

JOURNAL OF CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
February 16, 2021

City Commission Work Session
Civic Center Gibson Room 212

Mayor Kelly presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

Due to the COVID-19 health concerns, the format of the City Commission Work Session was held in a virtual video-conferencing environment.

ROLL CALL/STAFF INTRODUCTIONS: City Commission members participated electronically via Zoom Webinar: Bob Kelly, Mary Sheehy Moe, Owen Robinson and Rick Tryon. Tracy Houck joined at 5:50 p.m. City Staff participating electronically were: City Manager Greg Doyon and Deputy City Manager Chuck Anderson; Public Works Director Paul Skubinna; and Assistant City Attorney Joe Cik. Park and Recreation Director Steve Herrig and Fire Chief Jeremy Jones were present in the Gibson Room, and Deputy City Clerk Darcy Dea was present in the Commission Chambers.

To honor the Right of Participation and the Right to Know (Article II, Sections 8 and 9 of the Montana Constitution), modifications have also been made for public participation as follows:

- Attend in person. **The City will be following the Current Governor's Directives and the Public Health Officer Orders regarding public meetings conducted by, staffed by or held in the facilities of the city.** Masks will be required, social distancing will be enforced, and the total number of persons in the meeting room will be limited to a maximum of 50. Public following these directives may view and participate in the meeting from the Gibson Room. Please refrain from attending in person if you are not feeling well.
- Attend the virtual meeting utilizing Zoom Webinar. Attendees must register in advance for the Commission Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nhZaRkdjR0uziOiG-uaFhg
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar by Zoom.
- Participate by phone. Attendees must register in advance for the Commission Meeting using the link above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar by phone. If you do not have internet access you may contact the Great Falls Public Library prior to the meeting at 453-9706 and they can assist with registration.
- Provide public comments in writing. Submit comments via mail addressed to City Clerk's Office, PO Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403 or by email to: commission@greatfallsmt.net by 12:00 PM the day of the meeting.
- The agenda packet material is available on the City's website: <https://greatfallsmt.net/meetings>. The Public may view and listen to the meeting on cable channel 190, or online at <https://greatfallsmt.net/livestream>.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Eric Ray, Neighborhood Council #5 Chairperson, requested that the Commission direct City staff to follow up with the new administration of the Governor's office with regard to an update on the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Environmental Impact Study for the Proposed Madison Food Park Slaughterhouse Proposal.

02/16/2021

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Commissioner Moe responded that a request for the MEPA Environmental Impact Study has been on hold with the state for almost a year and she suggested that the proposal be added to a future agenda soon to determine the next course of action.

1. **GOLF COURSE UPDATE FROM COURSECO**

CourseCo President/CEO Michael Sharp reviewed and discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation which included Eagle Falls Golf Club & Anaconda Hills Golf Course year in review, golf course conditions, 2020 by the numbers, COVID 19 commitments to safety, making a difference in the community, 2021 community vision and 2021 vision for the Taphouse at Eagle Falls.

Mr. Sharp added that the golf courses were very successful despite all of the challenges in 2020.

Commissioner Houck joined electronically via Zoom Webinar at 5:50 p.m.

Commissioner Robinson commented that he is pleased with the conditions of the golf courses and the Taphouse at Eagle Falls will enhance the course.

Commissioner Tryon concurred with Commissioner Robinson's comments and inquired about the golf fee increase.

Mr. Sharp responded that the increase is modest despite an increase in wages and operating costs, as well as the quality of the golf course programs.

Commissioner Moe commented that the fee increase is in line with what one can expect. She noted that there is a need to be cognizant of how the City's golf courses compare with other courses in Montana communities. Commissioner Moe expressed appreciation to Mr. Sharp with regard to the improvements at the golf courses and for providing an outdoor experience to citizens during a very difficult time.

Commissioner Houck commented that she is pleased with the outcome, product and service with regard to the golf courses. She mentioned that there is community support for cross-country skiing on the golf course during the winter.

Mayor Kelly concurred with the Commission's comments.

