



**CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION AGENDA
October 12, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.**

City Hall Council Chambers, 201 First Avenue East

This meeting will occur via video conferencing to provide an environment that will comply with the Governor's Phase II COVID-19 Directive. Public comment can be provided via email to publiccomment@kalispell.com or verbally during the video conference. Register to join the video conference at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u-cvW0UISvWrE5jH_aogRw

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Transportation Plan Update
2. Legislative Priorities

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Persons wishing to address the council are asked to provide public comment via email to publiccomment@kalispell.com or verbally during the online meeting. Register to join the meeting at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u-cvW0UISvWrE5jH_aogRw

D. CITY MANAGER, COUNCIL, AND MAYOR REPORTS

E. ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING SCHEDULE / FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Next Regular Meeting – October 19, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

Next Work Session – October 26, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

Watch City Council sessions live on Charter Cable Channel 190 or online at the [Meetings on Demand](#) tab at www.kalispell.com.



201 1st Avenue East, P.O. Box 1997,
Kalispell, MT 59903-Phone (406)758-7720
www.kalispell.com

To: Doug Russell, City Manager
From: Susie Turner, P.E., Public Works Director
Re: Kalispell Area Transportation Plan Update
Meeting Date: October 12, 2020

BACKGROUND: The City of Kalispell (City) and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) with assistance from the Kalispell Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) – a public panel composed of private individuals, local government officials and staff, state and federal transportation agency personnel -- are working towards updating the Greater Kalispell Area Transportation Plan (PLAN).

The City is the local authority facilitating the update of the Kalispell Area Transportation Plan and continues to collaborate with MDT and stakeholder groups through the development of the PLAN. The intent of the PLAN is to guide and facilitate planned improvements for the Kalispell Urban Area that incorporates current and future transportation network deficiencies for the community.

To date KLJ, the City's PLAN consultant, has completed draft sections and continues to progressively work on the remaining sections to complete the PLAN. The objective of this work session is to inform City Council of the progress and provide preliminary information generated as part of updating the PLAN. Wade Kline, KLJ Project Manager, will present on the PLAN's progress including additional information on the following:

- **Public Engagement to Date**
 - In the spring of 2020, the project team held a series of Listening Sessions to gather input and guidance from the public and key stakeholders on the existing transportation systems.
 - Deployment of an online issues and needs survey which elicited nearly 150 responses from the public.
 - Deployment of project website www.kalispellmove2040.com
 - Over the summer of 2020, outreach was made to several community groups and organizations to keep them apprised of the plan development process.
- **Existing Conditions**
 - A detailed Existing Conditions report was prepared and is currently undergoing final technical edits based on comments from the City and MDT. This report outlines existing conditions for a broad range of transportation assets within the study.



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- **Projected Conditions**

- Move 2040 PLAN has a planning horizon looking out to the year 2040.
- The first step in the growth projecting process was to establish geographic growth assumptions within the study area. Three geographic growth areas were used and account for all current jurisdictions in the planning area, including Kalispell, Evergreen, and the remainder of Flathead County within the study area.
- Household Growth: Overall household growth within the Study Area was projected to grow by 2.4%, or nearly 9,300 households.
- Employment Growth: Employment growth was projected for Move 2040 for each of the geographic segments. Overall employment growth for the study area was projected at 1.9%. Total employment growth is estimated to be nearly 11,700 over the life of the planning horizon.
- Travel Model Development: MDT provided a calibrated travel demand model for the year 2017 to replicate existing traffic conditions in the study area. Previously discussed employment and household projections were added to the travel demand model and modeled to the year 2040. This resulted in the 2040 Existing plus Committed (E+C) model for the study area. The 2040 E+C model output generated volumes, capacity, and the resulting volume to capacity ratios (VC) and levels of service (LOS). The 2040 E+C model demonstrates future transportation conditions in the study with projected growth, without the addition of any new improvement beyond those committed by the MDT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), the Kalispell Capital Improvement Program (CIP), or improvement planned by Flathead County.

- **Alternatives Analysis**

- As part of Move 2040, an alternative analysis was completed to evaluate a range of 9 different alternatives, some of which consider sub alternatives which combined various base alternatives. In total, 13 alternative models were ran. Alternatives were designed to replicate the potential improvement to a corridor or set of corridors for the purposes of evaluating the relative benefit of those improvements. Each alternative considered the addition of one or more changes to the transportation system in the Move 2040 PLAN study area.
- The results of each alternative will be evaluated against area wide travel indicators such as vehicle miles traveled (VMT), vehicle hours traveled (VHT) and miles of congested roadways. Congested roadways were defined as segments of roadway with a level of service (LOS) of D, E or F. Alternatives were also evaluated against



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corridor level travel indicators such as change in annual daily traffic (ADT) and volume to capacity (V/C) or LOS.

