20:20,24
18:20;19:25;20:14;	problems (4)	16:9	4:13;28:7;30:21	responding (1)
21:3;22:5;23:10,23;	17:20;18:3,8,14	qualitative (1)	records (1)	35:25
25:17;26:13,14,20,	proceedings (1)	25:12	29:6	response (6)
21	36:10	quality (2)	reduce (1)	3:24;10:5;27:24;
pleased (2)	process (17)	16:19;17:2	8:2	30:15;33:9;34:16
32:22,25	4:18;5:17;6:2,5,	quickly (1)	reducing (1)	responsive (1)
plumbing (1)	23;7:3,7;9:12;11:6;	3:1	29:9	13:16
17:24	12:6,7,21;18:18;	quite (1)	regarding (2)	rest (1)
pm (2)	20:13;23:6;24:14;	28:16	26:7;29:10	36:8
25:19;36:11	35:4		regards (1)	restricted (1)
PO (2)	proficiency (1)	R	28:12	31:8
24:15;25:5	17:9		regional (2)	results (3)
point (1)	program (4)	race (3)	6:5,7	20:17,23;21:1
19:18	7:15;8:18;11:17;	16:20;19:1,7	regularly (2)	review (10)
policies (2)	31:14	races (1)	27:11,14	4:1;7:4,7;12:12;
13:4;20:24	programs (1)	19:15	rehab (1)	13:22;22:17,19,22;
Policy (3)	8:4	racial (10)	8:20	23:17;24:4
4:7,8,23	progress (2)	14:2,4,7;15:9,23;	rehabilitation (1)	reviewed (1)
population (10)	11:20;23:3	17:8,12,17;21:7;33:1	8:12	25:15
14:5,6,11,22;15:1,	projects (2)	racially (3)	re-housing (1)	revitalize (1)
22,23;16:4;21:8;	4:24;11:15	12:25;15:19;21:14	9:5	8:1
28:19	promote (2)	raise (1)	relative (1)	right (8)
populations (7)	11:2;20:25	26:13	17:4	7:22;12:17;14:25;
15:7,15;20:2;	proposed (2)	raised (1)	relatively (1)	25:20;27:7;28:2;
21:13;31:21;32:6,10	12:3;23:9	34:23	17:6	34:9;35:14
poverty (11)	provide (16)	range (1)	release (2)	risk (2)
13:1;15:20,22;	3:16,17;6:18;7:11,	15:8	12:10,12	9:2;32:9
16:5;20:1,3,4,11,12;	12;24:13;25:11;	rapid (1)	relevant (1)	robust (1)
21:15,25	26:4;27:23;30:15,	9:4	19:18	6:3
practices (1)	18;33:8,11;34:16,19;	rate (4)	rely (1)	Rosie (1)
13:5	35:17	19:9,13;20:4,10	35:20	24:19
	4 7 7 74 1			
prescribed (1)	provided (2)	rates (8)	reminder (1)	rule (2)

For the Consolidated P	'lan			June 20, 2024
12:3;29:9	shelters (1)	26:20;28:4	subscribe (1)	throughout (6)
run (1)	9:4	spelled (2)	24:10	5:25;6:2,23;9:11;
34:7	shift (1)	27:2;30:22	subscription (1)	12:21;23:22
running (1)	14:3	spend (3)	24:11	times (2)
33:23	shortage (1)	5:14;11:11;18:4	suit (1)	28:13;29:17
Rural (1)	27:16	spent (1)	18:15	Today (7)
31:14	showing (1)	11:15	suitable (1)	3:9;6:3,22;12:11;
J1.14	18:10	SSDI (1)	7:12	24:6;30:12;36:4
\mathbf{S}	shows (1)	30:4	supply (1)	today's (2)
	18:12	SSI (1)	27:10	3:4,12
same (2)	significantly (1)	30:4	support (1)	together (2)
19:11;29:18	20:6	staff (1)	32:19	10:1;22:16
Sara (1)	similar (1)	30:24	sure (2)	took (1)
25:7	8:22	stakeholders (2)	28:24;29:24	35:16
scheduled (1)	simply (1)	6:17;9:22	survey (4)	tool (2)
22:18	32:12	star (6)	6:25;7:1;12:18;	14:17,17
school (1)	single (3)	26:15,15,18,19;	20:16	topics (1)
17:9	8:11,20;29:25	34:21,22	surveys (1)	6:15
schools (1)	situations (1)	started (1)	6:24	totals (1)
16:18	21:24	4:3	sustain (1)	19:13
screen (2)	skip (1)	starting (1)	7:25	towards (3)
26:6;28:4	16:12	9:12		6:15;9:10;11:20
second (3)	slide (28)	State (35)	T	trailing (1)
7:24;12:11;17:23	4:4,24;5:16;6:1,	3:15;4:19,19;5:22;		22:7
seeing (21)	12;7:7,13;8:3;9:10;	6:20;9:14,19;10:2,	talk (10)	training (1)
5:10,10;6:19;9:20,	10:8;11:4,21;12:5,	18;12:17;13:4,9,15;	4:17;5:13,24;7:6;	32:20
23;10:2;14:3,5,6,10;	20;13:17;14:14;	14:4,8,11;15:25;	10:13;11:24;13:18;	transit (2)
15:5,13;16:8;17:11,	15:16;16:10,12;	16:10;17:5,7;18:13;	27:10;33:17,19	17:4,5
16;19:20;21:7,8,10,	17:18;18:20;19:25;	19:11,14,25;21:6,8;	talked (1)	transportation (1)
11,13	20:14;21:2;22:5;	23:7,22;26:20,21;	10:7	16:18
seemingly (1) 27:4	23:10;25:15,16 slides (1)	28:4;29:7;32:25; 35:18,19	talking (12)	trends (1) 9:14
seems (1)	11:23	State's (2)	3:9;8:4,6;9:6,7; 21:12,16,17,19,20,	7.14 tried (1)
28:21	snippet (1)	23:2;24:5	22;32:22	3:5
segregation (11)	13:20	statewide (1)	target (1)	trips (1)
11:2;12:24;14:21,	solution (1)	4:20	25:24	17:4
22;15:2,4,6,7;21:11,	32:13	statistical (1)	targeted (4)	Trust (1)
12;33:1	Solutions (1)	19:17	6:15;8:23;9:1,10	8:22
Senior (1)	8:25	statistically (1)	tax (2)	trying (1)
4:7	somebody (3)	19:17	27:20;31:14	28:14
September (1)	29:23;34:8,10	Steffens (1)	TDD (1)	turn (2)
22:18	someone (2)	24:18	24:23	4:2;26:24
serve (2)	29:13,23	step (1)	Tenancy (1)	two (4)
28:8,20	sometimes (5)	10:6	27:2	6:23;12:8;16:8;
serves (3)	28:21;30:3,8;	steps (1)	tenant-based (2)	19:15
10:16;31:6;33:15	33:21;34:6	12:22	31:9,10	types (3)
service (1)	somewhat (1)	stock (2)	Tenants (1)	9:8,9;29:1
6:18	20:22	28:17,24	27:14	typing (1)
Services (6)	sorry (1)	store (1)	tentatively (1)	35:6
4:10,22;8:14;28:9;	4:14	19:5	22:17	U
31:1,23	source (2)	strategies (7)	terms (3)	<u> </u>
sets (1)	8:8;28:25	10:4,7,20;11:10;	12:1,2;32:3	umdon (2)
13:7 several (2)	sources (3) 8:16;31:12,15	13:15;23:1;26:7 street (1)	Thanks (1) 35:8	under (2) 12:2;20:20
23:21;34:7	south (1)	9:3	thinking (1)	unincorporated (1)
share (4)	27:22	subject (1)	34:5	31:22
20:16;21:2;35:11;	southwest (1)	6:8	third (4)	unit (1)
36:4	33:16	submit (1)	7:24;12:13;17:24;	29:18
shared (1)	special (1)	30:11	20:22	units (5)
21:5	32:8	submitted (1)	though (1)	27:15,16;34:2,6,7
Shayla (6)	Specialist (2)	22:21	30:5	unmute (5)
2:9;28:3,4,8;	27:3;33:14	submitting (3)	three (1)	26:13,16,19;
30:13;31:3	spell (2)	23:6;25:18,24	12:8	30:17;34:22
		1		

For the Consolidated P	lan		
(5)	2 2 9 22 12		
up (5)	3:3,8;22:13		
3:20;6:5;25:20;	what's (5)	1	4
33:4;36:2	5:7,8,9;13:23;		
upcoming (1)	35:18	1 (1)	40 (3)
24:7	wheelchair (2)	26:9	15:21;16:3;20:23
uptick (1)	30:1;34:3	12 (1)	406-447-4265 (1)
14:5	White (8)	20:4	25:8
Urban (1)	14:4,21;15:1,3,7,	13 (1)	406-447-4287 (1)
5:3	14,14;17:10	19:14	25:9
use (4)	wholistic (1)		406-841-2702 (1)
5:14;7:19;24:22;	32:15	14 (1)	
31:12	wholistically (1)	33:15	24:23
usual (1)	5:20	1400 (1)	406-841-2770 (1)
31:2	wide (2)	25:4	24:23
31.2	8:15;32:6	15 (1)	406-841-2771 (1)
${f V}$		23:10	24:24
	wider (1)	19 (1)	42 (1)
•	32:23	20:11	19:16
variety (5)	widest (1)	1990 (1)	44 (1)
19:4,5;31:12,22;	8:8	14:3	15:3
32:6	winding (1)	1st (2)	
various (1)	33:4	6:8;12:20	5
9:22	wish (1)	,	
vast (1)	25:3	2	5:00 (1)
18:3	within (7)	_	25:19
verbal (1)	14:8,17;17:7,13,	2:53 (1)	50 (1)
26:4	14;20:25;22:5	36:10	15:23
versus (5)	wonderful (1)	200523 (1)	55 (1)
14:21;15:1,14,14;	36:8	24:16	15:2
17:10	wondering (1)	2010 (1)	59601 (2)
veterans (1)	27:17	16:7	
32:7	word (2)		24:15;25:5
via (3)	35:3,4	2022 (2)	59620-0523 (1)
26:12,14,17	words (1)	19:12;20:4	24:16
victims (1)	10:12	2024 (2)	59620-2956 (1)
32:7	work (6)	25:20,25	25:6
view (2)	23:14;25:2;27:19;	2025 (2)	5-year (1)
		7:15,16	4:22
32:15,23	29:12,13;31:1	2025-2026 (1)	_
violence (1)	working (2)	26:9	6
32:7	4:8,16	2025-2029 (1)	
volatility (1)	wrap (1)	26:8	6 (3)
31:18	36:2	202956 (1)	26:16,19;34:22
volume (2)	written (3)	25:5	60-day (1)
22:8,11	25:11,18;30:10	24 (1)	22:22
voucher (3)	wwwdphhsmtgov (1)	20:9	
27:6,8;30:6	25:10	24th (1)	9
vouchers (2)		6:6	
27:13,14	Y	25th (2)	9 (3)
		12:16;25:20	26:15,18;34:21
\mathbf{W}	year (10)	26 (1)	9.2 (1)
	7:15;11:13,15,17,	19:13	20:5
wait (3)	20;12:20;19:11,11;	27 (1)	20.3
27:9;34:9;35:10	22:18;26:9		
way (2)	years (7)	20:6	
5:20;27:12	5:3,16;9:18;10:8,	3	
ways (1)	16;11:10,12	<u> </u>	
5:23	10,11.10,12	20 (2)	
webinar (1)	${f z}$	30 (2)	
26:13	<i>L</i>	18:5;30:6	
	zin (1)	301 (1)	
website (9)	zip (1)	24:14	
6:9;7:6;22:25;	24:15	31st (1)	
23:19,23;24:8,12,25;	Zoom (1)	12:20	
25:10	3:6	3rd (1)	
welcome (3)		12:11	

Egli, Janelle

From: Montana Department of Commerce <commerce@announcements.mt.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:01 PM

To: Egli, Janelle

Subject: Public Hearing: Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan

Public Hearing: Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan Sept. 10, 2024



Photo by Montana Department of Commerce

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health & Human Services announce the Public Hearing for the Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan that is associated

with the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

The Fair Housing Equity Plan has been developed and published after an extensive public input process. The public is now encouraged to review the <u>draft document [links-2.govdelivery.com]</u> and provide feedback.

Montana's Equity Plan seeks to inform the Consolidated Plan, which is currently under development, and serves the purpose of assessing Montana's fair housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as setting fair housing goals. It details the State's analysis and its proposed strategies for achieving equity in housing, which includes overcoming patterns of segregation and discrimination.

The Equity Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Sept. 30, 2024, for final review and approval as a requirement of HUD formula grant funding for housing and community development activities that are supported by the following programs: Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Housing Trust Fund and Emergency Solutions Grant.

For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 10 a.m. MST on Sept. 10, 2024.

Register for the public hearing [links-2.govdelivery.com]

The hearing will be held on Zoom, and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website [links-2.govdelivery.com] in advance. The public hearing will provide attendees an opportunity to respond to the State's analysis and goals. The State will consider any comments or views provided orally during the public hearing or in writing during the comment period.

All comments pertaining to the plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. MST on Sept. 20, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce

Community MT Division

Attention: Con Plan

301 S. Park Avenue

P.O. Box 200523

Helena, MT 59620-0523

docconplan@mt.gov

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VERIFICATION

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My commission expires March 30, 2027 Commission Number 1342120

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nicole Burkholder

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Register for the Zoom hearing and access presentation materials here:
commerce.mt.gov/consolidatedplan/updates The public
hearing will provide attendees
an opportunity to respond to the
State's analysis and goals. The
State will consider any comments
or uldew provided ranky during the or views provided orally during the public hearing or in writing during the comment period.

All comments pertaining to the plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. MST on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024.

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Questions? Email docconplan@mt.gov



August 22, 2024 COL-MT-100253 MNAXLP

Independent Record

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Helena Independent Record 2222 N. Washington St Helena, Montana 59602 (123) 456-7890

State of Pennsylvania, County of Lancaster, ss:

Hayden Lipsky, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Helena Independent Record, a newspaper of general circulation published that is a "legal newspaper" as that is published daily in the City of Helena, in the County of Lewis and Clark, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

If this certification is for the State of Montana, I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205 , MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of \$228.85 , is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

PUBLICATION DATES: August. 20 2024

NOTICE ID: RvLgsEitzSiX06X7KQnl

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-200530

NOTICE NAME: Legal Ad for 9/10/24 Hearing

Publication Fee: \$228.85

gned) Hayden Lipsky

VERIFICATION

State of Pennsylvania County of Lancaster Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal Nicole Burkholder, Notary Public Lancaster County My commission expires March 30, 2027 Commission Number 1342120

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 08/20/2024

nicole Burkholder

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Public Hearing: Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health & Human Services announce the Public Hearing for the Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan that is associated with the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

The Fair Housing Equity Plan has been developed and published after an extensive public input process. The public is now encouraged to review and provide feedback for the draft document, which is available on Commerce's website and accessible via the QR code below.



Montana's Equity Plan seeks to inform the Consolidated Plan, which is currently under development and serves the purpose of assessing Montana's fair housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as setting fair housing goals. It details the State's analysis and its proposed strategies for achieving equity in housing, which includes overcoming patterns of segregation and discrimination.

The Equity Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Sept. 30, 2024, for final review and approval as a requirement of HUD formula grant funding for housing and community development activities that are supported by the following programs: Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Housing Trust Fund, and Emergency Solutions Grant. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing on Zoom at 10 a.m. MST on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024.

Register for the Zoom hearing and access presentation materials here: commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/updates. The public hearing will provide attendees an opportunity to respond to the State's analysis and goals. The State will consider any comments or views provided orally during the public hearing or in writing during the comment period.

All comments pertaining to the plan must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. MST on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024.

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 docconplan@mt.gov

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Questions? Email docconplan@mt.gov August 20, 2024 COL-MT-200530 MNAXLP



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Missoulian 2291 W. Broadway Missoula, Montana 59808 (406) 523-5200

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PUBLICATION DATES: August. 20 2024

NOTICE ID: GX0uMyTHtnJ45QOguy4m

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-400530

NOTICE NAME: Legal Ad for 9/10/24 Hearing

Publication Fee: \$235.98

Hayden Lipsky

VERIFICATION

State of Pennsylvania County of Lancaster

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal Nicole Burkholder, Notary Public Lancaster County My commission expires March 30, 2027 Commission Number 1342120

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 08/20/2024

nicole Bulkholder

Notary Public Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Public Hearing: Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024
The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health & Human Services announce the Public Hearing for the Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan that is associated with the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for

That it is associated with the State's 2020-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

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Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523

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Contact Commerce at doccomplanamin.gov no later man o p.m. on ocp., 3, 2024.

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Questions? Email docconplan@mt.gov August 20, 2024 COL-MT-400530 MNAXLP



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Montana Standard PO Box 627 Butte, Montana 59701 (406) 496-5500

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If this certification is for the State of Montana, I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of \$228.85, is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

PUBLICATION DATES: August. 20 2024

NOTICE ID: BDnlF1GSYwY6WiV6eXoz

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-300208

NOTICE NAME: Legal Ad for 9/10/24 Hearing

Publication Fee: \$228.85 Hayden Lipsky

VERIFICATION

State of Pennsylvania County of Lancaster

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal Nicole Burkholder, Notary Public Lancaster County My commission expires March 30, 2027 Commission Number 1342120

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 08/20/2024

nicole Bulkholder

Notary Public Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Public Hearing: Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health & Human Services announce the Public Hearing for the Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan that is associated with the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

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Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attention: Con Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 docconplan@mt.gov

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Questions? Email docconplan@mt.gov August 20, 2024 COL-MT-300208 MNAXLP



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Ravalli Republic 232 W Main St Hamilton, Montana 59840 (406) 363-3300

State of Pennsylvania, County of Lancaster, ss:

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If this certification is for the State of Montana, I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205 , MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of \$87.17 , is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

PUBLICATION DATES: August. 20 2024

NOTICE ID: dAZHvVt5cgZxmrokrZLV

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-500112

NOTICE NAME: Legal Ad for 9/10/24 Hearing

Publication Fee: \$87.17

(Signed)_

Hayden Lipsky

VERIFICATION

State of Pennsylvania County of Lancaster Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Nicole Burkholder, Notary Public
Lancaster County
My commission expires March 30, 2027

Commission expires March 30, 20

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 08/20/2024

Misole Burkholder

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

Public Hearing: Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024
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Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. The Fair Housing Equity Plan has been developed and published after an extensive public input process. The public is now encouraged to review and provide feedback for the draft document, which is available on Commerce's website and accessible via the QR code below.



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Questions? Email docconplan@mt.gov August 20, 2024 COL-MT-500112 MNAXLP



PO Box 632096 Cincinnati, OH 45263-2096

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Janelle Egli Not specified 301 S Park AVE Helena MT 59601-6282

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Great Falls Tribune, a daily newspaper of general circulation in Cascade County, State of Montana, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue:

08/20/2024

and that the fees charged are legal. Sworn to and subscribed before on 08/20/2024

Legal Clerk

Notary. State of WI. County of Brown

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9/10/24 Hearing

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KATHLEEN ALLEN Notary Public State of Wisconsin



Public Hearing: Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health & Human Services announce the Public Hearing for the Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan that is associated with the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development.

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Questions? Email docconplan@mt.gov



Montana's Draft Fair Housing Equity Plan Associated with the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Public Hearing

September 10, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

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2025-2029 Consolidated PlanStatewide Planning

The State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health & Human Services, is developing a 5-year plan to guide policy and investment for housing, economic, and other community development projects.

This 5-year plan, also known as the "Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development," is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to assess Montana's needs and current conditions, as well as to determine priorities and allocate HUD funding.

2025-2029 Consolidated PlanStatewide Planning

In conjunction with the Consolidated Plan, Montana has developed an **Equity Plan** to affirmatively furthering fair housing.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan

- Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
 - Under a HUD Proposed Rule, Montana will develop an Equity Plan every five years that will serve the purpose of assessing fair housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as setting fair housing goals and outlining strategies for achieving equity in housing, increasing access to community assets, and broadening economic opportunities
 - The mandate to affirmatively further fair housing requires proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in opportunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination



2025-2029 Consolidated PlanPublic Participation

- Focus groups
- Public hearings
- Surveys
 - Housing and Community Needs
 - Fair Housing
- Documents
 - Formal reviews with public comment periods

See website for current information.

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Objectives

- The objectives of Montana's Consolidated Planinclude:
 - Provide decent housing
 - Provide a suitable living environment
 - Expand economic opportunities



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Goals

- The goals of Montana's <u>current</u> Consolidated Plan are:
 - Goal 1 Preserve and Construct Affordable Housing
 - Goal 2 Plan for Communities
 - Goal 3 Improve and Sustain Public Infrastructure
 - Goal 4 Revitalize Local Economies
 - Goal 5 Reduce Homelessness



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Programs

Community Development Block Grant

Housing (Rental Development / Single Family Rehabilitation),
 Public and Community Facilities, Economic Development,
 Planning

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

 Rental Development / Single Family Development / Rental, Rehabilitation, Homebuyer Assistance

Housing Trust Fund

Rental Development / Rental Rehabilitation

Emergency Solutions Grant

 Street Outreach / Emergency Shelter / Homelessness Prevention / Rapid Re-housing



2025-2029 Consolidated PlanPlanning Process

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data regarding need
- Engage the public, agencies, and stakeholders to get input about need
- Identify priority needs
- Develop a strategy in response to identified needs
- Direct funding to strategies



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Documents

- Five-Year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development
 - Consolidated Plans are strategic plans prepared every five years that guide housing and community investments
- Annual Action Plan
 - AAPs are prepared each year of the Consolidated Plan and outline specific activities, goals, and objectives for the given program year
- Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report
 - CAPERs are annual reports that detail use of funds and progress towards meeting goals and objectives for AAPs



Under HUD's Proposed Rule, the State will oversee a more streamlined analysis of fair housing compared to what was required under the 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule. Furthermore, the State will oversee a more robust community engagement effort to identify fair housing needs and opportunities.



- At least three public hearings will be held before the Equity Plan is submitted to HUD.
 - Two hearings before the publication of the Equity Plan to provide the public opportunity to identify fair housing needs and inform fair housing strategies.
 - First hearing was April 3, 2024, and the second hearing was June 20, 2024.
 - One hearing *after* the publication of the Equity Plan to provide the public opportunity to comment on the published plan document (today, Sept. 10, 2024).
- As part of its outreach efforts, the State gathered data to inform Equity Plan development via the Montana Fair Housing Survey.
 - Opened May 1, 2024; closed May 31, 2024.



Fair Housing Analysis

- Demographics
- Segregation and integration
- Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty
- Access to community assets
- Access to affordable housing opportunities
- Access to homeownership and economic opportunity
- Local and state policies and practices impacting fair housing

Fair Housing Issues

- Identify issues with data and local knowledge
- Prioritize issues based on data collected and public input

Fair Housing Strategies and Goals

Commit to taking responsive actions to address fair housing issues





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data - Demographics

	1990 Trend		2000 Trend		2010 Trend		2020	
Race/Ethnicity	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
White	556,529	91.4%	618,450	89.2%	666,393	87.8%	657,407	83.3%
Black	1,103	0.2%	2,275	0.3%	4,179	0.6%	2,648	0.3%
Hispanic	7,969	1.3%	11,912	1.7%	19,169	2.5%	28,565	3.6%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2,432	0.4%	4,558	0.7%	7,104	0.9%	5,371	0.7%
Native American	40,296	6.6%	54,443	7.9%	61,823	8.1%	53,132	6.7%
Data Source: AFFH, Census, ACS Non-Entitlement Areas of Montana								

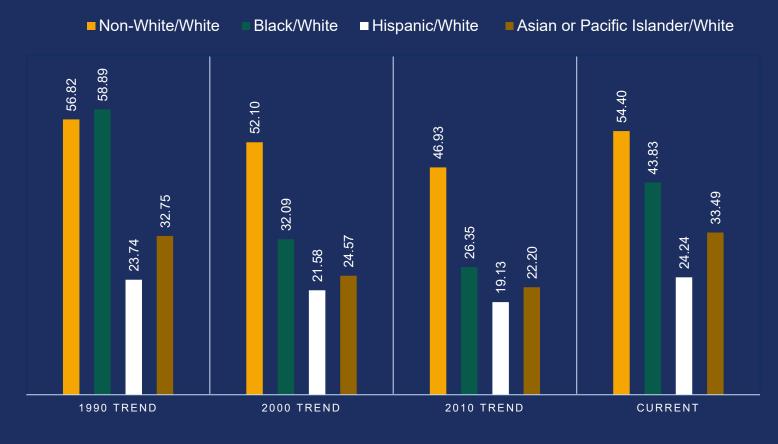


2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data - Demographics

Disability Rate		
Age	2015	2022
Under 5 years	1.0%	0.9%
5 to 17 years	4.6%	5.7%
18 to 34 years	6.4%	8.4%
35 to 64 years	13.7%	13.3%
65 to 74 years	25.5%	25.0%
75 years and over	49.5%	45.9%
Data Source: 2015 and 2022 5-Year ACS		State of Montana



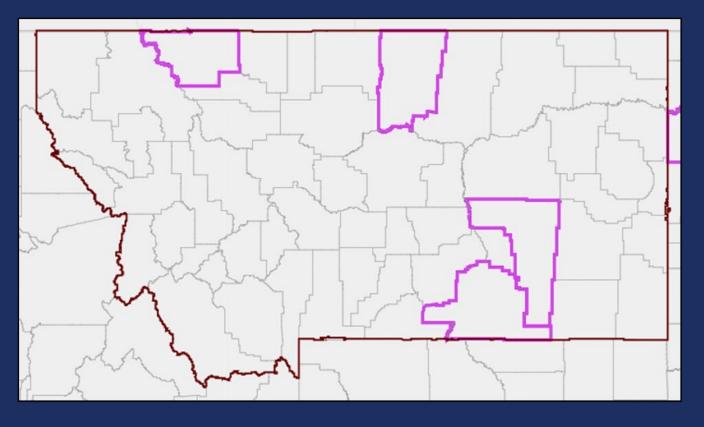
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data - Segregation