2. **AARP'S LIVABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

AARP Montana Outreach Director Nancy Andersen reviewed and discussed a video which included AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities; implementing changes that make communities more livable for people of all ages by offering diverse housing and transportation choices; safe and accessible public spaces; ways for people of all ages and abilities to participate in the community.

Ms. Andersen reviewed and discussed the attach PowerPoint presentation which included AARP age-friendly communities training videos, information and tools you can use: aarp.org/Livable, Livability Index, map, newsletter and Community Challenge Grant Program.

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AARP Senior Operations Manager Steve Reiter reviewed and discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation including the Montana experience: Bozeman, Carbon County and Roundup.

Mayor Kelly commented that the Commission would offer its support to citizens in the community interested in the age-friendly communities process.

Commissioner Moe commented that age-friendly communities are needed in Montana and it would allow several opportunities for Great Falls.

Commissioner Houck expressed support of exploring age-friendly communities.

Commissioners Moe and Houck left the Zoom Webinar at 6:25 p.m.

Commissioner Tryon commented that the presentation was extremely educational.

Commissioner Robinson commented that AARP is proactive in many areas.

Ms. Andersen summarized that the age-friendly communities process is about being age friendly across the spectrum and would benefit citizens of all ages.

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

City Manager Greg Doyon reported that the March 2, 2021, work session will consist of an Alluvion Crisis Intervention Program update. The March 16th work session will consist of a Neighborhood Council #6 update.

Manager Doyon mentioned that he is continuing to monitor legislative issues with City staff.

Commissioner Tryon requested that a Crime Task Force update be added to the March 16th work session.

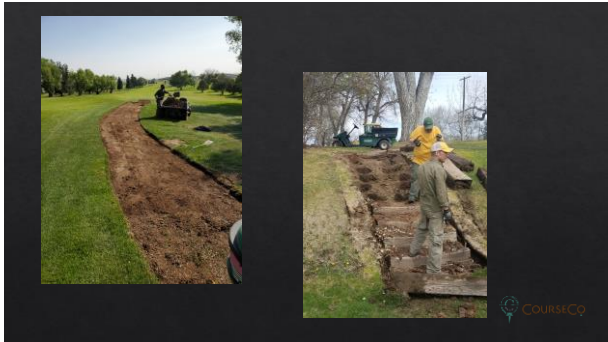
ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kelly adjourned the informal work session of February 16, 2021 at 6:33 p.m.



Golf Course Conditions

- Continued focus on our Agronomic Plan for long term health and sustainability
 - Consistent quality and speed of greens
 - Weed eradication program for fairways started in 2020 and will continue in 2021
 - Removal of Railroad Tie Steps on #8 at Anaconda completed.
 - Lengthening of Cart Path on #15 at Eagle Falls Completed
 - Acquisition of New Spray Unit to Increase Productivity
 - New Carpet Installed at Anaconda Completed
 - Taphouse at Eagle Falls Fully Open



2020 By The Numbers

Total Rounds Played: Calendar Year Over Year

	2019 – 37,874	2020 – 45,611	
	Public	Tournament	Passholders
2019	19,338	1,464	17,072
2020	25,368	1,243	19,000

COURSECO

2020 By The Numbers

Total Revenue: Calendar Year Over Year

2019 - \$1,096,271

2020 - \$1,455,914

COURSECO

2020 By The Numbers

Factors Attributing to Increases in Rounds and Revenue:

Focus on Course Programming, Advertising, and Tee Sheet Management
Continued Improvements on Guest Service and Building Community Relationships
Ongoing Course Improvements to Playing Surfaces
Covid-19 Pandemic – Designated Safe Activity

