

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION
August 4, 2015

City Commission Work Session
Civic Center, Gibson Room

Mayor Winters presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: City Commissioners present: Michael J. Winters, Fred Burow, and Bob Jones. Commissioners Bronson and Kelly were excused.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager and Deputy City Manager; City Attorney; Directors of Fiscal Services, and Public Works; Police Captain; Street Supervisor; and the Deputy City Clerk.

**** Action Minutes of the Great Falls City Commission. Please refer to the audio/video recording of this meeting for additional detail. ****

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Winters asked if there were any comments from the public.

Richard Liebert, 289 Boston Coulee Road, provided a handout of the keystone of the original library arranged by Ken Robison. He invited the public to the Great Falls Public Library celebration of 125 years of selfless service on August 12, 2015, 5-7 pm. He believes the City and the Library must work together to add four additional hours to be open.

Mr. Liebert also provided a handout publication, *Your CHS Connection*, for review by Planning and Community Development Director Craig Raymond. He discussed the fiscal impact that county residents have on City businesses. He supports the annexation of CHS, Inc.

Mr. Liebert believes staff reports should provide numbers, in addition to a narrative, indicating anticipated expenditures and revenue.

2. STREET MAINTENANE UPDATE

Public Works Director Jim Rearden provided and discussed a PowerPoint presentation on the City transportation system, including project prioritization and methods for funding.

Director Rearden introduced the new Street Supervisor Kenny Jorgensen, replacing Jim Turnbow who recently retired.

CITY OF GREAT FALLS PUBLIC WORKS

STREET MAINTENANCE

COMMISSION WORK SESSION

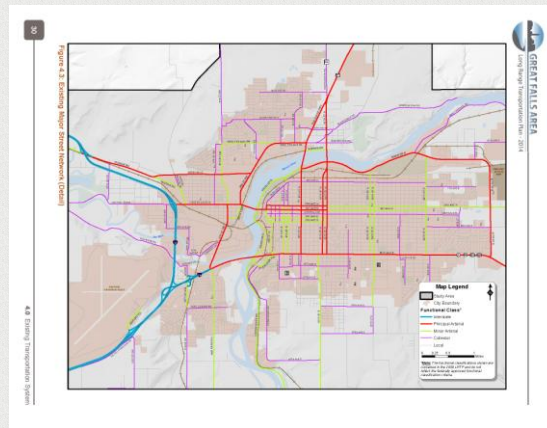
AUGUST 4, 2015



Questions

- What makes up the City's streets and roadway system?
- How does the City develop and adopt its Transportation Plan?
- What other funding is available for transportation projects?
- How is the City's Street Maintenance Program funded?
- To what level should the Street Maintenance District be funded?

Highway System Map



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Brian Clifton	County Public Works Director
Susan Conell	County Planning Director
Dave Dobbs	City Engineer
John Faulkner	Airport Director
Andrew Finch	City Transportation Planner
Aaron Jewett	Deputy Base Civil Engineer
Courtney Lyerly	City Transportation/SID Engineer
Craig Raymond	City P & CD Director
Jim Helgeson	Transit District Manager
Carol Strizich	MDT Planning Supervisor
Jerry McKinley	City Traffic Supervisor
Christie McComber	MDT District Project Engineer
Jim Ekberg	County Deputy Public Works Director
Jim Rearden	City Public Works Director
Rick Schutz	County Road Superintendent
Bruce Tries	City-County Env. Health Specialist
Ken Jorgensen	City Street Superintendent
Jerilee Wiebel	MDT District Right of Way Supervisor
Lloyd Rue	FHWA Program Dev. Engineer (ex-officio)
David Gabbert	FAA District Manager (ex-officio)

UPCOMING PRIORITY ROADWAY PROJECTS

- COMMITTED:**
1. South Central Urban Arterial Improvement Project
 2. North Bootlegger Trail - 2KM North of Great Falls
 3. Great Falls - North U.S. 87 North (Malt Plant North)
 4. Emerson Junction - Manchester (Interstate Rehab)
 5. Fox Farm Road - East Fiesta to Dick Road
- RECOMMENDED:**
1. River Drive North - 15th Street No. to 38th Street No.
 2. U.S. 87 - 33rd Ave. NE to Bootlegger Trail
 3. **36th Ave. NE - 9th St. NE to Bootlegger Trail**
- ILLUSTRATIVE:**
1. 38th Street North - 10th Ave. No. to River Drive North
 2. **9th Street Northwest - NW Bypass to Central Ave. West**
 3. Flood Road - Park Garden Road to Dick Road
 4. **6th Street Northwest - Smelter Avenue to Skyline Drive/36th Ave NE**
- INTERCHANGES:**
1. Airport Interchange (Congestion)
 2. Emerson Junction (Limited Access)

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING SOURCES

- **FEDERAL**
 - National Highway Performance Program
 - Interstate Maintenance
 - National Highway System
 - Bridge
 - Surface Transportation Program
 - Urban Highway System
 - Secondary Highway System
 - Urban Pavement Preservation Program
 - CMAQ – Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program
 - Montana Air Congestion Initiative
 - Transportation Alternatives Program
 - Trails
 - Amenities
- **STATE**
 - State Fuel Tax
 - State Funds for Transit
 - Rail Funds
- **LOCAL**
 - Street Maintenance Assessment
 - Local Gas Tax Allocation
 - Special Improvement Districts
 - Developer Funding



How is the City's Street Maintenance Program Funded?

- City maintains 383 miles of streets and alleys, performing pavement rehabilitation and restoration, street cleaning, snow and ice removal, alley maintenance, nuisance weed removal, signals, signs, pavement markings.
- Two main sources of revenue:
 - **Street Maintenance Assessment**
 - **State Fuel Tax**



Street Maintenance Assessment

- Property assessment based upon:
 - **Square footage** of property
 - Basic **land use type** (residential, commercial, mixed use)
- Properties assessed at \$0.0132318 per sq. ft.
 - 12,000 sq. ft. cap for residential property and properties categorized as non-profit/cemetery organizations
 - 50% commercial/50% residential assessment for mixed use properties 112,000 sq. ft. or more but less than 50% commercially developed.
 - 1 million sf. cap for commercial properties



Street Maintenance Assessment (cont.)

- **Utilization:** Montana Code (MCA) allows sprinkling, graveling, oiling, chip sealing, seal coating, overlaying, treating, general cleaning, sweeping, flushing, snow removal, leaf and debris removal, the operation, maintenance, and repair of traffic signal systems, repair of & new traffic signs, the placement and maintenance of pavement markings, curb and gutter repair, and minor sidewalk repair that includes cracking, chipping, sealing, and replacement of not more than 6 feet of sidewalk in any 100-foot portion of sidewalk, street widening, new curb/gutter and similar improvements.



State Fuel Tax

- Allocated to all incorporated cities and counties, based upon population and street mileage.
- Great Falls allocation: around \$1,000,000/yr.
- **Utilization:** construction, reconstruction, maintenance, repair of rural roads, and streets/alleys. May be used to match federal funds allocated for road construction that are part of the primary or secondary road system or urban extensions.

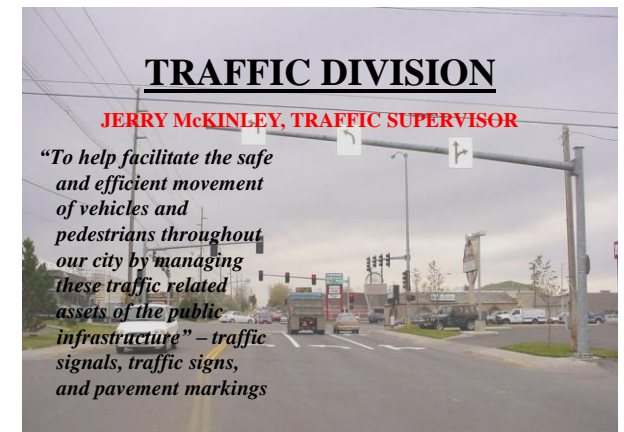
State Fuel Tax & Street Maintenance Allocation Summary

Year	Street Assessment Amount	State Fuel Tax Allocation	TOTAL
2005	\$1,993,406	\$1,036,295.69	\$3,029,702
2006	\$2,229,643	\$1,020,060.22	\$3,249,703
2007	\$2,621,406	\$1,025,325.52	\$3,646,732
2008	\$2,850,270	\$1,004,077.42	\$3,854,347
2009	\$3,149,233	\$1,012,152.86	\$4,161,386
2010	\$3,402,860	\$1,000,675.41	\$4,403,535
2011	\$3,513,784	\$995,586.51	\$4,509,371
2012	\$3,560,032	\$1,005,330.68	\$4,565,363
2013	\$3,630,779	\$1,005,079.00	\$4,635,858
2014	\$3,630,779	\$993,168.00	\$4,623,947
2015	\$4,066,472	\$988,951.00	\$5,055,423



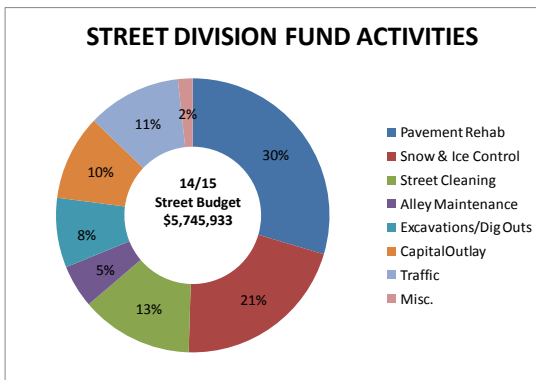
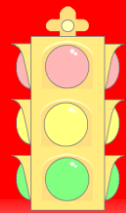
Street Division Services

- ❖ Snow and Ice Control
 - ❖ Plowing and Sanding
 - ❖ Snow Removal
- ❖ Street Sweeping
- ❖ Pothole Repair
- ❖ Alley and Gravel Street Maintenance
- ❖ Asphalt Mill and Overlay
- ❖ Chip Seal
- ❖ Minor Reconstructions
- ❖ Traffic Services

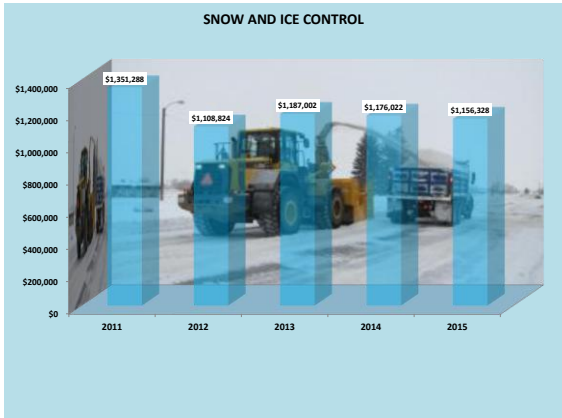


TRAFFIC DIVISION

- Services Provided:
 - Maintenance/Installation of Traffic Signals, Traffic Signs & Pavement markings
 - 12,332 Traffic signs
 - 89 Signalized intersections
 - 100 miles of pavement markings
 - Intersection Studies
 - Speed Studies
 - Traffic Counts
 - Neighborhood Council Interaction



- Snow and Ice Control Priorities:
 - 1st: Signed emergency snow routes.
 - 2nd: Major arterials with particular attention to schools, hospitals and business areas .
 - 3rd: Collector streets which provide access to major arterials including transit routes.
 - Non-Priority: Most residential streets and others not included above. These streets will not normally be cleared unless impassable.
 - Other: Streets maintained by the MDT or Cascade County.



