

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**March 17, 2010, 2:05 PM**  
**City Council Chambers**

**Members Present:** Ed Childers, Dick Haines, Lyn Hellegaard, Roy Houseman, Bob Jaffe, Renee Mitchell, Dave Strohmaier, Pam Walzer, Jon Wilkins

**Members Absent:** Jason Wiener, Marilyn Marler

**Others Present:** Stacy Rye, Doug Harby, Steve King, Gregg Wood, Christy Wiegand, Kevin Slovarp

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

A. Approval of the minutes of [March 3, 2010](#)– Approved as submitted

B. Announcements –

Gregg Wood, Project Development Coordinator, stated that the Rattlesnake sewer project began again today. They are also working on an application to bring additional funding to the project from the Environmental Protection Agency, which would reduce the City's revenue bond portion.

Steve King, Public Works Director, stated that the special spring leaf pickup started this week, and would be running through the week of April 9. People can rake their yard leaves to the curb and can put them in the parking lane, but not in bike lanes or travel lanes. After the spring leaf program, they will begin the annual sweeping program in April. Also, there will be a meeting on March 25 at 6:30 at the Linda Vista Golf Course for the Miller Creek project. It will be an open public meeting, and they will be discussing the project's scope, traffic control, and answering questions.

C. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items – None

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Consider an exception to MMC Chapter 9.30 Noise Control during construction of 350 Ryman ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Doug Harby) (Referred to committee: 03/15/10) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve a permit for relief from noise levels set forth in MMC 9.30.040 for Jackson Construction for 350 Ryman, limited to the duration of the lifting operations associated with the placement of precast panels and other necessary construction on the east wall of the structure located at 350 Ryman.**

Mr. Harby stated that the ordinance allows the Council to grant a permit to exceed noise levels. Jackson Construction has to lift concrete panels for the east wall of the building over adjacent buildings, and would prefer to do it at night for safety reasons. They will only be operating a crane and light units.

Mr. Childers made the motion to approve the exception.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Interlocal agreement between the City of Missoula, County of Missoula, Montana Department of Transportation, and the University of Montana for MPDES Small MS4 Storm Water Discharge Co-Permit ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Kevin Slovarp) (Referred to committee: 03/15/10) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Interlocal agreement between the City of Missoula, County of Missoula, Montana Department of Transportation, and the University of Montana for MPDES Small MS4 Storm Water Discharge Co-Permit.**

Mr. King stated that this was a renewal of the interlocal agreement for the Montana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) co-permit for discharge elimination. The federal government requires communities of Missoula's size to have storm water discharge permit. The permit and the interlocal agreement have been in place for the last 5 years, and they have had the interlocal agreement for 5 years. The permit has been renewed, and the interlocal has expired and needs to be renewed for another 5 years. The agreement identifies the responsibilities and best management practices for each party. The City collects, compiles, and maintains the data. The agreement also has a cost-sharing component, and one section talks about obligations of finances. They budget for it every year. The total City cost over the five year term of the agreement is \$33,175. The fee has increased substantially, but it is imposed by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and is not negotiable. If jurisdiction changes because of annexation and so on, the new owner becomes responsible.

Ms. Walzer asked where the next population break is for fee increases. She asked if the City did testing for all the outfalls. Mr. King stated that 50,000 and above is the highest bracket. Christy Weigand, GIS Technician, stated that only municipalities are required to test. They sample twice a year in two locations, near Buckhouse Bridge and at the Pleasant View retention ponds.

Mr. Strohmaier made the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### III. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. Confirm the reappointment of Rodney Austin to the Parking Commission for a term commencing May 1, 2010 and ending April 30, 2014 (memo).—Regular Agenda (Mayor Engen) (Referred to committee: 03/15/10) **HELD IN COMMITTEE**

This item was not discussed.

