



**Item:** 2009 Community Transportation Enhancement Program - Prioritized Projects

**From:** Sherry Marshall, Transportation Planner I

**Initiated By:** Great Falls Planning Advisory Board

**Presented By:** Bill Walters, Interim Planning Director

**Action Requested:** Approve prioritized list of 2009 CTEP Projects

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**Suggested Motion:**

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission approve the prioritized list of 2009 Community Transportation Enhancement Program projects, as recommended by the Planning Board.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, inquiries from the public, and calls the vote.

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**Planning Board Recommendation:** On August 11, 2009, the Planning Board recommended the Commission approve the attached prioritized list of 2009 Community Transportation Enhancement Program projects.

**Background:** In May of this year, the Great Falls Planning Board solicited proposals from organizations, City Departments and others with a possible interest in the Program. Proposals were solicited through direct e-mailings, as well as paid advertisements in the Great Falls Tribune. Review of the applications began shortly after the June 30 submittal deadline. The proposal review and prioritization process involved a special Planning Board meeting to hear presentations from the applicants, as well as time spent by Board members reviewing each of the proposals and individually completing an evaluation sheet. As a result of the review process, the Planning Board recommends the attached list of projects (Exhibit 1) for consideration by the City Commission.

Of the eight proposals received, three were recommended for receipt of 2009 CTEP allocations. A fourth project is recommended for funding contingent upon additional CTEP funds becoming available. The remaining four projects cannot be funded this year because of the limited CTEP funds available. Applicants whose projects do not receive funding this year will be encouraged to submit applications for future CTEP allocations.

The three projects being recommended for approval are listed below, in order of preference.

1. **GIBSON PARK LIGHTING** – This proposal was submitted by the Great Falls Park and Recreation Department. It includes installation of approximately thirty period style light poles and necessary electrical services along the pedestrian walkway in Gibson Park. CTEP funds requested: \$103,896
2. **BIKE ROUTE SIGNAGE** – This proposal was submitted by Recreational Trails, Inc. (RTI). The project includes appropriate site identification, prioritization and installation of approximately 101 signs along on-street bike routes as identified in the 2009 Great Falls Transportation Plan. CTEP funds requested: \$20,659
3. **1ST AVENUE SOUTH STREETScape** – This proposal was submitted by the Great Falls Business Improvement District (BID). It includes improvements to the south side of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets South. Plans include construction of 500 feet of ADA-compliant concrete sidewalk and curb, two bulb-out corners, four ramps, six boulevard trees, three period street lights, one bicycle rack, one decorative planting boulder, and two garbage receptacles. CTEP funds requested: \$206,047

The project that is recommended for approval contingent upon additional CTEP funds becoming available is:

1. **20TH STREET SOUTH SIDEWALK** – This proposal was submitted by the University of Great Falls, and includes constructing 1,085 ft of ADA-compliant sidewalk, curb, and ramps on the east side of 20<sup>th</sup> Street South from 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue South to 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. CTEP funds requested: \$64,528.00

The four projects that are not recommended for funding this year are:

1. **RIVERVIEW PATH LANDSCAPING** – This application was submitted by Great Falls Public Works. The project includes landscaping along both sides of a new bike/pedestrian trail. The project would enhance the north side of Smelter Avenue between Division Road and Riverview B. Landscaping would include irrigation, trees, shrubs, grass, and xeriscaped areas. CTEP funds requested: \$121,683
2. **23<sup>RD</sup> STREET SOUTH SIDEWALK II** – This application was submitted by the Great Falls Housing Authority. The project includes construction of 400 feet of concrete sidewalk and ADA compliant ramps along the east side of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street South between 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenues South. CTEP funds requested: 34,547
3. **RAILROAD HISTORY EXHIBIT** – This application was submitted by the Montana Museum of Railroad History. The project includes construction of a caboose exhibit including fencing, ADA-compliant walkway, viewing area, patio seating, and landscaping. CTEP funds requested: \$32,035
4. **POLICE DEPARTMENT REHAB II** – This application was submitted by the Great Falls Police Department. The project includes design and installation of an

alternative treatment to the current 2,350 square feet of cinder block window covering, located on the exterior of the police department building. CTEP funds requested: \$76,234

If approved by the City Commission, the projects recommended to be funded will be sent to the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) for final approval. The Planning staff would then work closely with both MDT and the applicants to develop and implement the projects.