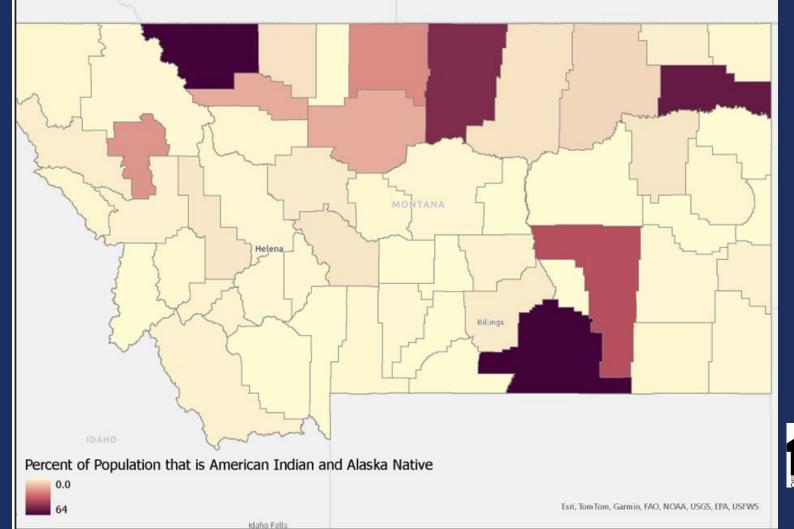


2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data – R/ECAPs





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data – R/ECAPs



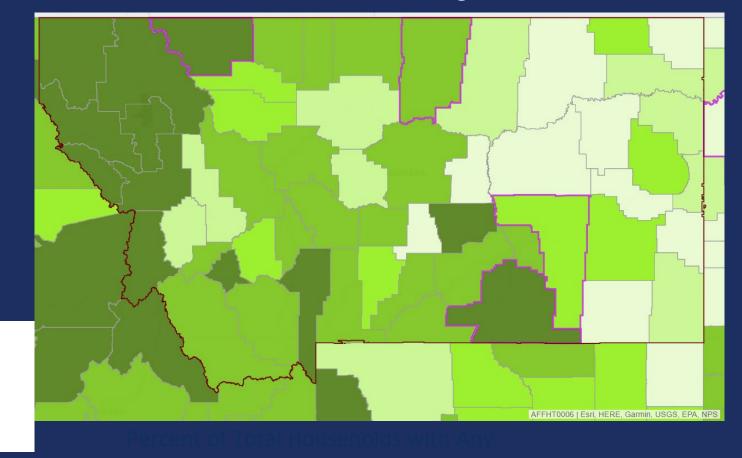


2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data – Access to Opportunities





Data – Access to Affordable Housing







2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data – Access to Affordable Housing

Cost Burdens						
Montana	Owner	Renter				
Cost Burden	12.0%	19.6%				
Severe Cost Burden	8.2%	18.7%				
Total	20.1%	38.3%				
Data Source: 2022 5-Year ACS		State of Montana				



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data – Access to Homeownership

Mortgage Denial Rates by Race					
Race or Ethnicity	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian or Alaska Native	23.6%	23.0%	17.5%	16.7%	26.1%
Asian	13.7%	15.4%	14.1%	9.8%	16.8%
Black or African American	16.5%	24.0%	14.9%	15.8%	22.3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	11.8%	16.0%	26.8%	6.7%	26.2%
White	13.3%	12.0%	9.2%	9.7%	13.6%
Two or More Races	21.4%	23.8%	13.6%	12.8%	42.1%
Not Available	7.8%	6.8%	7.0%	7.8%	10.2%
Total	12.4%	11.2%	8.9%	9.4%	13.1%
Data Source: HMDA Data				Stat	e of Montana

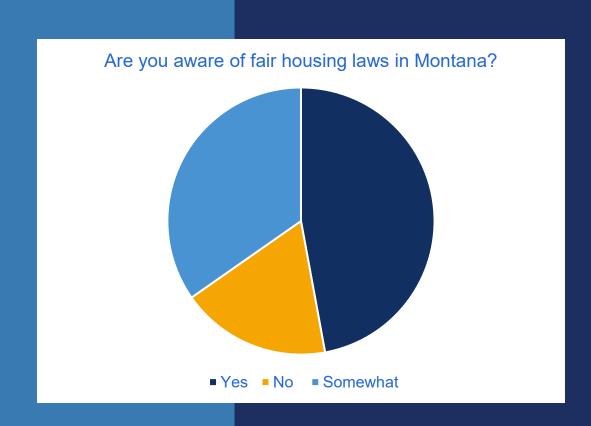


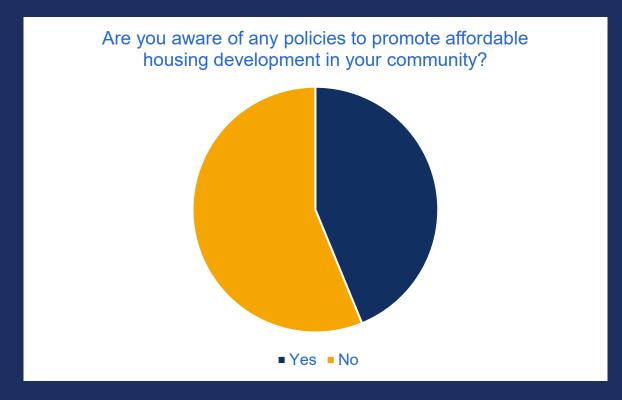
2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Data – Access to Economic Opportunities

Poverty by Race and Ethnicity	
Race and Ethnicity	% in poverty
White	10.7%
Black or African American	17.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	35.1%
Asian	12.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	4.5%
Some other race	17.0%
Two or more races	15.0%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	17.0%
Data Source: 2022 5-Year ACS	State of Montana

Poverty by Disability Status					
Disability Status	% in poverty				
With any disability	19.1%				
No disability	11.3%				
Data Source: 2022 5-Year ACS	State of Montana				









Issue 1:

Barriers for American Indian Households to Access Housing and Community Assets

- 1.1: Disproportionately Less Access to Mortgages for American Indian Applicants
- 1.2: Disproportionately Higher Rates of Poverty for American Indians
- 1.3: Lower Levels of Access to Community Assets for American Indians
- 1.4: R/ECAPs Occur in Communities with American Indian Poverty

Issue 2:

Barriers for Low-Income Households to Access Housing

• 2.1: Higher Rates of Cost Burden for Low-Income Households

Issue 3:

Barriers for Renter Households to Access Housing

• 3.1: Renter Households Face Higher Rates of Cost Burdens Statewide



Issue 4:

Barriers for Seniors and Households with Disabilities to Access Housing

4.1 Senior Households and Households with Disabilities Face Increased Levels of Housing Need Statewide

Issue 5:

Barriers to Providing Adequate Community Support

- 5.1: Lack of Resources
- 5.2: Lack of Federal-Level Data
- 5.3: Lack of Fair Housing Knowledge
- 5.4: Institutional Barriers
- 5.5: State and Local Barriers



Goal 1:

Expand Fair Housing Outreach and Education

Issues: 5.3 Lack of Fair Housing Knowledge, 5.5 State and Local Barriers

Metrics and Milestones:

- Distribute the Fair Housing Equity Plan to stakeholders strategically and broadly
- Partner with Montana Fair Housing to distribute and, if needed, collaborate to develop educational materials about fair housing rights and resources
- Share the Fair Housing Equity Plan with stakeholders, including advocates and legislators, during the 2025 Legislative Session



Goal 2:

Increase Fair Housing Coordination

Issues: 1.1: Disproportionately Less Access to Mortgages for American Indian Applicants, 1.2: Disproportionately Higher Rates of Poverty for American Indians, 1.3: Lower Levels of Access to Community Assets for American Indians, 1.4: R/ECAPs Occur in Communities with American Indian Poverty, 2.1: Higher Rates of Cost Burden for Low-Income Households, 3.1: Renter Households Face Higher Rates of Cost Burdens Statewide, 4.1: Senior Households and Households with Disabilities Face Increased Levels of Housing Need Statewide, 5.1: Lack of Resources, 5.4: Institutional Barriers, 5.5: State and Local Barriers

Metrics and Milestones:

 Convene an interagency work group to assess equity needs and opportunities across the state; examine poverty strategy and identify underutilized or new resources for housing and community development



Goal 3:

Reduce Barriers for Native American Households and Communities

Issues: 1.1: Disproportionately Less Access to Mortgages for American Indian Applicants, 1.4: R/ECAPs Occur in Communities with American Indian Poverty, 5.2 Lack of Federal-Level Data

Metrics and Milestones:

- Continue to partner with NeighborWorks Montana to support homebuyer education
- Continue to participate in the Montana Native Homeownership Coalition
- Provide targeted technical assistance to service providers and developers in R/ECAPs
- Continue to call attention to existing information gaps at the federal level and continue to engage with federal partners to share new resources as they become available



Goal 4:

Support Housing and Community Development for Priority Areas and Populations

Issues: 1.3: Lower Levels of Access to Community Assets for American Indians, 1.4: R/ECAPs Occur in Communities with American Indian Poverty, 4.1: Senior Households and Households with Disabilities Face Increased Levels of Housing Need Statewide

Metrics and Milestones:

 Prioritize funding for housing and community development that benefits disproportionately impacted or otherwise underserved populations and serves areas that are under-resourced or have high rates of poverty



Goal 5:

Build the Capacity of Partners and Developers of Housing and Community Assets

Issues: 5.1: Lack of Resources, 5.4 Institutional Barriers, 5.5: State and Local Barriers

Metrics and Milestones:

- Create toolkits in support of housing and community development projects
- Continue to provide support broadly via the Community Technical Assistance Program



Goal 6:

Carryout Governor's Housing Task Force Recommendations

Issues: 5.5: State and Local Barriers

Metrics and Milestones:

Continue to engage with the Governor's Housing Task Force and assist to carryout recommendations
to increase the supply of affordable and attainable housing for Montanans



2025-2029 Consolidated PlanEquity Plan Adoption and Evaluation

- Once finalized, the Equity Plan will be submitted to HUD. Upon receipt, HUD will publish the plan and make it available for a 60-day public review period.
- After HUD accepts Montana's Equity Plan, it will be published on Commerce's website, and its fair housing goals and strategies will be incorporated into the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and associated Annual Action Plans.
- Progress evaluations for the Equity Plan will be required annually after the Equity Plan is adopted.
 - Before submitting its Annual Progress Evaluations for the Equity Plan to HUD, the State will make available to interested parties the proposed evaluation for a comment period of no less than <u>15</u> <u>calendar days</u>.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Document Review, Engagement

- Once drafted, Equity Plan and Consolidated Plan documents will be available:
 - On Commerce's website at commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan
 - Several repositories throughout the state (see website for list)
 - By request
- All interested parties are encouraged to review published documents and to participate in the State's public meetings. For information about upcoming meetings and comment periods, visit commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates and/or subscribe to Commerce's Consolidated Plan email listserv.



2025-2029 Consolidated and **Equity Plan** Commerce Contact Information

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2024 Equity Plan We Need Your Feedback!

Comments regarding the 2024 Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing are now being accepted.

If you have a comment and are joining via webinar, please raise your hand so we can unmute you. If you are joining via phone, please press *9 to indicate you have a comment and then press *6 to unmute/re-mute yourself.

When providing comment

- Please state and spell your name
- Please state the organization you represent (if applicable)

Written comments should be sent to the address or email below and will be accepted until 5 p.m. MST on **Sept. 20, 2024**.

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Division Attn: Con Plan PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 docconplan@mt.gov





In The Matter Of:

Montana Department of Commerce
Draft Housing Equity Plan

Transcript of Proceedings via Zoom September 10, 2024

Lesofski Court Reporting, Inc. 7 West Sixth Avenue, Suite 2C Helena, MT 59601 406-443-2010

Min-U-Script® with Word Index

	1	-
1		
2	MONTANA DRAFT HOUSING EQUITY PLAN	
3		
4	MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS	
11		
12		
13		
14	September 10, 2024 10:00 a.m.	
15	Via Zoom	
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21	HOLLY FOX LESOFSKI COURT REPORTING	
22	7 WEST SIXTH AVENUE, SUITE 2C HELENA, MT 59601	
23	(406) 443-2010	
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The following proceedings were had and testimony taken:

MS. EGLI: So, thank you, everybody who's joining us today. Welcome to our public hearing regarding Montana's draft housing equity plan, which is associated with the 2025-2029 consolidated plan for housing and community development. We're excited that you're joining us today and engaging in this process. And actually, I just remembered something. Give me one moment. I need to press record on our hearing today so that we have this archived. So record -- okay. Thank you.

So welcome to our hearing. We'll go ahead and begin.

MS. BRACE: Thank you, everybody, for being here today. My name is Megan Brace and I am a senior advisor with community and policy advisors. I'm working with the Montana Department of Commerce and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services in creating this fair housing equity plan. So what we're going to do today is we're going to talk about this plan that we've drafted and

then collect any comments that you might have.

Next slide, please, Janelle.

If there were requests for reasonable accommodations, the Department of Commerce does make reasonable efforts to meet those.

Next slide, please.

So every five years the Department of Commerce is required to do a number of activities and planning documents in order to meet HUD's requirements to receive HUD funds, so we'll talk about what those are and we'll also talk a little about the consolidated plan and what that is. But our overarching goal today is talking about that equity plan.

What the consolidated plan is is a plan every five years that helps to determine the housing and community development needs in the state and how the state is going to address those needs over the course of five years.

Next slide, please.

In conjunction with that, every five years there's a fair housing planning effort. This year the State is undertaking the fair housing equity plan, and we're going to talk a lot about what that means today.

Next slide, please.

So under the proposed rule for the fair housing equity plan -- this plan, again, is every five years and it looks at access to housing. It also looks at access to various other opportunities and economic opportunities as well. And what is really does is helps us understand if there's any barriers to accessing housing or other these opportunities and then how the State can help mitigate those barriers and how we can promote more equitable access to housing throughout the state for all populations within the state.

Next slide, please.

So throughout this process we've done quite a bit of public participation. I know some -- I'm seeing some familiar names on here. I know we've had some of you join us before. As we go through this presentation some of this information might be repeats for some of you, but we also want to make sure that any new people joining us have this information as well. But we also have new information for those who have joined us before.

But during this process we've had a number of focus groups. We've had a number of public hearings. We have had two different surveys: The

housing and community development survey that went out that was more focused on the consolidated plan, and then we also had the fair housing survey that was out in May. And I'll share some of those results today. We also have a number of documents with former review process and comment periods that we'll talk about what those are as well.

Next slide, please.

So this consolidated plan that this equity plan is linked to, the current objectives for the consolidated plan are to provide decent housing, provide suitable living environments, and to expand economic opportunities. The State is undertaking an overview of the consolidated plan at this point as well, so we're looking at these objectives and the goals that are on next slide.

Next slide, please.

So the goals for the current consolidated plan are to preserve and construct affordable housing, to plan for communities, to improve and sustain public infrastructure, revitalize local economies, and reduce homelessness. And these, again, are the goals that we're looking at during this consolidated planning process -- if these are goals that we're going to continue to undertake or if we're going to

change them, and how we're going to fund these goals over the next five years.

Next slide, please.

So when we're talking about HUD funding, we're talking about four different types of funds. We're talking about the Community Development and Block Grant, or CDBG funds. This is the broadest funding source that's provided under this -- these categories. It's available for housing, it's available for public facilities, public services, planning, economic development. There's a very large swath of different funding opportunities under CDBG.

We also have Home Investment Partnership, or
Home funds. This is really directed towards
housing. It can be for rental or homeowner housing.
It can be for new construction or rehabilitation,
also things like home buyer assistance.

The other funding source that's available to the State is the Federal Housing Trust Fund, and this is very similar to the HOME funding, but it's targeted specifically to extremely low income households.

And then the last funding source we're talking about is the emergency solutions grant, or ESG. And this is targeted toward households that are

experiencing or at risk of homelessness. And there's a variety of things that can be funded -- homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing.

Next slide, please.

Throughout the consolidated plan process we're doing a number of activities and efforts to collect data and identify those needs, so we're looking at quantitative and qualitative data. We're look at trends throughout the state, what's happening.

We're also talking to the public, we're talking to various agencies and stakeholders to get input. And once we collect all that information, we're then identifying priority needs and a strategy to respond to those needs.

And then the last part of that is directing that funding that we just talked about to those strategies to address those needs over the course of five years.

Next slide, please.

So once we come out of this process for the consolidated plan we come out with different documents throughout the cycle. So, again, every five years we have this consolidated plan document that gives us our goals for five years. Each year from that first year we have an annual action plan,

and this really specifies activities and actions that will be undertaken each year to address those larger goals.

After that, at the close of each year, we have a consolidated annual performance and evaluation report, or the CAPER. And what this does is it looks back on the previous program year and it lets us decide what changes we want to make, how well we're succeeding at meeting those goals, and what steps we can take to continue to meet those goals over the remaining part of the consolidated plan.

Next slide, please.

So as I mentioned in the beginning, in conjunction with this consolidated plan we're creating this equity plan, and this is really chance for us to look at housing in the state and how households are able access to housing and if it's equitable for all groups within the state. This is done every five years, roughly. And we are conducting this, you know, at the same time as the consolidated plan so that it can help inform the decisions that are made in the consolidated planning period.

Next slide, please.

25 So during this process we have a number -- a set

number of public input processes that we need to do, and that includes at least three public hearings. We had two public hearings earlier this year, and then this is our third public hearing. And this hearing has taken place after we've published the plan document. I hope that you've all had a chance to look at that. It's on the Department of Commerce's website. We also, again, have that fair housing survey, and that was open from May 1st to May 31st of this year.

Next slide, please.

Throughout this equity plan development we have had the process of analyzing of various number of issues to help us understand what issues are within the state. Excuse me. Various number of categories to understand what issues are within the state. So we're looking at demographics. We're looking at segregation and integration. We're looking at racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty. I'll explain what that is. We're looking to access to community assets, access to affordable housing, access to homeownership and economic opportunities, and then also at local and state policies that impact fair housing. Once we've looked at all these different categories -- we've

had that public input, we've had that input from our stakeholders, we are identifying fair housing issues. And at least are anything that may limit access to housing or limit access to these other opportunities in the state.

Once we've identified those issues, we have developed a set of strategies and goals -- and we're going to talk about what those are today -- to help us take responsive actions to address the issues that have been identified.

Next slide, please.

So we're going to talk about some of the data we've collected, some of the findings that we've had, and what that means for the state, what that means for this fair housing process. So I just want to show you a map as we begin. You know, we're talking about the state as a whole and all that that includes. We're talking about the American Indian tribal lands within the state. We're talking about all the counties and all the populations within the state.

So next slide, please.

I just want to take a minute to go over some of the demographics in the state. Racially and ethnically, the state is, you know, primarily white,

- but we are seeing -- you know, there are racial and ethnic minorities, and some of those are increasing. The Native American population is about 6.7 percent.
- The Hispanic population has grown over the past couple of decades. So we are seeing increasing diversity in terms of race and ethnicity in the state as the population in Montana is currently growing.

Next slide, please.

We're also looking at disability. So populations with disabilities have additional issues when accessing housing; potentially needing accessible housing or other accommodations. So when we're looking at the rate of disability, we're seeing, you know, the older populations have much higher rates of disability. You know, 45 percent of those 75 or older have at least one form of disability.

It should also be noted that we're seeing an aging population in Montana. The percentage of people over the age of 65 is the fastest growing population. So what does that mean in terms of abscessing housing for those populations when we're looking at those who are seniors and those with disabilities, and how is that being -- how are these

populations accessing housing in the state.

Next slide, please.

So I'm going to take a few minutes and talk about some of these very defined HUD measures of accessing housing, fair housing, and accessing opportunities. One of these measures that HUD defines is segregation, and this is in the form of the dissimilarity index. How this is found is through a mathematical formula that HUD gives us that we can look at physical geographic area and if one racial of ethnic group is concentrated in areas versus the white population.

So we are seeing -- you know, there's four different bars here, 1990 all the way up to the current trend. The most significant segregation that we're seeing is between white and nonwhite population. Now, as you can see here, the other categories are only, you know, black and white, Hispanic and white, and Asian/Pacific Islander and white, which doesn't capture a lot of, you know, the primary racial and ethnic minority in Montana, which is that American Indian population. So when we're seeing that white and nonwhite rates of segregation, we're really looking at higher rates of segregation for the American Indian population, and we'll talk

about that in a minute when we look at a map as well.

But in the current rates we're seeing moderate levels of segregation for the white to nonwhite segregation currently.

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So when we're talking about, you know, segregation and higher rates of racial and ethnic what we're also looking at is if any of these areas that have these higher rates of racial or ethnic minorities are also experiencing higher rates of poverty. Ad if they are, then they are considered racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty. And what this means for -- you know, in terms of the math of it, is if there's at least a 40 percent poverty rate in that area and at least 50 percent nonwhite racial or ethnic minority, it's considered to be racially or ethnically concentrated area of poverty, or a R/ECAP. And what we really look at in this areas is if there's need for additional supports to help equitable access to housing or opportunities that we'll talk about in a minute.

So in Montana we have four different counties that is these R/ECAPs. These also align with areas

with higher rates of American Indian/Native American populations.

Next slide, please.

As you can see in this map as well. So these areas that we just saw with the pink outlines, those are racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, and these also overlay with those areas that have the highest rate of American Indian/Native American households. So we're looking at these not only, you know, with these areas with these higher rates of minority populations, but also the fact that they are experiencing poverty at a much higher rate than the general population as well.

Next slide, please.

Another part of this is that we're looking at access to opportunity. And what that means is a variety of different measures of how physical locations access opportunity. So this can be low poverty areas, this can be proficient schools, access to jobs and access to transportation, as well as access to environmental health. And what we really look at when we're looking at these numbers is any disparities by racial or ethnic group to the -- you know, the average that we're seeing across the state as a whole. So when we look at

something like environmental health, everybody in Montana is, by race and ethnicity, pretty equally situated to access a high level of environmental health. But when we're looking at some of these other measures -- if we're looking at school proficiency or labor market engagement -- we're seeing that Native American populations have much lower level of access to these opportunities based on their geographic location within the state.

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What we're also looking at is access to housing, if it's affordable to people and at what rate people are experiencing cost burdens and housing problems. So when -- I'm going to talk about cost burdens for this slide and the next one as well, and to define a cost burden, it means that your household is spending more than 30 percent of your income on housing. And if you have a severe cost burden, you're spending more than 50 percent of your income In this map we're showing housing on housing. problems overall, which include those cost burdens and also include overcrowding, incomplete plumbing fixtures or incomplete kitchen fixtures. darkest green areas are the highest rate of any households experiencing those problems.

primarily we're really talking about cost burdens because those are experienced at much higher rates.

I would encourage you, if you haven't, to look at the equity plan itself because we do break down the rate of cost burden, excuse me, by county. So you can look at the percentage of households in your county that are experiencing cost burdens and severe cost burdens. But this gives us a good look at where in the state we're seeing those highest rates of issues the for households.

Next slide, please.

We also have rates of cost burdens that vary by renter and owner households. Renter households, over 38 percent of them, experience either a cost burden or a severe cost burden. Over 20 percent of owner households experience that as well. So we're really, you know, focused on renters with severe cost burdens. 18 percent of household -- renter households in the state are experiencing those severe cost burdens, so they're spending more than 50 percent of their household income on housing.

Next slide, please.

We're also looking at access to homeownership and how most households access homeownership is through a mortgage. So we look at the mortgage

denial rates overall and we look at that also how it 1 just compares by race and ethnicity. In 2022 about 2 13.1 percent of mortgages were denied. I do want to 3 note, first of all, that this comes from the Home 4 Mortgage Disclosure Act data, and then the data that 5 we're pulling here is only for owner-occupied 6 7 housing and primary residences. So this doesn't include, you know, second homes or vacation homes or 8 if people are buying houses to then rent out. 13.1 percent of that population is having their 10 mortgage denied. But when we look by race and 11 ethnicity, various racial and ethnic groups 12 experience this at a higher rate. Native Hawaiian 13 and other Pacific Islanders, it's a 26 percent in 14 15 2022. Two or more races at 42 percent, but that was a very small pocket of population, and in past years 16 that's been, you know, a much lower rate. But what 17 18 we are seeing, again, is with American Indian or 19 Alaskan Native households, that the rate is almost 20 double, the denial rate for the statewide average 21 each year. So in 2022 it's over 26 percent versus the 13 percent for the total. And again, in 2021 it 22 23 was at 16 percent versus the nine percent. So 24 that's something that we're looking at as an additional barrier for these racial and ethnic 25

minority households and if there's disparity in accessing mortgages to access homeownership.

Next slide, please.

So when we're talking about accessing housing, we're talking about accessing opportunities, we also need to look at incomes. And, you know, this is just one measure -- we're also looking at median income -- but the rate of poverty throughout the state and what that is. So overall the rate of poverty was about 12 percent in 2022. But by race and ethnicity, this varies widely. Again, American Indian and Alaska Native households, the rate of poverty was over 35 percent. And for Hispanic or Latino households, it was at 17 percent. So we are seeing disparities by race and ethnicity within the state in rates of poverty.

We also see disparities in rates of poverty for households with disabilities. Households without any disabilities, the rate of poverty is about -- but a household that has a disability, it's about 19.1 percent. So, again, how these households are accessing housing and opportunities, including the economic opportunities needed to access things like housing.

Next slide, please.

So as I mentioned earlier, we had the fair housing survey that was out during May, and we got some good results from that. I just wanted to share a couple quickly. We asked respondents if they were aware of fair housing laws in Montana. We got a little less than half that said they were. Around a quarter, less than a quarter, that said no. And then somewhat -- so, you know, it's -- we'd like to see more people in Montana that are aware of fair housing laws, but those numbers aren't too bad.

We also asked if you're aware of any policies to promote affordable housing development in your communities. So we had, you know, more than half of the respondents indicate that they were aware of policies to promote affordable housing development in their representative communities.

Next slide, please.

So I've just given you all a lot of information. And, again, I will encourage you to read through the report and you can look at all the additional data we've collected to get an understanding of how we're coming to these issues. But I did want to give you an idea of how we're developing these issues, where we're getting this information from, and how we defined fair housing issues for Montana. So the

next couple slides I'm going to talk about the issues that were identified. Each issue may have a number of, you know, sub-issues underneath them.

And then once we get to it, we'll talk about goals, and each of these goals are then associated with some of these issues. So it really comes full circle of we're looking at the information, we're --we're analyzing it and finding where there's disparities in access, and then we are addressing those within our capabilities and resources to help promote more equitable access to housing.

So the first issue identified was barriers for American Indian households to access housing and community assets. So I think we saw a lot of that, you know, through this presentation as we were talking about what that means. So that includes disproportionately less access to mortgages for American Indian households, disproportionately higher rates of poverty, lower levels of access to community assets. That's, again, things such as proficient schools and labor market engagement and transportation. And then also R/ECAPs occur in communities with American Indian poverty. Again, we saw on that map those areas R/ECAPS are those areas with the highest concentrations of American Indian

populations.

The second issue is barriers for low income household accessing housing. You know, those costs burdens. I didn't share the table today, but it's over 70 percent of the lowest income households experience cost burdens. So really our low-income households are facing barriers to accessing housing throughout the state.

Issue 3 is barriers for renter households accessing housing. Again, looking at that higher rate of cost burdens for those renter households throughout the state as well.

Next slide, please.