- Preliminary results are currently being evaluated by the project committee; however, an initial areawide summary will be provided as part of this work session to the Council.
- **Project Identification**
 - A range of needed transportation improvements will be highlighted as part of the development of the Transportation System Management (TSM) and Major Street Network (MSN) elements for the PLAN.
 - Transportation System Management (TSM) Projects: The TSM project list reflects intersection level improvements which responds to both safety and traffic operation related issues at an isolated location, typically an intersection. TSM projects are developed based on a review of more localized existing and projected conditions.
 - Major Street Network (MSN) Projects: The MSN project list reflects larger corridor level improvements aimed at both improving existing corridors or upgrading corridors which are projected to require a higher standard related to safety and operations.
- **Bike & Pedestrian Plan**
 - The PLAN integrates the generalized set of system needs identified in the current bike and pedestrian plan developed by the City of Kalispell. An additional layer of screening was applied to prioritize and stratify existing and projected bicycle and pedestrian needs. This process used growth factors and system needs identified by the Move 2040 PLAN. The bike and pedestrian element of Move 2040 prioritizes projects at a corridor level and established individual priorities for a range of facility types.
- **Policy Plan and Goals Development**
 - A final element of the PLAN will include the development of a Policy Plan inclusive of a series of goals and objectives to guide future transportation planning decisions. The document will be based on projected needs in the study area and constructed from a series of existing growth policy plans, community development, land use and transportation related infrastructure plans. This element of the plan has not yet been developed for committee review.
- **Pending Public Engagement**
 - Two additional public input opportunities are anticipated prior to completion of the PLAN's planning process.
 - The next round of meetings will provide the public an opportunity to comment on and prioritize the initial list of projects identified by the planning process, including a



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- review of the more detailed alternatives analysis. Originally scheduled for the fall of 2020, the timing of these meetings are currently being reviewed.
- The final round of public input would entail the full Draft PLAN and required public comment process. These meetings are anticipated in late spring 2021.



City of Kalispell

Post Office Box 1997 - Kalispell, Montana 59903

Telephone: (406) 758-7701 Fax: (406) 758-7758

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Doug Russell, City Manager
Re: Legislative Priorities
Meeting Date: October 12, 2020

BACKGROUND: On September 28, the City Council reviewed a set of legislative priorities to provide guidance for attempts to initiate legislation and to respond to proposed legislation. Adopting these priorities provides a unified platform for members of council and municipal staff to use when addressing our representatives prior to, and during the upcoming legislative session.

The set of legislative priorities from the previous session included the following: 1) support of a local option sales tax, 2) support for maintaining tax increment financing as an economic development tool, 3) support for streamlining special district legislation, 4) support for legislation that mitigates the economic impact for increasing regulatory standards for municipalities, 5) support for legislation that addresses infrastructure needs associated with rapid growth and 6) support for legislation that provides options to enhance or improve service delivery for the City of Kalispell.

At the work session on September 28, discussion was had that led to the addition of two additional priorities: Public Resource Management, and Affordable Housing. Discussion also led to additional wording to broaden the statements for Public Service Delivery and Public Infrastructure.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that City Council review the presented priorities and modify as necessary for potential adoption at a future meeting.

City of Kalispell

Montana Legislative Priorities

October 2020

The City of Kalispell is supportive of efforts to improve financial options related to all areas of municipal operations where local control and decision-making can be effectively applied. While this list of priorities does not single out any specific proposed bill, in general the City of Kalispell has identified these areas of policy interest.

- █ Local Option Sales Tax: The City of Kalispell supports legislation that ~~would~~ provides local communities the option of enacting a voter approved sales tax (or increasing the population limit of the current resort tax) within municipal limits that would provide an opportunity to maintain infrastructure and services for our community that is impacted by a large number of people that do not reside within the City of Kalispell.

- █ Tax Increment Financing: The City of Kalispell supports existing or more expansive legislation that provides municipalities the opportunity to use Tax Increment Districts as part of an Effective Economic Development Strategy, and opposes legislation that would limit the effectiveness of the options currently present in state statutes.

- Special District Legislation: The City of Kalispell supports legislation enhancing the opportunity for the creation of special districts. The City of Kalispell feels the current requirements place unnecessary financial and procedural burdens on special district creation.

- Environmental Quality: The City of Kalispell supports legislation that would mitigate the economic impacts of the unfunded liability caused by increased regulatory standards on municipal operations such as water production, wastewater treatment, solid waste, and storm water management.

- ~~Public Infrastructure Assistance~~: The City of Kalispell supports legislation that ~~would~~ assist in ~~the all areas of~~ local infrastructure costs associated with ~~our rapid~~ growth and development. The City of Kalispell also opposes legislation that decreases or removes current revenue streams.

- Public Resource Management: The City of Kalispell supports legislation that provides for the effective use and management of land resources, including management of forest lands, the use of the public right-of-way, and land use regulations associated with development.

- Service Delivery- The City of Kalispell supports legislation that enhances the opportunities to for expanding service delivery options throughout all areas of municipal operations, including revising legislation that limits the options available to communities to take advantage of alternative and innovative service delivery methods, rate establishment, and revenue streams.
- Affordable Housing: The City of Kalispell supports legislation that provides funding sources and programs that facilitate the development of affordable housing and affordable housing initiatives.