Street Sweeping

- The Street Division provided 4072 Hours of Street Sweeping in 2014 with a five year average of 4274.6 hours.
- Street sweeping is done in the spring to pick up sanding material and in the fall for Leaf Pickup.
- During the summer season two Vacuum Sweepers continue these efforts.
- Residential areas swept 2 times annually and arterials 12 times annually.



Pothole Repair

- In excess of 50 tons of winter patching material was used this past year. This was consistent with the yearly average. 120 tons in 2011.

- Pothole maintenance is done throughout the year with different types of material depending on weather and surfaces.

Gravel Street and Alley Maintenance

- 80 miles of Alleys and Streets with a gravel surface are maintained twice yearly (Spring and Fall) and also upon request.

- Gravel is mixed with Recycled Asphalt Products to be used as surface material.



Chip Seal



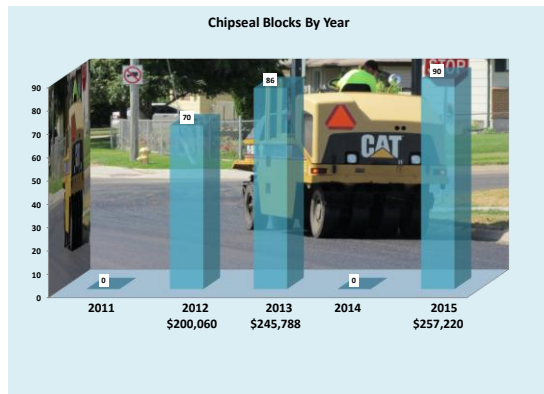
2015

- ✓ The Street Division anticipates chip sealing 90 blocks and increasing to 135 blocks in 2016

2013

- ✓ 86 blocks received a Chip Seal in 8 days of work. (6.67 miles)
- ✓ 2013 had a daily average of 10.86 blocks/day.
- ✓ On average the Street Division Chipseal 78 blocks/year.

- ✓ Total of 3564 Blocks in need - 2.1% per year (46 year rotation)



Asphalt Paving and Overlay

Overlay

> 2014

- > 53.75 blocks received a two inch Asphalt overlay, (4 miles)
- > The Street Division Overlay projects took 41 days and over 11,000 tons of asphalt.

Asphalt Patching

- > 49 minor reconstruction projects were also paved in 2014 using just over 1,800 tons of asphalt.

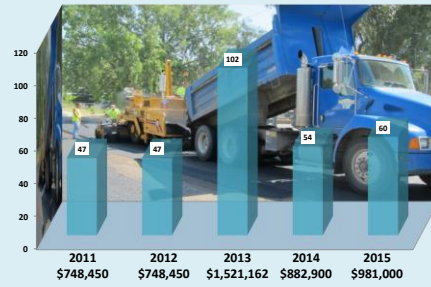
> 5 Year Average

- > On Average the Street Division does 58 blocks of overlay projects a year, (4.5 miles)
- > Since 2004 the Street Division has completed 41.02 miles of asphalt overlay.

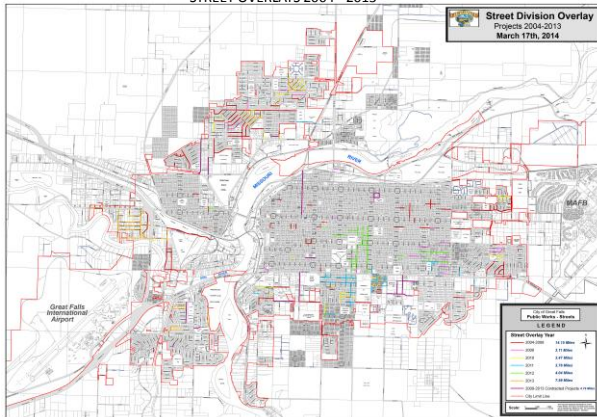


Total of 3564 Blocks in need - 1.35% per year(74 year rotation)

