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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Drafts of Missoula Assets Maps On View at Wednesday Open House

What are Missoula's treasures? Where are the special places in our community? What about the challenges Missoula faces – what are they and where?

In October we asked, and citizens answered.

Since these initial community conversations, we have been hard at work collecting existing information and building maps that depict the places Missoula residents consider to be the city's assets and challenges.

The public is invited to an open house on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from noon to 8 p.m. in the Jack Reidy conference room near City Council Chambers at 140 W. Pine St. to the draft maps and discover the places that residents think make Missoula, Missoula, special.

Planning staff members will be available to talk with visitors during the eight-hour open house. They will also give short presentations several times throughout the day about the project. Presentations will be delivered at: noon, 12:30 p.m., 1 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

The Sonoran Institute, via its Community Builders initiative, is assisting in the City growth policy update with a project called Missoula Assets Mapping. Assets Mapping is a values-based approach to community engagement that uses citizens' comments to identify and visualize physical assets within the community. Ultimately, by depicting the accumulated assets on a

single map, viewers are able to see where assets overlap, are close together, or are few and far between. The assets map will be used by City staff members to inform the Our Missoula growth policy update and to help them consider areas of the city that should be maintained, enhanced or renewed.

For more information, please visit the project website at:

www.communitybuilders.net/missoulaassets/ To learn more about the *Our Missoula* project and ways to get involved go to www.ourmissoula.org.

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