December 15, 2021

City of Livingston Planning Board Annual Report 2021

Dear City Commission,

The Planning Board had a very busy beginning of the year with the review and edits of the draft Growth Policy. At the request of the Planning Board the City Commission approved the review of the Growth Policy timeline in December of 2020. The goal at that time was for a final Planning Board recommendation to be completed by the end of April 2021. Public Meetings were held every other Wednesday evening, starting in January and ending in April of 2021. The Planning Board spent an estimated 50 hours publicly reviewing the draft Growth Policy, chapter by chapter and listening to copious public comment along the way. Providing a virtual platform allowed for excellent public engagement which was appreciated by the Planning Board. In addition, significant written public comment was gathered through email and made public for the community to know their voices were heard. Recommendations were made by the Planning Board to modify the staff draft based on these comments. On April 7, 2021, the Planning Board finished review of all the chapters of the draft, and the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction. Consistent with the City Commission's requested approved timeline, and the robust Planning Board input process of reviewing the Growth Policy chapter-by-chapter, the Planning Board issued a resolution recommending adoption of the draft Growth Policy to the City Commission following the requirements of Montana State Statute. We are grateful that the City Commission approved the resolution in the June 15th Commission Meeting.

Since June, the Planning Board has recruited two non-freeholder Board members, received training on the Planning Boards role in subdivision regulations and approval, and learned about the PCEC Active Transportation Case Study through a presentation provided by three Park High Student Interns. We appreciate the opportunity to serve our community as representatives on the City Planning Board.

Thank you very much for all that you do,

Jessica Wilcox, Chair of City Planning Board