| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Sandi Zellmer |
| **To:** | Grp. City Council and City Web Site |
| **Subject:** | Support for the Dean Stone Corridor Acquisition |
| **Date:** | Saturday, November 14, 2020 7:59:54 AM |

---

Missoula City Council
435 Ryman Street
Missoula, MT 59802

Sent via email to: council@ci.missoula.mt.us

RE: Support for the Dean Stone Corridor Acquisition

Dear City Council:

I am writing to express strong and enthusiastic support for the City's acquisition of the Mount Dean Stone Corridor as an addition to the City's system of parks, trails and open space.

I moved to Missoula three years ago from a state that has very little open space and virtually no public lands. I chose Missoula intentionally, having experienced the surrounding Forest Service lands firsthand in my work and vacation time over the course of many years. At the time, I was unaware of the extensive network of trails and open spaces protected by the City of Missoula itself. Since then, I have grown to love Mount Jumbo, Waterworks, Barmeyer, Fort Missoula, and more. I am in awe of the work that's been done by the City and its conservation partners, and consider myself incredibly fortunate to call Missoula home.

Now more than ever, the challenges facing our community and nation have highlighted the importance of open places and unobstructed viewsheds for solace, reflection, recreation, and social distancing. The Mount Dean Stone Corridor acquisition provides an opportunity for the City to build upon decades of conservation success by further expanding its world class open space network.

Fortunately, Five Valleys Land Trust has provided financial and in-kind value to the project. In addition to financing and on-the-ground work, Five Valleys has provided strategic leadership and expertise to the Mount Dean Stone open space, protecting it from residential development and ensuring that it be open for the public.

Now the City has an opportunity to be long-term stewards of the Mount Dean Stone corridor. I urge the City Council to vote to spend open space bond funds to support this project.

Sincerely,

*Sandra B. Zellmer*
*4628 Rattlesnake Dr.*
*Missoula, MT 59802*