The fourth issue that we've noted in this plan is barriers for senior and households with disabilities accessing housing. Again, as we talked about, you know, that growing senior population, the rate of disabilities for those with -- at the higher age ranges. We had a lot of public input from people who have joined us in these various processes really demonstrating the need for households with disabilities and increasing levels of difficulty accessing housing.

On the fifth -- the fifth issue, excuse me, is barriers to providing adequate community support.

So throughout this process we've heard time and time 1 again about lack of resources -- not only lack of 2 funding, but also lack of the knowledge to complete 3 resources to help their communities. We also have a 4 lack of federal-level data. We noted in this 5 presentation one instance of that for the 6 7 dissimilarity index. We don't have that specifically for Native American households. 8 So 9 communities with, you know, higher populations of American Indian households, and sometimes that 10 federal-level data is not provided in support of 11 that when we have it for other racial and ethnic 12 groups. Other instances of that as well. But the 13 14 lack of federal-level data to really support the 15 efforts that the State is taking. Lack of fair housing knowledge. You know, we 16 talked about that survey and how we'd like to have 17 18 more people be aware of federal and state fair 19 housing laws, and also their own rights in accessing 20 housing and what -- what to do if they're being discriminated against. 21 22 We also have institutional barriers. So this 23 can be things such as lack of knowledge or lack of 24 resources or other barriers to accessing funding and 25 other resources throughout the state. We also have

state and local barriers. These are things such as, you know, maybe lack of promotion of fair -- or, excuse me, affordable housing, maybe zoning, maybe other state or local initiatives that don't promote additional housing when it's needed throughout the state.

Next slide, please.

What I'm going to talk about the next few slides -- and then I may pass it back to Janelle after that -- is the goals, about how we're going to address this over five years. So these goals are really a culmination of efforts between the Department of Commerce, the Department of Public Health and Human Services, as well as outside agencies that have come together with us to help decide how we can address this, what we can do within our capacity and within the resources that we have. So the first goal is to expand fair housing outreach and education. And this helps address a couple of those issues such as lack of fair housing knowledge and the state and local barriers.

Each of these goals has metrics and milestones. So we want to make sure that we can see our progress throughout these five years. How we can measure success and what are very specific goals. So the

metrics and milestones for this goal is to distribute the fair housing equity plan -- that's the one we're developing -- to stakeholders so that that knowledge can spread and utilized in other planning efforts as well. To partner with Montana Fair Housing and to share the fair housing equity plan with advocates and legislators, especially during the 2025 legislative session.

Next slide, please.

The next goal is to increase fair housing coordination. And as you can see, this addresses a lot of the issues that we talked about. But the metrics and milestones for is to convene interagency workgroups to assess equity needs and to continue this collaboration, examine poverty strategies and identify any underutilized or new resources that can be used for housing and community development. So really increasing those partnerships and coordination to help better access housing throughout the state.

Next slide, please.

The third goal is to reduce barriers for Native

American households and communities. This, again,

addresses a lot of those issues that we talked about

before. This is -- the metrics and milestones for

this are to continue to partner with NeighborWorks

Montana in support of home buyer education, continue
to participate with Montana Native Homeownership

Coalition, providing technical assistance to
providers and developers in those R/ECAP areas that
we talked about, and then continue to call attention
to information gaps in the federal-level data and
engaging with federal partners to share new
resources as they do become available.

Next slide, please.

The fourth goal is to support housing and community development -- excuse me; I just lost the screen here -- for -- excuse me, support housing and community development for priority areas and populations. So this is addressing a number of the issues, as this will prioritize funding for housing and community development that benefits those populations that are disproportionately impacted or otherwise underserved or have high rates of poverty. So really trying to target these areas with additional support.

Next slide, please.

Goal Number 5 is to fulfill the capacity of partners and developers of housing and community assets. And this will be accomplished through the

creation of toolkits to support housing and community development projects, and to continue to provide support broadly via the Community Technical Assistance Program.

Next slide, please.

And then Goal Number 6 is to carry out the governor's housing task force recommendations. So this is continuing to engage with the governor's housing task force and assist carrying out recommendations that help increase the supply of affordable and attainable housing for Montanans.

Next slide, please.

So we've gone through a lot of information today. I'm going to, you know, say it again -- I've said it multiple times -- I really encourage you to look at the plan if you haven't already. Once this plan has been finalized, which is coming up in a few days, we will be submitting it to HUD. So if you do have comments, you know, we'll take it at the end of this meeting or Janelle will let you know how you can share those. But the plan is available online.

After this, the plan is adopted. The State will review it every year for any changes that need to be made.

Next slide, please.

So the Commerce website where the plan is available is here, it's commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan. And it's also available at repositories throughout the state or by request. All interested parties are encouraged to review the document.

And then I'm going to hand this over to Janelle and let her talk about how you can provide those comments.

MS. EGLI: Thank you so much, Megan. As everybody can see, there was a lot work done in order to get us to the point where we have a drafted equity plan. There was lots of data that was combed through, and then all the -- all the work that went into that. We just want to give a nod to Megan and her group for their assistance with this. We really appreciate all their efforts in guiding us through this process.

So we will go ahead and move towards our final call for public engagement. I'll start by sharing Commerce's contact information. So if you have questions or if you wish to provide a written comment, our contact information is here. We're at the Montana Department of Commerce, 301 South Park Avenue, Helena, Montana 59601. We also have a P.O.

P.O. Box 200523, Helena, Montana 59620. 1 have two division administrators that are over the 2 consolidated plan. You can reach out to Galen 3 Steffens or to Cheryl Cohen. Our CDBG coordinator, 4 who can assist with questions, is Rosie Goldich. 5 And I, Janelle Egli, am the program specialist who 6 7 can help you as well. Our phone number is (406)841-2770. Our fax is (406)841-2771. You can 8 9 reach us via email at docconplan@mt.gov. And of course all of our updates and our documents are 10 available on our website, which is 11 commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan. 12 And for those that would need to use the Montana 13 Relay, we have our link available here. 14 15 https://dphhs.mt.gov/detd/mtap/traditionalrelay Thank you for your patience on that one. service. 16 Okay. And then our partners at DPHHS are 17 18 available at 1400 Carter Drive in Helena, Montana 19 59601. Their P.O. box is P.O. Box 202956, and 20 that's Helena, Montana 59620. The administrator 21 that you can reach out to is Chappell Smith. bureau chief that's available at DPHHS is Sara 22 23 Loewen. Their phone number (406)447-4265. 24 fax is (406)447-4287. And the website that you can 25 visit is www.dphhs.mt.gov. And they are also

available at the Montana Relay, same address that we provided earlier.

Okay. So we are going to move into our portion of the hearing where we open up the forum to allow the public to provide verbal comments. And then after we do that, we'll go ahead and share the information with you for how to provide written comments after this hearing if that's of interest to you.

So comments regarding the 2024 equity plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing are now being accepted. If you have a comment and are joining via webinar, you can raise your hand so we can unmute you. If you are joining via phone, you can press star-9 to indicate you have a comment, and then press star-6 to unmute and then remute yourself. So that's star-9 to indicate you have a comment and star-6 to unmute/remute if you're joining via phone.

When providing a comment, please be sure to state and spell your name. Please also state the organization you represent, if that's applicable.

And with that, we'll go ahead and open up the floor to those who wish to provide comments. And I'm going to ask my colleagues to assist me with identifying hands that are being raised, because it

looks like I'm not able to see that with my screen being shared.

FEMALE VOICE: There are no hands raised at this time.

MS. EGLI: Well, I will say I'm not super surprised because we got an awful lot of input at the beginning of this process. And so maybe that's part of the reason we're not seeing a lot of hands raised right now.

We'll just give a couple more minutes for folks to raise their hands if they want to share a comment for the record and then we can move on to sharing instructions for how to provide written comments.

Okay. Hearing no comments, we'll go ahead and share the information for providing written comments. So if you are interested in providing us with some feedback, if you see any issues with the plan that we have, if you'd like to comment on our proposed goals, we, of course, welcome all of that. Written comments should be sent to the addresses that were provided previously or the address listed here on this slide. We will be accepting comments until September 20th at 5:00 o'clock p.m. Mountain Standard Time. So please note that if you wish to share written comments, you'll need to provide that

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to us before the 20th -- well, on the 20th by
1
    5:00 p.m. Our address once again is the Montana
2
    Department of Commerce, Community MT division,
3
    attention: Con Plan, P.O. Box 2000523, Helena,
4
    Montana 56920. And our email address, which is an
5
    easy way to submit a comment, is doccomplan@mt.gov.
6
7
        So I will just once again say thank you to
    everybody who joined us today. We encourage you to
8
9
    share the plan with your colleagues and other
    stakeholders of housing and community development in
10
    Montana. We hope that we'll be able to use this
11
    plan to reach our goals of affirmative furthering
12
13
    fair housing in Montana, and of course the input
14
    that we receive from you will help us do that.
15
    thank you so much. Thank you again to Megan.
                                                    And
    we can go ahead and wrap up.
16
17
        Thank you, everybody.
18
             (Proceedings concluded at 10:44 a.m.)
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CERTIFICATE STATE OF MONTANA ss. COUNTY OF LEWIS AND CLARK I, HOLLY FOX, Freelance Court Reporter and a Notary Public for the State of Montana, do hereby certify that I did report the foregoing proceedings. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and seal on this 16th day of September, 2024. Hollyleto, NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana Residing at Helena, Montana My Commission Expires July 3, 2025

able (3) able (3) alsi (3) accepting (1) alsi (1) 29:12 accepting (1) 30:22 access (28) 4:4.5,10;8.17; 9:21,21,22;10;4.4; 13:21,14:16,18,20, 20;21,15:38,811; 16:23,24,18:2,23; 20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessible (1) 11:13 accessible (1) 11:13 accessible (1) 11:25 accessible (1) 11:25 accessible (1) 11:25 accessible (1) 11:35 accessible (1) 11:37 accessible (1) 11:31 accessible (1) 11:31 accessible (1) 11:31 accessible (1) 11:31 accessible (1) 11:32 accessible (1) 11:31 accessible (1) 11:32 accessible (1) 11:31 accessible (1) 29:11 accessible (1) 11:32 accessible (1) 11:31 accessible (1) 20:21:1 48:11:21:15 accessible (2) 3:41:11:3 accessible (3) accessible (3) 3:17:61:2 accessible (4) accestion (4) 6:66 Box (5) Chry (1) 28:14 chief (1) 28:24 chief (1) 28:24 chief (1) 28:4 chief (1) 28:4:1 acsest (4) 6:18:25:4;26:4;3 22:9:20:5 accessible (2) 15:13,14,21;16:1, 78,12,18,20;21:4,6 15 accessible (1) 15 accessible (1) 22:21 accessible (1) 3:11:21:11 3ccessible (1) 22:21 accessible (1) 22:21 accessible	
able (3)	
able (3) 8:17;30:1;31:11 abscessing (1) 11:23 accepted (1) 29:12 accepting (1) 30:22 access (28) 4:4.5,10:8:17; 9:21,21,122;10:4,4; 13:21;141:16,18,20; 20:21,13,17,19; 24:19 accessing (1) 11:13 accessing (1) 11:14:14:14:16:1, 17:12:15:15 15:16:18:16:5,15 15:16:18:16:5,15 15:16:18:16:5,15 15:16:18:16:5,15 15:16:18:16:5,15 15:16:18:16:5,15 15:16:)
able (3)	
8:17,30:1,31:11 abscessing (1) 11:23 accepted (1) 29:12 accepting (1) 30:22 access (28) 4:45,10,8:17; 9:21,21,22;10:4,4; 13:21;14:16,18,20, 20,21;15:38,11; 16:23,24;18:2,23; 20:9,11,31,71:9; 24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessible (1) 11:14 accessible (1) 11:15 accion (1) 11:15 accion (1) 12:14:14:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:14:14 12:14:	
abscessing (1) 11:23 accepted (1) 29:12 accepted (1) 30:22 access (28) 4:45,10;8:17; 9:21,12,21;0:4,4; 13:21;14:16,18,20, 20;21;15:13; 16:23,24;18:2,23; 20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessible (1) 11:13 accessing (16) 4:81,11:12;12:1,5, 5:18:2,45,22;12:3,7, 10,16,23;22:19,24 accommodations (2) 33:411:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 across (1) 17:5 action (1) 17:19 actial (2) 13:12 29:4 abilitical (3) 33:87;6;8:1 actial (1) 21:12 additional (6) 11:11:13:1; 11:13:1	
11:23 accepted (1) 31:12 affirmative (1) 29:12 accepting (1) 30:22 access (28) 4:45,10;8:17; 9:21,21;22;10:44; 13:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;15;15; 20:21;15;15; 20:21	
accepting (1)	
29:12 accepting (1) 30:22 access (28) 4:4,5,10,8:17; 9:21,21,22:10:44,5; 19:12,21; 19:12,15; 23:3; 26:11 again (19) 4:35:22,7:22,9:8; 17:18,22; 18:11,21; 16:23,24; 18:2,23; 20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessing (16) 4:8,11:12; 12:1,5,5; 18:2,4,5,22; 21:13,7; 10,16,23; 22:19,24 accommodations (2) 3:4,11:13 accomplished (1) 25:22 accommodations (2) 3:4,11:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 across (1) 4:25 action (1) 7:25 action (1) 7:25 actions (2) align (1) 17:19 action (1) 7:25 actions (2) align (1) 13:12 additional (6) 13:12 additional (6) 13:12 additional (6) 13:12; 17:25; 19:20; 23:5; 17:25; 19:20; 23:5; 18:23,25; 22:8,10; 20:23:22; 23:14,11:13:21; 17:25; 19:10; 20:23:5; 18:23,25; 22:8,10; 20:23:22; 23:14,11:13:21; 17:25; 19:20; 23:5; 17:18; 13:12; 21:10:13:12; 22:12 additional (6) 13:12; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:14; 23:14; 23:15; 23:14; 23:	
accepting (1) 30:22 access (28) 4:45,10;8:17; 9:21,21;2:10;4.4; 13:21;14:16,18,20; 20:21;15:3,8,11; 16:23,24;18:2,23; 20:91,1,3,17,19; 24:19 accessible (1) accessing (16) 4:81;11:21;21;5,5;18;2,45,22;21:3,5;10,16,23;22:19,24 accommodations (2) 3:41:13 action (1) 7:25 action (1) 7:25 action (1) 7:25 action (2) align (1) 3:25 action (2) 3:3:7:6:8:1 actually (1) 2:12 Ad (1) Ad (1) 13:12 additional (6) 3:25:49:20:24; accommodational (8) actions (1) actions (1) actions (2) actions (2) actions (2) actions (3) actions (4) actions (4) actions (1) actions (1) actions (2) actions (3) actions (4) actions (4) actions (4) actions (4) ac	
30:22 access (28)	
access (28) access (28) 4:4,5,10;8:17; 9:21,21;0:4,4; 13:21;14:16,18,20, 20:21;15:3,8.11; 16:23,24;18:2,23; 20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessing (16) 4:8;11:12;12:15, 5:18:2,4,5,22;1:3,7, 10,16,23;22:19,24 accompolations (2) 3:4;11:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 25:25 Act (1) 17:5 14:25 Act (1) 17:5 action (1) 7:25 action (1) 7:25 action (2) 8:1;10:9 actions (2) 8:1;10:9 actions (2) 8:1;10:9 actions (2) 3:8;1:68:1 action (1) 7:25 action (1) 7:25 action (1) 17:5 action (1) 17:19 actions (2) 8:1;10:9 actions (2) 3:8;1:68:1 action (1) 17:5 action (2) 18:12 21:1 18:12 28:45:64; 27:16 asosciated (2) 11:5:16,18;16:5,15, 15 burdens (12) 15:13,14,21;16:1, 7,8,12,18,20;21:4,6, 11 18:12 18:12 29:20:5 attainable (1) 28:22 collected (2) 11:11 18:12 20:11 2	
4:45,10;8:17; 9:21,21,22;10;4.4; 13:21;14:16,18,20, 20.21;15:3,8,11; 16:23,24;18:2,23; 20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessing (16) 4:8;11:12;12:1,5, 5:18:2,4,5,22;21:3,7, 10,16,23;22:19,24 accommodations (2) 3:4;11:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 across (1) 14:25 action (1) 17:5 action (1) 17:5 action (2) 8:1;10:9 18:12 18:1	
Signation Signature Sign)
9:21,21,22;104.4; 13:21;14:16,18,20, 20,21;153,8,11; 16:23,24;18:2,23; 20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessible (1) 11:11 accessible (1) 11:13 accessible (1) 11:14 accessible (1) 11:15 accessible (1) 11:15 accessible (1) 11:10 11:10 11:10 11:11 accessible (1) 11:11 accessible (1) 11:11 accessible (1) 11:11 accessible (1) 11:12 12:110,16;22:2:2; 11:10,16;22:2:2; 11:0,16;22:2:1; 11:10 12:12:19 11:11:13 11:11 12:12:19 12:12:19 11:2,12:19 11:2,12:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2,2:1:19 11:2	
13:21;14:16,18,20, 20;21;15:38,11; 16:23,24;18:2,23; 19:19;20:20;23; 20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19	
17:18.22;18:11,21;	
16:23,24;18:2,23; 29:19;20:20,23; 29:20:5 attainable (1) 15:13,14,21;16:1, 7,8,12,18,20;21:4,6, 11 attention (2) 28:22 collecte (3) 3:17;6,12 29:24;31:13 accessing (16) 48:11:12;12:15, 5;18:2,4,5,22;21:3,7, 10,16,23;22:19,24 accommodations (2) 3:4;11:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 25:25 actions (2) 3:11:20 action (1) 17:5 action (1) 7:25 actions (2) align (1) 13:12 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 activities (3) 3:12:2 Add (1) 13:12 additional (6) 11:13:12:2; 17:25;19:20;23:5; 17:18;18:11;120:13, 17:25;19:20;23:5; 17:18;18:11;120:13, 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18:23,25;22:8,10; 29:20:25 attainable (1) 25:6:31:4 attention (2) 25:6:31:4 attention (2) 25:6:31:4 attention (2) 25:6:31:4 attention (2) 28:22 buyer (2) 10:13:19:2 buying (1) 27:13 commend (12) 28:22 buyer (2) 10:13:19:2 buying (1) 27:13 commend (12) 28:22 buyer (2) 10:13:19:2 buying (1) 27:13 commend (12) 28:22 buyer (2) 10:13:19:2 17:19 accessible (1) 27:25 average (2) 14:24;17:20 average (2) 11:20 25:6;27:20 call (2)	n (1)
20:9,11,13,17,19; 24:19	
24:19 accessible (1) 11:13 accessing (16) 4:8;11:12;12:1.5, 5;18:2,4,5,22;21:3,7, 10,16,23;22:19,24 accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 17:5 18:12 Act (1) 17:5 18:12 17:19 18:12 action (2) 3:1;10:9 action (2) 8:1;10:9 action (2) 8:1;10:9 action (2) 8:1;10:9 action (2) 13:25 action (2) 8:1;10:9 action (2) 8:1;10:9 action (3) 3:17:6,12 collect (2) 25:6;31:4 available (12) 6:9,10,19;25:9; 26:21;27:2,4;28:11, 14,18,22;29:1 14,18,22;29:1 14,18,22;29:1 14,18,22;29:1 14;24;17:20 aware (5) aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 awful (1) 30:6 B C C C comment (9 5:6,27:20 com (36) 31:6 comments (1) 31:6 29:4 available (12) buyer (2) buyer (2) buyer (2) combed (1) 27:13 coming (2) 19:22;26: comment (9 5:6,27:20 com (36) 31:6 comments (1) 31:2 25:6;27:20 comment (9 5:6,27:23 avarae (5) 17:19 B B B B Act (1) 17:14:4,18,19:16:6; 19:20;22:23;23:16, 17:14:4,18,19:16:6; 19:20;22:23;23:16, 14:10:20 17:19 B B B Act (1) 17:14:4,18,19:16:6; 19:20;22:23;23:16, 14:20 25:6;14:1,1,8,9;15:7; 17:19 B B Act (1) 17:19 B B Act (1) 17:14:4,18,19:16:6; 19:20;22:23;23:16, 14:20 25:6;14:1,1,8,9;15:7; 17:19 B B Act (1) 17:14:4,18,19:16:6; 19:20;22:23;23:16, 14:20 25:6;14:1,1,8;0;15:7; 17:19 B B Act (1) 17:15 B C C comment (9 5:6;27:20 com (36) 4:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10 31:6 comment (9 5:6;27:20 com (36) 4:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10 25:6;27:20 com (1) 25:6;27:20 com (1) 25:6;27:20 com (1) 25:6;27:20 com (1) 25:6;27:2	2)
accessible (1) 15 against (1) 25:63:1:4 bureau (1) 3:1:7:6;13:9 accessing (16) 4:8;11:12;12:1.5, 5;18:2,4.5,22;2:13,7, 10,16,23;22:19,24 age (2) 6:9,10,19;25:9; 26:21;27:2,4;28:11, 14,18,22;29:1 buying (1) 27:13 combed (1) accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 1:20 average (2) C common (2) 3:4;11:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 accomplished (1) 21:20 average (2) C C 25:25 accomplished (1) Alaska (1) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 call (2) 5:6;27:20 comment (9) 4:25 22;30:14;31:16 Asware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 call (2) 5:6;27:20 comment (9) action (1) Alaskan (1) 17:19 B 17;14;4,18,19;16:6; comment (9) 3:1;26:19 5:6;27:23 comment (9) 5:6;27:20 comment (9) 5:6;27:20 comment (9) 5:6;27:20 can (36) comment (9) 5:6;27:20 can (36) comment (9) 3:1;6:19 3:1;6:19 3:1;6:19 4:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10,)
11:13 accessing (16) 22:21 available (12) 28:22 buyen (2) 10:13;19: 25:6;31:4 available (12) 28:22 buyen (2) 10:13;19: 25:6;27:20 27:13 2	
accessing (16) 22:21 available (12) 28:22 buyer (2) collected (2) 4:8;11:12;12:15, 5;18:2,4,5,22;21:3,7, 10,16;23;22:19,24 11:21;21:19 26:21;27:2,4;28:11, 6:18;25:2 buying (1) 27:13 combed (1) 27:13 28:13 28:14 17:19 aware (5) aware (5) 6:18;25:2 buying (1) 17:12 25:6;27:23 26:21;27:24 26:	
4:8:11:12;12:1.5, age (2) 6:9,10,19;25:9; buyer (2) 10:13;19:20mbed (1) 5;18:2,4,5,22;21:3,7, 10,16,23;22:19,24 accommodations (2) 7:11;23:15 Avenue (1) 17:9 combed (1) 3:4;11:13 accomplished (1) 27:25 average (2) average (2) 19:22;26: across (1) 2:16:27:19;29:6, 22;30:14;31:16 aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 25:6;27:20 31:6 Act (1) Alaska (1) 30:6 4:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10, 15;17,19; actions (2) align (1) 8:7:23:9 back (2) 16:23;24;24;41,11,6; 29:55,810, activities (3) allow (1) 8:7:23:9 26:21;27:8,11;28:3, 5,7,8,21,24;29:13,13, 14;16;20,2 actually (1) almost (1) 19:10 17:25 20:10 29:8;27:21 Ad (1) American (18) 10:18;11:3;12:22, barriers (1) 20:10 23:17;25:23 29:27:3;28:17 additional (6) 25;14:1,1,8,9;15:7; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 47.9;20:12;21:2, 23:17;25:23 CAPER (1) 20:23;22: 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18:23,25;22:8,10;	
11:21;21:19 agencies (2) 7:11;23:15 accommodations (2) 3:4;11:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 across (1) 11:20 ahead (6) 22;30:14;31:16 Alaska (1) 17:5 action (1) 7:25 actions (2) asi;1:10:9 align (1) 13:25 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 actually (1) 2:12 Additional (6) 13:12 additional (6) 13:12 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18:23,25;22:8,10; 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18:23,25;22:8,10; 26:21;27:2,4;28:11, 6:18;25:2 buying (1) 27:13 coming (2) 17:9 combed (1) 27:13 coming (2) 19:20;26: comment (9) 27:13 coming (2) 19:20;26: call (2) 25:6;27:20 can (36) can (36) can (36) can (36) 4:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10, 17:14,4,18,19;16:6; 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;22:23;23:16, 19:20;23:23:16;23:17;25:23 10:40;20:20;23:22:20;20:20;23:22:20;20:20;23:22:20;23:10;23:	
10,16,23;22:19,24 accommodations (2) 3:4;11:13 accomplished (1) 25:25 across (1) 14:25 Act (1) 17:5 action (1) 7:25 actions (2) asign (1) 17:19 B Actions (2) align (1) 17:19 actions (2) 3:8;7:6;8:1 actually (1) 2:12 Additional (6) 13:12 additional (6) 13:12 additional (6) 13:12 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18.23,25;22:8,10; 14.18,22;29:1 Avenue (1) 17:9	
accommodations (2) 3:4;11:13 Avenue (1) 27:25 coming (2) accomplished (1) 25:25 ahead (6) average (2) C comment (9 across (1) 21:6;27:19;29:6, 22;30:14;31:16 aware (5) call (2) 5:6;27:23 Act (1) Alaska (1) awful (1) 25:56;27:20 31:6 Act (1) Alaska (1) awful (1) 30:6 4:9,10;6:16,17; 31:6 comments (2) action (1) Alaskan (1) B 17;14:4,18,19;16:6; 31:26:19 29:5,8,10 actions (2) align (1) 8:7;23:9 back (2) 16;23,24;24:4,11,16; Commerce activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 almost (1) 19:10 14;30:12;31:16 27:3;28:17 actually (1) 2:12 American (18) 17:25 barrier (1) 20:10 29:8;27:21 Ad (1) 13:12 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 7,9,15,25;22:22,24; 23:17;25:23 CAPER (1) 20:23;22: additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 7,9,15,25;22:22,24;	
accomplished (1)	
accomplished (1) 11:20 average (2) C comment (9 across (1) 2:16;27:19;29:6, 2:16;27:19;29:6, aware (5) 25:6;27:20 15;17,19; Act (1) Alaska (1) 18:12 30:6 4:9,10;6:16,17; 31:6 comments (2) action (1) Alaskan (1) 17:19 B 17;14:4,18,19;16:6; 29:5,8,10, 14;16;20,2 Commerce 29:5,8,10, 14;16;20,2 Commerce 22:13:4,7 29:5,8,10, 14;16;20,2 Commerce 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:13:4,7 22:12:3,2,7 22:12:3,2,7 22:12:3,2,7 22:13:1:16 22:3:17:25:23 22:12:3,2,7 22:12:3,2,7 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 23:17:25:23 20:23:22:23:23:16 20:23:22:23:23:16	17
action plane (1) 25:25 across (1) 14:25 Act (1) Alaska (1) 17:5 action (1) 7:25 actions (2) align (1) 8:1;10:9 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 actually (1) 2:12 Ad (1) 13:12 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; allead (6) 2:16;27:19;29:6, 22;30:14;31:16 Alaska (1) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 awre (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 25:6;27:20 31:6 can (36) can (36) 4:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10, 17:19 B At:24,17:20 aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 awful (1) awful (1) awful (1) awful (1) aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 awful (1) aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 awful (1) 30:6 A:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10, 17:19 B B At:24,17:20 aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 awful (1) 30:6 A:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10, 17:12:10 17:19 actions (2) 11:11;13:21; 17:19 back (2) 16:23,24;24:4,11,16; 29:5,8,10, 11:11;13:21; 17:19 back (2) 16:23,24;24:4,11,16; 17:25;19:10;20;23:23:16 aware (5) 19:5,9,11,14;22:18 awful (1) 30:6 A:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10, 17:12:10, 17	
across (1) 2:16;27:19;29:6, aware (5) call (2) 15;17;19;29:6 31:6 Act (1) Alaska (1) awful (1) 25:6;27:20 31:6 comments (2) 31:6 action (1) Alaskan (1) B 4:9,10;6:16,17; 3:1;26:19:20;25;8,10, 29:5,8,10, 17;14:4,18,19;16:6; 14,16,20,2 actions (2) align (1) back (2) 16;23,24;24:4,11,16; 29:5,8,10, Commerce activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 almost (1) 19:10 57,8,21,24;29:13,13, commercentigov/con actually (1) 2:12 American (18) 17:25 barrier (1) 20:10 29:8;27:21 Ad (1) 13:12 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 52:12;21 52:14:1,1,8,9;15:7; 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 23:17;25:23 5:20;19:11 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 23:1,7;25:23 5:20;19:11 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 8:6 community	
22;30:14;31:16	
Act (1) 17:5 action (1) 7:25 actions (2) 8:1;10:9 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 actually (1) 2:12 Ad (1) 13:12 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; Alaska (1) 18:12 30:6 awful (1) 30:6 4:9,10;6:16,17; 7:2;8:10,21;12:10, 17:19 B 17:14:4,18,19;16:6; 19:20;22:23;23:16, 16,23,24;24:4,11,16; 29:4 back (2) 8:7;23:9 back (2) 16,23,24;24:4,11,16; 20:10 17:19 barrier (1) 17:19 barrier (1) 17:25 barriers (13) 17:25 17:18;18:11;20:13, 18,23,25;22:8,10; 20:10 20:10 20:10 20:10 20:23:17;25:23 20:23:17;25:23 20:23:17;25:23 20:23:17;25:23 20:23:17;25:23 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:20:23:22:24; 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22 20:23:12;24:22	0.11,18;
17:5	12)
Alaskan (1) 7:25 actions (2) 8:1;10:9 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 actually (1) 2:12 Ad (1) 13:12 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; Alaskan (1) 17:19 B B 17:12:10, 11:11:12:10, 19:10:16;3:12:21;22:3:3:16, 10:18;11:3;12:22, 10:18;11:3;12:22, 10:18;11:3;12:22, 11:11;13:21; 11:11;13:21; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 17:25;19:20;23:5; Alaskan (1) 17:19 B 17:12:10, 11:11:12:10, 11:11:12:10, 11:11:12:10, 11:11:12:12, 1	
Trip B Trip Tri	
actions (2) align (1) 19:20;22:23;23:16, Commerce 8:1;10:9 13:25 back (2) 16,23,24;24:4,11,16; 2:21;3:4,7 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 29:4 bad (1) 5,7,8,21,24;29:13,13, 27:1,24;3 actually (1) 2:12 17:19 barrier (1) capabilities (1) Commerce '9:8;27:21 Ad (1) American (18) 17:25 20:10 9:8;27:21 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 10:18;11:3;12:22, 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 23:17;25:23 5:20;19:11 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 8:6 community	
8:1;10:9 activities (3) 3:8;7:6;8:1 actually (1) 2:12 Ad (1) 13:12 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; 13:25 allow (1) 8:7;23:9 back (2) 16;23,24;24:4,11,16; 27:1,24;3 commercentgov/com 27:3;28:12 capabilities (1) 20:10 9:8;27:21 capacity (2) capacity (2) 23:17;25:23 5:20;19:12 20:23;22:4 23:17;25:23 CAPER (1) 20:23;22:4 23:17;25;23:25 23:17;25:23	
activities (3) allow (1) 8:7;23:9 26:21;27:8,11;28:3, 27:1,24;3 actually (1) 2:12 bad (1) 19:10 14;30:12;31:16 27:3;28:1 Ad (1) American (18) 17:25 capabilities (1) Commerce' additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 10:18;11:3;12:22, barriers (13) capacity (2) communities 11:11;13:21; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, CAPER (1) 20:23;22:4 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 8:6 community	
3:8;7:6;8:1 29:4 bad (1) 5,7,8,21,24;29:13,13, 14;30:12;31:16 commercentigov/com	
actually (1) 2:12 almost (1) 19:10 14;30:12;31:16 27:3;28:12 Ad (1) American (18) 17:25 20:10 9:8;27:21 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 23:17;25:23 5:20;19:12, 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 8:6 community	
Actually (1) 17:19 barrier (1) capabilities (1) Commerce' Ad (1) 13:12 10:18;11:3;12:22, barriers (13) capacity (2) 9:8;27:21 additional (6) 25;14:1,1,8,9;15:7; 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 23:17;25:23 5:20;19:12 11:11;13:21; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 7,9,15,25;22:22,24; CAPER (1) 20:23;22: 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 8:6 communitie	
2:12 Ad (1) 13:12 additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; American (18) 10:18;11:3;12:22, 25;14:1,1,8,9;15:7; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 18,23,25;22:8,10; 20:10 20:10 20:10 capacity (2) communitie 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 7,9,15,25;22:22,24; 23:17;25:23 5:20;19:11 20:23;22: communitie 20:23;22: 23:17;25:23	
Ad (1) American (18) 17:25 20:10 9:8;27:21 13:12 10:18;11:3;12:22, barriers (13) capacity (2) communitie additional (6) 11:11;13:21; 17:18;18:11;20:13, 7,9,15,25;22:22,24; CAPER (1) 20:23;22:20 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 8:6 communitie	s (2)
13:12	
additional (6) 25;14:1,1,8,9;15:7; 4:7,9;20:12;21:2, 23:17;25:23 5:20;19:12:20:23:22:22:22:22:22:22:22:22:22:22:22:22:	s (7)
11:11;13:21; 17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 CAPER (1) 20:23;22:- community	
17:25;19:20;23:5; 18,23,25;22:8,10; 23:1,21;24:22 8:6 community	1,9;24:23
17.23,19.20,23.3,	
25:21 24:23 bars (1) capture (1) 2:10,20;3:	
address (11) analyzing (2) 12:14 12:20 6:6;9:21;2	
3:18;7:17;8:2; 9:13;20:8 based (1) carry (1) 21:25;24:	
3.10,7.17,0.2,	
10.5,25.11,10,15,	,.,
27.1,50.21,51.2,5)
20.21	,
24.11,24,30.20	
addressing (2)	1
20.7,25.15	
adequate (1) 8:13;30:7 6:9;9:15,25;12:18 Con (1)	
2:15 benefits (1) CDBG (3) 31:4	4 (5)
administrator (1) area (3) 25:17 6:7,13;28:4 concentrate	
28:20	.;15:13,
administrators (1) areas (17) 24:19 8:15;9:6 18;14:6	(4)
28:2 9:19;12:11;13:9, bit (1) change (1) concentration	ns (1)
adopted (1) 13,20,25;14:5,6,7,10, 4:15 6:1 20:25	4.
19;15:24;20:24,24; black (1) changes (2) concluded (L)