Overlay Blocks By Year

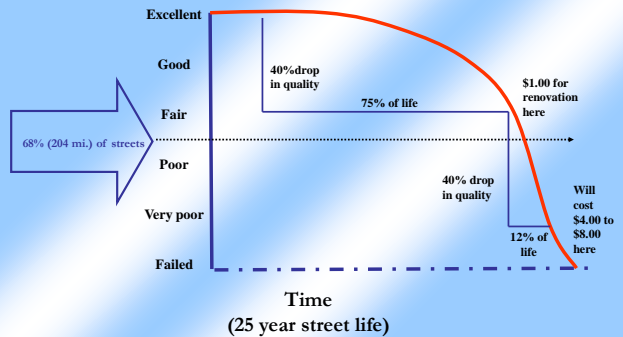


STREET OVERLAYS 2004 - 2013



291.65 Blocks have been overlaid since 2010. 182 blocks have received a Chip Seal since 2010

TYPICAL PAVEMENT LIFE CYCLE CURVE



PERFECT WORLD

PROPOSED PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE TIME SCALE

Treatment Years	sc	cf	sc	cf	ol	sc	cf	sc	cf	sc	cf	sc	cf	rec	52-55	FHWA Guidelines
	1	8	12	16	24	24	32	36	44							

cf – crack fill sc – seal coat ol – overlay rec – reconstruction

This program suggests a pavement life of 50 plus years.

An ideal annual program is shown below:

Treatment	Interval	Mi. / Year	Cost / Mile	Total Cost / Year
Crack Fill	8 years	35.50	\$ 10,800	\$ 383,400
Seal Coat	12 years	23.66	\$ 44,500	\$1,052,820
Overlay	24 years	11.83	\$ 311,010	\$3,679,248
Reconstruct	50+years	5.68	\$1,395,096	\$7,924,145
				\$13,039,663/year

Average annual assessment per property owner would be \$551.

REAL WORLD

ACTUAL PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Treatment Years	sc	cf	ol	rec
	46	95	74	75-100

Average annual assessment per property owner is \$100.25 for an average size lot of 7,500 sq ft.

