

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

February 13, 2021

1. **COVID 19 – Mask Mandate** – Yesterday the state of Montana removed its mask mandate. The following description covers how the city is handling the issue.
 - a. Masks remain mandated in the airport, on MET Transit and within our library.
 - b. Employees and Customers are expected to wear masks while in public spaces within city facilities.
 - c. Directors will determine mask mandates within employee workspaces.
 - d. We will continue to evaluate these protocols based on the spread of the virus and access to vaccinations improves.
 - e. Employees are always expected to be respectful of co-worker’s concerns.
 2. **DRAFT 2021/2022 City Council Priorities are attached**
 3. **Legislative Update –**
 - SB77 was tabled by the senate taxation committee yesterday
 - The latest list of bills we are tracking is attached.
 4. **Legislative Video Conference – Thursday, February 25th at Noon.** MSUB, College of Business MacDonald Hall, Room 163. The 3rd of 7 in a partnership between the City, Chamber and MSUB. Please RSVP through wynnette.
 5. **BUILD Grant Update** – The City of Billings was awarded a BUILD grant in September of 2020. To keep the City Council informed on activities and milestones in the Weekly Report. Information will be provided by the Public Works Engineering Division, Planning Division and City Administration.
 - Although the city was notified that BUILD funds were awarded, the first step is to complete an agreement between the City and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). As of today, the draft agreement has not been received by the City. Staff is looking to receive the draft agreement by April 2021. Once received, it could take several months to negotiate the final agreement.
 - Although the City has not received the agreement, activities can still occur. The following activities are being completed by Engineering:
 - Updating appraisals for IBL right-of-way acquisition is estimated to take several months
 - Completing design on IBL
 - Planning is working on setting up the numerous progress reports that will be required to administer the grant and working with Billings TrailNet on coordinating final design elements of the Skyline Trail.
- Next steps: Await the arrival of the Grant Agreement. Continue with securing appraisals and completing design work. Continue evaluating the necessary reporting forms.
6. **Quarterly Report** – Attached is the BIRD quarterly report

DRAFT 2021/2022 City Council Priorities

February 13, 2021


#1 PRIORITY

Improve the safety of Billings

- Understand and determine the Council's level of support for the policy implications recommended in the Center for Public Safety Management (CPSM) law enforcement analysis.
- Understand and determine the Council's level of support for the policy implications recommended in the CPSM fire department analysis.
- Determine policy level support for the administration to implement 911, PD, FD, Code Enforcement, Legal and Municipal Court strategies to improve safety.
- Analyze funding options to improve the safety of Billings.
- Consider Public Safety Mill Levy (PSML) Ordinance for 2021 ballot measure
 - a. Create a timeline for future ballot measures.
 - b. Educate the community on the impacts of the 2021 PSML.
- Resolve criminal justice facility space deficiencies.
- Adopt massage and body works business license ordinance
- Support critical partnerships w/Substance Abuse Connect, Yellowstone County, and Continuum of Care partnerships.
- Continue improving Safe Routes to Schools

ONGOING CRITICAL PROJECTS


 Break ground on west side water treatment plant and visionary reservoir project.


 Continue airport terminal reconstruction project, building Montana's greatest airport.

 Continue progress to break ground on the inner-belt loop and Skyline trail projects.

- Negotiate and sign BUILD grant agreement
- Negotiate and purchase easements to build the inner belt loop and skyline trail
- Present utility extension options to council and landowners
- Present land use planning options to the council and landowners





HIGH PRIORITIES

 Create a park development program and analyze all park funding options to build excellent parks and trails throughout the City.

 Resolve conflicts with Heights Water District to improve development and redevelopment opportunities within the Billings Heights area.

 Complete Billings Bypass corridor study in preparation for utility extensions and development.

 Define strategy to complete cost of services studies to help fund police, fire, parks and transportation infrastructure in partnership with Yellowstone County.

