

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

Date: March 24, 2022
To: SBURA Board
From: Jim Tevlin
Subject: Parks & Recreation/Public Works Update

The following is a brief update on Parks & Recreation/Public Works activities in the South Billings Boulevard Urban Renewal District as of March 24, 2021.

Optimist Park Parking Lots

- The Billings City Council, at their April 18, 2022, Work Session heard a presentation by Parks & Recreation that advocated for extending Stephens Lane northward past Simpson St and Ryan Ave and intersecting with Mitchell Ave. Mike Whitaker, Parks & Recreation Executive Director, shared an overhead graphic that showed diagonal and parallel parking on the eastern and western sides of Stephens Lane, respectively. The proposed project would also have designated crosswalks that would facilitate foot traffic from the adjacent neighborhoods and the Boys & Girls Club.
- The total estimated cost for the Stephens northward extension is approximately \$600k. Note that SBURA's \$500k appropriation for Optimist Park parking lots would be redirected toward this plan. The additional \$100k to complete the project would come from tax increment funds.

Unimproved Streets

- Construction has begun on Bruce Ave. Completion is expected during May 2022.
- Construction on the Vaughn, Hillview and Mitchell "package" of unimproved streets is expected to begin on May 9.