

Minutes from Upper Rattlesnake Leadership Team Meeting October 21, 2025

Attendees:

Upper Rattlesnake Leadership Team members: Terri Roach (Co-Chair), Andrea Stierle (Co-Chair), Jeani Alonzo Adams (Treasurer and Transportation Committee Representative), Judy Molland (Co-Secretary), Kathy Gaskill (Co-Secretary). Other Attendees were Melissa Glueckert (Neighborhood Specialist), Cynthia Erler, Upper Rattlesnake resident, Kristen Wood, Upper Rattlesnake resident, Hoyt Yee, Upper Rattlesnake resident, Jelena Yee, Upper Rattlesnake resident, Jason Wiener, Upper Rattlesnake resident.

1. Terri called the meeting to order. Jeani made a motion to approve the Minutes from the September 16, 2025 meeting and Judy seconded. Minutes were approved.
2. Changes in proposed land use zoning was the first item of discussion. The Lower Rattlesnake neighborhood is now proposed for some increased density but the Upper Rattlesnake designation has remained the same. Terri verified this with Ward 1 City Council Representative Eric Melson. The main reason for retaining the density of the Upper Rattlesnake is due to the considerable time it would take to evacuate residents in the event of a fire or chemical spill at the bottom of the Rattlesnake. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) estimated evacuation could take between 2-6 hours depending on conditions. OEM and the URLT sent letters to the Zoning Commission last year highlighting this concern. One change that does apply to the Upper Rattlesnake is Montana state law now limits what local municipalities can restrict regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's), prohibiting them from setting maximum building heights for ADU's if those height rules are more restrictive than for the main home. Additional information can be accessed on the Missoula City website at EngageMissoula.com/code-reform.
3. Missoula County Public School District (MCPS) potential sale of various properties was the next item discussed. Included in this discussion are 5 acres north of the high school soccer fields, soccer fields on Duncan Drive adjoining the PEAS Farm and Prescott School. Residents of the Lower Rattlesnake are concerned about the number of houses that could potentially be built on the Prescott property. In addition to property sales the issue of limited parking by the soccer fields was discussed as a safety issue. Jeani will bring up this issue at the next Transportation Board meeting; The Board is going to address this issue with the MCPS District and the URLT will also send a letter addressing the issue.
4. Safety concerns regarding bikers and pedestrians who need to cross Lincoln Hills when driving and parking in the lot across from Syringa Bike Park were also revisited. Jeani will mention this discussion at the next Transportation Board

meeting as well as addressing the possibility of having a painted crosswalk done by the Office of Public Works.

5. Applications for the Office of Neighborhoods yearly grants are due December 1; this year's grants are \$6,000. Possibilities discussed included installing a speed bump or crosswalk on Lincoln Hills Drive by Syringa Park and doing some beautification at the Rattlesnake Drive/Creek Crossing intersection. Road work would be in conjunction with the Transportation Board and the Office of Public Works.
6. A Facilitation Training will be provided by the Office of Neighborhoods for Leadership Teams; a date has not been set.
7. Jeani will bring up concerns over the poor visibility at the Lolo Street/Rattlesnake Drive intersection at the next Transportation Board Meeting.
8. The next Upper Rattlesnake General Meeting will be held in April at the Rattlesnake Elementary School. Possible dates requested at the school are April 14, 15 or 16th and a decision will be made by the School District in early 2026.
9. Judy reported items discussed at the Community Forum were SAM that addresses downtown safety, access and mobility; a local advisory that helps citizens who are houseless; housing code and zoning reform and the guidelines regarding Ward 1 and Ward 3 City Council Seat elections.
10. Terri reported discussions at the Transportation Board meeting included how the sale of Prescott School and the proposal for increased density will impact traffic.
11. Melissa said the Neighborhood Report revolved around the upcoming elections.
12. Public comment pertained to the ever-increasing number of deer in the Rattlesnake Valley. Melissa acknowledged that it is a city-wide problem. Gwen Jones and Mike Nugent are on the City Council Committee that works on that issue so they can be contacted with concerns.
13. The next URLT meeting is on November 18, 2025.
14. The meeting was adjourned.