PAVEMENT CONDITION PROGRAM ANALYSIS



Federal Aid Urban System

Overall Condition Indexes

System Designation Federal Aid Urban System

Route Number 5201

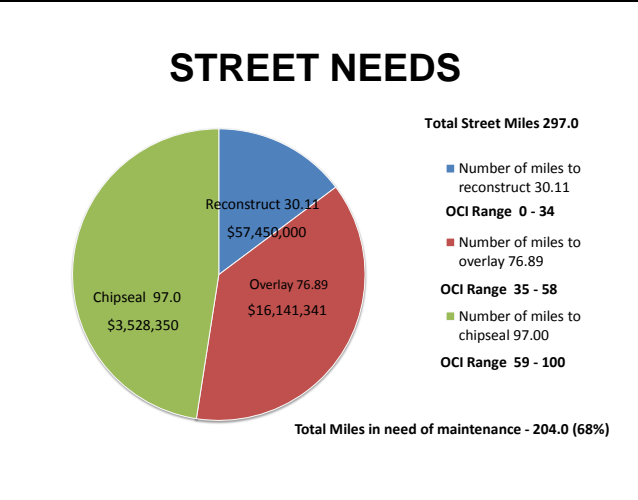
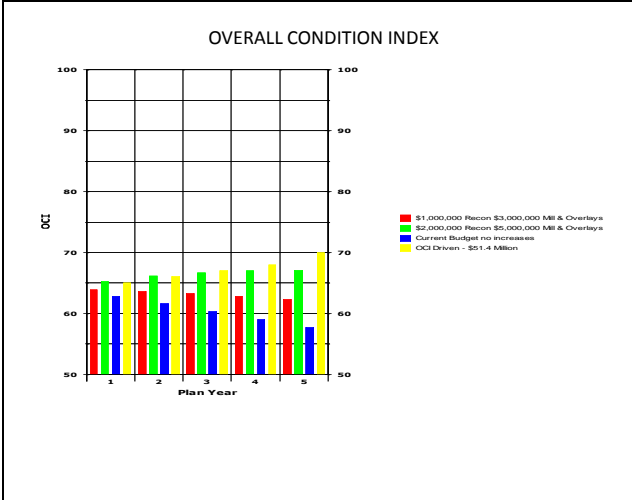
System Designation	Federal Aid Urban System	Overall Condition Indexes		
173	06 St NW	Central Ave W	350.00 R	86.36
174	06 St NW	02 Ave NW	200.00 R	89.36
175	06 St NW	03 Ave NW	200.00 R	87.70
176	06 St NW	04 Ave NW	200.00 R	85.51
177	06 St NW	05 Ave NW	200.00 R	83.49
178	06 St NW	06 Ave NW	400.00 R	85.09
462	06 St NW	10 Ave NW	400.00 R	93.27
463	06 St NW	12 Ave NW	100.00 R	85.47
179	06 St NW	NW Express	900.00 R	83.29
464	06 St NW	Smolzer Ave NW	1,200.00 R	85.57
368	06 St SW	01 Ave SW	200.00 R	90.57
79	06 St SW	02 Ave SW	200.00 R	85.96
44	06 St SW	03 Ave SW	200.00 R	91.71
26	06 St SW	04 Ave SW	200.00 R	88.86
1680030	06 St SW	05 Ave SW	200.00 R	88.86
363	06 St SW	06 Ave SW	200.00 R	84.43
363	06 St SW	08 Ave SW	200.00 R	84.43
363	06 St SW	10 Ave S	1,200.00 R	79.69
364	06 St SW	12 Ave SW	200.00 R	81.84
361	06 St SW	Crowant Cr	1,000.00 R	81.14
362	06 St SW	Crowant Cr	400.00 R	81.14
50	06 St SW	Russell Ave	600.00 R	87.71
369	Smolzer Ave NE	04 St NE	1,000.00 R	89.23
370	Smolzer Ave NE	05 St NE	700.00 R	85.74
488	Smolzer Ave NW	02 St NW	600.00 R	83.23
489	Smolzer Ave NW	03 St NW	1,200.00 R	84.69
490	Smolzer Ave NW	04 St NW	200.00 R	74.99
491	Smolzer Ave NW	04 St NW	600.00 R	81.23
492	Smolzer Ave NW	05 St NW	200.00 R	76.96
493	Smolzer Ave NW	06 St NW	400.00 R	81.92

Summary for Route 5201: MI & overlay is recommended. Length 3.45 miles Avg. OCI 79.63

Printed On Wednesday, March 19, 2014

City of Great Falls Average OCI 60.95
FAU/MDT Average OCI 67.77

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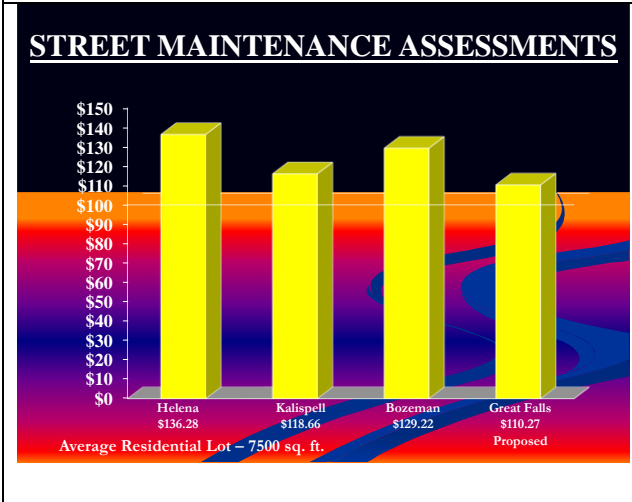
REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS

Current Funding Levels	Assessment
- \$0 Reconstruction	\$1.5 million Overlay \$100.25 per year
- Moderate OCI - \$1,000,000 Reconstruction	\$3,000,000 Overlay \$151 per year
- Maintain Level OCI - \$2,000,000 Reconstruction	\$5,000,000 Overlay \$222 per year
- Increase OCI to 70 in 5 years - \$51.4 million over 5 years	\$915 per year
- 10% Increase	\$110.27 per year
- 20% Increase	\$121.30 per year

RECOMMEND 10% INCREASE – FUND 36th Ave. NE RECONSTRUCTION (\$450,000)

STREET MAINTENANCE FUNDING

City	Street Maintenance Funded By	CIP Funded By
Great Falls	Street Assessment & Gas Tax	Street Assessment & Gas Tax
Helena	Street Assessment	General Fund & Gas Tax
Billings	Street Assessment & Gas Tax	General Fund/SID's/Arterial Fee
Missoula	General Fund & Gas Tax	General Fund & SID's
Bozeman	Street Assessment & Gas Tax	Urban Funds & Impact Fees



- ### OTHER FUNDING OPTIONS
- SID'S
 - STREET ACCESS FEE
 - ARTERIAL FEE
 - LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX
 - COMMERCIAL USERS FEE

Commissioner Burow questioned the status of Emerson Junction.

Director Rearden responded the State has been redoing some ramps at that location, but has been reluctant to look at the project; it is not an easy project to make work. The City has encouraged a full access interchange.

Director Rearden noted there is a section of Airport Road the Airport wants to take over. That would allow the City to remove that road mileage from the Federal Aid Urban Listing and be replaced with another route. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will provide the top three picks from a list of proposed projects when they meet later this month. He recommended a pick to help the anticipated growth on the north end of the City.

City Manager Greg Doyon questioned the benefit of a letter or resolution from the Commission to MDOT, in conjunction with businesses along the Bypass and GFDA, to show the closest interchange is not a complete one for growth on the north end of the City and that the City has infrastructure up to Stuckey Road.

Director Rearden responded that he believes any support would be helpful.

There was discussion on a local option sales tax vs. increasing the assessment.

Director Rearden noted a local fast food restaurant on a 75' lot pays the same amount as a resident on the same size lot. The restaurant has more street use impact than the residence, so a more equitable way of spreading the costs must be considered.

Manager Doyon does not see the General Fund being an option in the foreseeable future, and therefore, a street maintenance increase is being recommended. For the next budget cycle, he suggested measuring the number of calls received for potholes/street related maintenance or the amount of times a street had to be repaired because it failed much earlier than a condition index had indicated.

Commissioner Jones noted the great improvement from recent work completed on 38th Street and both 25th and 26th Streets.

Manager Doyon noted that discussions on how revenues can do more work must be balanced against the number of complaints from the public for the services provided.

Director Rearden reported there is a lack of funds to do capital projects such as 36th Avenue NE. There are some monies from development, but the north side is in the County. He would like to appropriate some design money for 6th Street NW if the project can get on the federal aid urban system.

Manager questioned how the proposed funding increase would be used next year.

Director Rearden responded the department is maxed out with current staff and equipment so additional funds would be used to contract out some projects.

Manager Doyon hopes the funding increase would stabilize the fund balance in case of a bad winter and provide a clear understanding of road maintenance and reconstruction.

Director Rearden noted the increase is for capital projects, and 36th Avenue NE is first on the list.

3. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

City Manager Greg Doyon provided a handout Master Work Session Topic List.

Manager Doyon stated the fireworks discussion will wait until interest from the County is determined.

The Commission has suggested a joint session with the Library Board. He will work with Library Director Kathy Mora to clarify some of the information provided the past month. He suggested waiting until late September or October before holding that meeting.

The Sign Code Discussion is scheduled for the August 18th Work Session.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Mayor Winters adjourned the informal work session of August 4, 2015, at 6:15 p.m.