



Item: Business Improvement District (BID) 2015/2016 Budget and Work Plan

From: Judy Burg, Taxes and Assessments

Initiated By: Business Improvement District Board of Directors

Presented By: Andrew Ferrin, BID Board Chairman

Action Requested: Conduct Public Hearing and Accept the Business Improvement District 2015/2016 Budget and Work Plan

Public Hearing:

1. Mayor conducts public hearing, calling three times each for proponents and opponents.
2. Mayor closes public hearing and asks the will of the Commission.

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move the City Commission (accept/reject) the 2015/2016 Business Improvement District Budget and Work Plan.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, and calls for the vote.
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Staff Recommendation: The BID recommends that the City Commission accept the 2015/2016 BID budget and work plan.

Background: The initial creation of the Business Improvement District was in 1989. It was renewed in 1999 and re-created in 2009, each for periods of ten years by petition of the property owners within the District. A proposal for the expansion of the Business Improvement District boundaries is currently being pursued and is mentioned within the 2015/2016 Work Plan.

The Business Improvement District’s overall purpose is to improve and revitalize the downtown area by utilizing and directing the assessment dollars collected through the BID tax assessment. The current Business Improvement District has not changed in the areas of the district boundaries or tax assessment formula since its origination date.

According to State statute 7-12-1132 (3) MCA, the City Commission must hold a public hearing to hear any objections to the budget and work plan. Following the public hearing, the City

Commission may approve the plan or request that amendments be made to it prior to levying an assessment on all properties within the district to defray the costs.

Concurrences: The BID partners with several organizations to provide results and follow the overall purpose of the BID. Fiscal Services staff is responsible for assessing and collecting the revenues.

Fiscal Impact: The BID is projecting annual revenue for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 of approximately \$205,811 in assessments. The funds are used to operate the BID office, grant programs, tree maintenance, beautification efforts and additional projects for streetscapes and economic growth.

The assessment will be according to the formula approved with the creation of the district:

- a flat fee of \$200.00 for each lot or parcel
- an assessment of \$.00165 times the phase-in market valuation as provided for by the Montana State Legislature, and
- an assessment of \$.015 times the square footage of the land area

Alternatives: The City Commission could request changes to the BID budget or work plan.

Attachments/Exhibits: 2015/2016 Work Plan
 2015/2016 Budget



GREAT FALLS BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT WORK PLAN 2015-2016

The mission of the Great Falls Business Improvement District (BID) is to represent the unique interests of the business and property owners located within the district. The goal of the BID is to create an environment that is appealing to shoppers, office workers, residents, tourists, and new businesses and investors. Overall, the BID is responsible for downtown revitalization through economic development, real estate development, short and long range planning, grant program administration, and physical and environmental improvement programs.

The BID will provide the following services within the designated boundaries:

➤ **Downtown Property Investments**

- Invest in downtown properties through our many grant programs.
 - Current grant programs include: Façade, Residential, Interior, Sidewalk, Art, Outdoor Living and Business Incentive.
- Our grant programs are continually evolving to meet the needs of our property and business owners.
- Utilize additional grant programs to supplement BID grant monies.
 - Community Transportation Enhancement Program (CTEP) Grant
 - Utilizing the CTEP Program the BID wishes to complete the streetscape project.
 - Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
 - The BID will continue to support the Downtown Development Partnership in administering the TIF.
- Expansion of the BID

➤ **Downtown Safety & Security**

- Working with partner organizations of the Downtown Safety Alliance
 - BRIC Officer from the Great Falls Police Department
 - Great Falls Police Department's Volunteer Program
 - Active Business Watch Program

➤ **Unifying Entities**

- Communication
 - Provide our property & business owners more information on the BID and our programs.
 - Keep our property owners more informed on the accomplishments of the BID.
 - Regular updates on our website.
- Volunteers
 - The BID will continue to support the Downtown Chicks, an established pool of volunteers that can be utilized as a resource for events & special projects.
 - Establish a group of ambassadors for downtown.
 - Work with organizations to coordinate improvement efforts of our downtown.
- Downtown Partnership
 - The BID will be an active participant in the Downtown Development Partnership, working to implement the Downtown Master Plan.

➤ **Beautification**

- Clean & Safe Team
- Downtown Art Projects
- Garbage Removal
- Sidewalk Cleaning/Snow Removal
- Tree & Flower Maintenance
- Graffiti Removal

➤ **Business Incubator**

- Management of the business incubator

Great Falls Business Improvement District Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Revenues

Assessments	\$ 205,811
Business Watch	\$ 750
Interest Income	\$ 150
JH Rental Income	\$ 20,450
JH Utility Reimbursement	\$ 10,500
Total Revenues	\$ 237,661



Expenses

Advertising	\$ 500
Web Design	\$ 500
Beautification	\$ 6,000
Art Downtown	\$ 6,000
Tree Program	\$ 10,000
Holiday Décor	\$ 8,000
Business Grants	\$ 87,761
Business Watch	\$ 900
Donations	\$ 5,000
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 3,000
Employee Benefits	\$ 900
Insurance	\$ 5,500
JH Building expense	\$ 4,000
JH Management expense	\$ 10,500
Miscellaneous	\$ 500
Office Equipment	\$ 10,500
Office expense	\$ 1,000
Payroll taxes	\$ 3,500
Professional Services	\$ 5,000
Rent	\$ 4,800
Salaries	\$ 40,000
Special Projects	\$ 15,000
Supplies	\$ 4,000
Taxes, Licenses & Fees	\$ 1,000
Telephone	\$ 1,500
Travel & Education	\$ 800
Utilities	\$ 1,500
Total Expenses	\$ 237,661

Net Revenue/Loss

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