-  **Analyze land use and financial impacts of legalized marijuana on the City – resolve medical marijuana litigation.**
-  **Stimulate redevelopment within downtown and other business districts.**
-  **Resolve City Hall facility space deficiencies (see criminal justice center space needs)**
-  **Participate in the 2021 legislative process to support adopted legislative priorities and pass legislation to improve the safety of Billings.**



CITY OF BILLINGS
2021 Montana Legislature
Weekly Session Report – February 11, 2021









WEEKLY SESSION REPORT

















City of Billings



















February 11, 2021



















- * After the bill number denotes the bill is dead
- The governor must sign or veto a bill within 10 days of transmittal or it becomes law
- All green shaded bills have become law

















City of Billings INTRODUCED BILL DRAFTS

















Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 18  	LC0354	Geraldine Custer (R) HD 39	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Appropriations	01/11/2021	Appropriation for Local Government Center	Support
HB 32  	LC0273	Sue Vinton (R) HD 56	(S) Hearing -- (S) Education and Cultural Resources	02/01/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 422	Repeal ending fund balance limits for school district funds	Monitor
HB 50  	LC0441	Frank Garner (R) HD 7	(H) Hearing -- (H) Energy, Technology and Federal Relations	01/11/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Redistribute 9-1-1 funding to state library	Monitor
HB 62  	LC0358	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(S) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (S) Finance and Claims	02/03/2021	Update water and wastewater revolving loan program	Monitor

















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HB 73  	LC1315	Barry Usher (R) HD 40	(S) Referred to Committee -- (S) Judiciary	02/02/2021	Generally revise laws related to the criminal justice oversight council	Monitor
HB 86  	LC0469	Mary Ann Dunwell (D) HD 84	(H) Committee Executive Action-- Bill Passed as Amended -- (H) Local Government	02/02/2021	Allow the creation of regional fire protection authorities	Monitor
HB 97  	LC0561	Wendy McKamey (R) HD 19	(S) Referred to Committee -- (S) State Administration	01/25/2021	Revise ethics laws regarding application to boards and commissions	Monitor
HB 102  	LC1333	Seth Berglee (R) HD 58	(H) Scheduled for 2nd Reading	02/04/2021	Generally revise gun laws	Oppose
HB 107  	LC1089	Ron Marshall (R) HD 87	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) State Administration	01/19/2021	Revise mill levy election laws	Oppose
HB 115  	LC0924	Bill Mercer (R) HD 46	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	01/22/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Increase penalties for 5th and subsequent DUI	Support
HB 121  	LC0578	David Bedey (R) HD 86	(H) Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended -- (H) Local Government	01/29/2021	Require elected official approval of local health board and officer actions	Monitor
HB 123  	LC0577	David Bedey (R) HD 86	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	01/26/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revise laws regarding the stringency of local septic regulations	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 126  	LC1450	Kathy Kelker (D) HD 47	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Judiciary	01/15/2021	Revise laws concerning conduct of persons with alcoholism and drug addiction	Monitor
HB 132  	LC1029	Fred Anderson (R) HD 20	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Taxation	01/22/2021	Require property tax bill to include comparison to prior year	Monitor
HB 134  	LC0837	Danny Tenenbaum (D) HD 95	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	01/26/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Allow zoning for duplex, triplex, and fourplex housing in certain municipalities	Oppose through MLCT
HB 145  	LC1567	Paul Fielder (R) HD 13	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Local Government	01/28/2021	Allow local boards of health and health officers to issue recommendations	Monitor
HB 154  	LC1065	Dave Fern (D) HD 5	(H) 2nd Reading Not Passed*	01/29/2021	Revise resort tax population limits	Monitor
HB 158  	LC1510	Caleb Hinkle (R) HD 68	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) State Administration	01/28/2021	Create study commission to review covid-19 statute & rule suspensions	Monitor
HB 165  	LC2177	Jeremy Trebas (R) HD 26	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Taxation	01/28/2021	Increase vehicle fees to reduce residential property taxes	Monitor
HB 169  	LC2893	Steve Gist (R) HD 25	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) State Administration	01/27/2021	Deter the fraudulent use or theft of taxpayer-funded resources	Monitor
HB 174  	LC1174	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Hearing -- (H) Agriculture	01/21/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 137	Generally revise winery laws	Oppose





