

Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council Leadership Team

Meeting Agenda

Date: July 10, 2015

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: The Jack Reidy Conference Room
140 W. Pine St.
Missoula MT 59802

1. Discussion and recommendations to in regards to the attached letter by Robin Carey in regards to the [Rattlesnake Valley Comprehensive Plan](#) and the [Missoula Growth Policy update](#). (Here is a link to the plans page: <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/1506/Plans-and-Regulations>) – Laval Means, Planning Services Manager, Development Services\
2. Peta (A toxic chemical) use on the Greenough Bridge Redeck Project – Bob Giordano, MIST
3. Roundup use in Greenough Park – Bob Giordano, MIST
4. Lincoln School for Sale – Bob Giordano, MIST
5. Update on Joint Transportation Committee – Bob Giordano, MIST
6. New Business
7. Public comment on non-agenda items
8. Announcements

June 2, 2015

To Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Leadership Team Members:

As you all know, the Office of Development Services is currently engaged in a mandated revision of the Missoula Growth Plan. What some of you may not know is that in this process our Rattlesnake Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan is in some jeopardy. Consequently, I and some of my neighbors are requesting your consideration of an endorsement of the following statement at a joint Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Leadership Team meeting to be then forwarded to the Office of Development Services, to the Mayor, and to our two Council representatives. The statement is as follows:

The Rattlesnake Comprehensive Plan was developed through many hours of deliberation and work by a broad spectrum of residents in the upper and lower Rattlesnake. It has been adopted into every iteration of the county and city Growth Plans since 1988. The 1995 update of the Rattlesnake Plan, as currently incorporated into the Missoula Growth Plan, was arrived at through an extensive public planning process that included citizens groups, university and middle school students, the City Council, the Board of Commissioners, the Mayor's office, the Consolidated Planning Board, the Office of Community Development, the Public Works Department, and others. It was the subject of five public hearings. (View it at <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/documentcenter/view/22425>)

The county and city officially incorporated the 1995 version of The Rattlesnake Comprehensive Plan into the Missoula County Growth Policy in 2002, and reaffirmed it in a 2006 update to the Missoula County Growth Plan. As such, it is not a dated policy document. Indeed, in the recent citizens' suit brought against the city of Missoula regarding the Sonata Park Subdivision, both the District Court and the Montana Supreme Court cited the 2002 incorporation and the 2006 reaffirmation as relevant to their decisions favoring the citizens. The Sonata Park subdivision was denied by the courts specifically because it did not "substantially comply" with the Rattlesnake Comprehensive Plan.

(See <http://searchcourts.mt.gov> then click Supreme Court Case Number, then enter case number DA 10-0142)

The plan was written to reduce problems associated with unplanned and uncoordinated growth. Its "Goals and Guiding Principles" brim with words such as "provide," "protect," "preserve," "continue" and "enhance." It is a lengthy document with detailed analysis of soils, slopes, wildlife, vegetation, geology, utility corridors, water and sewer services, public transportation corridors, existing land use, proposed land use, proposed densities, flood plain areas, historic and cultural features, and more. As such it is an invaluable public document expressing the unique character and vision of our Upper and Lower Rattlesnake neighborhoods. We strongly believe that it should be included in the current rewrite of the Missoula Growth Plan. We also believe that any attempts to discard it should be subjected to the same rigorous and extensive public review that accompanied its adoption.

Respectfully,
Robin Carey