COURSECO

WE ARE COMMITTED

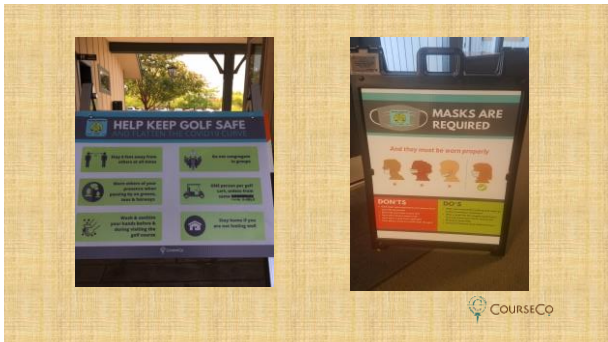


TO HEALTH ✓ TO SAFETY ✓ TO YOU

COURSECO

Covid 19 Commitments to Safety

- Protecting our Guests and Co-Workers
- Mandatory Masks Required to Enter All Buildings
- Staff Training on Proper Sanitization
- Touch Points Minimized When Possible and Sanitized on a Frequent Basis
- Social Distancing Guidelines
- Golf Carts Cleaned and Sanitized Before And After Each Use
- Service Windows Used to Create Distance During Check-in
- Do Not Touch Flagsticks
- Dining Area's Limited in Seating Capacity
- Co-ordination of All Golf Events With City County Health Dept to Ensure We Are Following Recommended Guidelines



Making a difference in the Community



2021 Community Vision

- Keeping success in place:*
- Montana 2-man best ball tournament (64 Teams)
 - City Match Play Championship
 - High School/College Golf Tournaments
 - 4th of July Community Barbecue
 - Junior Golf Camps and Clinics

- Calendar Includes New Programs*
- Girl Scout Golf Camp
 - First Green Event
 - Golf University - Adult Camps
 - Sip & Hit Clinics
 - Women Against Breast Cancer Tournament
 - Great Falls Chamber of Commerce Tournament
 - Hack & Blast Golf Outing
 - Annual Eagle Falls Ladies Association Invitational
 - Scheels Fathers Day Partnership
 - Special Olympics Partnership

MT STATE 2 MAN BEST BALL
JULY 31 AND AUGUST 1, 2021

JUNIOR GOLF CAMPS
\$40 per student

CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA 2021
\$2 Tacos, Beer Specials, Raffle
Prices All Day!

COURSECO

ANACONDA HILLS GOLF COURSE

BEST OF THE FALLS
2020 Winner-Best Golf Course

Anaconda Hills Named Best of the Falls 2020 by Central MT Radio Network!!!

COURSECO

Taphouse at Eagle Falls

- Daily Specials
- Group Events and Outings
- Dine in or Take Out

BREAKFAST SANDWICH

THE BACON IS DEFINITELY SHAKIN'

COURSECO

2021 Vision for The Taphouse at Eagle Falls

- 6 Tap Handles with Local Brews
- Golf Outings and Private Events
- Bingo Night
- Trivia Night
- Live Music & Bands
- Sports Programming (Gameday)

TRIVIANIGHT

MANZANITA

Game Night

TAPROOM MUSIC SERIES

COURSECO



AARP's Livable Communities Program & AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities



Livable communities is in AARP's DNA



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Demographic tipping point

JANUARY 1, 2035
There will be more people age 65+ than children under age 18.



Source: US Census Bureau



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Figure 6: 2010 EDR Montana Counties Distribution Map

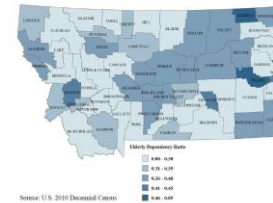
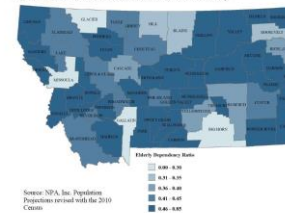


Figure 7: 2030 EDR Montana Counties Distribution Map



Source: Project 2030: Montana's Ageing Population



www.montana.edu/extensionecon/n/project2030.pdf

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Trends that matter



Older Adults Want to Stay Where They Live

8 in 10 people 50+ expect to stay in their community.



Grappling With our Past



Homes have traditionally been built for able-bodied 35 year olds.



Communities have been developed around cars as the principal form of transportation.



