



MISSOULA DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION  
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
MISSOULA DOWNTOWN FOUNDATION

August 13, 2021

Missoula City Council Members  
435 Ryman  
Missoula, MT 59802

Council Members,

As you review the proposed budget for FY2021, we want to encourage you to approve the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding request from Parks & Recreation for Caras Park Improvements to commence this fall in conjunction with the City's Stormwater Infiltration installation. This project will be Phase 1 Implementation of the [North Riverside Parks & Trails Plan](#).

By combining these construction projects, we can reduce construction seasons in the park and save approximately \$100,000. The Missoula Downtown Foundation (MDF) has been raising funds since May to help make this project a reality this year. The Foundation has raised \$650,000 to match the city's allocation of the same amount so we can commence construction this October and complete Phase 1 Improvements by next April.

Phase I Improvements include rebuilding the amphitheater seating, flattening the green hill following installation of the infiltration gallery, widening of the riverfront trail, additional lighting and electrical infrastructure, and upgrades to the entry points from the trail to the park.

This is a true public-private partnership, and the Missoula Downtown Foundation will bring 50% of the funding to the table to ensure Phase 1 Improvements can commence this fall. Your approval of this CIP funding request from Parks & Recreation will jumpstart implementation and reduce construction impacts on Missoula's town square.

Thank you for your consideration.

Linda McCarthy  
Downtown Missoula Partnership  
& the Downtown Master Plan Implementation Team