

Minutes from Upper Rattlesnake General Meeting April 11, 2025

Attendees:

Upper Rattlesnake Leadership Team members: Terri Roach (Co-Chair), Andrea Stierle (Co-Chair), Jeani Adams (Treasurer and Transportation Committee Representative), Judy Molland (Co-Secretary), Kathy Gaskill (Co-Secretary).

Other attendees Doug Grimm (Sign Maker), Kalina Pritchard (Neighborhood Specialist), Melissa Glueckert (Neighborhood Specialist).

An estimated 55 Upper Rattlesnake residents were in attendance.

Andrea opened the meeting and introduced the Upper Rattlesnake Leadership Team. Minutes from the Ice Cream Social/Lower Rattlesnake General Meeting August 24, 2024 were approved.

1. Tables were hosted by the Rattlesnake Creek Watershed Group, Bear Smart and Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails (PROST).
2. Terri gave a summary of the online survey that was emailed in January to Upper Rattlesnake residents to weigh in on. 410 surveys were emailed and 104 responses were received. Residents ranked issues of livability by importance starting with appreciation of open space and access to trails. This was followed by appreciation of the available parks and recreation opportunities. The next item of importance was the need for emergency preparedness, then living with wildlife, safety and crime prevention, traffic management/safety and public transportation. The results of the survey will be posted on the Missoula City of Neighborhoods site next week.
3. Rachael-Anne Boughton, who works on the Wildfire Mitigation Team as part of the Missoula Office of Emergency Management, gave a presentation on actions residents can take to safeguard their home from wildfires. She was joined by Tim LaRoche who is also on the Team and he added additional information including financial assistance that is available funded by two grants through the BLM. They also encouraged residents to sign up for Smart 911 to receive automatic notification of such things as wildfires in nearby areas.
4. Marc Hendrickson, an Associate Planner/GIS Focus with the City of Missoula and Eric Melson, City Council Ward 1 Representative, gave information on the most recent stage of the Our Missoula 2045 Land Use Plan. Future growth in Missoula is projected to be between 22,000-28,000 people in the next 20 years. The current focus of the plan, Phase 5, is on providing guidance for developing codes for the city to follow for future growth. This phase will be followed by updating the city zoning map for future development. Considerations for development include environmental hazards, constraints such as flood prone areas, constraints including open space and park land and residential suitability.
5. An update on the Missoula Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails (PROST) planning was given by Steve Gaskill. He reported that some of the requests by residents were for development of more trails and trails that connect to parks, expanded size of trailheads to accommodate such things as more parking and more facilities such as pools and splash pads. Some of the goals of Parks and

Rec are to have a park within 10 minutes walking distance in any part of the city, improved trail access along the Clark Fork River and to increase “all season” activity opportunities including more indoor space for winter activity.

6. Melissa proposed a vote to re-elect the current URLT members for another 2-year term. Residents voted to re-elect the current team. An open election to elect new members will be held in August at the Ice Cream Social General Meeting, date to be determined.
7. A public comment was made by resident Dave Everingham that the federal grant funding to replace the Lolo Street Bridge, that was determined to be unsafe, has been rescinded so the bridge will not be replaced in the near future.
8. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and was seconded. Meeting was adjourned.