**Concurrences:** Representatives from the City Planning Department and the Great Falls Planning Advisory Board have reviewed and recommended the proposed projects and CTEP allocations as listed in Exhibit 1.

**Financial Impact:** Of the \$332,478 available to the City this year, funding of the recommended projects would commit \$330,602 with the remaining \$1,876 of unallocated funds placed in the CTEP reserve account. The anticipated financial impacts of individual projects are as follows:

1. Required match for the Gibson Park Lighting project would be provided by the Peoples Park and Recreation Foundation/Park Trust, with the City providing necessary repairs and maintenance through a fund established by the Peoples Park and Recreation Foundation.
2. The Bike Route Signage project would be matched by Recreational Trails, Inc. with the City accepting the newly installed signs into City inventory, providing maintenance for signs placed on City rights-of-way.
3. Required match for the 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South Streetscape would be provided by the Business Improvement District (BID). The BID, along with adjacent property owners, would provide general maintenance of the streetscape. Sidewalk maintenance would be provided by the City as prescribe by State law and the City of Great Falls Municipal Code. Street light maintenance would be provided by the City through the special lighting district and boulevard trees would be maintained by the City Forester, with funding from the BID.
4. The fourth project, if funded would be maintained by the City and adjacent property owner as prescribed by State law and the City of Great Falls Municipal Code.

**Alternatives:** The City Commission could vote to distribute the CTEP funds differently than the Planning Advisory Board recommends. Another alternative would be to allocate none of the 2009 CTEP funds, placing them instead into the CTEP reserve account.

**Attachments/Exhibits:**

1. 2009 Prioritized List of CTEP Projects (Exhibit 1)

<b>2009 PRIORITIZED LIST OF CTEP PROJECTS - CITY OF GREAT FALLS</b>					<b>\$332,478</b>
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>RANK</b>	<b>PROJECT \$</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>MATCH \$</b>	<b>available for allocation CTEP \$</b>
GIBSON PARK LIGHTING Installation of period lighting along pedestrian path in Gibson Park	1	\$120,000	\$0	\$16,104	\$103,896
BIKE ROUTE SIGNAGE Installation of signs identifying on-street bike routes as identified in the 2009 Great Falls Transportation Plan	2	\$23,861	\$0	\$3,202	\$20,659
1ST AVE S STREETScape Construction of sidewalk/streetscape on the south side of 1st Avenue South between 2nd and 3rd Streets South	3	\$237,984	\$0	\$31,937	\$206,047
20TH ST S SIDEWALK* Construction of a sidewalk on the east side 20th Street South between 11th and 15th Avenues South	4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
RIVERVIEW PATH LANDSCAPING Landscaping adjacent to new trail along the north side of Smelter Avenue between Division Road and Riverview B	5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
23RD ST S SIDEWALK Construction of a sidewalk/ramps along the east side 23rd Street South between 15th and 16th Avenues South	6	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
RAILROAD HISTORY EXHIBIT Development of a Caboose Exhibit for the Montana Museum of Railroad History located at Montana ExpoPark	7	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
POLICE DEPARTMENT REHAB - II Restoration work for the exterior of the Great Falls Police Department building	8	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>\$381,845</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$51,244</b>	<b>\$330,601</b>
<b>2009 FUNDS TO BE LEFT UNALLOCATED:</b>					<b>\$1,877</b>

\* Project to be funded if CTEP funds become available