Current Patterns Are Not Positive



HOUSING

More than **50% of renters** 65+ are rent-burdened

Less than **1% of homes** have features needed to support aging in the home

MOBILITY

The average American outlives their ability to drive by **6-10** years

People 65+ were over-represented in pedestrian fatalities in **35 states**

PUBLIC SPACES

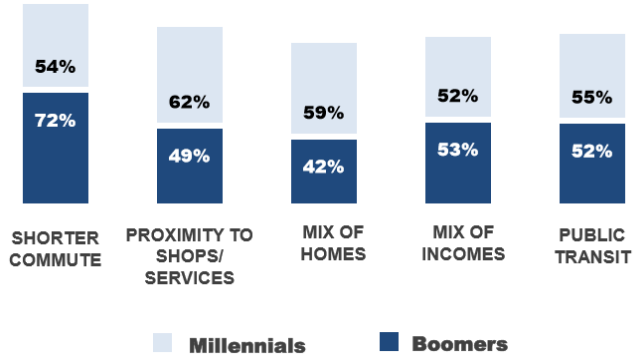
Seniors comprise **20% of population** but only **4% of park users**

ISOLATION

The health risks of prolonged isolation = **smoking 15 cigarettes a day**



We all Want the Same Things



Livable Communities



What is a Livable Community?

A place where people of all ages can...



Go for a walk



Cross the street



Ride a bike



Get around without a car



Live Safely and Comfortably



Work and volunteer

Age Friendly



AARP Livable Communities Approach

aka our “Age-Friendly” Approach



We support communities and local leaders to think differently about their housing, transportation and public spaces to create great places for all people of all ages.

AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

Nearly 500 communities + 6 states

Nearly 200 of those are <25,000 pop

Voluntary, flexible

Five-year cycle

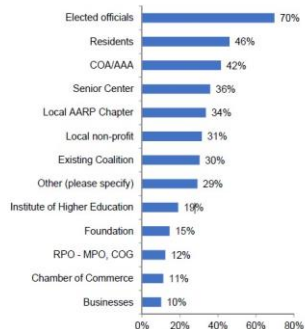
Over 100 million US residents live in an age-friendly community



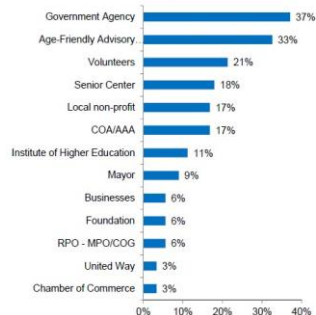
Search for a community like yours at <https://livablemap.aarp.org/>

Age-friendly champions (pre- and during)

Who were the major champions that supported enrollment? Check all that apply.

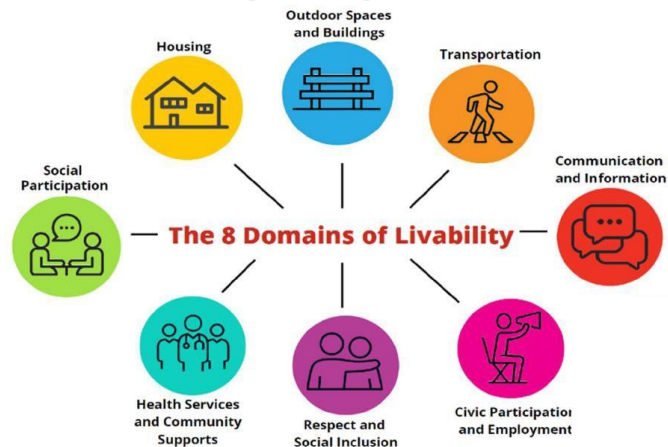


Who serves as the lead organization(s) to coordinate the age-friendly work? Check all that apply.

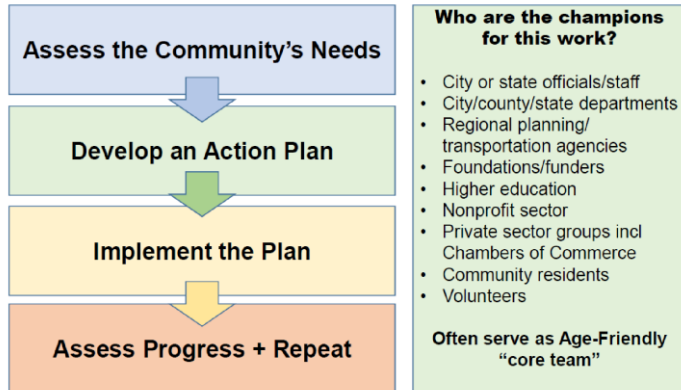


COA/AAA: Council on/Area Agency on Aging
RPO: Regional Planning Organization
MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organization
COG: Council of Government

AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities



AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

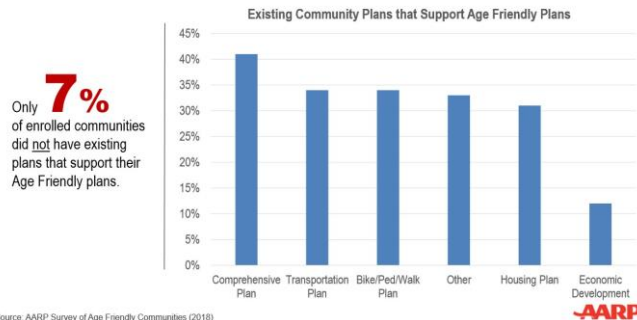


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AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities



Age Friendly Complements Other Plans



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Impact of Age-Friendly Network

60% achieved a change in public policy

34% achieved a private sector investment or action

85% described "other successes"

- Integrating the age-friendly lens into strategic planning
- Increased awareness of livable issues
- Increased collaboration within community
- Enacting programs in accordance with Action Plan

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Livability Domains and Community Responses to COVID-19

The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities informs and inspires local leaders to implement the types of policies and improvements that make communities more livable for people of all ages — especially older adults. Many of the towns, cities, counties, and states enrolled in the network use the 8 Domains of Livability framework to organize and prioritize their work. In response to the global coronavirus pandemic, communities in the network are adjusting their existing plans, programs and partnerships to all of the domains (along with commitments to emergency preparedness) in order to protect and assist older residents and other high-risk individuals. The following examples, shared with us by the communities themselves, show how the use of best practices, creativity and the power of volunteers can spark innovative ideas and achievable solutions that effectively meet community needs.

<p>Respect and Social Inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create online programming for seniors and virtual care facilities on basis of shared interests to students and other adults • Ask children to make and deliver greeting cards to Meals on Wheels recipients and groups to senior care facilities 	<p>Outdoor Spaces and Buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create events to raise money to build or renovate can safely walk and bicycle while social distancing • Address crossing signals on pedestrian street to reach the Crosswalk Initiative 	<p>Social Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start daily community-wide "open house" for health care workers and their responders • Create a drink in honor of a caregiver & provide a walk route a walking to • Host a "Bragging Mom" event to celebrate our first and last other people by driving slowly along their community's main roadway 	<p>Health Services and Community Supports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with municipal officials, houses of worship and local responders to coordinate deliveries and meals to people who can't go out • Provide vouchers for groceries and financial goods to residents in need • Expand where SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program) benefits can be used • Conduct weather checks and improve quarantine measures in senior care facilities 	<p>Civic Participation and Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect people with volunteer opportunities through online "help" resources • Promote online volunteering for advocacy or service campaigns
<p>Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify routes, schedules, stopping and loading to enable social distancing • Provide specialized services for essential workers • Support transit fares • Increase paratransit services • Make arrangements to deliver needed items to people who can't leave their homes or use their usual modes of transportation 	<p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 207 services and shelter for individuals and families experiencing homelessness • Work with local leaders and legislators to avoid and reduce a reentrance on evictions • Establish an relationship with funding sources to provide financial assistance to older adults and others struggling with housing costs • Create a housing grant program for groups who have become a job loss due to COVID-19 	<p>Communication and Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with businesses and local service providers to expand services to support high-speed internet • Create a "friendly older" call program for checking on people who live alone • Establish information hotlines and distribute "friendly help" card certain needed supplies 	<p>Emergency Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add safety measures and tips to safety kits and local government mailings • Create hot kits that can help older adults in the event of a power outage, flood, shortage or other disruption • Use or adjust existing emergency kits and resources 	



