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MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Official Newsletter

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INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION BENEFITS ALL

Missoula County Public Works placed asphalt millings on Deer Creek Road from the shooting range to Crystal Creek Road during night shifts from 5 p.m. to approximately 6 a.m. The work took four days until all material from the Montana Department of Transportation project was delivered for use. Work was completed during night shifts due to contractual requirements between MDT and their contractor in order to reduce impacts to interstate travel during the day. Re-using asphalt products instead of disposal is a great way to make improvements to county-maintained roads and helps reduce dust/maintenance needs on a gravel road with high volumes of recreational traffic. These free, hard-surface millings happened through a cooperative agreement with MDT.



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DIRECTOR'S HIGHLIGHTS

SHANE STACK, P.E.

Public Infrastructure

Construction

Shane Stack started as Director of Public Works on April 1, 2019, after nearly 23 years with the Montana Department of Transportation, most recently as the Missoula District Preconstruction Engineer. At MDT, he planned, implemented and oversaw several high-profile, multimillion-dollar engineering projects in the Missoula area.



'Public Works is applying for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding that will provide \$8.5M to make upgrades to the four sewer and water systems.'

The landscape in Missoula County is changing from bright greens to various shades of brown as temperatures reach unprecedented highs. It's also about the time we're halfway into mowing season. Last summer was a struggle. It seemed both mowers were in the shop more than they were mowing. Thankfully this season we received a new mower, with another arriving this winter. With three mowers, roadsides should have better vegetation management improving sight distances at intersections, enhanced drainage and reduced fire risks, and reduced spread of noxious weeds.

Public Works is applying for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding that will provide \$8.5M to make upgrades to the four sewer and water systems - Lolo, Elmar, Sunset West and Lewis and Clark. Improvements include some new water mains and a secondary lift station in parts of the Lolo water system, as well as additional upgrades to the sewer treatment plant. In Elmar, a well pump will be replaced, flooding of the underground pump will be addressed on the Sunset West system, and a new dosing tank will be installed in the Lewis and Clark system. We expect all proposed projects will be selected for the limited ARPA funding as they are all worthy candidates. We are also coordinating with our partners at Community and Planning Services (CAPS) to apply for ARPA funding to assist with the completion of phase 2 of the Buena Vista sewer system.

Even with the pandemic, volatile prices, and material shortages, the Building Division continues to experience a high volume of permit applications, all while in the process of hiring a new Building Official, Permit Specialist, and Inspector. Even with a small staff, the team continues to provide the best customer service possible.

I continue to be impressed with the group here at Public Works. Whether it is surveying, road/bridge maintenance, sewer/water system operations, or the Building Division team, they strive to do the best they can for the residents of Missoula County. Thank you to the entire team here at Public Works for the hard work and dedication.

As always, wishing you the best.



Community Comes Together

May showers caused serious road and bridge problems in Condon. Downed trees on Glacier Creek Road led to erosion and a washed-out approach at the bridge. The four-person Seeley Lake crew was spread thin while waiting for help from Missoula. Tree removal was coordinated immediately with local contractors so the Road Department was able to stabilize the erosion and reconstruct the washed-out approach. Access for the residents was restored by the end of business hours. Special thanks to residents and contractors that helped with trees, for blocking Glacier Creek Road to prevent drivers from crossing the bridge, as well as finding alternate access thru neighboring properties and Forest Service roads. Local contractors stopped their work and were able and willing to lend a hand to help their neighbors and the Road Department.



Glacier Creek Bridge Before

Dust Abatement Season Complete

Dust abatement season started June 21 west of Missoula. The dust abatement winners, as in 2016, was Dust Busters. Due to spring rains and schedule of the independent contractor, dust abatement start dates always pose a challenge. Unfortunately this year, due to the Union Pacific Railroad's closed railway access for train track repairs, the product being used for dust abatement was not available. The postponement set us back three working days but we were able to start again just in time to stop for the Independence Day weekend. Delays to what is normally a consistent two-week coordinated effort put us at a three-week span.

If you wish to have dust abatement done on your county maintained road, you can participate in our cost -share program. For information regarding the program, please contact Kris at kblank@missoulacounty.us.



Glacier Creek Bridge Repaired

THE BUILDING DIVISION

OFFICES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

With the building boom happening right now and the transition of building staff, we sincerely appreciate your patience in processing your applications online. The good news is that we are open to the public and our pick-up box is still in use for quick pick-ups of issued building permits.



NEW CODE
INFORMATION



The 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) was adopted May 13. To view the signed resolution, go to missoulacounty.us/building.

PAYMENT PROCESSING

We are currently experiencing issues with our payment processing system. Until further notice, payments may be made:

- By phone: Call Public Works at 406-258-3701.
- In person: Drop off payments at the Public Works office at 6089 Training Drive from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).
- By mail: Checks or money orders should be made out to MCPW Building Division and sent to 6089 Training Drive, Missoula, MT 59808.

Thanks for your patience and cooperation!