

City Clerk Staff

From: J. Kevin Hunt <jkhesq23@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 9:02 PM
To: Marty Rehbein; Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: ACS — Beyond temporary security: Urban Rangers

TO: Missoula City Council;
City Clerk;
Housing & Redevelopment Committee

FROM: J. Kevin Hunt — Ward 1 Resident

DATE: Oct. 20, 2022

Dear Clerk Rehbein:

Please distribute the attached materials, as agenda attachments, to members of the Council's Housing & Redevelopment Committee as information relevant to the matter of extension of the Authorized Camp Site (ACS) which I understand will be before the Committee on Wed., Oct. 26.

Dear Councilors/H & R Committee Members:

While creation of a Missoula Urban Rangers program is not currently an action item before the Committee or Council, nonetheless understanding the benefits, challenges, downsides and opportunities presented by ACS (and potentially all city parks and/or shelters) having a different, more holistic, non-confrontational, and fully accountable model for security that transcends the armed law enforcement model and can be provided at less cost than private security firms, is essential to moving beyond ad hoc, stop gap emergency measures lacking dedicated funding. I believe that Missoula can do this much more inexpensively than either Portland or Los Angeles, and begin transitioning to an Urban Ranger model before expiration of any private security contract that includes security for the ACS that is approved in order to extend ACS through this winter.

I have included materials covering iterations of this long-term approach representing both what I believe Councilors and most citizens would find objectionable here (the Los Angeles permutation), and which would more closely reflect Missoula culture (the Portland iteration), recognizing that this must be a sui generis, Missoula-centric approach. To that end, I will in the near future submit an outline of what that Missoula-centric permutation might look like in terms of duties, non-threatening uniforms, and training. I'm not advocating emulation of Portland's program, but rather its aspects that mirror Missoula community values.

Additionally, I am in contact with a former Portland Urban Ranger whom I believe will be available at the appropriate time to briefly make a live virtual presentation to the Committee and answer your questions. This particular person ultimately quit when the program's duties were co-opted into police and unlawful encampment demolition functions. I think that such testimony would help the City avoid mistakes made by other jurisdictions.

Portland has now made their urban rangers a keystone of its gun violence prevention measures, which is controversial and I submit a mistake to be avoided here. Nonetheless, the presence of urban rangers following expansion of the program is associated with dramatic reductions in gun violence in several Portland parks.

As you consider extending the life of ACS through winter, I hope this preliminary information will demonstrate that there are viable alternatives to armed private police that are far more cost-effective and produce much better outcomes. With

the breather provided by a temporary ACS extension funded with surplus ARPA funds, the Committee will be capable of fashioning a proposal for a long-term security solution.

There are existing resources in Missoula for provision of de-escalation training, mental and physical health first aid, etc. that are available at nominal cost.

Finally, it's my suggestion that a Task Force be established to study alternative models and make a recommendation for a Missoula-centric permutation for your and the Council's consideration. I propose that the Task Force be comprised of:

- citizens, including representation from the houseless community or from current/former ACS residents;
- a member of the H & R Committee;
- a respected Missoula law enforcement individual such as retired Msla Police Chief, former Msla County Sheriff, former St. Patrick Security Chief, former Polson Police Chief Doug Chase.

Again, the attached materials and the foregoing Task Force Proposal are submitted to you now, because without a vision of what is possible, temporary and expensive stop-gap measures are wasteful and lead nowhere.

Respectfully,

/s/ J. Kevin Hunt
308 Parkside Ln
Missoula, MT 59802

Tel. (971) 295-1969
jkhesq23@gmail.com

<https://www.streetroots.org/news/2011/10/12/parks-bureau-create-new-rangers-patrol-public-parks>

<https://www.koin.com/news/civic-affairs/what-do-the-portland-park-rangers-do/>

<https://oregonlive.com/portland/2021/04/longtime-portland-park-ranger-we-are-not-the-police-of-the-parks-period-and-were-not-going-to-be-period.html>

<https://laapoa.com/2022/06/private-security-for-public-parks-no-arming-park-rangers-is-the-cost-effective-commonsense-solution/>

City Clerk Staff

From: Angelica Luciano <transactions.hydeteam@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 4:03 PM
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Confirmation for SIDs/RSIDs

Hello!

I am Angelica Luciano, the Transaction Coordinator for Hyde & Associates Keller Williams Western Montana Realty.

We currently have a transaction with this property. Can I get some confirmation that there are no active or outstanding SIDs/RSIDs in place for this property, please?

18433 Sorrel Springs Lane Frenchtown, MT 59834

Thank you!

--

Angelica Luciano

Hyde & Associates at Keller Williams Western Montana

transactions.hydeteam@gmail.com

406.298.7265

www.buysellmontana.com



City Clerk Staff

From: John Rosett <jmrosett@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 12:39 PM
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Re: New housing and infrastructure.

Sorry, hit the wrong key. This is the rest of my previous email:

I would like to know what the city is planning to do to address the looming problems caused by all the extra traffic that the new apartments will undoubtedly cause.

Thank you, John Rosett

From: John Rosett
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 12:36 PM
To: council@ci.missoula.mt.us <council@ci.missoula.mt.us>
Subject: New housing and infrastructure.

Hello-

My name is John Rosett, and I live in the westside neighborhood. I am really glad to see that action is being taken to solve the housing crisis in Missoula, with projects like the new apartments on the north side.

My question is: What is being done to take care of what is bound to be a huge impact on traffic on Scott Street? Traffic is bad already, and with the addition of hundreds more people driving on Scott, it would seem that the city would be doing something in advance of this. Trying to cross Scott St, either in a car or on foot is already pretty bad-I often have to wait to cross Scott for 5+ minutes while a seemingly unending stream of cars come over the bridge, most of them speeding. In the afternoon, traffic on Phillips St is often backed up for 2 or more blocks, waiting to get across Scott.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

City Clerk Staff

From: John Rosett <JMRosett@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 12:36 PM
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: New housing and infrastructure.

Hello-

My name is John Rosett, and I live in the westside neighborhood. I am really glad to see that action is being taken to solve the housing crisis in Missoula, with projects like the new apartments on the north side.

My question is: What is being done to take care of what is bound to be a huge impact on traffic on Scott Street? Traffic is bad already, and with the addition of hundreds more people driving on Scott, it would seem that the city would be doing something in advance of this. Trying to cross Scott St, either in a car or on foot is already pretty bad-I often have to wait to cross Scott for 5+ minutes while a seemingly unending stream of cars come over the bridge, most of them speeding. In the afternoon, traffic on Phillips St is often backed up for 2 or more blocks, waiting to get across Scott.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows