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To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Housing in Missoula
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Here is a suggestion that would help the poor and low income in Missoula.

Move the fairgrounds to west of Reserve street and turn all of that area into housing for the poor and low income....why you ask...well I haven't been there in 20 years...because entertainment is for the rich and myself and many others that I know simply do not go because...it is for the rich...too busy trying to make money to simply survive.

Another suggestion is to turn the mall area into a big apt complex...add one or 2 stories to it and you all ready have parking....the mall is for the rich as well.

Another suggestion is to shrink both Payfair park and Spartan park....it is a prime area for housing...if people are spending their time working 2 jobs just to simply live so they can pay rent...they don't have the luxury of time to enjoy it...and it is mostly always empty.

This town is set up as a playground for the rich and has been for many years....if you want to keep housing prices low...then make this town better for the working class poor....the people that simply work then go home and hang with their family....most people in this town do not have the luxury of enjoying these areas...too busy working just to survive.

I noticed a news article about the median income being around $50,000 a year in Missoula....did you investigate on how many people work more than 1 job or have a side job or part time job as well....how many households in this town where both parents have to work.

You have noticed that crime has been rising in the last 10 years....because Missoula has gotten so expensive that this is a necessity just to pay rent.
If we made this town affordable to the working class where only 1 parent has to work...then we would have far less crime and a much better society in the future.....poverty has made it where kids are alone with the TV and internet....do you really think that is a good way for kids to be raised?

Just a few suggestions from a Missoula resident that has worked his entire life in Missoula.

You complained that the rich are buying all the land and property's for up to 40 percent more than the value just 4 years ago....if you are not willing to raise minimum wage , or cap the price on housing so a family of 4 with only 1 person working can afford to live in this town....then you will end up with only 2 groups of people living in this town.

The rich who will own everything...and the poor who will own nothing and do all the work.

You wonder why we have so many homeless in this town...well the number you see is far less than the actual number of homeless...many like me live in their car (but I work 80 to 100 hours a week so I can afford to just live in my car)...many live with other family members and friends.

Anyone that has too use the food bank or has to receive food stamps or medicade/medicare....do not have enough money for housing.....fix the housing problem and raise minimum wage to combat this problem.....and the federal and state governments will save millions and people will have much more money to spend on the local economy at restaurants and small businesses....MAKING THIS TOWN THRIVE AGAIN!

RIGHT NOW THIS TOWN IS SET UP TO MAKE THE RICH THRIVE....DO A STUDY AND YOU WILL FIND THAT MISSOULA HAS A VERY LARGE POPULATION OF VERY RICH....WHICH IS MAKING THE MEDIAN INCOME OF MISSOULA MUCH HIGHER THAN IT REALLY IS.

IF YOU DON'T FIX HOUSING AND INCOME IN THIS TOWN....THE CITY WILL NOT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO SIMPLY MAINTENANCE THE CITY....FOR THE RICH HAVE A GREAT NUMBER OF WAYS TO GET AROUND TAXES....LANDLORDS PASS THE TAX BURDEN OFF TO THE RENTERS....AND THE POOR MAKE TO LITTLE TO PAY TAXES.

IF MOST OF THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAD TO LIVE LIKE THE POOR DO AND GOT PAID LIKE THE POOR WORKING CLASS DOES.....WE WOULD NOT HAVE THIS PROBLEM BECAUSE IT WOULD BE FIXED FAST.

IN MY OPINION ANYONE MAKING MORE THAN $20 AN HOUR AND ANYONE WHO OWNS THEIR OWN HOUSE...IS RICH!!

STOP CATERING TO THE RICH....MISSOULA IS ONE OF THE BEST CITY'S IN THE ENTIRE WORLD...BUT IF WE DON'T TAKE CARE OF THE WORKING PEOPLE OF MISSOULA....WE WILL END UP WITH A TOWN THAT WILL BE KNOW AS A PLACE WHERE THE HOMELESS AND POOR ARE LITERALLY SLAVES TO THE RICH !

JUST MY INSIGHT AND OPINIONS FROM LIVING AND WORKING THE EQUIVALENT OF 2 JOBS FOR MOST OF MY LIFE....JUST TO LIVE IN MISSOULA.....I AM 46 AND OWN NOTHING...LIKE MANY IN MISSOULA.

THE DIVIDE BETWEEN THE RICH AND POOR IS FAR GREATER THAN YOU REALIZE....THE BANKS OWN MOST EVERYTHING...THE RICH OWN THE BANKS....IF ALL BANKS HAD TO SUDDENLY COLLECT ALL DEBTS AND SHUT DOWN.....

YOU WOULD THEN REALIZE THE EXTENT OF THE DIVIDE BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR IN THIS TOWN.

Thanks for reading and have a good day...now I must work all day...so I will simply have enough to eat and for gas in my car so I don't freeze to death at night....home ownership...let

alone a simple room to rent...has now become a dream that that I will never have.....but that doesn't stop me from working...I have self respect and morals...unlike most of the rich in this town that are more concerned with profits than anything or anybody.

Sent from my Galaxy