From: Jordan Hess
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Montana Passenger Rail Summit
Date: Monday, September 7, 2020 1:30:27 PM

Council Colleagues,

I want to extend a personal invitation to you and anyone else who you think would be interested to join us on September 17 for the (virtual) Montana Passenger Rail Summit, an event co-sponsored by the Montana High Tech Business Alliance, the Dawson County Economic Development Council, Missoula County, cities of Bozeman, Helena, and Missoula, the MSU Western Transportation Institute, the Associated Students of the University of Montana and many others. Dave Strohmaier and I have been planning this event for the last several months, and I think it will be an enjoyable event!

While the event will run three hours (from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.), feel free to drop in for any portion of it. Senators Tester and Daines, Rep. Gianforte, and Gov. Bullock will all be providing comments, and we'll have some of the top passenger rail experts in the nation participating in the event.

This is part of our current initiative to keep the Empire Builder strong along the Hi-Line and also expand passenger rail service through the southern tier of the state, which we believe would be a transformative project for our region. The summit is free and we encourage anyone with an interest in passenger rail to participate. Don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Check out the summit website at www.montanapassengerrailsummit.org, which is packed with info on both the summit and our efforts to establish the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority (which currently has garnered the support of 9 counties from Wibaux to Sanders and will come to fruition in the very near term).

There are currently 300 registered attendees and growing. Please consider attending and please feel free to promote the event to your networks. Register online at www.montanapassengerrailsummit.org/register.

Best,
Jordan