7:22 D darkest (1) 15:24	11:10,14,16,18; 18:20 Disclosure (1) 17:5 discriminated (1)	EGLI (4) 2:6;27:10;28:6; 30:5 either (1) 16:14	5:12;23:18 experience (4) 16:14,16;17:13; 21:6 experienced (1)	15:23,23 floor (1) 29:23 focus (1) 4:24
	11:10,14,16,18; 18:20	2:6;27:10;28:6;	experience (4)	floor (1)
	11:10,14,16,18;			
7:22		ECTI(A)		
	disability (5)	23:12;24:5;27:17	expand (2)	fixtures (2)
cycle (1)	19;21:16,18,22	3:5;7:6;22:15;	23:3;25:12,13	23:11,24
11:7;13:5	11:11,25;18:18,	efforts (6)	9:15;16:5;21:24;	6:2;7:18,23,24;8:19;
currently (2)	disabilities (7)	3:22	Excuse (6)	3:7,16,19,21;4:3;
13:3	7:15	effort (1)	2:11	five (12)
5:10,18;12:15;	directing (1)	23:19;25:2	excited (1)	23:18
current (4)	6:15	education (2)	24:15	7:25;17:4;20:12;
23:12	21:22 directed (1)	economies (1) 5:21	31:8,17 examine (1)	10:13 first (4)
26:1 culmination (1)	difficulty (1) 21:22	9:22;18:23	2:6,18;15:1;27:11;	findings (1)
creation (1)	14:17	4:5;5:13;6:11;	everybody (6)	20:8
2:23;8:15	9:25;12:14;13:24;	economic (5)	8:5	finding (1)
creating (2)	4:25;6:5,12;7:21;	31:6	evaluation (1)	26:17
30:19;31:13	different (8)	easy (1)	18:11,15	finalized (1)
3:19;7:17;28:10;	26:2;31:10	9:3;19:1;29:2	11:6;15:2;17:2,12;	27:19
course (5)	24:17;25:12,14,17;	earlier (3)	ethnicity (6)	final (1)
23:20;30:10	11;9:12;19:12,15;		18;14:6	21:24,24
11:5;19:4;20:1;	2:10;3:17;5:1;6:6,	${f E}$	9:19;10:25;13:13,	fifth (2)
couple (5)	development (14)	17.2,21.0	ethnically (5)	12:3;23:8;26:17
16:5,7	19:23;24:3	19:2;24:8	17:12,25;22:12	few (3)
10:20;13:24 county (2)	developing (2)	4:23;5:23;8:25;	13:8,10,17;14:23;	30:3
counties (2) 10:20;13:24	developers (2) 25:5,24	28:18 during (5)	ethnic (10) 11:2;12:11,21;	30:17 FEMALE (1)
21:3	10:7	Drive (1)	24:7	feedback (1)
costs (1)	developed (1)	2:25;27:12	especially (1)	22:5,11,14;25:7
18,20;21:6,11	3:16	drafted (2)	6:24	federal-level (4)
16:1,5,7,8,12,14,15,	determine (1)	2:8	ESG (1)	6:20;22:18;25:8
15:13,14,16,18,21;	23:13,13;27:24;31:3	draft (1)	27:13;29:10	Federal (3)
cost (16)	2:21,22;3:4,7;9:7;	28:17,22	16:4;24:2,6,14;	28:8,24
28:4	Department (9)	DPHHS (2)	4:3;5:9;8:15;9:12;	fax (2)
coordinator (1)	17:3,11	16:4	2:8,23;3:14,23;	11:21
24:11,19	denied (2)	down (1)	equity (14)	fastest (1)
coordination (2)	17:1,20	17:20	20:11	4:16
24:13	denial (2)	double (1)	4:10;8:18;13:21;	familiar (1)
convene (1)	21:21	4:14;8:19;27:11	equitable (4)	31:13
26:8	demonstrating (1)	done (3)	15:2	24:2,6,6,10;29:11;
continuing (1)	9:17;10:24	3:9;5:5;7:22;28:10	equally (1)	22:16,18;23:2,18,20;
25:1,2,6;26:2	demographics (2)	documents (4)	5:12	12:5;19:1,5,9,25;
5:25;8:10;24:14;	12:7	7:23;9:6;27:6	environments (1)	5:3;9:8,24;10:2,15;
27:21,23 continue (7)	defines (1)	28:9;31:0 document (3)	14:21;15:1,3	2:23;3:22,23;4:2;
contact (2) 27:21,23	defined (2) 12:4;19:25	docconplan@mtgov (2) 28:9;31:6	2:11;25:8 environmental (3)	14:11 fair (25)
6:17	15:15	28:2;31:3	engaging (2)	fact (1)
construction (1)	define (1)	division (2)	15:6;20:21;27:20	21:7
5:19	8:22	11:6	engagement (3)	facing (1)
construct (1)	decisions (1)	diversity (1)	26:8	6:10
28:3	8:8;23:16	24:2	engage (1)	facilities (1)
23;8:5,11,14,21,22;	decide (2)	distribute (1)	26:19	
11,14,18,23;7:5,21,	5:11	12:8;22:7	end (1)	${f F}$
2:9;3:12,15;5:2,9,	decent (1)	dissimilarity (2)	27:5	0.22
consolidated (18)	11:5	20:17,18;25:18	encouraged (1)	6:22
considered (2) 13:12,18	26:18 decades (1)	disproportionately (3)	16:3;19:19;26:15; 31:8	extremely (1)
3:21;8:14	days (1) 26:18	disparity (1) 18:1	encourage (4)	explain (1) 9:20
conjunction (2)	25:7;27:13	20:9	6:24	15:13,25;16:7,19
8:20	5;19:20;22:5,11,14;	14:23;18:15,17;	emergency (1)	7:1;13:11;14:12;
conducting (1)	7:7,8;10:12;17:5,	disparities (4)	28:9;31:5	experiencing (7)
31:18	data (11)	22:21	email (2)	16:2
21 10		22.24	n (6)	160

Draft Housing Equity	T		T	
focused (2)	16:8;19:3	Home (6)	7:13;10:2;29:25	interested (2)
5:2;16:17	governor's (2)	6:14,15,18,21;	impact (1)	27:5;30:16
folks (1)	26:7,8	17:4;25:2	9:24	into (2)
30:10	Grant (2)	homelessness (3)	impacted (1)	27:15;29:3
following (1)	6:7,24	5:22;7:1,3	25:18	Investment (1)
2:1	green (1)	homeowner (1)	improve (1)	6:14
force (2)	15:24	6:16	5:20	Islander (1)
26:7,9	group (3)	homeownership (5)	include (3)	12:19
form (2)	12:11;14:23;27:16	9:22;16:23,24;	15:21,22;17:8	Islanders (1)
11:17;12:7	groups (4)	18:2;25:3	includes (3)	17:14
former (1)	4:24;8:18;17:12;	homes (2)	9:2;10:18;20:16	issue (6)
5:6	22:13	17:8,8	including (1)	20:2,12;21:2,9,14,
formula (1)	growing (3)	hope (2)	18:22	24
12:9	11:8,21;21:17	9:6;31:11	income (7) 6:22;15:17,19;	issues (18)
forum (1) 29:4	grown (1) 11:4	household (5) 15:16;16:18,21;	16:21;18:8;21:2,5	9:14,14,16;10:3,6, 9;11:11;16:10;
found (1)	guiding (1)	18:20;21:3	incomes (1)	19:22,23,25;20:2,6;
12:8	27:17	households (30)	18:6	23:20;24:12,24;
four (3)	27.17	6:22,25;8:17;14:9;	incomplete (2)	25:16;30:17
6:5;12:13;13:24	Н	15:25;16:6,10,13,13,	15:22,23	23.10,30.17
fourth (2)	11	16,19,24;17:19;18:1,	increase (2)	J
21:14;25:11	half (2)	12,14,18,18,21;	24:10;26:10	•
fulfill (1)	19:6,13	20:13,18;21:5,7,9,	increasing (4)	Janelle (5)
25:23	hand (2)	11,15,21;22:8,10;	11:2,5;21:22;	3:2;23:9;26:20;
full (1)	27:7;29:13	24:23	24:18	27:7;28:6
20:6	hands (4)	houses (1)	index (2)	jobs (1)
fund (2)	29:25;30:3,8,11	17:9	12:8;22:7	14:20
6:1,20	happening (1)	housing (80)	Indian (10)	join (1)
funded (1)	7:9	2:8,10,23;3:16,22,	10:18;12:22,25;	4:17
7:2	Hawaiian (1)	23;4:2,4,8,11;5:1,3,	17:18;18:12;20:13,	joined (3)
funding (10)	17:13	11,19;6:9,16,16,20;	18,23,25;22:10	4:22;21:20;31:8
6:4,7,12,19,21,23;	Health (5)	8:16,17;9:9,22,24;	Indian/Native (2)	joining (6)
7:16;22:3,24;25:16	2:22;14:21;15:1,4;	10:2,4,15;11:12,13,	14:1,8	2:7,11;4:20;29:12,
funds (4)	23:14	23;12:1,5,5;13:22;	indicate (3)	14,18
3:10;6:5,7,15	heard (1)	15:11,13,18,20,20;	19:14;29:15,17	***
furthering (2)	22:1	16:21;17:7;18:4,22,	inform (1)	K
29:11;31:12	hearing (8)	24;19:2,5,10,12,15,	8:21	
	2:7,14,16;9:4,5;	25;20:11,13;21:3,7,	information (13)	kitchen (1)
G	29:4,8;30:14	10,16,23;22:16,19,	4:18,21,22;7:12;	15:23
C 1 (1)	hearings (3)	20;23:3,5,18,20;	19:18,24;20:7;25:7;	knowledge (5)
Galen (1)	4:25;9:2,3	24:2,6,6,10,17,19;	26:13;27:21,23;	22:3,16,23;23:21;
28:3	Helena (5)	25:11,13,16,24;26:1,	29:7;30:15 infrastructure (1)	24:4
gaps (1) 25:7	27:25;28:1,18,20; 31:4	7,9,11;29:11;31:10, 13	5:21	L
general (1)	help (12)		initiatives (1)	L
14:13	4:9;8:21;9:14;	https://dphhsmtgov/detd/mtap/traditionalrelay (1) 28:15	23:4	labor (2)
geographic (2)	10:8;13:21;20:10;	HUD (6)	input (7)	15:6;20:21
12:10;15:9	22:4;23:15;24:19;	3:10;6:4;12:4,6,9;	7:11;9:1;10:1,1;	lack (10)
given (1)	26:10;28:7;31:14	26:18	21:19;30:6;31:13	22:2,2,3,5,14,16,
19:18	helps (3)	HUD's (1)	instance (1)	23,23;23:2,20
gives (3)	3:16;4:7;23:19	3:9	22:6	lands (1)
7:24;12:9;16:8	high (2)	Human (2)	instances (1)	10:19
goal (8)	15:3;25:19	2:23;23:14	22:13	large (1)
3:13;23:18;24:1,	higher (14)		institutional (1)	6:12
10,22;25:11,23;26:6	11:16;12:24;13:8,	I	22:22	larger (1)
goals (18)	10,11;14:1,10,12;		instructions (1)	8:3
5:16,18,23,24;6:1;	16:2;17:13;20:19;	idea (1)	30:13	last (2)
7:24;8:3,9,10;10:7;	21:10,18;22:9	19:23	integration (1)	6:23;7:15
20:4,5;23:10,11,22,	highest (4)	identified (4)	9:18	Latino (1)
25;30:19;31:12	14:8;15:24;16:9;	10:6,10;20:2,12	interagency (1)	18:14
Goldich (1)	20:25	identify (2)	24:13	laws (3)
28:5	Hispanic (3)	7:7;24:16	interest (1)	19:5,10;22:19
good (2)	11:4;12:19;18:13	identifying (3)	29:8	least (5)
	1			1

Draft Housing Equity	1 a 11	1	1	September 10, 2024
9:2;10:3;11:17;	15:8;17:17;20:19	2:13	3:2,6,20;4:1,13;	25:19
13:15,16	lowest (1)	Montana (24)	5:8,16,17;6:2,3;7:4,	out (10)
legislative (1)	21:5	2:21,22;11:7,20;	19;8:12,24;9:11;	5:2,4;7:20,21;
24:8	low-income (1)	12:21;13:24;15:2;	10:11,22;11:9;12:2;	17:9;19:2;26:6,9;
legislators (1)	21:6	19:5,9,25;24:5;25:2,	13:6;14:3,14;15:10,	28:3,21
24:7		3;27:24,25;28:1,13,	15;16:11,22;18:3,25;	outlines (1)
less (3)	\mathbf{M}	18,20;29:1;31:2,5,	19:17;20:1;21:13;	14:5
19:6,7;20:17		11,13	23:7,8;24:9,10,21;	outreach (1)
lets (1)	map (5)	Montanans (1)	25:10,22;26:5,12,25	23:19
8:7	10:16;13:1;14:4;	26:11	nine (1)	outside (1)
level (2)	15:20;20:24	Montana's (1)	17:23	23:14
15:3,8	market (2)	2:8	nod (1)	over (15)
levels (3)	15:6;20:21	more (11)	27:15	3:18;6:2;7:17;
13:4;20:19;21:22	math (1)	4:10;5:2;15:17,19;	nonwhite (4)	8:11;10:23;11:4,21;
limit (2)	13:15	16:20;17:15;19:9,	12:16,23;13:4,17	16:14,15;17:21;
10:3,4	mathematical (1)	13;20:11;22:18;	note (2)	18:13;21:5;23:11;
link (1)	12:9	30:10	17:4;30:24	27:7;28:2
28:14	May (7)	mortgage (4)	noted (3)	overall (3)
linked (1)	5:4;9:9,10;10:3;	16:25,25;17:5,11	11:19;21:14;22:5	15:21;17:1;18:9
5:10	19:2;20:2;23:9	mortgages (3)	number (15)	overarching (1)
listed (1)	maybe (4)	17:3;18:2;20:17	3:8;4:23,24;5:5;	3:13
30:21	23:2,3,3;30:7	most (2)	7:6;8:25;9:1,13,15;	overcrowding (1)
little (2)	mean (1)	12:15;16:24	20:3;25:15,23;26:6;	15:22
3:11;19:6	11:22	Mountain (1)	28:7,23	overlay (1)
living (1)	means (7)	30:23	numbers (2)	14:7
5:12	3:25;10:14,15;	move (3)	14:22;19:10	overview (1)
local (5)	13:14;14:16;15:16;	27:19;29:3;30:12	11.22,13.10	5:14
5:21;9:23;23:1,4,	20:16	MT (1)	0	own (1)
21	measure (2)	31:3	0	22:19
location (1)	18:7;23:24	much (7)	objectives (2)	owner (2)
15:9	measures (4)	11:15;14:12;15:7;	5:10,15	16:13,16
locations (1)	12:4,6;14:17;15:5	16:2;17:17;27:10;	occur (1)	owner-occupied (1)
14:18	median (1)	31:15	20:22	owner-occupied (1) 17:6
14:18 Loewen (1)	median (1) 18:7	31:15 multiple (1)	20:22 o'clock (1)	17:6
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23	median (1) 18:7 meet (3)	31:15	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23	-
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2)	17:6 P
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2)	31:15 multiple (1)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17	17:6 P Pacific (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2)	17:6 P
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7;	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17	17:6 P Pacific (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1,	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6;	17:6 Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15;	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7	17:6 P Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9)	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6,	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15;
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6;	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17,	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13,	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14,	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8;	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1)	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9,	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11;	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4)	17:6 Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7;	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20;	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6;	17:6 Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23;	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2	17:6 Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3)	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13)	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22	17:6 Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13)	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17;	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12;	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6;	Pecific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12,	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14,	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23	P Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12, 24;26:13;27:11;	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23 minutes (2)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14, 17;24:14	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23 opportunity (2)	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1) 24:18
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,68,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12, 24;26:13;27:11; 30:6,8	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23 minutes (2) 12:3;30:10	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14, 17;24:14 NeighborWorks (1)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23 opportunity (2) 14:16,18	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1) 24:18 pass (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12, 24;26:13;27:11; 30:6,8 lots (1)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23 minutes (2) 12:3;30:10 mitigate (1)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14, 17;24:14 NeighborWorks (1) 25:1	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23 opportunity (2) 14:16,18 order (2)	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1) 24:18 pass (1) 23:9
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12, 24;26:13;27:11; 30:6,8 lots (1) 27:13	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23 minutes (2) 12:3;30:10 mitigate (1) 4:9	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14, 17;24:14 NeighborWorks (1) 25:1 new (5)	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23 opportunity (2) 14:16,18 order (2) 3:9;27:12	P Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1) 24:18 pass (1) 23:9 past (2)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12, 24;26:13;27:11; 30:6,8 lots (1) 27:13 low (3)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23 minutes (2) 12:3;30:10 mitigate (1) 4:9 moderate (1)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14, 17;24:14 NeighborWorks (1) 25:1 new (5) 4:20,21;6:17;	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23 opportunity (2) 14:16,18 order (2) 3:9;27:12 organization (1)	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1) 24:18 pass (1) 23:9 past (2) 11:4;17:16
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12, 24;26:13;27:11; 30:6,8 lots (1) 27:13 low (3) 6:22;14:18;21:2	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23 minutes (2) 12:3;30:10 mitigate (1) 4:9 moderate (1) 13:3	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14, 17;24:14 NeighborWorks (1) 25:1 new (5) 4:20,21;6:17; 24:16;25:8	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23 opportunity (2) 14:16,18 order (2) 3:9;27:12 organization (1) 29:21	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1) 24:18 pass (1) 23:9 past (2) 11:4;17:16 patience (1)
14:18 Loewen (1) 28:23 look (17) 7:8;8:16;9:7; 12:10;13:1,20;14:22, 25;16:3,6,8,25;17:1, 11;18:6;19:20;26:16 looked (1) 9:25 looking (23) 5:15,23;7:7;9:17, 17,18,20;11:10,14, 24;12:24;13:9;14:9, 15,22;15:4,5,11; 16:23;17:24;18:7; 20:7;21:10 looks (4) 4:4,4;8:7;30:1 lost (1) 25:12 lot (11) 3:24;12:20;19:18; 20:14;21:19;24:12, 24;26:13;27:11; 30:6,8 lots (1) 27:13 low (3)	median (1) 18:7 meet (3) 3:5,9;8:10 meeting (2) 8:9;26:20 Megan (4) 2:19;27:10,15; 31:15 mentioned (2) 8:13;19:1 metrics (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 might (2) 3:1;4:18 milestones (4) 23:22;24:1,13,25 minorities (2) 11:2;13:11 minority (4) 12:21;13:17; 14:11;18:1 minute (3) 10:23;13:1,23 minutes (2) 12:3;30:10 mitigate (1) 4:9 moderate (1)	31:15 multiple (1) 26:15 N name (2) 2:19;29:20 names (1) 4:16 Native (8) 11:3;15:7;17:13, 19;18:12;22:8; 24:22;25:3 need (8) 2:13;9:1;13:20; 18:6;21:21;26:23; 28:13;30:25 needed (2) 18:23;23:5 needing (1) 11:12 needs (7) 3:17,18;7:7,13,14, 17;24:14 NeighborWorks (1) 25:1 new (5) 4:20,21;6:17;	20:22 o'clock (1) 30:23 older (2) 11:15,17 once (8) 7:12,20;9:24;10:6; 20:4;26:16;31:2,7 one (9) 2:13;11:17;12:6, 11;15:15;18:7;22:6; 24:3;28:16 online (1) 26:21 only (4) 12:18;14:10;17:6; 22:2 open (3) 9:9;29:4,22 opportunities (13) 4:5,6,8;5:13;6:12; 9:23;10:5;12:6; 13:22;15:8;18:5,22, 23 opportunity (2) 14:16,18 order (2) 3:9;27:12 organization (1)	Pacific (1) 17:14 Park (1) 27:24 part (4) 7:15;8:11;14:15; 30:8 participate (1) 25:3 participation (1) 4:15 parties (1) 27:5 partner (2) 24:5;25:1 partners (3) 25:8,24;28:17 Partnership (1) 6:14 partnerships (1) 24:18 pass (1) 23:9 past (2) 11:4;17:16

