

For immediate release: Aug. 27, 2012



CONTACT: Doug Harby, Construction Project Manager,
Public Works Department

PHONE: 552-6091

E-MAIL: dharby@ci.missoula.mt.us

VAN BUREN STREET REHAB STARTS TUESDAY

Multi-phase project will bring much-needed improvements

City of Missoula crews will start a project to reconstruct Van Buren Street on Tuesday, Aug. 28. The first phase of the multi-phase project will be between Cherry and Elm streets. It will include new curbs, sidewalks, driveway approaches and drainage improvements, followed by paving and placement of topsoil and seed where needed.

The goal of the project, which will take at least two construction seasons, is to make Van Buren Street a complete street, with complete vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle features from the base of the Rattlesnake Valley up to Missoula Avenue.

Van Buren Street emerged as a top priority in the Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study, which was coordinated by City Council representative Dave Strohmaier with citizens and completed in May 2011.

“Van Buren is a critical corridor both for residents of the Rattlesnake Valley and our entire community,” Strohmaier said. “It has been identified by Missoulians as a top priority among our thoroughfares that need to become complete streets.”

The work should take five to six weeks, depending on weather. Two-way traffic will be maintained, though there may be short detours during some periods of the work. Some side streets will be closed to through traffic. **Sidewalks will be closed, and parking will be prohibited in the construction zone. Football fans who park in the lower Rattlesnake should allow extra time to locate a parking spot on game day.** Vehicles interfering with construction will be towed at the owners’ expense.

#