From: <u>Lisa C. Kunz</u>

To: Bill Bronson; Bob Kelly; Mary Sheehy Moe; Owen Robinson; Tracy Houck

Cc: Greg Doyon; Charles Anderson; Melissa Kinzler; Krista Artis

 Subject:
 FW: 2019 Budget comments

 Date:
 Tuesday, July 16, 2019 3:39:19 PM

From: Lisa C. Kunz

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 3:38 PM

To: 'Shyla Patera' <ncils.patera@bresnan.net>

Subject: RE: 2019 Budget comments

Thanks Shyla. I will make sure the Commission members get your comments prior to consideration of Agenda Item 20 on this evening's Commission agenda.

Lisa Kunz

City Clerk/Records Manager City of Great Falls P.O. Box 5021 Great Falls, MT 59403 406.455.8451

From: Shyla Patera < ncils.patera@bresnan.net >

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 3:32 PM **To:** Lisa C. Kunz < <u>lkunz@greatfallsmt.net</u>>

Subject: 2019 Budget comments

Importance: High

Honorable Mayor Kelly and Commissioners:

On the 2019 City of Great Falls Budget, we at NCILS, know that it is imperative that we include accessible community planning for all disabilities. We ask that Planning and Community Development work on strengthening policies to build accessible, affordable, and universally designed housing stock in our city. We ask that funding be dedicated to Public Works for enforcement of our City of Great Falls ADA Transition Plan. We applaud Public Works and City Engineering for ensuring that curb cut access is monitored and funded. We believe that traffic signal studies as well as way finding options are important for our community. We encourage GFFR and GFPD to dialogue with citizens with disabilities to ensure that all of us have an important role to play in community policing and fire rescue. We encourage first responders and our city government to purchase accessible vehicles and equipment where possible to

assist in disaster planning. We would also encourage GFPD to monitor accessible parking and snow removal policy enforcement. To that, we also encourage the City of Great Falls to adopt a disaster and emergency preparedness plan. For Park and Recreation, the projects undertaken through the special park district have made progress in accessibility. NCILS has been conducting walkabilities of our city parks and surrounding neighborhoods. We encourage anyone interested to participate. You can call our office for the schedule. We encourage the City of Great Falls to plan for an all abilities playground and swim park in the future. NCILS hopes that all city services and programs will become accessible to all citizens. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Shyla Patera
Independent Living Specialist
North Central Independent Living Services
1120 25th Ave NE
Black Eagle, MT 59414
(406) 452-9834
ncils.patera@bresnan.net