people (8)				
<u> </u>	2:20	26:2	raised (3)	repeats (1)
4.20.11.21.15.12	population (13)	promote (5)	29:25;30:3,9	4:19
4:20;11:21;15:12,				
12;17:9;19:9;21:20;	11:3,4,7,20,22;	4:10;19:12,15;	ranges (1)	report (2)
22:18	12:12,17,22,25;	20:11;23:4	21:19	8:6;19:20
percent (23)	14:13;17:10,16;	promotion (1)	rapid (1)	repositories (1)
11:3,16;13:16,17;	21:17	23:2	7:3	27:4
15:17,19;16:14,15,	populations (13)	proposed (2)	rate (17)	represent (1)
18,21;17:3,10,14,15,	4:11;10:20;11:11,	4:2;30:19	11:14;13:16;14:8,	29:21
21,22,23,23;18:10,	15,23;12:1;14:2,11;	provide (10)	13;15:12,24;16:5;	representative (1)
13,14,21;21:5	15:7;21:1;22:9;	5:11,12;26:3;27:8,	17:13,17,19,20;18:8,	19:16
percentage (2)	25:15,18	22;29:5,7,23;30:13,	9,12,19;21:11,18	request (1)
11:20;16:6	portion (1)	25	rates (17)	27:5
performance (1)	29:3	provided (4)	11:16;12:23,24;	requests (1)
8:5	potentially (1)	6:8;22:11;29:2;	13:3,8,10,11;14:1,	3:3
period (1)	11:12	30:21	11;16:2,9,12;17:1;	required (1)
8:23	poverty (18)	providers (1)	18:16,17;20:19;	3:8
periods (1)	9:20;13:12,14,16,	25:5	25:19	requirements (1)
•				
5:6	19;14:7,12,19;18:8,	providing (5)	reach (4)	3:10
phone (4)	10,13,16,17,19;	21:25;25:4;29:19;	28:3,9,21;31:12	residences (1)
28:7,23;29:14,18	20:19,23;24:15;	30:15,16	read (1)	17:7
physical (2)	25:19	public (17)	19:19	resources (8)
12:10;14:17	presentation (3)	2:7,22;4:15,24;	really (18)	20:10;22:2,4,24,
pink (1)	4:18;20:15;22:6	5:20;6:10,10;7:10;	4:6;6:15;8:1,15;	25;23:17;24:16;25:9
14:5	preserve (1)	9:1,2,3,4;10:1;21:19;	12:24;13:19;14:22;	respond (1)
				7:13
place (1)	5:19	23:13;27:20;29:5	16:1,17;20:6;21:6,	
9:5	press (3)	published (1)	21;22:14;23:12;	respondents (2)
plan (44)	2:13;29:14,16	9:5	24:18;25:20;26:15;	19:4,14
2:8,9,24,25;3:12,	pretty (1)	pulling (1)	27:16	responsive (1)
14,15,15,24;4:3,3;	15:2	17:6	reason (1)	10:9
5:2,9,9,11,14,18,20;	prevention (1)		30:8	results (2)
7:5,21,23,25;8:11,	7:3	Q	reasonable (2)	5:5;19:3
		· ·		
14 15 21.9.6 12.	nrevious (I)		3.35	review (3)
14,15,21;9:6,12;	previous (1)	qualitativa (1)	3:3,5	review (3) 5:6:26:23:27:6
16:4;21:14;24:2,7;	8:7	qualitative (1)	receive (2)	5:6;26:23;27:6
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1,	8:7 previously (1)	7:8	receive (2) 3:10;31:14	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21	7:8 quantitative (1)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2)	7:8	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21	7:8 quantitative (1)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11,	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11,	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6,	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13;	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18;	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11;	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18;	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11;	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19;	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21;	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4 pocket (1)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6 proficient (2)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21; 13:8,10,17;14:23;	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9 rental (1)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24 school (1)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4 pocket (1) 17:16	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6 proficient (2) 14:19;20:21	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21; 13:8,10,17;14:23; 17:12,25;22:12	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9 rental (1) 6:16	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24 school (1) 15:5
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4 pocket (1) 17:16 point (2)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6 proficient (2) 14:19;20:21 program (3)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21; 13:8,10,17;14:23; 17:12,25;22:12 racially (5)	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9 rental (1) 6:16 renter (5)	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24 school (1) 15:5 schools (2)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4 pocket (1) 17:16 point (2) 5:14;27:12	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6 proficient (2) 14:19;20:21 program (3) 8:7;26:4;28:6	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21; 13:8,10,17;14:23; 17:12,25;22:12 racially (5) 9:19;10:24;13:13,	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9 rental (1) 6:16 renter (5) 16:13,13,18;21:9,	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24 school (1) 15:5 schools (2) 14:19;20:21
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4 pocket (1) 17:16 point (2) 5:14;27:12 policies (3)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6 proficient (2) 14:19;20:21 program (3) 8:7;26:4;28:6 progress (1)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21; 13:8,10,17;14:23; 17:12,25;22:12 racially (5) 9:19;10:24;13:13, 18;14:6	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9 rental (1) 6:16 renter (5) 16:13,13,18;21:9, 11	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24 school (1) 15:5 schools (2) 14:19;20:21 screen (2)
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4 pocket (1) 17:16 point (2) 5:14;27:12	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6 proficient (2) 14:19;20:21 program (3) 8:7;26:4;28:6	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21; 13:8,10,17;14:23; 17:12,25;22:12 racially (5) 9:19;10:24;13:13,	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9 rental (1) 6:16 renter (5) 16:13,13,18;21:9,	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24 school (1) 15:5 schools (2) 14:19;20:21
16:4;21:14;24:2,7; 26:16,17,21,22;27:1, 13;28:3;29:10; 30:18;31:4,9,12 planning (6) 3:9,22;5:24;6:11; 8:22;24:5 please (38) 3:2,6,20;4:1,13; 5:8,17;6:3;7:4,19; 8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10;16:11, 22;18:3,25;19:17; 21:13;23:7;24:9,21; 25:10,22;26:5,12,25; 29:19,20;30:24 plumbing (1) 15:22 pm (2) 30:23;31:2 PO (5) 27:25;28:1,19,19; 31:4 pocket (1) 17:16 point (2) 5:14;27:12 policies (3)	8:7 previously (1) 30:21 primarily (2) 10:25;16:1 primary (2) 12:21;17:7 prioritize (1) 25:16 priority (2) 7:13;25:14 problems (3) 15:13,21,25 proceedings (2) 2:1;31:18 process (13) 2:12;4:14,23;5:6, 24;7:5,20;8:25;9:13; 10:15;22:1;27:18; 30:7 processes (2) 9:1;21:20 proficiency (1) 15:6 proficient (2) 14:19;20:21 program (3) 8:7;26:4;28:6 progress (1)	7:8 quantitative (1) 7:8 quarter (2) 19:7,7 quickly (1) 19:4 quite (1) 4:14 R R/ECAP (2) 13:19;25:5 R/ECAPs (3) 13:25;20:22,24 race (6) 11:6;15:2;17:2,11; 18:10,15 races (1) 17:15 racial (10) 11:1;12:11,21; 13:8,10,17;14:23; 17:12,25;22:12 racially (5) 9:19;10:24;13:13, 18;14:6	receive (2) 3:10;31:14 recommendations (2) 26:7,10 record (3) 2:14,15;30:12 reduce (2) 5:22;24:22 regarding (2) 2:8;29:10 rehabilitation (1) 6:17 rehousing (1) 7:3 Relay (2) 28:14;29:1 remaining (1) 8:11 remembered (1) 2:12 remute (1) 29:16 rent (1) 17:9 rental (1) 6:16 renter (5) 16:13,13,18;21:9, 11	5:6;26:23;27:6 revitalize (1) 5:21 right (1) 30:9 rights (1) 22:19 risk (1) 7:1 Rosie (1) 28:5 roughly (1) 8:19 rule (1) 4:2 S same (2) 8:20;29:1 Sara (1) 28:22 saw (3) 14:5;20:14,24 school (1) 15:5 schools (2) 14:19;20:21 screen (2)

Draft Housing Equity	1444	T	T	September 10, 202
17:8;21:2	solutions (1)	8:9	9:12;18:8;21:8,12;	28:13;31:11
seeing (15)	6:24	success (1)	22:1,25;23:5,24;	used (1)
4:16;11:1,5,15,19;	sometimes (1)	23:25	24:20;27:4	24:17
12:13,16,23;13:3;	22:10	suitable (1)	times (1)	utilized (1)
14:24;15:7;16:9;	somewhat (1)	5:12	26:15	24:4
17:18;18:15;30:8	19:8	super (1)	today (12)	24.4
	source (3)	30:5	2:7,11,14,19,24;	\mathbf{V}
segregation (8)				V
9:18;12:7,15,23,	6:8,19,23	supply (1)	3:13,25;5:5;10:8;	
24;13:4,5,8	South (1)	26:10	21:4;26:14;31:8	vacation (1)
senior (3)	27:24	support (9)	together (1)	17:8
2:20;21:15,17	specialist (1)	21:25;22:11,14;	23:15	varies (1)
seniors (1)	28:6	25:2,11,13,21;26:1,3	toolkits (1)	18:11
11:24	specific (1)	supports (1)	26:1	variety (2)
sent (1)	23:25	13:21	total (1)	7:2;14:17
30:20	specifically (2)	sure (3)	17:22	various (6)
September (1)	6:22;22:8	4:20;23:23;29:19	toward (1)	4:5;7:11;9:13,15;
30:23	specifies (1)	surprised (1)	6:25	17:12;21:20
service (1)	8:1	30:6	towards (2)	vary (1)
28:16	spell (1)	survey (5)	6:15;27:19	16:12
Services (3)	29:20	5:1,3;9:9;19:2;	transportation (2)	verbal (1)
2:23;6:10;23:14	spending (3)	22:17	14:20;20:22	29:5
session (1)	15:17,19;16:20	surveys (1)	trend (1)	versus (3)
24:8	spread (1)	4:25	12:15	12:12;17:21,23
set (2)	24:4	sustain (1)	trends (1)	via (5)
8:25;10:7	stakeholders (4)	5:20	7:9	26:3;28:9;29:12,
severe (5)	7:11;10:2;24:3;	swath (1)	tribal (1)	14,18
15:18;16:7,15,17,	31:10	6:12	10:19	visit (1)
20	Standard (1)		Trust (1)	28:25
share (11)	30:24	T	6:20	VOICE (1)
5:4;19:3;21:4;	star-6 (2)	_	trying (1)	30:3
24:6;25:8;26:21;	29:16,18	table (1)	25:20	30.3
29:6;30:11,15,25;	star-9 (2)	21:4	two (4)	W
31:9				V V
	29:15,17	talk (15)	4:25;9:3;17:15;	(2)
shared (1)	start (1)	2:25;3:10,11,24;	28:2	way (2)
30:2	27:20	5:7;10:8,12;12:3,25;	types (1)	12:14;31:6
sharing (2)	state (43)	13:22;15:14;20:1,4;	6:5	webinar (1)
27:20;30:12	3:17,18,23;4:9,11,	23:8;27:8		29:13
show (1)	12;5:13;6:20;7:9;	talked (6)	U	website (4)
10:16	8:16,18;9:15,16,23;	7:16;21:16;22:17;		9:8;27:1;28:11,24
showing (1)	10:5,14,17,19,21,24,	24:12,24;25:6	under (3)	Welcome (3)
15:20	25;11:7;12:1;14:25;	talking (15)	4:2;6:8,12	2:7,16;30:19
significant (1)	15:9;16:9,19;18:9,	3:13;6:4,5,6,23;	underneath (1)	what's (1)
12:15	16;21:8,12;22:15,18,	7:10,10;10:17,18,19;	20:3	7:9
similar (1)	25;23:1,4,6,21;	13:7;16:1;18:4,5;	underserved (1)	white (8)
6:21	24:20;26:22;27:4;	20:16	25:19	
				10:25;12:12,16,18,
situated (1)	29:20,20	target (1)	undertake (1)	19,20,23;13:4
15:3	statewide (1)	25:20	5:25	whole (2)
slide (38)	17:20	targeted (2)	undertaken (1)	10:17;14:25
3:2,6,20;4:1,13;	Steffens (1)	6:21,25	8:2	who's (1)
5:8,16,17;6:3;7:4,19;				2.6
	28:4	task (2)	undertaking (2)	2:6
8:12,24;9:11;10:11,	28:4 steps (1)	task (2) 26:7,9	undertaking (2) 3:23;5:13	widely (1)
8:12,24;9:11;10:11, 22;11:9;12:2;13:6;		` ,		
22;11:9;12:2;13:6;	steps (1) 8:10	26:7,9	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1)	widely (1) 18:11
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15;	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3)	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3)
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25;	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3)	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2)	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7;	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1)	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11)
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22;	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1)	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1)	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16;
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22; 26:5,12,25;30:22	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13 sub-issues (1)	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1) 2:2	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1) 29:18	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16; 10:19,20;15:9;
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22; 26:5,12,25;30:22 slides (2)	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13 sub-issues (1) 20:3	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1) 2:2 third (2)	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1) 29:18 up (5)	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16; 10:19,20;15:9; 18:15;20:10;23:17,
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22; 26:5,12,25;30:22 slides (2) 20:1;23:9	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13 sub-issues (1) 20:3 submit (1)	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1) 2:2 third (2) 9:4;24:22	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1) 29:18 up (5) 12:14;26:17;29:4,	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16; 10:19,20;15:9; 18:15;20:10;23:17, 17
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22; 26:5,12,25;30:22 slides (2) 20:1;23:9 small (1)	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13 sub-issues (1) 20:3 submit (1) 31:6	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1) 2:2 third (2) 9:4;24:22 three (1)	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1) 29:18 up (5) 12:14;26:17;29:4, 22;31:16	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16; 10:19,20;15:9; 18:15;20:10;23:17, 17 without (1)
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22; 26:5,12,25;30:22 slides (2) 20:1;23:9 small (1) 17:16	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13 sub-issues (1) 20:3 submit (1) 31:6 submitting (1)	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1) 2:2 third (2) 9:4;24:22 three (1) 9:2	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1) 29:18 up (5) 12:14;26:17;29:4, 22;31:16 updates (1)	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16; 10:19,20;15:9; 18:15;20:10;23:17, 17 without (1) 18:18
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22; 26:5,12,25;30:22 slides (2) 20:1;23:9 small (1) 17:16 Smith (1)	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13 sub-issues (1) 20:3 submit (1) 31:6 submitting (1) 26:18	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1) 2:2 third (2) 9:4;24:22 three (1) 9:2 throughout (15)	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1) 29:18 up (5) 12:14;26:17;29:4, 22;31:16 updates (1) 28:10	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16; 10:19,20;15:9; 18:15;20:10;23:17, 17 without (1)
22;11:9;12:2;13:6; 14:3,14;15:10,15; 16:11,22;18:3,25; 19:17;21:13;23:7; 24:9,21;25:10,22; 26:5,12,25;30:22 slides (2) 20:1;23:9 small (1) 17:16	steps (1) 8:10 strategies (3) 7:17;10:7;24:15 strategy (1) 7:13 sub-issues (1) 20:3 submit (1) 31:6 submitting (1)	26:7,9 technical (2) 25:4;26:3 terms (3) 11:6,22;13:15 testimony (1) 2:2 third (2) 9:4;24:22 three (1) 9:2	3:23;5:13 underutilized (1) 24:16 unmute (2) 29:13,16 unmute/remute (1) 29:18 up (5) 12:14;26:17;29:4, 22;31:16 updates (1)	widely (1) 18:11 wish (3) 27:22;29:23;30:24 within (11) 4:12;8:18;9:14,16; 10:19,20;15:9; 18:15;20:10;23:17, 17 without (1) 18:18

Draft Housing Equity I	Plan		September 10, 2024
workgroups (1)	2022 (4)		
24:14	17:2,15,21;18:10	6	
working (1)	2024 (1)	U	
2:21	29:10	6 (1)	
wrap (1)	2025 (1)	26:6	
31:16	24:8	6.7 (1)	
written (6)	2025-2029 (1)	11:3	
27:22;29:7;30:13, 15,20,25	2:9 202956 (1)	65 (1)	
wwwdphhsmtgov (1)	28:19	11:21	
28:25	20th (3)	7	
	30:23;31:1,1	,	
Y	26 (2)	70 (1)	
(10)	17:14,21	21:5	
year (10) 3:22;7:24,25;8:2,	3	75 (1)	
4,7;9:3,10;17:21;	3	11:17	
26:23	3 (1)		
years (13)	21:9		
3:7,16,19,21;4:3;	30 (1)		
6:2;7:18,23,24;8:19;	15:17		
17:16;23:11,24	301 (1) 27:24		
${f Z}$	31st (1)		
	9:10		
zoning (1)	35 (1)		
23:3	18:13		
1	38 (1)		
1	16:14		
10:44 (1)	4		
31:18	-	_	
12 (1)	40 (1)		
18:10	13:16		
13 (1)	406447-4265 (1)		
17:22	28:23		
13.1 (2) 17:3,10	406447-4287 (1) 28:24		
17.3,10 1400 (1)	406841-2770 (1)		
28:18	28:8		
16 (1)	406841-2771 (1)		
17:23	28:8		
17 (1)	42 (1)		
18:14	17:15		
18 (1) 16:18	45 (1) 11:16		
19.1 (1)	11.10		
18:21	5		
1990 (1)			
12:14	5 (1)		
1st (1)	25:23		
9:9	5:00 (2)		
2	30:23;31:2 50 (3)		
	13:16;15:19;16:21		
20 (1)	56920 (1)		
16:15	31:5		
2000523 (1)	59601 (2)		
31:4	27:25;28:19		
200523 (1)	59620 (2)		
28:1 2021 (1)	28:1,20		
17:22			

Focus Groups

May 23, 2024: ESG Roundtable

June 12, 2024: Multifamily Housing

June 13, 2024: Homelessness

June 19, 2024: Housing and Community Needs

June 20, 2024: Rural Housing

June 25, 2024: Single-Family Housing

July 2, 2024: Housing Development

ESG Roundtable Sign-In Sheet

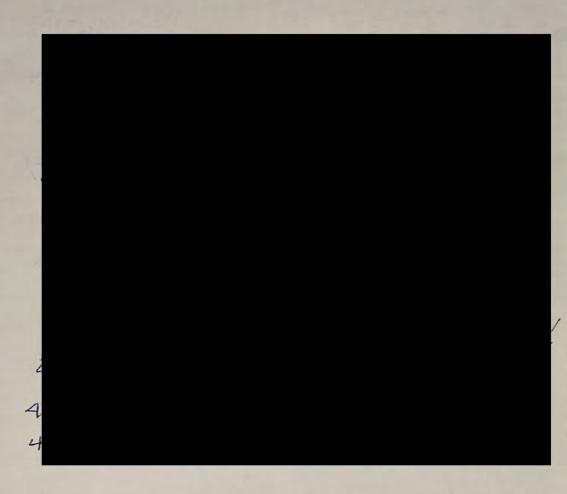
Thursday, May 23, 2024

Missoula Public Library Cooper Space B 455 E Main Street, Missoula MT 59802

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Sean O'Weill



Notes from ESG Focus Group, May 23, 2024, Missoula Public Library.

- 1. Describe the first time you were aware that inequity in housing existed.
 - Living in a very rural community, thought homelessness was a big city issue. Seven to eight years ago, started noticing it in Montana's larger towns in parks, on streets, etc. Then suddenly it became evident and now seeing signs of the issue in small towns as well.
 - Working in it has changed perspective not just a city issue. Learned it's not that the person is bad; there's just not enough home.
 - Cut Bank is a pioneer community and there were often a couple of folks without homes, now there are several.
 - Working in public health for 25 years. Didn't know about the lack of resources available to finance housing. There unequal opportunities to access some services, particularly outside of largest towns.
 - Saw discrimination by race and Section 8 voucher holders. In rural communities, gaining trust is critical. Housing is solution based here it's do-able.
 - Learned as a kid that the "other side of the tracks" was not safe that's where the subsidized housing was and not where the high-end neighborhoods were. Native American towns were segregated. Learned the definition of project and what that meant. Now it seems the housing/construction resources are going to build for visitors/tourists leaving nowhere for service industry workers, seasonal workers. There is a lack of health care available to everyone.
- 2. Has working to address housing and community needs changed your perspective on Montana's current housing situation? If so, how?
 - Need mental health and co-occurring group homes.
 - Need housing.
 - Need even more than permanent supportive housing.
 - Need acute care housing short-term supportive housing.
 - A lot more seniors are becoming homeless.
 - Mental Health Centers have closed their acute care programs.
 - Very little discharge planning from state hospital.
 - Those who "owe HUD' don't have options tend to create their own group homes.
- 3. Which decision-makers have the most impact on your work with low- and moderate-income individuals? What do you want them to know about your work?
 - Majority want the problem of homelessness to be fixed but won't put resources together to solve the problem there is always a lot of public push back.
 - Paperwork is just horrid.
 - Fair Market Rents set by HUD are an issue too low to encourage participation by landlords.
 - Income limits striking the balance b/w being low-income and demonstrating they can pay rent going forward this requirement with ESG is a barrier.
- 4. If you could change one policy or practice that affects housing, economic and/or community development, what would it be?
 - Get rid of 30% income limits and FMR limits. Households with 50% AMI are much easier to reach.
 - Cut down on attitude of suspicion. Need to get away from making folks <u>prove</u> they're the "deserving poor".

- Focus on who needs services v those who would be taking advantage of or exploiting the program.
- If a household qualifies for one program, they should qualify for all programs. This would allow case managers to focus on things other than helping complete applications.
- Application fees, late fees, background checks and credit checks all put up barriers for persons looking for housing options.

Multifamily Housing Focus Group Notes June 12, 2024

Attendees

- Andrew Chanania, Northfork Development
- Chandler Rowling, Montana Department of Commerce
- Jake Clark, Great Falls Development Alliance
- Janelle Egli, Montana Department of Commerce
- Jen Stepleton, Montana Department of Commerce
- Jim McGrath, Missoula Housing Authority
- Lila Fleishman, HRDC 9 Bozeman
- Marney McCleary, Rural Community Assistance Corporation
- Michael O'Neil, Helena Housing Authority
- Sharon Loftus, Montana Department of Commerce

- Unit production is a need. More places for people to live is critical. We need to increase supply at all levels of the market. All product types, all price points. Increases in market rate production will ultimately support access to subsidized or affordable options.
- In Great Falls, somewhere between 400 and 600 units are needed. Although development has increased, demand has outpaced it.
- In the Flathead, the number of private units available on the market has increased. They are being marketed as affordable, but they are not. They are costing much more than 30% of They're not communities. Children don't have space to play.
- We are not building communities. We need more of a focus on designing for community. We need to have thoughtful conversations about types of units, trauma-informed design, amenities to include in projects, etc.
- There's a lack of subsidy for low-income housing. We need more resources to provide homes to low-income households, the homeless.
- We're waiting for the re-structuring of vouchers. They are underutilized and should be reallocated. Vouchers are not being used because fair market rents don't align with actual rents. We're working on a fair market rent re-evaluation statewide. Montana is currently relying on Census data, which is not capturing more recent rent increases in the market.
- We're facing barriers due to zoning changes. Developers are getting squeezed because of impacts from private development.
- People with the lowest incomes have the highest consequences. Those with special needs such as the elderly and those with disabilities or fixed incomes or one income are at a real disadvantage.
- Increases in rent correlate with increases in homelessness.
- There has been a shift in public sentiment about homelessness.
- We're seeing impacts from post-pandemic growth.
- Housing Choice Vouchers cannot project-base vouchers. Doing so would be really beneficial, especially around supportive housing.
- We need to leverage our resources. For example, the Housing Trust Fund needs project-based vouchers to work.

- Montana is one of the few states where there is not a state stake in the game. We need state-supported vouchers, a state tax credit, etc.
- We need resources of all kinds! We're in a housing emergency! Our tax credit allocations have not increased. Other funding is falling short.
- TIF is at risk. This has been an important tool for development.
- We need to look at ways to streamline development and monitoring under these federal
 programs. One protocol for all funding sources. Overlaying activities. Tax credits are the
 most challenging. Property managers are accommodating 4-6 inspections per year. That's a
 lot. It would be helpful to solve for flexibility.
- There's a compliance capacity issue at the local level. We want projects to be successful beyond development. Property management is a heavy lift for some communities. For example, onsite managers are not always a possibility.
- Under the plan, we need explicit priority for production and preservation of housing.
- CDBG grants can be open for a long time. We need more flexibility to get more CDBG projects in the pipeline.
- We need to increase the amount of CDBG funds available for housing. We need to increase
 the \$750,000 cap. This would help with administrative burdens of the program. Focus on
 project needs and do a subsidy layering analysis (similar to HOME and HTF) to determine
 investment. This would allow for a greater focus on larger projects, which have a big impact
 and allow developers to leverage additional (non-assisted) units. A prioritization of larger
 projects is recommended.
- Homelessness is a housing problem. We cannot solve homelessness through shelters.
- There's an economy of scale in small towns. It's very challenging to develop large projects in smaller areas. Balancing cost and benefit is difficult. Also, larger designs don't always serve residents well.