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HB 187  	LC1064	Dave Fern (D) HD 5	(H) Tabled in Committee* -- (H) Taxation	01/29/2021	Provide for local option sales tax	Support
HB 200  	LC1175	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Transmitted to Senate	02/03/2021	Establish laws prohibiting sanctuary cities in Montana	Oppose through MLCT
HB 201  	LC0738	Kenneth L Holmlund (R) HD 38	(H) Hearing -- (H) Business and Labor	02/11/2021; 08:30 AM, Rm 172	Revise prevailing wage district laws and dispatch city designations	Monitor
HB 234  	LC1326	Mallerie Stromswold (R) HD 50	(H) Transmitted to Senate	02/03/2021	Remove sunset on requirement that massage therapy businesses display licenses	Monitor
HB 243  	LC0309	Mike Hopkins (R) HD 92	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	02/03/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Generally revise laws related to law enforcement officers	Monitor
HB 248  	LC1537	Kelly Kortum (D) HD 65	(H) Hearing -- (H) State Administration	02/02/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 455	Revise the Montana primary election date	Monitor
HB 254  	LC0645	Ross H Fitzgerald (R) HD 17	(H) Hearing -- (H) Business and Labor	02/03/2021; 08:30 AM, Rm 172	Revise the wrongful discharge act	Monitor
HB 255  	LC1554	Larry Brewster (R) HD 44	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	02/04/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revising time period to protest sewer and/or water district assessments	Support
HB 257  	LC1436	Jedediah Hinkle (R) HD 67	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	02/02/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Revise laws relating to government mandates and businesses	Monitor

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
HB 259  	LC0304	Sue Vinton (R) HD 56	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	02/02/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revise property and zoning laws	Oppose
HB 264  	LC0627	Ross H Fitzgerald (R) HD 17	(H) Hearing -- (H) Transportation	02/03/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 455	Revise emergency vehicle passing laws	Monitor
HB 268  	LC1902	Bob Phalen (R) HD 36	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	02/09/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Revise laws related to maintenance district assessments	Monitor
HB 269  	LC1810	Ron Marshall (R) HD 87	(H) Hearing -- (H) Local Government	02/09/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 472	Require elected official approval of sanitation related local health board rules	Monitor
HB 292  	LC3127	Geraldine Custer (R) HD 39	(H) Referred to Committee -- (H) Local Government	02/03/2021	Revise local subdivision review regarding title insurance procedure	Monitor
HB 327  	LC0832	Julie Dooling (R) HD 70	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	02/08/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Provide default definitions for covenants limiting the use of real property	Monitor
SB 23  	LC0274	Daniel R Salomon (R) SD 47	(H) Committee Executive Action-- Bill Concurred -- (H) Education	02/03/2021	Eliminate state school flexibility account	Support
SB 44  	LC0364	John Esp (R) SD 30	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	01/20/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Revise subdivision laws	Oppose

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
SB 47  	LC1314	Ryan Lynch (D) SD 37	(H) Hearing -- (H) Judiciary	02/04/2021; 8:00 AM, Rm 137	Generally revise laws related to DOC commits	Oppose
SB 48  	LC0295	Mike Fox (D) SD 16	(S) Tabled in Committee* -- (S) Highways and Transportation	01/19/2021	Allowing transfer of certain highway funding to tribes	Monitor
SB 51  	LC0062	Jason W Ellsworth (R) SD 43	(S) Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended -- (S) Taxation	02/01/2021	Exempting certain fiber optic, coaxial cable from property taxation	Monitor
SB 65  	LC0901	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(S) Scheduled for 3rd Reading	02/04/2021	Revise civil liability laws	Monitor
SB 67  	LC0084	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(H) Committee Report--Bill Concurred -- (H) Judiciary	02/01/2021	Revise laws pertaining to law enforcement	Monitor
SB 73  	LC0802	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Tabled in Committee* -- (S) Taxation	01/29/2021	Provide for local distribution of lodging sales tax revenue	Support
SB 77  	LC0552	Tom McGillvray (R) SD 23	(S) Hearing -- (S) Taxation	01/15/2021; 08:00 AM, Rm 405	Revise special district financing and dissolution provisions	Oppose
SB 78  	LC0018	Douglas (Doug) Kary (R) SD 22	(S) Tabled in Committee* -- (S) Taxation	01/29/2021	Revise allowable special district assessment methods	Oppose

