

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 March 14, 2022, Regular Meeting, elected to postpone acceptance of a bid award to construct parking lots on the northwestern and southwestern portions of Optimist Park. A concern about using up valuable green space spurred Council's decision.

The Council asked Public Works, Parks & Recreation and SBURA to investigate the possibility of providing additional parking via a northward extension of Stephens Lane past Simpson St., Ryan Ave and intersecting with Mitchell Ave. Such a project would provide diagonal and end-to-end parking on the eastern and western sides of the Stephens Lane extension, respectively.

- Public Works Director, Debi Meling has proposed the following:
 1. Reject all bids for the parking lots at Optimist Park
 2. Move the budget authority we presently have for the parking lots (\$500k) to FY23.
 3. Combine the bids for Morgan and Ryan that are scheduled for this fall with the work to be done on Stephens.
 4. The estimate for the Stephens northward extension is approximately \$600k.
- I've shared with Debi Meling and City Engineer Mac Fogelsong, that bundling the proposed work on Stephens with Morgan and Ryan and including it as a FY23 project will likely exceed our cash flow capability. Mac and Debi are both aware of our cash flow limitations and will consider this as they present an alternative plan to the City Council at an upcoming Council Work Session.