Homelessness Focus Group Notes June 13, 2024

Attendees

- Carrie Matter, Great Falls Rescue Mission
- Carrie Steere, Good Samaritan Ministries
- Dani Hess, Montana Coalition to Solve Homelessness
- Janelle Egli, Montana Department of Commerce
- Joanna King, Montana Rescue Mission
- Julianna Campbell, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
- Kayla Morris, St. Peter's Health
- Sandi Filipowicz, YWCA Great Falls
- Teresa Ortega, Good Samaritan Ministries

- Housing options are inadequate. Units available to low-income households are often unsanitary, unsafe. More accessible units are needed.
- Housing discrimination happens. One individual was told she was denied housing because she was native.
- Housing issues are trickling down. People in higher income brackets are renting units that were previously priced for and available to lower income households.
- There's a lack of wraparound services available to those who need them. Mental health is a persistent need in many communities.
- It's difficult to break the cycle of homelessness. People need tools to exit.
- Homelessness is not just a city problem but also a rural problem.
- Different types of shelter options are needed. Dormitory settings are not always appropriate. Individuals with severe mental illness and very intense needs don't do well in communal living.
- Some groups are overrepresented in the homelessness population. For example, native, elderly, and disabled households are seeking services in higher proportion relative to others.
- The statewide housing market is contributing to homelessness. Without an adequate supply and with rents and home prices surging, many are at increased risk of experiencing homelessness. We need more low-income housing development.
- Units are no longer available for Section 8 Voucher holders.
- Housing is a struggle across the spectrum. Not just an issue for lower wage earners. Many service providers in healthcare, housing, etc., are currently unable to secure stable housing. If we want to keep service providers and those in the wider service industry in our communities, we need to raise wages and provide more affordable housing options.
- We need dedicated buildings for permanent supportive housing.
- We need to address barriers to expanding shelter services. Economic development and downtown revitalization needs must be balanced with the needs of those at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

- Services could be more proactive than reactive. Providers see homeless individuals deteriorate when they lose services. It often takes a major mental or physical health issue presenting before proper intervention is provided.
- Rent controls are needed. We should cap what can be charged for certain units. This would ensure housing affordability and reduce homelessness.
- Homelessness issues are systemic. We can't address them piecemeal. It takes concerted
 effort at the local, state, and federal levels. We should revisit economic and housing
 policies, assess funding streams. We should work across healthcare and programs like
 Medicaid, programs like those offered through HUD these are really important in
 supporting local communities and making meaningful change.
- Infancy is when a person is most likely to enter homeless services. This is because the arrival of a baby means more expenses for families and can also equate to lower income for families as parents prioritize reproductive labor over productive labor. Childcare services for lower income households would help keep families working and out of shelters.
- In many states if you are homeless, you automatically get Medicaid. This would be great to see in Montana. Medicaid is vital to those experiencing homelessness and vital for service providers seeking to serve the homeless population.
- We need a state low-income housing tax credit. This could double our capacity for addressing housing and homelessness needs statewide.
- Funding for ESG is very limited and, thus, so is the impact of ESG services. ESG is currently used in combination with other funding sources. With more funding, we could do more.

Housing and Community Special Needs Focus Group Notes June 19, 2024

Attendees

- Cari Yturri, Family Promise
- Cheyenne Loney, Many Rivers Health
- Gina Boesdorfer, The Friendship Center
- Greg Grosenick, Family Promise Great Falls
- Jacy Widhalm, Reach, Inc.
- Janelle Egli, Montana Department of Commerce
- Julie Flynn, Montana Department of Commerce
- Rosie Goldich, Montana Department of Commerce
- Tori Stotts, The Friendship Center

- We need more funding, more resources.
- There is a lack of inventory. It's really challenging to find an affordable place to live for clients.
- There are not enough vouchers. Wait lists are long, 6-8 months or more to get a voucher.
 Vouchers are underutilized due to high rents in the market and restrictions on voucher payments.
- We need money to purchase or remodel housing. Especially for households with adults with disabilities, many of whom are low-income and/or elderly.
- Additional requirements are needed to serve households with disabilities. Spaces must be accessible. Housing must be proximal to hospitals.
- Money should provide benefits without being too restrictive. There are concerns over BABA regulations.
- Landlords don't seem to want to rent to vulnerable populations (e.g., tenants with mental illness). This makes housing high-needs households very difficult.
- In the case of Great Falls, Family Promise rather than the resident is the tenant in order to get housing secured. This is one way to overcome landlord reluctance to rent to households with bad debt, bad rental history, etc. Can help families build good references. Takes some burden off of landlords but is pricey for the organization serving as tenant.
- The price of renting is up 30-50% in the Great Falls area. We're at the point where money is not the only solution. City zoning is too strict. Where you can build and what you can do is very limited. Changes to zoning would be really helpful.
- In regards to basic needs (e.g., food, clothing), we're doing a pretty good job providing services.
- We need more shelter. We have so many folks moving to or moving back to Great Falls. We
 don't have beds for them. Our emergency shelters are full. We can't even make referrals.
 The best we can do is put them up in a motel for time. It's not fixing anything and it's
 expensive.
- We need to provide incentives and assurances for landlords to encourage voucher utilization.

- Education about voucher programs is needed broadly. Do people know how many vouchers are available? Is there something different that we should be doing to get vouchers out to eligible households? Or to increase the number of vouchers available if there are not enough to meet current need?
- HUD programs are confusing. It takes careful planning to access HUD funds. This is hard for small communities with low capacity.
- HUD program subsidy amounts are too low to justify the regulations and requirements that accompany the dollars. Communities can spend as much managing a grant as they receive in grant funds. Lots of paperwork.
- Matching requirements can be difficult.
- Reliable funding decreases are a concern. Lack of significant and relatively unrestricted
 multi-year funding broadly is challenging. We get funds and we're immediately trying to
 figure out how to fund the next year. We need to get out of a reactive mode and be more
 proactive. Survival state as organization.
- Lack of broad, holistic community services is intersected significantly with housing. It creates a cyclical issue. If you don't have substantial healthcare, it makes it hard to sustain employment, which makes it hard to sustain housing, and so on and so forth.
- In domestic violence and sexual assault field, we're seeing significant cuts to funding sources. Gives us challenges immediately and concern for the future.
- Group homes need remodeling. No options to relocate residents. (Note grant funds can be
 used for relocation and that when housing inventory is short, hotels may be considered.
 Relocation is challenging but creative solutions are possible.)
- We need housing. It needs to be a priority. It's critical.
- Two things are needed in local economies: Need decent housing for workers and good school systems for families.
- It's so hard to communicate the need for housing and services with the public. It's worth the money and the investment of time and resources. We're paying more to deal with issues on the back end, and we're having undesirable outcomes. We pay one way or the other.
- Getting information out is important. Better messaging is important.
- The CoC is a good source of information. Are there others? Any way to make it easier for nonprofits to discover and access grant opportunities?
- Can't go at it alone. Partnering with other organizations is key. Not enough funding and donations. Having 2-3 affiliates that are ready to support your projects is really important.

Rural Housing Focus Group Notes June 20, 2024

Attendees

- Janelle Egli, Montana Department of Commerce
- Jen Stepleton, Montana Department of Commerce
- Julie Flynn, Montana Department of Commerce
- Julles Engel, Montana Department of Commerce
- Rosie Goldich, Montana Department of Commerce
- Ruth Burke, HRC XI

- The Bitterroot Affordable Housing Coalition is undertaking good, collaborative work on the local level. Diverse group (similar to what you might see in a Continuum of Care group). City staff are involved. County Commissioners are involved. They meet monthly. (The Bitter Root RC&D, through its Bitterroot Collective Impact program, is providing Backbone Organization support to the Bitterroot Task Force on Homelessness and Housing to end homelessness and alleviate housing insecurity in Ravalli County. A Backbone Organization in one of the five conditions of a Collective Impact Initiative. Collective Impact is a proven method of collaborating for large-scale social change.)
- The Coalition is celebrating some recent successes in Ravalli County.
 - In March 2018 the Bitterroot Homelessness and Housing Needs Assessment was published.
 - Supporters for Abuse Free Environments (SAFE) received a grant for transitional housing for victims of domestic violence.
 - Ravalli County received a grant for a housing program for offenders re-entering the community to lower recidivism and create connections to the community through stable housing and case management.
 - In addition, members of the Coalition are making some notable progress, as follows:
 - HRC XI received funding for the 8 Street project, aka "Skalkaho," an 8-unit housing development
 - SAFE is received HOME funds for emergency housing
 - Housing Solutions received Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)
 - Although happening outside the Coalition, of note:
 - Habitat for Humanity is putting up one unit in the Bitterroot
 - Summit is utilizing LIHTC as well
- The Coalition is surveying to determine needs. Currently developing a Community Needs Assessment.
- Mineral County has less of a cohesive group. HRC XI meets with organizations and stakeholders in the county once a month. Foodbank there bought a building a year ago. Planning and considering development options for the space. Mineral County is considering applying for CDBG planning funding.

- We need to consider Broadband needs. Hits every level of poverty. Received a Broadband grant. Grant funds are no longer available. (Note: In the absence of internet options, Wi-Fi can be checked out at the local library, but this does not reach all need.)
- Childcare is important. It affects many aspects of opportunity for Montanans. Ravalli and Mineral counties don't have childcare options.
- There is not a lot of employment opportunity in some remote areas (e.g., Mineral County). As soon as people graduate, they leave. Growing population of older households.
- Units for seniors and families in both Ravalli and Mineral counties. Housing projects are typically fully occupied in rural areas, demonstrating strong need. Projects range in subsidy.
- Considering mechanisms for keeping older projects affordable (e.g., HOME projects wrapping up periods of affordability). It would be helpful if HRC XI could exit management role for properties that are completing their compliance terms. It's difficult to manage projects in rural areas. You can hire managers, but typically not in your own community. This results in unique challenges.
- Repair costs seem reasonable in rural areas, however, it's difficult to get contractors. One of
 the biggest hurdles in rural Montana is the SAM.gov registration requirement. A contractor
 doesn't have to be registered in SAM.gov to show they are not debarred, so unnecessary?
 Furthermore, it's challenging to get bids for projects in smaller communities. Have had to
 directly hire individuals as employees to get work done.
- There isn't an appetite for owner-occupied rehab work. Missoula County is not going to renew their contract to do homeowner rehabilitation. There is not enough administrative funding to sustain the work. Contract expires in December. (City of Missoula intending to continue their homeowner rehab.)
- We can make a difference in affordable housing through mobile homes and rehab. Most bang for your buck!
 - o Mobile homes need infrastructure work, co-op structuring, etc.
- Could we have a mechanism for buying land (like a reverse mortgage) and land trusting properties? This would provide income to owners and be a long-term affordability solution.
- Used to do rental assistance through TBRA. Consider again?
- Homebuyer supports are not working in today's rural markets. We need to revisit the drawing board.
- Weather Ready money is a good resource. Over time, savings can exceed investment. Good option for mobile homes.
- Being able to land trust what we already have in the pipeline is an interesting idea! Could be really impactful in indigenous communities in particular.
- People will support and give at the local, non-governmental level, but government is controversial and it's harder to make asks in that arena.
- Montana Board of Housing loans how many are being made?

Single Family Housing Focus Group Notes June 25, 2024

Attendees

- Chandler Rowling, Montana Department of Commerce
- Janelle Egli, Montana Department of Commerce
- Jen Stepleton, Montana Department of Commerce
- Julles Engel, Montana Department of Commerce
- Mindy DeCosse, HRDC 9 Bozeman
- Rosie Goldich, Montana Department of Commerce
- Sharon Lofftus, Montana Department of Commerce
- Sheila Rice, Montana Board of Housing
- Shyla Patera, Northcentral Independent Living

- We need more accessible, universally designed units. Many single family homes need modifications and repairs.
- Some Montanans are underbanked or have credit issues, and these are barriers to housing.
- The cost of housing is an issue. In Bozeman, we're not seeing single family homes for less than \$550,000.
- Because of high home costs, downpayment assistance is not being utilized. And cost isn't only affecting buyers. Homeowners are feeling squeezed due to rising costs such as property taxes and HOA fees.
- In Bozeman, we likely won't be able to utilize HOME down payment assistance outside of a land trust model. For an 80% AMI land trust unit listed at \$316,000, to make it work, it had to be purchased by a family of three making \$75,000.
- There is a lot of interest and competition. Homeowners are getting offers for sight unseen.
- Board of Housing Loans are a great option, but not available to everyone.
- New housing stock is needed. We need to build more!
- Land trust homes need to be a focus. It supports permanent affordability.
- Manufactured housing needs to be called out as a viable option for affordable housing, especially for homeownership. Resident-owned communities are a great model as the fee simple land is owned by the residents of the manufactured home community collectively. There are over 20 ROCs in Montana.
- ESG and HTF should be prioritized for building duplexes and fourplexes in really small communities. You can't do a tax credit for a project that small, so it makes sense to utilize these other resources to target what tax credits cannot.
- HRDC 9 owns 5 acres in Gardiner and is working on creating a community land trust. To do
 it, they've had to secure more funding. Easier to utilize, accessible funds for land trusts is
 needed.
- Smaller communities are struggling to get contractors (e.g., White Sulphur Springs) to do the work that they need done.
- Mobile home units could help solve the issue of no contractors. However, it doesn't help with lack of contractors to do infrastructure. We could give supports and incentives to cities for development.

- There are opportunities to partner with businesses. EX: Headwaters Community Housing Trust is trying to get employees into houses via a weighted lottery system. If you were an employer, you could buy a fast pass to get to the front of the line for one of the land trust homes. It created capital for the land trust and provided homes for employees. The cost was \$50,000/employee and there were additional grant funds available for each transaction. This approach has been successfully executed in Bend, Oregon.
- Tiny homes for the unsheltered are being developed in Great Falls. There are tiny home developments in Texas that don't have bathroom, kitchen in individual units. Instead, there is a community kitchen and a shared bath house. This was approved by HUD as a single room occupancy unit. This could be a possibility in Montana.
- Tiny homes are of interest because sometimes people don't want to do permanent supportive housing. Sometimes people want a roof and a bed without supports but with community once they've moved out of crisis.
- We need more dollars circulating in general.
- Planning grants are important. Big step to removing barriers. Mindful communities are important.
- We need less regulation. We need to allow for maximum flexibility so we can address the
 varied needs as they arise. For example, HTF has not been feasible in Great Falls, but it is a
 good fit for other communities.
- Headwaters Community Housing Trust serves up to 120% AMI. They weren't able to get any federal money. This was a challenge. It's nice that the Montana Board of Housing provides the down payment assistance program for higher AMI households.
- Lewistown only able to do one house. Administrative burden is too much.
- We need to look at more project-based vouchers, rental assistance. Project-based vouchers can serve individuals who don't currently have earned incomes.
- Make sure that tribal funds and development activities are looked at. The resource landscape is different on reservations.
- If accessible or sensory units are needed, make sure that they are not displacing somebody else. Examine intake processes. Encourage landlords to look at fair housing laws, eviction practices. Voucher portability can be really helpful.
- Resources made available because of the Covid-19 pandemic were not evenly distributed.
- Criminal history can be a big housing barrier.
- Shared spaces can be challenging. Some individuals with disabilities have serious food sensitivities or allergies.
- Properties could use guidance for bed bugs.
- Have good facts at the ready to get to good policy. Sharing facts about the immense need for housing at every level is needed.
- A shortage of homes is the reason for homelessness. Our focus needs to be on creating more homes.

Housing Development Focus Group Notes July 2, 2024

Attendees

- Chandler Rowling, Montana Department of Commerce
- Danette Sukut, Coldwell Banker Great Falls
- Janelle Egli, Montana Department of Commerce
- Julie Flynn, Montana Department of Commerce
- Maria Valandra, Clearwater Credit Union, Indigenous Strategy
- Nicole Newman, Montana Department of Commerce

- Affordable housing for families is our greatest need. There is a gap of single-family homes in Great Falls due to a lack of builders. We need more startups; we need to build more. One hurdle in Great Falls is clay soils. It requires engineering services to the tune of \$30,000-\$40,000. Monolithic slabs are an option.
- Funds that come from NeighborWorks for first-time homebuyer assistance is really helpful.
- Clearwater Credit Union is in 20 counties, mostly in the western part of the state.
 Indigenous Strategies work includes Northern Cheyene, Rocky Boy, Flathead, and Blackfeet. Reservation needs are many and include affordable housing.
- A turn-key house in Great Falls is \$500,000+. A fixer-upper house in the area is \$350,000+.
- The median price for a starter home is about \$315,000. A home at this price point would need work. Our housing stock is aging.
- There is an Airforce base in Great Falls. A missile project will bring 5,000+ people to the area. To accommodate the newcomers, the Airforce base is looking to build a man camp. We would love for them to build housing instead! Currently, Great Falls needs 650 units per year to satisfy ongoing demand.
- The Consolidated Plan has a statewide scope. Its assessment of needs and opportunities includes reservation areas. Note: the data we get from HUD for the plan is county-wide.
- Helping builders with infrastructure would help growth. Infrastructure is connected to housing, and without infrastructure, we won't have new housing.
- The development authority in Great Falls is recruiting builders. Conversations started.
- Taxes are going up, and people don't understand why taxes are increasing and what taxes support. We need new development and people to move here to spread the cost.
- Great Falls just failed a safety levy. Until a safety levy is passed, homeowner's insurance will continue to go up. There's already been a huge increase in homeowner's insurance.
- Within the next five years we should provide assistance with infrastructure.
- We could use incentives for developers to build more affordable housing. What can the State do? (In Helena, if a developer commits to doing X% of affordable housing units in a development, they can go to the top of the review list. Things like this can be done at the local level. The Governor's Housing Task Force is looking at things like this at the state level.)
- Sometimes the location of housing development is questionable. Sprawl happens. Houses are where commercial buildings might be. Community feel is missing. No parks.

- In Great Falls, zoning prohibits ADUs. We'd like to see more ADUs and density. Because of affordability, we're seeing more multigenerational housing, and ADUs could support this.
- In Indian country, it's always been multigenerational housing. Kids making minimum wage can't afford to go out and rent or buy so they live with family. Grandparents live with their families. Roommates are brought in.
- We're in a higher interest rate environment. They're eliminating a big chunk of buyers.
- When homeowners understand what their monthly obligation is for housing based on housing needed and current rates, they can save that amount per month and get comfortable with the obligation. It makes buyers more competitive when they know the monthly obligation associated with an offer.
- Montana's housing stock is really old and aging.
- Manufactured loans are available at Clearwater. Unfortunately, however, these homes are not inexpensive.
- In Great Falls, corporations are buying up mobile home parks and leaving residents in a lurch. Elderly people are being forced to sell their homes because they can't afford lot rent. Potential driver of homelessness.
- Mobile homes are a good investment in housing affordability. Resident-owned communities allow mobile home residents to own homes and have more housing stability.
- Housing authorities would be a good source of data for the Consolidated Plan.
- Additional data would be helpful in contextualizing HUD data.

Regional Meetings

Missoula - May 21, 2024, 8 a.m. Hardin - June 6, 2024, 1 p.m., 5:30 p.m. Libby - July 24, 2024, 10 a.m., 5 p.m. Glasgow - August 1, 2024, 9 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Montana's Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and Associated Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Equity Plan

Montana Housing Conference Tuesday, May 21, 2024 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation services.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Small Group Discussion

- Describe the first time you were aware that inequity in housing existed.
- Has working to address housing and community needs changed your perspective on Montana's current housing situation? How?
- Which decision-makers have the most impact on your work with low- and moderate-income individuals?
 What do you want them to know about your work?
- If you could change one policy or practice that affects housing, economic, and/or community development, what would it be?





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Statewide Planning

The State of Montana, through the Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services, is developing a 5-year plan to guide policy and investment for housing, economic, and other community development projects.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Statewide Planning

This 5-year plan, also known as the "Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development," is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assess Montana's needs and current conditions, as well as to determine priorities and allocate HUD funding.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Statewide Planning

In conjunction with the Consolidated Plan, Montana is developing an **Equity Plan** to affirmatively furthering fair housing. Deep dive into the Equity Plan to come...

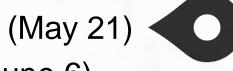




2025-2029 Consolidated Plan **Public Participation**

There will be multiple opportunities for citizens and stakeholders to engage throughout the Equity Plan and Consolidated Plan processes.

- Regional Meetings
 - Missoula (May 21)



- Hardin (June 6)
- Libby (July 24)
- Glasgow (August 1)

Dates subject to change. See website for current information.

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Public Participation (cont'd)

- Focus groups
 - Respond to survey if interested in participating
- Public hearings
 - Next public hearing for Equity Plan scheduled for June 3
- Surveys
 - Housing and Community Needs
 - Fair Housing
- Documents
 - Formal reviews with public comment periods TBA

Dates subject to change. See website for current information.

commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Objectives

- The objectives of Montana's Consolidated Plan include:
 - Provide decent housing
 - Provide a suitable living environment
 - Expand economic opportunities





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Goals

- The goals of Montana's <u>current</u> Consolidated Plan are:
 - Goal 1 Preserve and ConstructAffordable Housing
 - Goal 2 Plan for Communities
 - Goal 3 Improve and Sustain Public
 Infrastructure
 - Goal 4 Revitalize Local Economies
 - Goal 5 Reduce Homelessness





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Programs

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Housing (Rental Development / Single Family Rehabilitation),
 Public and Community Facilities, Economic Development,
 Planning

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

Rental Development / Single Family Development / Rental,
 Rehabilitation, Homebuyer Assistance

Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

Rental Development / Rental Rehabilitation

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Street Outreach / Emergency Shelter / Homelessness
 Prevention / Rapid Re-housing





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Planning Process

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data regarding need
- Engage the public, agencies, and stakeholders to get input about need
- Identify priority needs
- Develop a strategy in response to identified needs
- Direct funding to strategies





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Documents

Equity Plan for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

- Under a HUD Proposed Rule, Montana will develop an Equity
 Plan every five years that will serve the purpose of assessing fair
 housing issues and their underlying causes, as well as setting
 fair housing goals and outlining strategies for achieving equity in
 housing, increasing access to community assets, and
 broadening economic opportunities
- The mandate to affirmatively further fair housing requires proactive and meaningful action to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in opportunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Documents (cont'd)

Five-Year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Con Plan)

 Consolidated Plans are strategic plans prepared every five years that guide housing and community investments

Annual Action Plan (AAP)

 AAPs are prepared each year of the Consolidated Plan and outline specific activities, goals, and objectives for the given program year

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

 CAPERs are annual reports that detail use of funds and progress towards meeting goals and objectives for AAPs





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development

Under HUD's Proposed Rule, the State will oversee a more streamlined analysis of fair housing compared to what was required under the 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule. Furthermore, the State will oversee a more robust community engagement effort to identify fair housing needs and opportunities.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

- At least three public hearings will be held before the Equity Plan is submitted to HUD.
 - Two hearings before the publication of the Equity Plan to provide the public opportunity to identify fair housing needs and inform fair housing strategies.
 - First hearing was April 3, 2024, and the second hearing is scheduled for **June 3, 2024**
 - One hearing after the publication of the Equity Plan to provide the public opportunity to comment on the published plan document.
- Initial input will be accepted through June 25, 2024. Feedback regarding the to-be-published Equity Plan will be accepted during a comment period to be announced.
- As part of its outreach efforts, the State will gather data to inform Equity
 Plan development via the Montana Fair Housing Survey.
 - Opened May 1, 2024; closes May 31, 2024. Available at <u>commerce.mt.gov/</u> <u>Consolidated-Plan/Updates</u> (or in alternative formats upon request). A QR code to complete the survey will be provided at the end of this presentation.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

Fair Housing Analysis

- Demographics
- Segregation and integration
- Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPS)
- Access to community assets
- Access to affordable housing opportunities
- Access to homeownership and economic opportunity
- Local and state policies and practices impacting fair housing

Fair Housing Issues

- Identify issues with data and local knowledge
- Prioritize issues based on data collected and public input

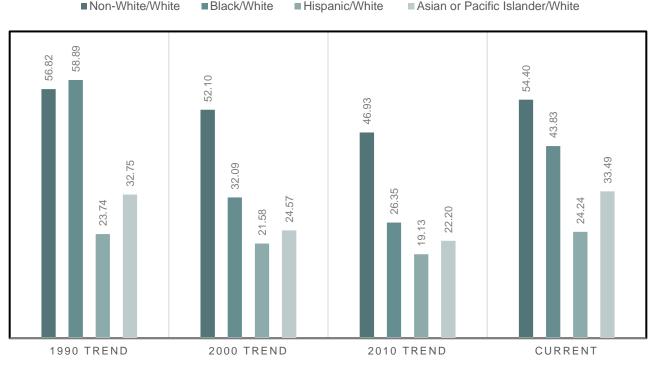
Fair Housing Strategies and Goals

Commit to taking responsive actions to address fair housing issues





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Data



Dissimilarity Index

Low Segregation <40

Moderate Segregation 40-54

High Segregation >55

Racial/Ethnic Dissimilarity Index



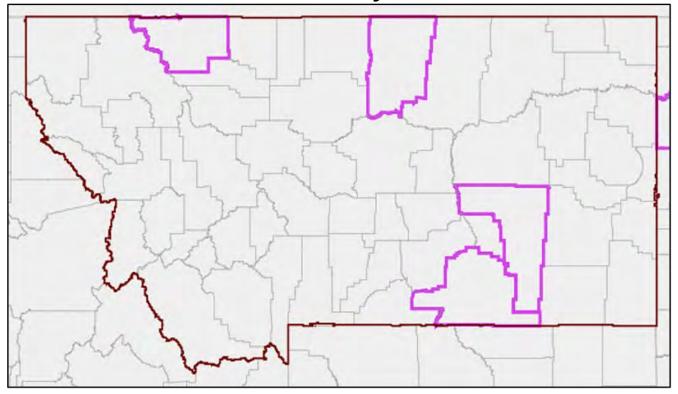




2025-2029 Consolidated Plan

Equity Plan Development (cont'd)

Preliminary Data



Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Data

Mortgage Denial Rates by Race

Race or Ethnicity	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian or Alaska Native	23.6%	23.0%	17.5%	16.7%	26.1%
Asian	13.7%	15.4%	14.1%	9.8%	16.8%
Black or African American	16.5%	24.0%	14.9%	15.8%	22.3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	11.8%	16.0%	26.8%	6.7%	26.2%
White	13.3%	12.0%	9.2%	9.7%	13.6%
Two or More Races	21.4%	23.8%	13.6%	12.8%	42.1%
Not Available	7.8%	6.8%	7.0%	7.8%	10.2%
Total	12.4%	11.2%	8.9%	9.4%	13.1%

Data Source: HMDA Data State of Montana





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) Preliminary Data

Poverty by Family Type

Household Types	% in poverty
In family households	9.2%
In married-couple	4.9%
In Female householder, no spouse present	27.2%
In other living arrangements	24.2%

Data Source: 2022 Five-Year ACS State of Montana

Poverty by Disability Status

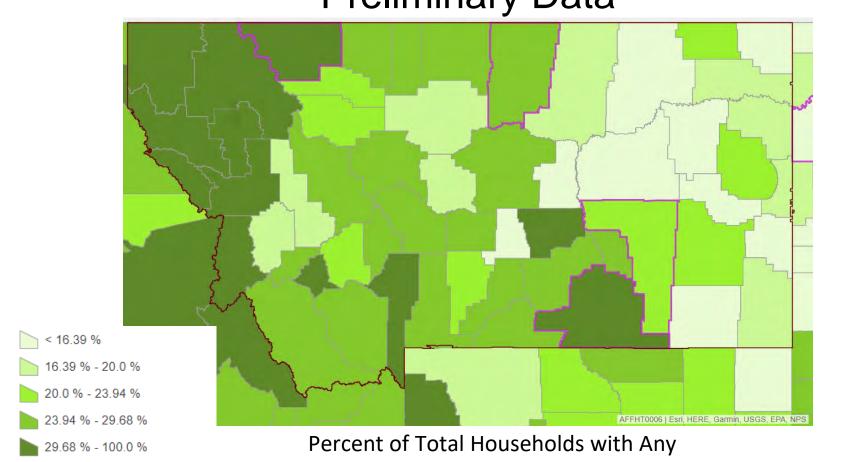
Disability Status	% in poverty
With any disability	19.1%
No disability	11.3%

Data Source: 2022 Five-Year ACS State of Montana





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Development (cont'd) **Preliminary Data**



of the Four Housing Problems





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Equity Plan Adoption and Evaluation

- Once developed (tentatively in September 2024), the Equity Plan will be submitted to HUD. Upon receipt, HUD will publish the plan and make it available for a 60-day public review period.
- After HUD accepts Montana's Equity Plan, it will be published on Commerce's website, and its fair housing goals and strategies will be incorporated into the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and associated Annual Action Plans.
- Progress evaluations for the Equity Plan will be required annually after the Equity Plan is adopted.
 - Before submitting its Annual Progress Evaluations for the Equity Plan to HUD, the State will make available to interested parties the proposed evaluation for a comment period of no less than <u>15</u> <u>calendar days</u>.