2. Discuss current progress of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and House Bill 645 (HB645) projects (memo).—Regular Agenda (Steve King) (Referred to committee: 03/15/10) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Mr. King stated that there were a variety of projects throughout the City, and the project coordinators were there to discuss them. Donna Gaukler from the Parks Department was not present, but he read a letter from her into the record. They had an open house for citizens to discuss playground design, and the Parks Department is communicating with the leadership of the office of neighborhoods, and bids were advertised stating last week. By April 15, they should have prepared the awards for bids. The playground equipment is \$380,000 and the Greenough Bridge is \$20,000, all from HB645. All the contracts for the bridge are done, but Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP) still needs to sign off on it. Parks recognizes that time is of the essence before the water comes up. Ms. Walzer asked if everything on the bridge was ready except for the Fish Wildlife and Parks signature. Mr. King stated that his understanding was that a permit needs to be approved before they can proceed.

Mr. King stated that the North Higgins streetscape had three parts, and that Mountain Water was upgrading service mains and connections first. Another part of the project is for road resurfacing and is funded by House Bill 645 money, and the rest is the ARRA money. The Rattlesnake Gateway project is being funded by \$200,000 of ARRA money. The bids have been opened, and they are working to get concurrence from the State for the awards. Brooks Street reconstruction is funded with \$240,000 of HB645 funding, and the project is out to bid. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) curb and sidewalk ramp upgrade projects have both ARRA and HB645 money. Currently, WGM, Morrison-Maierle, and Territorial Landworks are working on the projects, and are employing local people in the community as a result of the projects.

Doug Harby, Construction Project Manager, stated that Brooks Street improvements are being done with HB645 money. The improvements are from Mount to Higgins and the design is done and out to bid. They will be slightly widening the street and will provide two driving lanes, two bike lanes and two parking lanes. They will remove three feet of boulevard on each side, and will also install new curbs and drainage. The Street Department will be doing the preliminary work and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is paying for the materials to pave the street, and they hope to start work within four weeks. The project must be complete by August. Some trees have outlived their life span and must be removed. A few larger trees with only three to four years of remaining life may also be affected. The project does not have any assessments or property owner expenses. The ARRA curb ramp project bids came in above estimates. It has gone out for re-bid with a base bid and bid-alts. Curb ramps also have \$350,000 of HB645 money. Mr. King stated that they are sensitive to working with the Parks Department on the Brooks Street trees, and that Parks may be replacing some as part of the natural progression of the urban forest. Mr. Harby stated that they would preserve the trees as much as possible, and have asked for and received deviations for lane widths from the State to preserve trees and impact the boulevards as little as possible.

Ms. Walzer asked if the open bids on North Higgins and the Rattlesnake Gateway had been in line with the engineering estimates. Mr. King stated they were working on it.

Mr. Jaffe stated that in past year bids have come back below the estimates, and asked if they were adjusting estimating to account for that now or if the bids were overly optimistic. Mr. Harby stated that for the ADA ramps, they tried to use the estimates from Safe Routes to Schools projects, but the ADA ramps are very spread out and the cost of the truncated domes was not included in the original estimates. They are optimistic about the bids.

Ms. Walzer stated that money was left over for bus and transit services, and asked if the Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization was able to utilize that. Mr. King stated that they were, and that the Administrative Leadership Team would be discussing Department Head priorities so they could create a list of shovel-ready projects if additional stimulus money became available. Mr. Haines asked if Hillview Way would be on that list. Mr. King replied that no amount of stimulus proposed to the community is enough to cover the cost of that project and that they would still need to have an SID or to do a very small piece of the project. Mr. Haines stated that he understood the conundrum but would like to have something ready for a small part of the project or talk to people about doing a smaller SID.