AARP Age-Friendly Communities Training Videos - Six-Part Series

<https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/network-age-friendly-communities/age-friendly-training-videos/>



Information and tools you can use: aarp.org/Livable

Free publications



Free practitioner-oriented publications in print and via download on:

- Rural livability (including broadband, economic development)
- Housing (home modification, ADUs, diversity)
- Transportation (including walk audit)
- Placemaking and parks (including park audit)
- Community engagement

Tools: LivIndex, map and newsletter



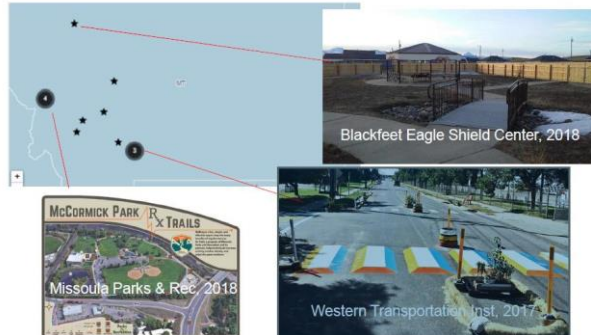
Community Challenge Grant Program

AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE
 Grants to make communities livable for people of all ages
aarp.org/CommunityChallenge

58% PUBLIC SPACES Making enhancements to parks and gathering places	28% TRANSPORTATION Increasing connectivity, walkability, mobility and safety	7% HOUSING Encouraging the availability of housing that is affordable and age-friendly	5% OTHER Addressing important needs identified by the community	3% SMART CITIES Engaging residents and using data to improve quality of life
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2020: \$2.4 million in grants awarded to 184 communities (to date >\$6 million in 4 years)

Community Challenge Grant Program



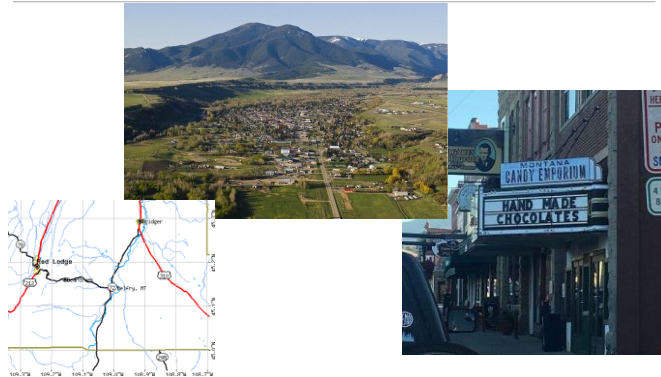
Nearly 20 grants made to communities across MT totaling >\$150k

Congrats to 2020 winners: Bozeman, Cascade, Missoula, and Headwaters Trail System (+ others funded by AARP MT)

The MONTANA Experience: Bozeman

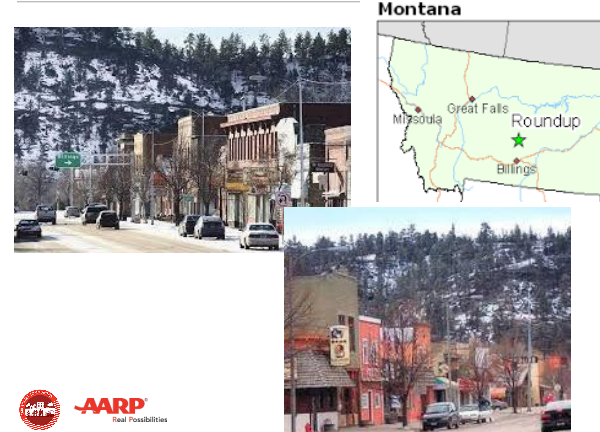


The MONTANA Experience: Carbon County



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The MONTANA Experience: Roundup



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The MONTANA Experience: Great Falls



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For more information:

Nancy Andersen, Outreach Director, AARP Montana
nandersen@aarp.org

Steve Reiter, Operations Manager, AARP Montana
sreiter@aarp.org

AARP Livable Communities www.aarp.org/livable



THANK YOU!

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