2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Document Review, Engagement

- Once drafted, Equity Plan and Consolidated Plan documents will be available:
 - On Commerce's website at <u>commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-</u> Plan/Documents
 - Several repositories throughout the state (see website for list)
 - By request
- All interested parties are encouraged to review published documents and to participate in the State's surveys and public meetings. For information about surveys, upcoming meetings, and comment periods, visit <u>commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates</u> and/or subscribe to Commerce's Consolidated Plan email listsery.





2025-2029 Consolidated PlanCommerce Contact Information

Montana Department of Commerce

301 S Park Ave Helena, MT 59601

PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523

Division Administrators: Galen Steffens, Cheryl Cohen

CDBG Coordinator: Rosie Goldich

Program Specialist: Janelle Egli

Phone: 406.841.2770

TDD: 406.841.2702

Fax: 406.841.2771

Email: <u>DOCConPlan@mt.gov</u>

Website: <u>commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan</u>





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan DPHHS Contact Information

DPHHS

1400 Carter Drive Helena, MT 59601 PO Box 202956 Helena, MT 59620-2956

Administrator: Jessie Counts

Bureau Chief: Sara Loewen

Phone: 406.447.4265

Fax: 406.447.4287

Website: <u>www.dphhs.mt.gov</u>





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Comments

If you would like to provide a written comment or qualitative data (anecdotes) pertaining to the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and/or its associated Equity Plan for affirmatively furthering fair housing, our physical address and email address are below. Additionally, comment cards are available for your convenience.

Montana Department of Commerce Community MT Attn: Con Plan PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 DOCConPlan@mt.gov

Note that written comments for Montana's Equity Plan will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. **June 25, 2024**.





2025-2029 Consolidated Plan We Need Your Feedback!

- 1. What suggestions do you have for increasing public participation in the State's planning process to address housing and community needs?
- 2. What topics for a focus group during Consolidated Plan development are of interest to you? (Please provide an email if you would like a special invitation to participate in a focus group.)

Have a few extra minutes? Please consider taking our Fair Housing Survey by scanning the QR Code below.











DISCUSSION

At your table, discuss the following questions and prompts.

Designate a scribe (or two) and have them take notes detailing your discussion below.

- 1. Describe the first time you were aware that inequity in housing existed.
- 2. Has working to address housing and community needs changed your perspective on Montana's current housing situation? If so, how?
- 3. Which decision-makers have the most impact on your work with low- and moderate-income individuals? What do you want them to know about your work?
- 4. If you could change one policy or practice that affects housing, economic and/or community development, what would it be?



WRAPPING UP WITH INDIVIDUAL FEEDBACK

1.	. What suggestions do you have for increasing public participation in the State's planning pr	rocess to
	address housing and community needs?	

- 2. Which topics for a focus group during Consolidated Plan development are of interest to you? Please provide an email address if you would like an invitation to participate in a focus group.
 - [] Homelessness Focus Group
 - [] Housing Focus Group for Multi-Family Participants
 - [] Housing Focus Group for Rural Participants
 - [] Housing Focus Group for Single-Family Participants
 - [] Economic Development Focus Group
 - [] Infrastructure Focus Group
 - [] Planning Focus Group
 - [] Other (specify)

Email (optional):

Leave this form with your notes on the table to be collected by the presenters after the session.

Thank you for participating!

Egli, Janelle

From: Montana Department of Commerce <commerce@announcements.mt.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 2:03 PM

To: Egli, Janelle

Subject: Regional Input Meetings for the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan



Photo by Montana Department of Commerce

Regional Input Meetings in Hardin, Libby and Glasgow with Virtual Participation Options

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services are developing the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

What is a Consolidated Plan?

Montana is assessing its affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions and making data-driven decisions on how to use federal funding. Using data and public input, the State will determine priority needs and goals that will guide spending over the next five years for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG),

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) funds.

What is an Equity Plan?

In an effort to affirmatively further fair housing, the Departments are developing a Fair Housing Equity Plan that will be used to identify fair housing issues in Montana's communities. Using local, state, and federal data, fair housing goals will be established to address fair housing priorities over the next five years.

Your input is valuable. To inform the development of the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, the public is invited to attend a regional meeting to discuss community development and fair housing needs. Meetings will be held in Hardin, Libby and Glasgow. For convenience and accessibility, in-person and virtual formats will be offered at two separate times per location. See details below:

Regional Meeting in Hardin

Thursday, June 6, 2024, 1 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Hardin City Building, 401 N Cheyenne Ave, Hardin, MT 59034 or Virtual

Regional Meeting in Libby

Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Libby City Hall, Ponderosa Room, 952 E Spruce St, Ste 100, Libby, MT 59923 or Virtual

Regional Meeting in Glasgow

Thursday, August 1, 2024, 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Location TBD or Virtual

Locations and times are subject to change. Registration is optional but encouraged for inperson attendees; registration is required for virtual attendees to access the Zoom forum.

For current information and to register, please visit our website.

Join Webinars Here

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or

translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5 p.m. on May 29, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5 p.m. del 29 de mayo de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



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Egli, Janelle

From: Egli, Janelle

Sent: Friday, May 24, 2024 2:06 PM **To:** DOC CDD CONPLAN (Webmail)

Subject: Montana Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan Regional Meetings

Attachments: ConPlan-RegionalMeetingsPostcard.pdf

SENT TO TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS VIA BCC

Good afternoon!

On behalf of the Montana Department of Commerce, I would like to personally extend an invitation to you to participate in the State's public input process for the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, which are currently in development. Your feedback as a stakeholder in Montana's housing and community development network is tremendously important.

We would love to hear from you at one of our upcoming regional meetings in Hardin, Libby, or Glasgow. Meeting details and registration options are available at commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/updates.

For more information about the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, and to further engage with this statewide planning effort, please see the attached flyer or visit our website at commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/.

Thank you and kind regards,

JANELLE EGLI Housing Development Program Specialist

MONTANA HOUSING

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
T: 406.841.2926 | M: 614.955.1446
COMMERCE.MT.GOV | HOUSING.MT.GOV

Egli, Janelle

From: Montana Department of Commerce <commerce@announcements.mt.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 10:03 AM

To: Egli, Janelle

Subject: Join us for Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan Regional Meetings

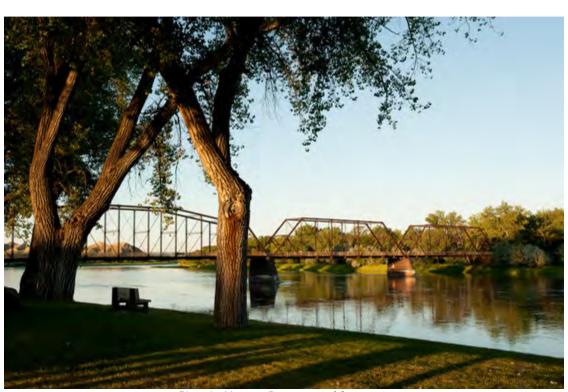


Photo by Montana Department of Commerce

Join Us: Regional Meetings in Libby, Glasgow

Virtual Participation Options Available

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services are developing the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and Fair Housing Equity Plan.

What is a consolidated plan?

Montana is assessing its affordable housing and community development needs and

market conditions and making data-driven decisions on how to use federal funding. Using data and public input, the State will determine priority needs and goals that will guide spending over the next five years for Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Emergency Solutions Grant and National Housing Trust Fund funds.

What is an equity plan?

In an effort to affirmatively further fair housing, the Departments are developing a Fair Housing Equity Plan that will be used to identify fair housing issues in Montana's communities. Using local, state and federal data, fair housing goals will be established to address fair housing priorities over the next five years.

Your input is valuable; please attend a regional meeting to discuss community development and fair housing needs. A meeting has been held in Hardin; additional meetings will be held in Libby and Glasgow. For convenience and accessibility, in-person and virtual formats will be offered at two separate times per location.

Meeting details are as follows:

Regional Meeting in Libby

July 24, 2024

- 10 a.m. at the Libby City Hall, Ponderosa Room
- 5 p.m. at 952 E Spruce Street, Suite 100
- Virtual

Regional Meeting in Glasgow

August 1, 2024

- 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Cottonwood Inn & Suites, 54250 US Highway 2
- Virtual

Locations and times are subject to change. Registration is optional but encouraged for inperson attendees; registration is required for virtual attendees to access the Zoom forum.

For current information and to register:

Click Here [links-2.govdelivery.com]

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Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



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2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan Regional Meetings

To inform the development of the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, the public is invited to attend the following regional meetings. Each meeting will provide information about the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan and allow residents to discuss their needs and give feedback. We strive to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals, including individuals with disabilities, to engage fully. To be respectful of those with allergies and environmental sensitivities, we ask that you please refrain from wearing strong fragrances. If there are any other types of accommodations needed to fully access these meetings, please email DOCConPlan@mt.gov or indicate needs in your meeting registration.

Regional Meeting in Hardin

When: Thursday, June 6, 2024, Time: 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Where: Hardin City Building 401 N Cheyenne Ave, Hardin, MT 59034 (Map) or Virtual Register in advance for the Zoom webinar here (1:00 p.m.) or here (5:30 p.m.).

After registering for Zoom, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the

webinar.

Regional Meeting in Libby

When: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 Time: 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Where: Libby City Hall, Ponderosa Room, 952 E Spruce St, Ste 100, Libby, MT 59923 (Map) or Virtual

Register in advance for the Zoom webinar here (10:00 a.m.) or here (5:00 p.m.).

After registering for Zoom, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the

webinar.

Regional Meeting in Glasgow

When: Thursday, August 1, 2024 Time: 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Where: TBD or Virtual

Register in advance for the Zoom webinar here (9:00 a.m.) or here (12:30 p.m.).

After registering for Zoom, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the

webinar.



The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services are developing the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan.

What is a Consolidated Plan?

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We want to hear from you! Regional meetings will be held in Hardin, Libby, and Glasgow beginning in June.

Meeting details and registration information: commerce.mt.gov/consolidated-plan/updates

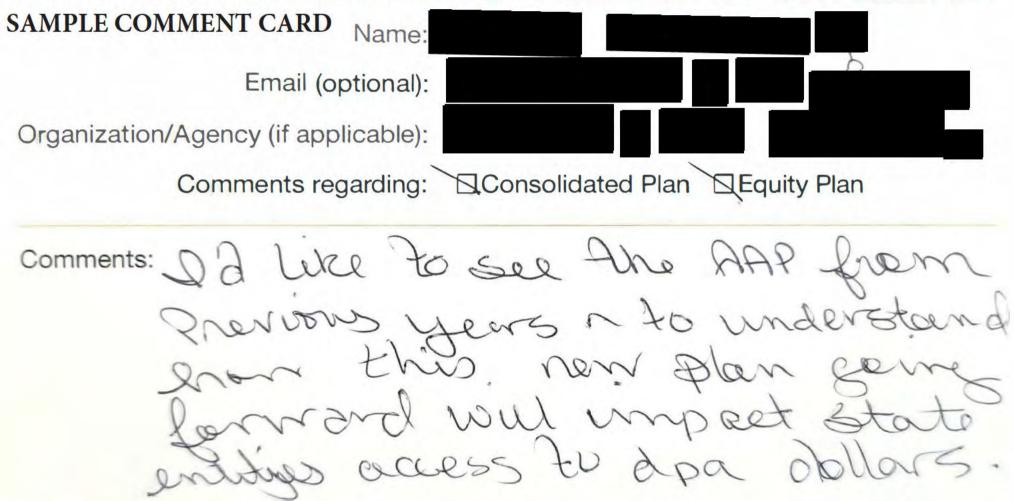


Both virtual and in-person attendance options will be available to the public, and registration is not required but appreciated.

Montana Dept. of Commerce PO Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523

docconplan@mt.gov | 406-841-2770 | commerce.mt.gov

MONTANA'S CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND EQUITY PLAN FEEDBACK



Virtual Comment Card for Montana's Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan

We want to hear your thoughts!
1. Name
Enter your answer
2. Email address (optional)
Enter your answer
3. Organization/Agency name
Enter your answer
4. Comments regarding
Consolidated Plan
Equity Plan

5. Comments

Enter your answer

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Chandler graduates as Salutatorian | Hanson takes 2nd in State B discus



Bradley B. Chandler recently grad-uated from Lakota Tech High School in Pine Ridge, South Dakota and was the Salutatorian for his class. He will be interning at the Crazy Horse monument this summer for college credits. He will be leaving for the U.S. Air Force in August. Chandler is a member of the Crow tribe and grew up in Hardin before moving to South Dakota in 2015. Chandlers parents are Bradley D. Chandler and Anastasia Three Fingers.

> This bill is also supported by the Big

Horn County Board of

Water/from A1

The Crow Water Settlement Amendments Act will improve implementation of the Crow water rights

settlement by: Providing flexibility for water projects: This legislation provides the Tribe more flexibility in developing water infrastructure, allowing the Tribe to use the most up-to-date technology to create water systems that work for the region and are more cost effective without altering existing water rights.

Bolstering energy development: The amendment extends the authorization for the Tribe to develop hydropower on the Yellowtail Afterbay Dam until 2030, providing clean energy and an economic boost to the

community.
No additional costs or changes to water rights: This legislation will expedite clean water delivery to Tribal communities through efficient and manageable water projects without adding any funding to the original settlement. This legislation also does not alter or change any existing water rights or water rights settled in the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of

The Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2009, enacted in 2010, settled the water rights and authorized \$460 million to design and construct a Municipal, Rural and Industrial (MR&I) water system for the tribe and to rehabilitate and improve the Crow Irrigation

ALASTAIR BAKER

Taylor Hanson helped her team, St. Labrie Catho-lic School, finish 2nd in discus at the Class B State track

meet in Laurel recently.

Hanson threw a personal record of 120-08 beating Hanson threw a persona record of 120-08 beating her previous hest of 117° 5° set April 30 at the Midland Roundtable. Hanson also finished 10th in shot put with a throw of 32-10.50.



ATTENTION NATIVE AMERICAN MEN

Ages 18-22

Shiloh Technical Institute of Lovell, Wyoming. is a professional welding college dedicated to educating young Native American men in the art of structural welding.

The next class will start in September and finish in May. Full-ride scholarships are available.

Great jobs are waiting.

Call today to arrange an interview: (307) 272-2257

Mercel hall birthfroman Lake Whiteholfalo Jayvyn & Jare Strongrow! Handert Aldert

Here are some recent graduates you may know: Brian Red Star Timerot Medicine Ball Ketch Eliobonider Ezekird Coyote Ropi-Sor Linkelight

Commissioners. the Yellowtail Afterbay MONTANA

Regional Input Meeting June 6, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services are developing the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

What is a Consolidated Plan?

Project. Additionally,

the legislation provided funding for the Tribe to

develop hydropower at

What is a Consolidated Plan? Montlana is assessing its affordable housing and com-munity development needs and market conditions and making data-driven decisions on how to use federal fund-in. Using data and public input, the State will determine priority needs and goals that will guide spending over the neaf five years for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) funds.

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An City Building 401 in Newpoine Awa, Hardin, MT 99034.
Registration is optional but encouraged for in-person attendees; registration is required for virtual attendees.
to access the Zoom forum. To register or for more information, please scan the OR code or visit commerce mt.gov/
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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Billings Gazette 401 N Broadyway Billings, Montana 59101 (406) 657-1200

State of Texas, County of Bexar, ss:

Yuade Moore, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Billings Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation published that is a "legal newspaper" as that is published daily in the City of Billings, in the County of Yellowstone, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

If this certification is for the State of Montana, I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205 , MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of \$359.01 , is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

PUBLICATION DATES: June. 1 2024

NOTICE ID: YU1kVB43viZlL8RYy5KL

PUBLISHER ID: COL-MT-100162

NOTICE NAME: Regional Input Meeting June 6, 2024

Publication Fee: \$359.01

(Signed) Yvade Moore

VERIFICATION

State of Texas County of Bexar



Robert Hollie III

ID NUMBER 133582194 COMMISSION EXPIRES February 10, 2026

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: $^{06/07/2024}$

Notary Public

Electronically signed and notarized online using the Proof platform.

Regional Input Meeting June 6, 2024

5, 2024
The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services are developing the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan)

What to a Consolidated Plan?
Mondana is assessing its
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June 1, MNAXLP 2024 COL-MT-100162

2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Regional Meeting Meeting Location: Hardin Meeting Date: Ulul 2024 Meeting Time: 1:00 pm In-Person Meeting Facilitators: Janelle Egli, Nicole Newman Virtual Meeting Facilitator/s: Rosie Goldich, Stephanie Cnder-Pridemore

Full Name	Organization (if applicable)	Email/Phone (optional)	Signature	
eray ammin	Plenty Doos	4	850	
Tina Toyne	Biglton Cofeffind	n	Oma M. Day	
Rad Trahan	Nottherncheyone Tribal Housing		Roducy	
Gary Toyne			Start as	

2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Regional Meeting Meeting Location: Hardin Meeting Date: Left 2024 Meeting Time: 5:30 pm In-Person Meeting Facilitators: Janelle Egli, Nicole Newman Virtual Meeting Facilitator/s: Rosie Goldich, Stephanie Cnder-Pndemore

Organization (if applicable)	Email/Phone (optional)	Signature Onnay Dyn	
BHColCity			
		*	
	(if applicable)	(if applicable) (optional)	

2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Regional Meeting Post-Meeting Report Out

Meeting Location: Hardin
Meeting Date: 4/4/2024
Meeting Time/s: 1:00 pm, 5:30 pm
In-Person Meeting Facilitators: Vanelle Egli, Nicole Newman
Virtual Meeting Facilitator/s: Rosie Galdich, stephanie Chder-Phdemore
What were the highlights of the conversation? Housing its one of many needs in BigHomcounty. How to invest non income resources on the land. Projects don't happen without subsidy because of the cost of construction - non-subsidized dev. is not affaidable. Smaller communities don't have apiding Panning docs - education of local officials needed -funding needed tribes need funding for planning docs. Supportive housing needed. Development
Summarize comments on Consolidated Plan provided (if any).
of Supportive Services (organizations). No local property management comanues in
area. Local governments don't want to be in property management.
Lack of community housing dev. organizations. No contractors. Projects get no rads or maybe one bid. POA program requirements are burdensome—too long families with lower AMI need supportive services to maintain their housing—makes
ads or maybe one bid. PoA program regularements are burdensome- 100 long
Families with lower AMI need supportive somices to maintain their housing - makes
Summarize comments on Equity Plan provided (if any).
Summarize comments on Equity Plan provided (if any). deep income targeting challenging. Capacity lacking at local level-no partners to fill capacity gap. Lack of data available at tobal level.
to fill capacity gap. Lack of action available of

Additional notes?

Hardin Notes

Hardin, the seat of Big Horn County, is a rural city in eastern Montana. Located 45 miles west of Billings and near the Crow Indian Reservation, the city has a population of under 4,000 according to the 2020 census. As part of 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan outreach, the State conducted a regional meeting in Hardin to get input about community needs.

Participants of the meeting noted the following needs and challenges to increasing affordable housing stock in the community, which are not unique to Big Horn County; the same could be said of all but the 7 largest of Montana's 56 counties:

- Compared with big cities, smaller, rural communities have a more difficult time completing and utilizing planning documents. Local officials often do not understand the importance of planning documents in assessing needs, establishing priorities, and moving individual projects forward. These challenges are also prevalent in tribal communities.
- Unsubsidized projects are not happening in rural areas. The cost of construction and the
 absence of contractors are real issues. Some projects don't get any bids. It's always
 cheaper and easier to build in more populated, better resourced areas. Of note, the newest
 home in Hardin was constructed in the early 1980s, and since this time housing needs in
 the area have drastically increased.
- More permanent supportive housing is needed. It is very difficult to target extremely lowincome households without providing supportive services. In the absence of supports, individuals and families are not able to achieve long-term stability in housing.
- Long-term property management is a big hurdle. Local governments don't want to be in the
 property management business. Small communities need more access to qualified
 property managers who can ensure compliance with Period of Affordability requirements,
 which are complex and costly.
- Rural communities need holistic solutions that address multiple development objectives simultaneously. Housing is one of many needs, and non-housing needs impact housing (and vice versa).

Montana Historical Society expands Capitol tours to weekends

For people seeking a special guided experience, and 2:30 p.m. the Montana Historical Society (MTHS) is now offering free tours daily that explore the art, architecture, and history of Montana's Capitol.

"We've been delighted by the interest in our Capitol tours so far this summer and are excited to increase the times and days they'll be offered," said Darby Bramble, museum education officer at MTHS. "Since the beginning of June, we've seen more than 600 people participate in our guided

Participants range from Montana families to people traveling from across the globe. The Capitol is located at 1301 East Sixth Avenue in Helena.

Starting July 9 and continuing through Sept. 13, the MTHS will provide Capitol tours every day of the week. Monday-Friday tours start at 9:30 and 11 a.m., and 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Saturday tours will be at 9:30 and 11 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. Sunday tours

are at 11 a.m., and 1:30

Since 1902, the Montana State Capitol has stood as both a commanding symbol of the past and a bold promise for the future. Planned and constructed during the two decades following Montana's admission to the Union, the building stands as a tangible declaration of the values and aspirations of Montana's founders.

On July 4, 1899, Montana's First Governor, Joseph K. Toole announced: "[The Capitol] will be to the state what the homestead is to the citizen, what the fireside is to the family ... Here should repose the honor and conscience of the state by which its citizenship shall be judged and measured and its glory achieved and preserved.'

At its most fundamental level, the Capitol serves as a home to the essential workings of state government. Yet today, the historically and architecturally significant

structure remains open to the public and offers visitors a unique opportunity to learn about our Montana's unique heri-

Visitors are welcome to explore the Capitol on their own using a self-guided tour book found onsite. The Capitol building is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and weekends, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Capitol building is closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day and may be closed to the public occasionally on weekends for scheduled routine maintenance.

Free tours of the historic Original Governor's Mansion at 304 No. Ewing home are offered this summer Tuesday-Saturday at noon, and 1, 2, and 3 p.m. For more details, call/email Darby Bramble at 406-444-2412 or darby.bramble2@mt.gov or visit the Montana Historical Society website at: https://mhs.mt.gov/ education/Tours



Regional Input Meeting July 24, 2024

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What is a Consolidated Plan?

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We want to hear from you! To inform the development of the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, the public is invited to attend a regional meeting Wednesday, July 24, 2024, to discuss community development and fair housing needs. For convenience and accessibility, in-person and virtual formats will be offered at two separate times: the first meeting will start at 10:00 am, and the second meeting will start at 5:00 pm. The online meetings will be conducted via Zoom; the in-person meetings will be held at Libby City Hall, Ponderosa Room, 952 E Spruce St, Ste 100, Libby, MT 59923.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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GARAGE SALES

□ To Visit □ Visited

Friday, 7/5, 9am-4pm. Estate Sale: Snow machines,

Starting July 4th at 8AM Multi Family Estate sale 91 Logger Lane - Woodland Heights Road. Signs will be osted at top of Shaunessy Hill Follow signs to Sale. Come and marvel at the size of

this sale! July 4th & 5th Storage Sale Modern Storage 2 Miles E of Troy - MT HWY 2 9AM - 5PM

Tools, House Hold Items, Glass Wear, Law Mower, Brand New Sheet Rock Lift, Baby Clothing, Hunting Riffle, Brand New 80V Snow Blower, Water Raft, Hunting items

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Cash for your old clothes. Looking for old denim jeans, jackets, overalls. Work wear, ranch wear, mining clothes, military, cowboy etc. I will dig in barns, cabins, attics, caves crawl spaces, I will get dirty and pay you good for clothes I find. Anthony 406-740-0120

Antique Outdoor Flea Market Over an acre of antiques and collectibles from many vendors Sunday, July 14th from 9am-5pm at Virgelle, MT. Off US Highway 87 between Ft. Benton and Big Sandy. Sponsored by Virgelle Merc

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AUCTIONS/ANTIQUES

Public Estate

Auction Saturday July 13 at 9 AM. Located at 1385 Overview Lane, Troy Montana. Motorhome, Vintage Vehicles Boom Truck, Firearms, Tools, Saddles and Tack, Antiques. Online Bidding Available. Visit www.bobbyroshon.com for full details.

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Call Today! Classified Ads Sell! 293-4124

93 - follow signs Libby Rd.

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4-wheeler, trailers, household goods, furniture, tools, camping gear, fencing and so much more 1726 Mills Springs Rd.

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Two men drown Saturday in Glacier National Park

The Western News

Two drownings claimed the lives of two men in two different areas of Glacier National Park Saturday.

A 26-year-old India man was hiking past the gorge on Avalanche Lake Trail when he went into Avalanche Creek around 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. Friends and witnesses saw him go into the creek, go underwater and resurface briefly before being swept away

by the current and into the gorge.

Glacier National Park dispatch was alerted at 8:37 a.m. Park campground staff were on the scene almost immediately, followed by law enforcement rangers at about 9 a.m.

A.L.E.R.T. helicopter conducted aerial searches of the creek and more than 10 rangers scoured the area, but the person has not yet been found and is presumed dead. Rangers believe the body is caught underwater in

Due to poor visibility and hazardous conditions, ongoing search efforts will be scaled down, but rangers are monitoring the area. Avalanche Creek is at high water level due to snow melt runoff and the gorge is extremely dangerous, making conditions impossible for rangers to enter the gorge.

