

## February 13, 2018 River Road Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes

Jane Kelly shared the history of Missoula neighborhood councils and explained how they work and interact with City Council.

Ethan Smith from the Missoula Police Department explained that the Missoula Police Department will be moving into the neighborhood on Catlin, across from Westside Lanes when they complete an evidence storage facility. Walk-ins at the facility will be welcomed and they plan on moving in by late summer. The new facility will bring more police presence to the neighborhood and provide the neighborhood with better service. There is a Neighborhood Watch Meeting on March 20th at 5:30 pm at City Council Chambers - it is a kickoff and orientation meeting. All are welcomed to attend and learn more.

Bill Pfeifer announced that Mountain Line is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. Also Zero-Fare has been renewed for another three years. There are currently 20 community partners and the goal is 40 by the end of the year. Mountain Line will be getting three electric buses in the next year. Dakota and Wyoming St is one of the busiest stops. Public comment will be welcomed this spring on the final strategic plan. Also bike and bus videos are available online. Any suggestions for Route 9 are welcomed.

Courtney Sprunger from Big Sky Public Relations explained that two focus groups were held with neighbors and commuters and the following communications methods will be used for the Russell Street construction project:

- Weekly updates will be emailed (need to subscribe to receive email updates)
- SMS texting updates (subscribe by texting "Russell" to 41411)
- Website will be regularly updated
- Project hotline will be answered during business hours
- Advertising once construction starts on multiple radio stations
- Social media

Also there will be an open house in mid-March and some canvassing in March to properties/neighbors immediately adjacent to the construction area.

See <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/russell/> for information.

Elections were held and the following slate was approved after a motion from Julie Merritt and a Second by Linda Bauman:

- Jesse Neidigh
- Melissa Neidigh
- Nick Shontz
- Kim Walterskirchen
- Megan Pfaff

Current members also include:

- Dustin Schwarz
- Charlie Byrne

- Amy Chapman

Councilwoman Julie Merritt held Q&A with neighbors. The following concerns were voiced:

- Street connectivity in the neighborhood
- Lack of curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and lights on the major roads in the neighborhood
- Invest Health was able to find funding for others areas but not our neighborhood, why and what now?

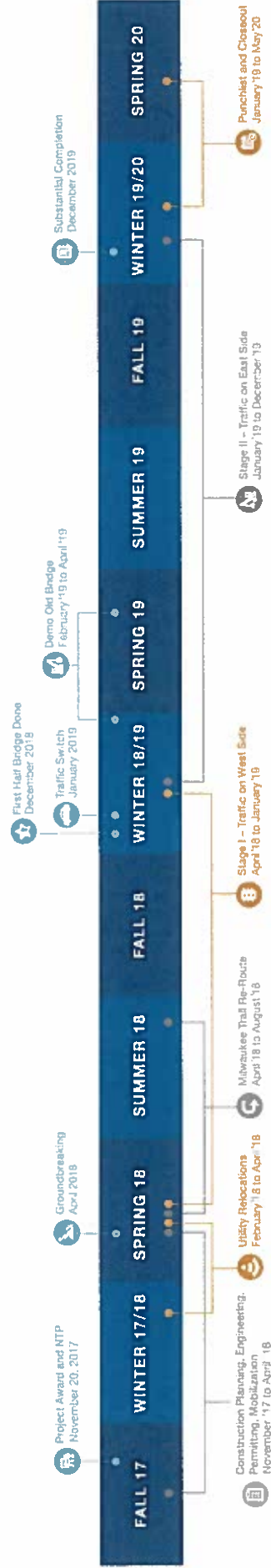
Announcements –

MUD has a tool library and holds a variety of workshops. Membership fees are based on a sliding scale. In the near future they will be adding solar panels to their property, creating a recycled glass pathway, and restoring a cider press.

Garden City Harvest not only has a volunteer for veggies program and community garden plots, but is also meant to be an open area for neighbors to hang out in. Feel free to read a book in the orchard once the weather improves and the trees are planted.

Public comment on non-agenda items - none

# RUSSELL STREET TIMELINE





## Let us keep you updated!

### Stay in Touch

- Email updates: Contact Katie at [katie@bigskypublicrelations.com](mailto:katie@bigskypublicrelations.com) to [subscribe](https://bigskypublicrelations.com)
- SMS texting updates: Text "RUSSELL" to 41411
- Project Hotline: 406-207-4484 during business hours
- Visit <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/russell>

### See you soon!

- Canvassing, Tentatively scheduled to start March 12
- Open House: Mid-march, date is TBA
- Yes, we are making magnets (per popular request). We'll get a stack out to your neighborhood council.

### Advertising on Media Outlets

- Tune In: The Mountain (KMSO), The Blaze (KBAZ), The Trail (KDTR), and Montana Public Radio
- Social Media: Facebook and Instagram ads will have regular updates

Russell Street - Broadway to Dakota is a project of the Montana Department of Transportation





Russell Street Bridge - Looking North

PRELIMINARY



Russell Street Bridge - Looking North  
North Abutment - Custom Stained Rock Pattern

PRELIMINARY