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# MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Official Newsletter

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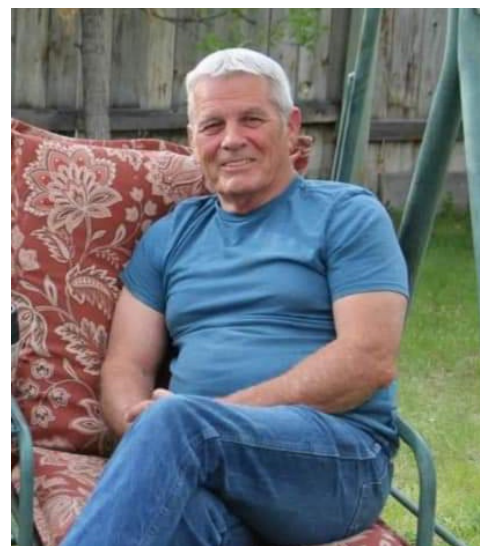
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406.258.3701 Building  
406.258.4753 Roads  
[mcpw@missoulacounty.us](mailto:mcpw@missoulacounty.us)  
6089 Training Drive  
Missoula, MT 59808

## PUBLIC WORKS SAYS GOODBYE...

Missoula County Public Works Building Division has lost a valued member of their team.

Dennis Monroe, a Combination Building Inspector, passed away on October 13, 2021. Dennis was a huge presence in the Potomac, Seeley Lake & Condon areas



conducting inspections and assisting customers at our remote Seeley Lake office. Dennis was respected by his co-workers, contractors, and customers. He had a kind heart and a wonderful sense of humor. His vast experiences throughout his life brought him to us and we are very grateful he devoted his time & talents to Missoula County. He will be missed!!

We share our condolences to his family, friends, and acquaintances.

A memorial service is planned for Sunday, October 24th, 1 PM at the Bitterroot Family Church in Stevensville.

# 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.



Fall is here, which means football, hunting season, and when Public Works begins preparing for winter. Gravel roads are being graded and plow trucks are being fitted with plows and sanders. Crews are cutting brush, removing trees, and cleaning road drainage culverts and sumps to help with spring run-off. All a part of normal fall preparation for winter.

The Building Division has a new Building Official. Dave Larkin is from New Jersey and has experience as a contractor and as a Building Official. We also have two new Combination Inspectors, Kevin Heisler and Mark Price. They are not new to the Missoula area and have been working with us for almost two months. You may see small changes as our new team are completing inspections, but our mission is the same, to help ensure newly constructed buildings and remodels are safe and meet code. We are happy to have them on our team!

Public Works received good news from recent grant applications. The county will receive over \$800,000 in Transportation Alternative funding for sidewalk improvements in Lolo on Farm Lane and Lewis and Clark Drive. Improvements are scheduled for the summer of 2023 and are to be finished prior to the new school opening that fall. The Montana Department of Transportation will be the lead on the project and the county will be responsible for a 13.42% match.

The county was also successful with two American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant applications. The first for around \$300,000 for improvements to the Buena Vista sewer system, the second for \$2,000,000 for the Lolo sewer system. Both need to be completed within five years. Although unsuccessful on the Lolo, El Mar, and Sunset West water systems projects, the county will apply for the next round of competitive APRA funds for them since they ranked well in scoring. They should score well again.

Thanks again to the staff here at Public Works for doing the necessary work to keep our buildings safe, our roads ready for travel, and our sewer and water systems operating.

Enjoy the fall weather. Winter is right around the corner.

*As always, wishing you the best.*



**Public Works was awarded over \$3.1M in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Transportation Alternative funding for upgrades to two sewer systems, and and for sidewalk improvements in Lolo.**



## Elk Flats Receives Grant that will help Bull Trout Habitat

Missoula County partnered with the property owners (HOA) on Elk Flats Road in Condon, the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT), and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) for a water quality improvement project. In-stream conditions have changed over the years causing Elk Creek to overtop a portion of Elk Flats Road every spring, contributing high amounts of sediment to critical bull trout habitat. CSKT hydrologists analyzed site conditions and recommended improvements in the form of two new culverts in addition to the existing two. The HOA received a \$1,000 grant from the USFWS towards purchasing the two new culverts and Public Works then installed them.



## Potomac Culvert Replacement

Sunset Hill Road in Potomac received a new culvert installation to help reduce drifting as well as damage to the road from runoff. This drainage improvement project should help improve road surface conditions for travelers using it.



# THE BUILDING DIVISION

## NEW FACES, SAME MISSION

Mark Price is one of our newest building inspectors! Before starting at Public Works, Mark was a general contractor for six years and was a superintendent for a local contractor for eight years. Originally from Lancaster, PA, Mark has lived in Missoula since 1996. When not working, Mark can be found playing the bass with his band Moneypenney, a local award-winning blues/rock band (2015 Best Blues/Jazz Band at the Zoo Music Awards), who he has played with since 2015. So happy to have you on our team, Mark!



WELCOME  
to the  
Team!



Another new face to be seen out doing inspections is that of Kevin Heisler. Kevin says that so far there really isn't a typical day - he might be in the office studying for code tests or out in the field doing inspections around the county. The part of his job he likes doing best is getting out and learning more in depth about construction. Previously, Kevin worked for Fish, Wildlife and Parks in the parks division doing maintenance for Region 2. He was also a shop teacher for a couple of years and taught metal and wood working for grades 7 thru 12. Kevin was recently married in June and he and his wife hope to start a family in the near future! Welcome Kevin! So glad to have you here in Public Works!