The young man was living and working in California and on vacation with friends.

Saturday evening, a

28-year-old Nepal man was swimming with friends in Lake McDonald near Sprague Creek Campground. According to friends, he was an inexperienced swimmer. He was about 30 yards out when he started to struggle, went underwater and never resurfaced.

Dispatch received a call at about 6:25 p.m. and rangers were on the scene by about 6:50 p.m. A.L.E.R.T. helicopter and Three Rivers ambulance responded but stood down when park rangers were

able to determine the location of the body 30 yards offshore and 35-40 feet underwater. The Flathead County Sheriff's dive team responded and recovered the body at about 8:20 p.m.

The Nepal native was living and working in Portland, Oregon and on vacation with friends.

Names have not yet been released. Park officials have contacted the Nepal and India consulates for assistance in contacting next of kin.



Wed 7/17/24 at 11am

Special Feeder Sale

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Wildfire on Lolo Forest doused by smokejumpers

The Western News

Smokejumpers attacked a small wildfire July 4 that popped up in a forested area of rural Sanders County.

The 4-acre Fishtrap Fire on the Lolo National Forest north of Thompson Falls was quickly contained Friday after showing moderate behavior.

The initial attack included 10 smokejumpers and firefighting crews from the Officials said the School Access Road Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District and Montana DNRC.

According to Sanders County Wildland Fire Information, 11 firefighters worked the fire Monday and hoped to put it in controlled status later that day

A 20-person Type 2 crew and two helicopters helped contain the fire and were mopping up on Friday.

due to access problems and firefighters tapped into available water sources

with filler pumps to deliver water to the fire line.

The cause of the fire was unknown. The incident was among a few small blazes detected across Western Montana

The Timber Creek incident in western Mineral County, the School Acres Road incident in Sanders County and the MM 85 incident west of Missoula were each less than 1 acre in size. fire possibly started from an old burn

Fire danger was rated as low on the Flathead National Forest and moderate on the Kootenai and Lolo forests on

However, hot and dry conditions are expected to develop across the region next week.

Hot and dry weather is expected to Engines could not be used on the fire intensify over the next week in western



Extreme heat or heat waves occur when the temperature reaches extremely high levels or when the combination of heat and humidity causes the air to become oppressive.





People with disablities



little to no AC



During extreme heat

the temperature in

your car could

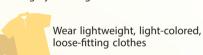
be deadly!

Construction worksites

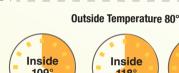


Stay hydrated with water, avoid sugary beverages air conditioned area

Stay cool in an



HOW to AVOID:



Time Elapsed: Time Elapsed: Time Elapsed:





Inside



Regional Input Meeting July 24, 2024

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Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov





Minor Excessive heat event in

Excessive

HEAT WATCHES

heat event in

Excessive heat event in

HEAT WARNING/ADVISORY

DID YOU KNOW?

Those living in urban areas may be at a greater Most risk from the effects of a prolonged heat wave than those living in rural areas.

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heat-related illnesses occur because of overexposure to heat or over-exercising.

ability to release excess heat.

During 1999–2009, an average of

people died each year from

heat in the United States.

\$30 BILLION estimated total cost

of the 2012 US drought and heatwave.

For more information on ways to beat the heat please visit: http://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat



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Blotter

Continued FROM page 7

nal and failure to carry proof of insurance.

6:46 p.m. - Dispatch received a call regarding a child on a go-kart driving it around and kicking up rocks and hitting vehicles.

8:42 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and 3rd St and the driver was given a speed warning.

8:50 p.m. - A domestic violence situation was reported on Highway 93 N and Dionne Nadon was arrested for Partner or Family Member Assault.

9:13 p.m. - LCSO received a criminal mischief report on Iowa Flats Rd and a report was taken.

9:37 p.m. - LCSO received an animal control/cruelty complaint at Pine Cone Ln. A report was taken.

10:32 p.m. - EPD received reports of fireworks at Moens Loop.

Inly 4

ed to a residential alarm on Tree Farm Tr. 9:07 a.m. - EPD received a

4:01 a.m. - LCSO respond-

911 hang up call from Mountain View Dr. 10:10 a.m. - EVAS re-

sponded to a medical call on Pluid Rd and provided transportation.

11:00 - EPD received a 911 hang up call from Osloski Rd.

1:26 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Dewey and 5th and the driver was given a warning for a turn signal violation.

1:39 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and the driver was given a warning for stop sign violation.

1:47 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and Crystal Lakes and the driver was given a warning for speeding and failing to show proof of insurance.

1:53 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and 4th and the driver was given a warning for an obstructed rear plate.

2:06 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 Indian Springs and the driver was given a speed warning.

2:11 p.m. - LCSO took a report of a neighbor blasting music again on Terning Dr E and disturbing the peace.

2:20 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and the driver was given a warn-

ing for stop sign violation. 4:04 p.m. - LCSO received a traffic complaint but were unable to locate it.

4:07 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and Riverside and the driver was

Riverside and the driver was given a speed warning.
4:14 p.m. - A vehicle was

stopped and the driver was given a warning for speeding and having an obstructed tag. 7:50 p.m. - A vehicle was

7:50 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and 3rd and the driver was given a speed warning.

7:57 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and the driver was given a warning for driving the wrong way

on a one way street. 8:30 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 at mile marker 170 and an oc-

cupant was given a warning. 8:37 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped and the driver was

given a speed warning. 9:32 p.m. - LCSO received a call from an alarm com-

HIGH SPEED

COPPER OF FIBER

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pany regarding a commercial burglar alarm going off on Highway 93 N.

9:39 p.m. - EPD received a report of fireworks on 12th St. A report was taken.

11:20 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 E View Dr and the driver was given a warning for brake lights

11:36 p.m. - LCSO received a report regarding an empty truck on fire on Sophie Dr. The caller stated that they had pushed it away from the residence as far as possible.

July 5

12:17 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 N and Tobacco Rd and the driver was given a warning for being in violation of his learner's permit. It was reported that a licensed driver would drive the vehicle back to the residence.

12:39 a.m. - EPD received a report of fireworks but were unable to locate them.

12:41 p.m. - A vehicle was

stopped on Highway 93 and

the driver was given a speed warning.
6:45 a.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call on Tripp

ed to a medical call on Tripp Tr. No transportation was required. 9:36 a.m. - A vehicle was

the driver was given a speed warning.
9:47 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 at mile marker 177 and the

stopped on Purdy Rd and

warning.
9:54 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped and the driver was given a speed warning.

driver was given a speed

10:03 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Glen Lake and Highway and the driver was given a citation for speeding.

10:43 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Sandhill and Highway and the driver was given a speed warning.

11:34 a.m. - LCSO gave or received information.

2:24 p.m. - LCSO responded to a welfare check on Valley View Dr.

3:35 p.m. - LCSO received reports of a disturbance. A report was taken.

4:42 p.m. - EPD received a report of harassment.

5:25 p.m. - EPD gave a citation for careless driving resulting in damage to the Town Pump sign and to a vehicle.

6:46 p.m. - WKFD received a report regarding a fire at Dodge Creek Rd by Rush Lake.

9:52 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped and the driver was given a warning for a stop sign violation.

10:52 p.m. - The United States Forest Service received reports of fireworks.

11:21 p.m. - LCSO received a report regarding someone still shooting off fireworks.

July 6

12:14 a.m. - LCSO received a report that fireworks were still going off.

7:21 a.m. - LCSO gave or received information.

9:39 a.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call and provided transportation.

10:59 a.m. - LCSO received a 911 hang up call.

11:29 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on S Rolling Hills and the driver was given a warning for a stop sign violation

11:41 a.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call and

transportation was provided.

12:21 p.m. - LCSO responded to an abandoned vehicle.

12:58 p.m. - EPD took a report regarding a theft.

2:55 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and Sand Hill Rd and the driver was given a speed warning.

3:01 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on HIghway 93 and Roe Rd and the driver was given a speed warning.

3:09 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Douglas Hill and the driver was given a warning for speeding, not carrying proof of insurance, no Montana Driver's License and no vehicle registration.

3:21 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and the driver was given a warning for a stop sign violation.

3:41 p.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call. No transportation was required.

4:41 p.m. - LCSO received 2 911 hang up calls with no answer. 6:36 p.m. - A vehicle was

stopped on Highway 93 S and the driver was given a speed warning. 7:19 p.m. - EVAS respond-

7:19 p.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call on Fortine Creek Rd. No transportation was required.

7:51 p.m. - LCSO received a report regarding a traffic accident and injury. The reporter stated that a motorcycle had crashed. Medical transportation was required.

July 7

3:18 a.m. - United States Border Patrol received a mental health call.

7:49 a.m. - LCSO respond-

ed to a welfare check on Meadow Creek Rd. 9:19 a.m. - LCSO received

a 911 hang up call fromHighway 37.9:47 a.m. - LCSO received

a 911 hang up call from Powder Run. 10:22 a.m. - LCSO received a 911 hang up call from Pluid

10:29 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Lindsay Rd and the driver was given a speed

warning.
11:06 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Glen Lake and the driver was given a speed

11:19 a.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Crystal Lake Rd and the driver was given a

speed warning.
12:19 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Dewey and 2nd and the driver was given a

speed warning. 2:00 p.m. - Dispatch gave or received information on/

from Dancing Prairie Ln.
2:34 p.m. - LCSO received
a misdialed 911 call from

Koocanusa Estates.

3:07 p.m. - LCSO received a trespassing report. The caller stated that a male in a truck came onto his property at Vrendenburg Rd and that the male was attempting to kayak on a private lake. A report was taken.

3:33 p.m. - LCSO received a 911 hang up call from Koocanusa Estates.

4:58 p.m. - EVAS responded to a medical call on Grave Creek Rd. Transportation was provided.

5:31 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on W Kootenai Rd and the driver was given a citation for having no motorcycle endorsement, no rear plate, and for riding on a paved road.

POWERED BY INTERBEL

Featuring Speeds up to 1 GIG!

7:09 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Tobacco Rd and the driver was given a speed warning.

8:18 p.m. - An animal control/complaint/cruelty report was taken at 3rd Ave E where the caller stated that she had chased off three Husky-type dogs that were

attacking a fawn. A report was taken.

8:45 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and 14th St and the driver was given a warning for a stop sign violation.

9:41 p.m. - EPD received an animal control/complaint/cruelty call regarding two dogs running around and causing havoc on 5th Ave E. A report was taken,

11:47 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped on Highway 93 and 11th St and the driver was given a warning for a headlight out.

BEARGRASS ABLOOM



Sprays of beargrass adorn the hillsides along the path to Therriault Pass over the Fourth of July weekend. **Krista Nemeroff photo.**



Regional Input Meeting July 24, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services are developing the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

What is a Consolidated Plana

What is a Consolidated Plan?

Montana is assessing its affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions and making data-driven decisions on how to use federal funding.

Using data and public input, the State will determine priority needs and goals that will guide spending over the next five years for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) funds.

What is an Equity Plan?

What is an Equity Plan?
In an effort to affirmatively further fair housing, the Departments are developing a Fair Housing Equity Plan that will be used to identify fair housing issues in Montana's communities. Using local, state, and federal data, fair housing goals will be established to address fair housing priorities over the next five years.

We want to hear from you! To inform the development of the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, the public is invited to attend a regional meeting **Wednesday**, **July 24**, **2024**, to discuss community development and fair housing needs. For convenience and accessibility, in-person and virtual formats will be offered at two separate times: **the first meeting will start at 10:00 am**, **and the second meeting will start at 5:00 pm**. The online meetings will be conducted via Zoom; the in-person meetings will be held at **Libby City Hall**, **Ponderosa Room**, **952 E Spruce St**, **Ste 100**, **Libby**, **MT 59923**.

Registration is optional but encouraged for in-person attendees; registration is required for virtual attendees to access the Zoom forum. To register or for more information, please scan the QR code or visit commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates.



Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 pm on July 17, 2024.

discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 pm del 17 de julio de 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con

Have questions? Email <u>DOCConPlan@mt.gov</u>



CALL 406.889.3311 or visit WWW.INTERBEL.COM

2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and Fair Housing Equity Plan Regional Meeting Post-Meeting Report Out

Meeting Location: Libby, Ponderosa Room

Meeting Date: 7/24/2024

Meeting Time/s: 10am and 5pm

In-Person Meeting Facilitators: Gus Byrom, Jeanette Blize, Rosie Goldich

Virtual Meeting Facilitator/s: Janelle Egli

What were the highlights of the conversation?

- Lack of childcare: affordability, availability, and quality
 - Lot of community support (from a variety of sectors) for childcare initiatives
 - o Z25 coordinator (Dorey Rowland) attended strong childcare coalition with capacity
- Strong capacity, lack of organization and structure
 - Need better communication between coalition leaders to coordinate and not duplicate efforts
 - o i.e. housing and childcare coalitions working in tandem
 - o need a plan to address volunteer burnout and fatigue
 - o potentially involve UW and MCF
 - LOR Foundation support
 - o Strong community bond, more word of mouth
- Major employers: hospitals, government, forest service, schools
- Growing gap between working class and higher income individuals
 - Creating mistrust of public officials that might be influenced by higher income individuals who don't support low income housing (NIMBYism)
- Younger individuals and seniors cannot find affordable housing
 - Wants to close generational gap
 - Younger people are moving to the cities for education/jobs and not coming back
- Younger people are not engaged in local public processes
 - o Fear of speaking out and engaging against majority

Summarize comments on Consolidated Plan provided (if any).

- Economic development: lack of workforce due to lack of workforce housing and childcare
 - o Tourism: hurting workforce housing (apartments are turned into vacation rentals)
 - Lack of FTE jobs
 - Seasonal, low-paying part time jobs
 - o Locals can't compete in rental market with tourists
 - Disappointment surround the SPUR that Commerce funded that didn't go anywhere, questioned vetting process of business applicants for viability
 - Change in industries (no longer primarily logging/mining); going from FTE to part-time, seasonal labor

- o FVCC is not a strong partner in the community
- Homelessness: formal association to support unhoused individuals
 - Lincoln County Ministerial Association organizing coordination between hospital, police force and providing hotel rooms for unhoused
 - South Lincoln County Housing Solutions
 - Jan/Feb homelessness town hall created forward momentum
 - Library being a great resource
 - Need training to assist unhoused population with trauma-informed approach

Summarize comments on Equity Plan provided (if any).

- Need workforce housing (specifically stated teachers and nurses)
- Need to assist private developers create affordable housing development projects that pencil out
- People are creating ADUs without going through proper channels and regulations to ensure that they are inhabitable per health & safety standards
 - o Ex. Converting garage into ADU, leading to potential toxic exposure
- Zach from LCPHD: potential housing needs assessment in process
- How do we know if housing is equitable? Looking at rental rates, mortgage rates, waitlists for public housing, rental agencies
- Concern about lack of developers who actually want to build affordable housing
 - o Too many "McMansions" and not enough "normal" housing available
- Concern around suitability and safety of rental units
 - Health and safety risks of substandard housing
 - Distrust of landlords

Additional notes?

- Follow up meeting with Dorey scheduled for Monday, July 29
- Need to identify potential funding sources
- Northwest CAP can apply on behalf of Lincoln County, Libby
- Ideas for improved outreach:
 - Analog outreach (radio ads, flyers)
 - Need to work with local library and churches on getting word out about these types of meetings
- Community members working with youth court probation individuals (??)
- Realtor in Eureka working with community members on providing affordable housing

Follow-up:

- Jeanette to email Sam (city admin) with Collin & Jessica for LSL inventory
- Rosie/Jeanette to connect with Dorey Rowland (zero to five coordinator)
- Doug would like to know the amount of total HUD funding in Lincoln County (Rosie will pull from CAPER)
- Jeanette will send links to state data sources (CEIC) and link to housing data on CMT site
- Should work with realtors and title company (to get word out about meetings)



rson, and the children are Elizabeth (in Tyler's arms), Newton Jr., Cayson, Ezra, Kamëra, Orin, eila, Howard, Maven, Nels, Hadassah, and Kaiden and then Krystal's mom, Sherrie Bassett,



ANNUAL DOG & CAT CLINIC

nsored by the Glasgow Police Dept. in conjunction with Valley Veterinary Clini

Saturday, July 20, 2024 • 11 am -12 pm at the Police Department, 80 Airport Road, Glasgow

COST \$5 for a neutered / spayed animal \$20 for a non-spayed / neutered animal



Get your pets their shots and city license.

We look forward to seeing you there.

School Held In Opheim

m Communiy 10-12. The le School was of God."

about ordinary men who were friends with the King of the Universe! This was an Inspira-

The children have learned tion for their "everyday" lives. An "ice cream social" climaxed the event on Friday afternoon.

with the Fire g at 6:30 p.m. by Sideways provided by

19 - Valley Vet-/accine Clinic

rehall. oin the Valley Project for a ke. This is a er and games amily at East n Fort Peck. ntacting Karla louffe, Becky irson, Stacey calling 406-

7:30 p.m. - Bonnie & Clyde at the Fort Peck Summer Theatre. For tickets and info. call 406-526-9943 or visit fortpecktheatre.org

Saturday, July 20

9 a.m. - Fore The Kids Cup Tournament at Sunnyside. Registration is at 9 a.m., with tee off at 10 a.m. Call Sunnyside to sign up, 406-228-9519.

9-1 p.m. First Aid, AED and CPR Training at FMDH Ambulance Barn, 310 Mahon Street, Register by calling Connie at 406-228-3648. You can leave a message. Deadline to register is Thursday, July 18, 5 p.m.

11 a.m. - Noon - The See COMMUNITY CALENDAR Page 4A

Glasgow Police Department in conjunction with the Valley Veterinary Clinic, will have their annual dog and cat clinic at the Glasgow Police Department. Get your pets their shots and city license.

7:30 p.m. - Bonnie & Clyde at the Fort Peck Summer Theatre. For tickets and info. call 406-526-9943 or visit fortpecktheatre.org.

Sunday, July 21

4 p.m. - Bonnie & Clyde at the Fort Peck Summer Theatre. For tickets and info. call 406-526-9943 or visit fortpecktheatre.org.

DATE: JULY 2024 RE: CURB, GUTTER, & SIDEWALK PROGRAM

Attention Glasgow residents!

Is your curb, gutter, or sidewalk in need of replacement? The City of Glasgow is here to help! Here's how it works:

- ♦ Contact the Public Works Department at 406-228-2476 ext. 8 or email rdees@cityofglasgowmt.com and tell us what you need.
- We'll assess your request and provide a competitive price.
- We'll get bids from local contractors and select the best value.
- You'll receive a clear estimate for the work on your property.
- If you approve, just sign an agreement with the City.
- We'll handle the payment directly with the contractor.
- ♦ You can pay over 10 interest-free installments added to your taxes.

Upgrade your property hassle-free with the City of Glasgow's support! Contact us today!

r Children For School

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configpassage "Open oes into a for the If you

are currently living OUTSIDE of the Glasgow School District attendance area, but are still interested in your child attending Glasgow Schools please print and fill out the student attendance agreement at this link: https://drive.google.com/ file/d/1n02s2WSVJF4Q3sOc-8MZDR1CePz73OFvh/view.

The attendance agreement can be returned via email to: gsd1a@glasgow.k12.mt.us or dropped off at the Glasgow School Administration Office (229 7th St. N.) in Glasgow. Enjoy your summer!!

ies at Nemont Manor se contact DeLee at the office - (406) 228-4306

esday / 24	Thursday July 25	Friday July 26	Saturday July 27
a.m. rcise		11 a.m. Walking	in a service of the s
.m. ıgo		1:00 p.m. Crafts with Jennie	

If you would like to join the Arts & Crafts Sessions e contact Jennie Mason at jennie@craftingRei

Thursday, July 25 ım. AuGratin Potatoes, Garlic **Butter Vegetables, Peaches**

Friday, July 26 Pot Roast, Roasted Carrots, Loaded Mashed Potatoes, Dessert Bar



Home Delivered Meals are Monday - Friday except for holidays

eals normally served at the Glasgow Senior Center ill be at the Cottonwood Inn during the month of ly. Please call 406-228-9500 by noon the preceding day secure a reservation. Suggested donation is \$6/meal

MONT SENIOR APARTMENTS 1100 4TH AVE S. GLASGOW, MT 59230 406-228-4306 TTY 711 **Monday- Friday 8AM- 4PM**

ts is located at the southwest boundary of the city of d older of Valley County. Offering spacious 1 bedroom on-site staff and maintenance, and all paid perfect place to call home in Glasgow



Regional Input Meeting August 1, 2024

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services are developing the State's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (Consolidated Plan) and Fair Housing Equity Plan (Equity Plan).

What is a Consolidated Plan?

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We want to hear from you! To inform the development of the Consolidated Plan and Equity Plan, the public is invited to attend a regional meeting Thursday, August 1, 2024, to discuss community development and fair housing needs. For convenience and accessibility, in-person and virtual formats will be offered at two separate times: the first meeting will start at 9:00 am, and the second meeting will start at 12:30 pm. The online meetings will be conducted via Zoom; the in-person meetings will be held at Cottonwood Inn & Suites, 54250 US Highway 2, Glasgow, MT 59230.



Registration is optional but encouraged for in-person attendees; registration is required for virtual attendees to access the Zoom forum. To register or for more information, please scan the QR code or visit commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/ Updates.

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require accommodation, please contact Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 pm on July 25, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 pm del 25 de julio de 2024.

Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov



Department of Commerce Consolidated Plan

Regional Meeting in Glasgow When: Thursday, August 1, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: Cottonwood Inn & Suites 54250 US Highway 2 Glasgow, MT 59230 (Map) or Virtual

Register to attend in person here, this is optional.

Register in advance for the Zoom webinar here (9:00 a.m.)

Meeting Notes:

- Rosie started the meeting with the PowerPoint and started the recording.

- Introductions:
 - o MDOC Staff: Rosie G., Julie F., Janelle E, Gus B., Chandler R., Stephanie C.
 - Other attendees: Emily Hale (Eastern MT John Tester), Lisa Fried De Reyes (NWMT-Sanders County), Tammi Fladager (Commissioner Elect Daniels County), Carilla French (Havre HRDC), Jen Gursky (Helena YWCA)
- Emily Hale: No additional comment from Tester's Office
- Tammi Fladager: **Q:** Can we use these funds to rehabilitate properties, including removing the unlivable homes? **A:** Julie Flynn responded with a confirmation on the funds that could be used to accomplish these tasks. Julie also included her information in case there was an interest for further discussion.
- Carilla: Comment: Says a lack of affordable housing stock and subsidized housing. She said that folks in the area have issues with finding housing and finding housing that can meet voucher assistance this is both with big and smaller towns. The costs of infrastructure is high that hinders new and rehab construction projects. The living wage for community members is not high enough to afford to live in that area anymore. Businesses can't afford higher wages too. She mentioned there are some needs around homelessness as well even though it is not visible. It is still there and present so there is a need for additional education and understanding the needs.
- Tammi: **Comment:** It would be nice to have a plan/program for areas that don't usually have the problem but have random homeless people.
- Carilla: **Comment:** There is a huge area of MT where there are no available shelters. Can't find housing to pay for rent like with ESG. She does mention that there was the ESFG but there was a lack of capacity to apply and manage. Churches help mostly as a resource for this.
- Jen G: **Comment:** She mentioned that at least 50% of the new clients are from rural areas or reservations. This is continuing to lack that support in rural areas and increasing the needs in more urban areas.
- Carilla: **Q:** Partnership question that Rosie posed: **A:** Nonprofits and faith groups are mostly doing the partnerships and hard to get buy in from certain governments, businesses, and private sectors. She mentions that there has been some increase interaction and partnership with police/ law enforcement.
- Lisa: **Comment:** Sanders County with a needs for subsidized housing and a need of ADA compliance. Some housing stock is aging. Workforce housing needs- restaurant, school, or hospitals employees.
- Carilla: **Comment:** Job vacancy remains because there is no housing available for them to stay and live for many law enforcement and health. The average housing costs are too high and more affordable housing is uninhabitable.

- Tammi: **Q:** Can we use the funds to convert some of these derelict houses to childcare centers? **A:** From Rosie did comment on CDBG community facilities and also with ED on job creation.
- Jen G: Comments: They do have childcare facilities. She mentions that childcare does affect the 5 goals listed in the Con Plan. They have determined that getting the childcare programs together was really hard, but has shown to be very affective as part of their other goals and programs. There is a lack of funding available in general but definitely with childcare.
- Carilla: Comments: Their agency did a community needs assessment which their most recent showed there was a huge issue with a lack of childcare that would support employment. There is enough childcare to serve 15% of the children in the area. This affects so many other areas of family's live. The best beginning scholarships is lessening across the state and limits the service to rural areas. There is a lack of transportation too which affects everything.

Meeting ended at 10:12am

Department of Commerce Consolidated Plan

Regional Meeting in Glasgow

When: Thursday, August 1, 2024 Time: 12:30

Where: Cottonwood Inn & Suites 54250 US Highway 2 Glasgow, MT 59230 (Map) or Virtual

Register to attend in person here, this is optional.

Register in advance for the Zoom webinar here (9:00 a.m.) or here (12:30 p.m.).

Meeting Notes:

- Rosie started the meeting with the PowerPoint and started the recording.

- Introductions:
 - o MDOC Staff: Rosie G., Janelle E, Chandler R., Stephanie C., Julie F.
 - Other attendees: Tori M (Great Northern Development Corporation), Jim J (Madison County Housing Coordinator with HRDC 9 partnership), Kody B (Hospital CEO Scobey), Shane (NW Energy)
- Tori- **Comment:** They did receive a grant from housing MCR bill 819 that will do a study for a large part of Eastern MT for housing too. 2025 May-June hope to have done.
- Kody- Comment: Retention and recruiting hospital employees with workforce housing.
- Tori- **Comment:** Saying that workforce housing is hard for certain areas because of the income level cap for federal funds.
- Janelle- **Comment:** Also, trying to do mix income levels for projects and thinking of the POA.
- Tori: **Q:** Asked about the cap in asking for CDBG. **A:** Rosie and Julie gave response.
- Tori: **Comment:** Asking about demo and infrastructure. Saying it could be cheaper to demo and add on manufactured housing. Hard to get developers out to work in Eastern, MT. **A:** Rosie saying we could add this as slum or blight if the response comes up more and should be evaluated to and determined to be added for the state CDBG Con Plan.
- Shane: **Comment:** Young professionals beginning of career and can't afford housing.
- Julie F: **Comment:** In Scobey mayor asked about demoing homes and building new homes.
- Jim: **Comment:** Saying there is a Bozeman bubble leaking into Madison County that is affecting young professionals.
- Rosie- wrapped up on how to submit official comments again.

End of meeting at 1:30pm.