Bill Draft No.	LC No.	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
SB 80  	LC2959	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Transmitted to House	02/02/2021	Limit the duration of interlocal agreements	Monitor
SB 89  	LC0808	Keith Regier (R) SD 3	(S) Committee Executive Action-- Bill Passed as Amended -- (S) State Administration	02/03/3032	Revise laws related to collection of union dues	Monitor
SB 127  	LC2439	Chris Friedel (R) SD 26	(S) Transmitted to House	02/03/2021	Revise laws on the selection of municipal court judges	Monitor
SB 135  	LC0313	Steve Fitzpatrick (R) SD 10	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	01/29/2021; 1:30 PM, Rm 405	Allow a county commission to hold certain zoning appeal hearings de novo	Monitor
SB 161  	LC1085	John Esp (R) SD 30	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	02/03/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Allow certain subdivisions to qualify for an expedited review	Oppose
SB 165  	LC0584	Carl Glimm (R) SD 2	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	02/03/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Generally revise laws related to the department of environmental quality	Oppose through MLCT
SB 171  	LC0499	Chris Friedel (R) SD 26	(S) Committee Report--Bill Passed - - (S) Local Government	02/08/2021	Increasing county procurement options with cooperative purchasing agreements	Monitor
SB 174  	LC2326	Greg Hertz (R) SD 6	(S) Hearing -- (S) Local Government	02/15/2021; 3:00 PM, Rm 405	Revise laws related to local subdivision review	Oppose

City of Billings
UNINTRODUCED BILL DRAFTS

Bill Draft No. (LC No.)	Request Date	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
LC0763  	11/02/2020	Mark Blasdel (R) SD 4	(C) Draft Ready for Delivery	02/03/2021	Revise exempt well laws related to family transfer parcels	Monitor
LC2272	12/12/2020	Matt Regier (R) HD 4	(C) Draft On Hold	02/10/2021	Revise laws related to adoption of a tax increment provision	Monitor
LC2794  	12/13/2020	Julie Dooling (R) HD 70	(C) Draft Delivered to Requester	02/10/2021	Prohibit the creation of new zoning districts during a state of emergency	Oppose
LC3268	01/23/2021	Terry Moore (R) HD 54	(C) Draft to Requester for Review	02/09/2021	Revise laws related to commitment of defendants	Support – Priority Bill
LC3274	01/23/2021	Ross H Fitzgerald (R) HD 17	(C) Draft Request Received	01/23/2021	Generally revise laws related to	Monitor

Bill Draft No. (LC No.)	Request Date	Primary Sponsor	Status	Status Date	Short Title	Position: Support; Monitor; Oppose
					public's right to know and participate	



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Quarterly Report to City of Billings
FYE 2021 Quarter 2 – Ending December 31st, 2020

TIF Projects

- City Council approved TIF eligible funds presented on behalf of Belle Chemical. Belle Chemical purchased a property on N. 22nd and was approved for an amount up to \$44,532 for fencing.

City of Billings

- Worked with Nicole Cromwell to successfully review and compare EBURD Code with the city in relation to Project ReCode. Conclusion was that the BIRD Board was comfortable with the small changes that were made to create conformation in the codes.
- Met with Chris Kulkuski on the role of TIF in the development of the city

BIRD development related tasks

- Legacy Tree project has been moved to spring with Good Earth Works and local business owners continuing conversations on projects
- 5-7 potential housing, distribution and social service projects being discussed for 2021 in the EBURD.
- 5th Ave. Corridor study continues to move forward with our participation.
- New BIRD website is up and running
- Administrative project to organize and archive all physical documents pre-2020 has been completed. Files are now easily accessible and filed in an orderly manner.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE QUARTER

Numbers provided by city finance department

**East Tax Increment
Fund**

*For the Quarter Ended
December 31, 2020*

FY21 Beginning Fund Balance	\$	1,624,431	FY21 Budget
Revenue			
Tax		456,742	750,700
Intergovernmental		73,327	156,400
Investment Earnings		<u>921</u>	<u>14,300</u>
Total Revenue		530,990	921,400
Expenditures			
Professional Services		4,233	3,100
Cost Allocation		17,647	38,757
EBURD Operating Agreement		69,973	139,946
Development Project Incentives		15,393	140,000
Debt Service		351,833	470,917
Capital Outlay		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Expenditures		459,079	792,720
Ending Fund Balance	\$	1,696,342	
Cash Balance as of 12/31/20	\$	1,043,243	
Outstanding Awards:			
FIB		94,790.00	
Tree Program		33,575.00	