Mr. Wilkins asked whether there was any money for traffic mediation on High Park Way. He has been getting a lot of complains. Mr. King stated that everything was on the table. They have list of projects in the community transportation plan and are looking at what they can move up. If people have additional issues to bring to their attention, they can put those into the mix. The challenge is that if money becomes available, they need to move quickly, and for an SID to be created is not practical. They have had traffic calming conversations for High Park Way to address speeding, but have not discussed it for ARRA money. Mr. Childers stated that Margaret Street and a portion of 6th Street were unpaved and would be good projects, and it would be nice to include curb and sidewalk as well.

Ms. Walzer asked if there was stimulus money in the pedestrian overpass over the railroad, and Mr. King replied that was a Parks project and he believed it and the California Street Bridge were using Community Development Block Grant money. Mr. Jaffe stated that there was a lot of construction work this summer, and almost all of Ward 6 were getting sidewalks. He asked if 5th/6th/Arthur was this year. Mr. King stated the 5th/6th/Arthur project would be in 2011, but that there were jobs all over town during 2010.

Mr. Wood stated that the Greenough Gateway project was using \$200,000 of ARRA money and would install sidewalks from Madison Street to Waterworks Hill, and the apparent low bidder was Knife River. He has sent the package to MDT, and they will work with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval of the bid award. North Higgins has 1.25 million dollars of ARRA money and \$200,000 of HB645 money, which will pay for the milling and pavement, and must be completed by August 31, which is in the contract. The apparent low bidder is Western Excavating, and they are also waiting on State approval. He hopes to get the notice to proceed by early next week. The North Higgins water main is going in now, and they should be close to the end of that portion of the project when the main road project starts. Mr. King stated that the downtown Business Improvement District has taken a lead role in communication and that communication with property owners will continue. Staff would like to hear about any issues that are occurring.

Mr. Haines stated that he understood an SID on Hillview Way may not be practical, but he was hoping to be proactive and have part of the project done. They could put together a suitable package and have some options. Mr. King stated that he supported improvements on Hillview Way.

Mr. Strohmaier stated that they had a great summer of projects getting completed and that he had been advocating for the Rattlesnake Gateway project for 10 years ago or more.

Mr. Harby stated that the annual project list was out and would be posted soon. Everything they were doing this year is in that list.

Mr. Childers asked about the sewer line replacement at Reserve Street. Mr. Slovarp stated that they were almost done. They ran into some snags with the pipe grades and had to dig up some sections and fix them.

Mr. Wilkins stated that he strongly believed that if they were to bring the price down people will go for the SID. Mr. King stated that they could do incremental things for safety, but the road is derelict in a lot of ways. They can coordinate meetings for short and long-term for projects with ward representatives.

Ms. Walzer stated that the residents in the Captain John Mullan Neighborhood would like to have pedestrian access continued from Flynn Lane to Reserve Street. It would be nice to continue the pathway. Grant Creek is asking for changes to the I-90 interchange, which would take only a small amount of money and State approval.

Ms. Walzer emphasized that the City was not shut down for construction.

#### **IV. HELD AND ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Discussion on the sizes of grease interceptors for the restaurant industry ([Grease Interceptor PowerPoint](#)) ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Stacy Rye and Bob Jaffe) (Referred to committee: 04/21/08)

2. Consider restructuring the city's Sewer Loan Program along the lines of the recently approved change to the Sidewalk & Curb Loan Fund.—Regular Agenda ([Chapter 3.16 – Sidewalk & Curb Loan](#)) ([Chapter 3.18 Sewer Loan](#)) ([Ordinance 3344](#)) (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 06/26/06)
3. Interlocal Agreement between the City of Missoula and the County of Missoula related to the Reserve Street / Mullan Road Intersection Improvements Project. ([memo](#)) Regular Agenda (Gregg Wood) (Referred to committee: 01/11/10)
4. Review infrastructure conditions at the locations of serious and fatal traffic accidents: 2007-2009 ([memo](#)).— Regular Agenda (Jason Wiener) (Referred to committee: 01/25/10)

## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica S. Miller  
Office Manager  
City Public Works Department