

# **Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council General and Candidate's Forum**

## **Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 16, 2015

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Missoula International School  
1100 Harrison St.  
Missoula, MT 59802

Leadership Team Members Present: Katherine Auge, Martha Newell, Bob Giordano, Paul Hendricks, Peter Lesica

Others Present: Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator, Heidi West, Ward 1 Candidate, Bill Murray, Ward 1 Candidate, Stephan Edwards, Community Dispute Resolution Center, Mark Thane, MCPS, Julie Lennox, Missoula International School, Bryan von Lossberg, City Council, Jason Weiner, City Council

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6:00 – 6:15 Pizza and Welcome – Bridge Pizza was served.

6:15 – 6:50 Ward 1 Candidate's Forum – Heidi West & Bill Murray  
Moderator – Stephan Edwards, Executive Director of the  
Community Dispute Resolution Center of Missoula County – Mr.  
Edwards moderated the candidate's forum between Ms. West and  
Mr. Murray.

6:50 – 7:10 MCPS Elementary and Secondary Bond Presentation – Mark  
Thane, MCPS Superintendent – Mr. Thane gave a presentation on  
the upcoming school bond vote.

7:10 – 7:25 Future of Missoula International School (Formerly Prescott School)  
building – Julie Lennox, Head of School, Missoula International  
School – Ms. Lennox spoke about the future of the Missoula  
International School.

7:25 – 7:30 Update on Pentachlorophenol Treated Wood Use in Greenough  
Park – Bob Giordano- Mr. Giordano gave an update on the use of  
Pentachlorophenol Treated Wood In Greenough Park.

7:30 – 7:45 Presentation of letters about the [Rattlesnake Neighborhood Plan & Missoula Growth Policy](#), Use of Pentachlorophenol Treated Wood Use in Greenough Park and Improvements on the Roundabout Design at Orange and Van Buren Streets – Discussion was had about the validity of neighborhood plans in the New Growth Policy. There was general agreement that current plans should have some standing, with a balance for the need to fit into larger community goals.

The use of Penta on the lower bridge in Greenough Park, as a preservative, was discussed. A letter was presented by Bob Giordano of MIST requesting that the City and/or Neighborhood Volunteers remove the contaminated wood. A vote of support was taken for the letter and was passed with 42 people in favor of supporting the letter and 3 people opposed.

A letter was presented to improve the design of the upcoming roundabouts at Orange and Van Buren. The letter was already endorsed by the Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee and the Lower Rattlesnake Leadership Team. A vote of support was taken for the letter and was passed with 38 people in favor of supporting the letter and 0 people opposed. The letter will be sent to the City and the State DOT.

7:45 – 7:55 Q&A with City Council Representatives – Bryan von Lossberg and Jason Wiener – there was a question and answer session with the Ward 1 City Council Members.

7:55 – 8:00 Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items - A request was made for citizens to support the efforts of the Red Cross in Missoula and the Lower Rattlesnake.

There was also a comment about train horns.

Heidi West, Ward 1 Candidate	<a href="mailto:adelheid.west@gmail.com">adelheid.west@gmail.com</a>	747-9158
Bill Murray, Ward 1 Candidate	<a href="mailto:bbmurray@live.com">bbmurray@live.com</a>	542-5087
Mark Thane, MCPS Superintendent	<a href="mailto:mthane@mcps.k12.mt.us">mthane@mcps.k12.mt.us</a>	728-2400 x 1023
Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations	<a href="mailto:pmchugh@mcps.k12.mt.us">pmchugh@mcps.k12.mt.us</a>	728-2400 x 3020
Julie Lennox, Head of School, Missoula International School	<a href="mailto:jlennox@mismt.org">jlennox@mismt.org</a>	542-9924
Bryan von Lossberg, City Council	<a href="mailto:bvonlossberg@ci.missoula.mt.us">bvonlossberg@ci.missoula.mt.us</a>	285-1857
Jason Weiner, City Council	<a href="mailto:jwiener@ci.missoula.mt.us">jwiener@ci.missoula.mt.us</a>	542-3232
Bob Giordano, MIST	<a href="mailto:mist@strans.org">mist@strans.org</a>	

September 16, 2015

To: City of Missoula  
From: Lower Rattlesnake Leadership Team and General Neighborhood Council  
Re: Pentachlorophenol on Greenough Bridge

Dear City of Missoula,

The Lower Rattlesnake Leadership team and the General Neighborhood Council are concerned about the use of Pentachlorophenol ('penta') on the wood bridge decking near the southern end of the Park. We are fully supportive of keeping infrastructure maintained and operational, yet we request that more natural preservatives and/or materials be used for such projects.

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 90 countries voted to completely ban the use of Penta, due to evidence linking this chemical to cancer, as well as to deficiencies in the blood, liver, kidney and immune systems of people.

We request that the City of Missoula find a way to remove the Penta treated wood as soon as possible. Without removal, off-gassing will likely occur for years or even decades, children and others will continue to play on the bridge (sometimes with bare skin contacting the decking), and it is likely that the Penta is migrating into Rattlesnake creek, affecting the health of our community ecosystem.

If the City cannot remedy this situation, our neighborhood may be able to help find money and volunteers to make the bridge healthy for all.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

Lower Rattlesnake Leadership Team and General Council.

September 16, 2015

To: City of Missoula, Montana Department of Transportation  
From: Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee, Leadership Team and  
General Neighborhood Council  
Re: Roundabout design for Orange/I-90 and Van Buren/I-90

Dear City of Missoula and Montana DOT,

The Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee, Leadership team and the General Neighborhood Council are concerned about the design of the upcoming roundabouts to Orange/I-90 and Van Buren/I-90. While we recognize the general safety and flow benefits of modern roundabouts when compared to traffic signals, we are requesting some modifications to improve the safety for people walking and bicycling.

The 3 primary concerns with regards to the Van Buren Roundabouts are excessive motor vehicle speed, the pedestrian crossing of the 'slip lane' that goes onto I-90 and the bicycle crossing of that same slip lane. These 3 concerns are illustrated on the back of this letter, as shown by the Missoula Institute for Sustainable Transportation.

With regards to the upcoming roundabout at Orange/I-90, the primary concern is, again, the excessive speed that can be obtained by motorists coming off the Interstate. Excessive speed is a leading factor in crashes and also a leading factor in perceived safety and comfort, especially for those on foot or on bike.

Missoula is a leading city for making walking and bicycling both safe and enjoyable, and we therefore request that the City and State modify the roundabout design to better accommodate these modes of transportation.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee, Leadership Team and General Council.

**Van Buren I-90 Interchange: Roundabout A Good Choice,  
Yet 3 Main Safety Issues Need Addressing; From: MIST, 2-12-13**

