

CUT BANK—URBAN



Main Street (U.S. Highway 2) Reconstruction Project

PROJECT NEWSLETTER—ISSUE 1

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PUBLIC MEETING #1 Please Join Us!

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 12, 2013
6:00 PM
Joe Meagher Memorial
Civic Center

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

We hope to see you there!

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is developing a reconstruction project for U.S. Highway 2 (N-1) through Cut Bank, Montana. The project, referred to as “Cut Bank Urban”, is located along Main Street between 4th Avenue SW (reference post [RP] 254.8) and the intersection with Railway Street (RP 256.0), for a total length of approximately 1.2 miles. The functional classification of N-1 is Urban Principal Arterial. An Urban Principal Arterial serves major metropolitan centers, corridors with the highest traffic volume, and those with the longest trip lengths. It carries most trips entering and leaving urban areas, and it provides continuity for all rural arterials that intercept urban boundaries.

The purpose and need for this project is to rehabilitate the roadway surfacing, while also widening the usable and finish top widths to improve safety for both vehicles and pedestrians. ADA compliant access for pedestrians throughout the urban section of this project is also a need that will be addressed.

The intent of the project is to design an improved travel way for vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The proposed work includes new asphalt surfacing, curb and gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, lighting, utilities, storm drainage, signing and pavement markings.

The project is tentatively scheduled for construction in 2016, depending on completion of all project development activities and availability of funding.

The project may require limited new right-of-way, and relocation of utilities may be necessary in some locations. If either or both new right-of-way or utility relocations are necessary, MDT staff will contact all affected landowners prior to doing survey work on their land. Staff will again contact landowners prior to construction regarding property acquisition and temporary construction permits.



PROJECT WEBSITE

A project website has been established and will be updated periodically as information becomes available. The website address is:

<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/cutbankurban/>



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

A 12-member Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will be formed to assist in the design development. The committee composition is intended to offer a broad range of perspectives on transportation matters in the downtown. The committee is expected to assist with the following items:

- ◆ Help identify critical issues as they relate to the project.
- ◆ Represent the diverse interests of the Cut Bank community.
- ◆ Review project deliverables & comment as appropriate.
- ◆ Convey other citizen input that may be received to the project team.

The CAC is an advisory group. It is not expected to formally “endorse” the design; however, will be viewed as a critical component of achieving public consensus for the project. The CAC will be formed by solicitation of interest to the City Council, which would select the final CAC composition. The CAC would be formed after the first public meeting is held on the project.

It is expected the CAC will convene monthly over the course of the project. Depending on the progress of the project and acceptance by the local community, these meeting could be held less frequently.

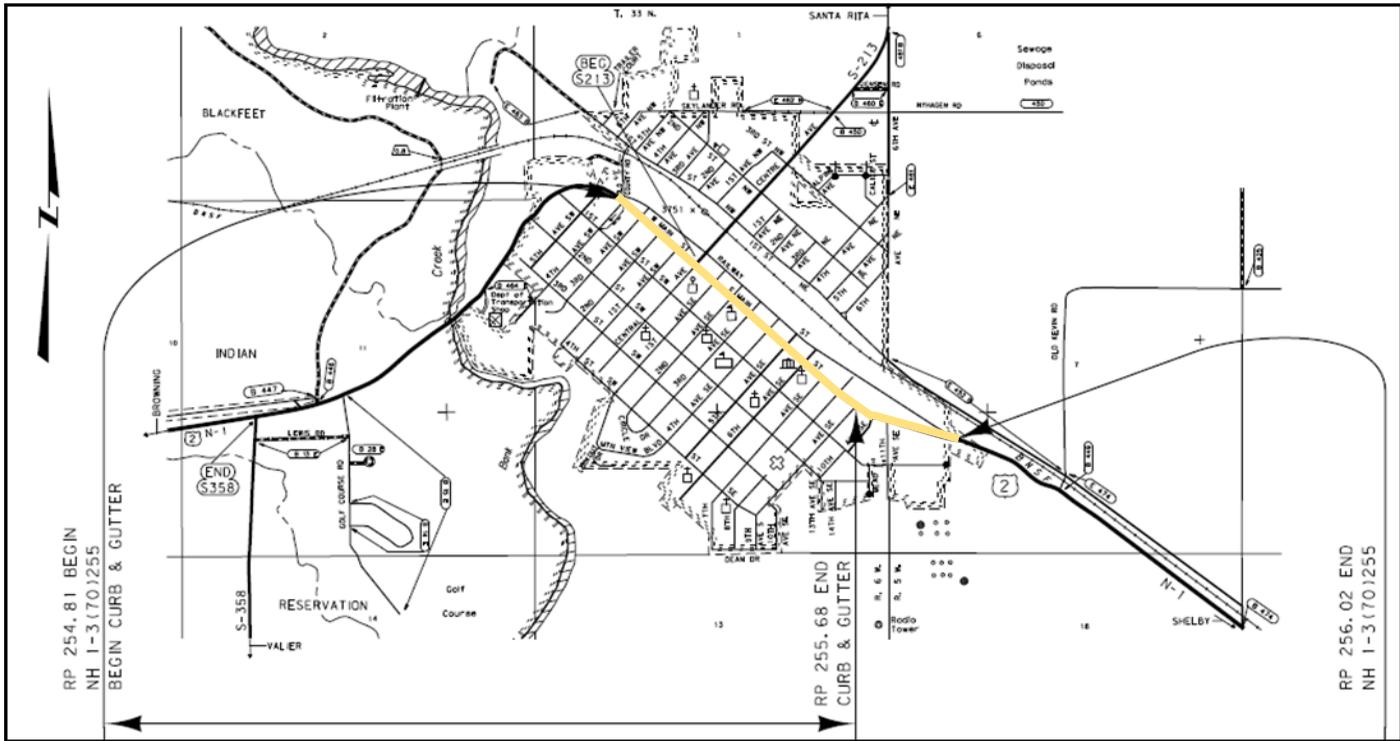
Committee members will be chosen by the Cut Bank City Council. Persons interested in being on this committee should contact Mayor Doug Embody at (406) 873-5526 to express their interest. They can also email Mr. Embody at mayor@cityofcutbank.org. Interested citizens must contact Mr. Embody by February 26th, at which time a list of interested citizens will be forwarded to the city council for consideration at their March 4th meeting.

PUBLIC OUTREACH SCHEDULE

Adherence to the public involvement schedule is important to stay on track and to keep all participating parties engaged. The public involvement schedule for the Cut Bank Urban – Main Street Reconstruction Project encompasses a three-year period. The schedule for year 1 of this period (i.e. calendar year 2013) is shown below:

WORK TASKS AND DESCRIPTIONS	JAN-13	FEB-13	MAR-13	APR-13	MAY-13	JUNE-13	JULY-13
Task 1: Prepare Press Release	█	←	ONE MONTH PRIOR TO PUBLIC MTG. #1				
Task 2: Interactive Project Evaluation (Scope and Budget)	█						
Task 3: Project Management and Accounting	█						
Task 4: Public Involvement Plan	█						
Task 5: Project Website	█						
Task 6: Monthly Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meetings				★	★	★	★
Task 7: City Council Presentations		★					
Task 8: Public Informational Meeting No. 1		★					
Task 9: Public Informational Meeting No. 2				←	WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 2013		
Task 10: Public Informational Meeting No. 3							
Task 11: Other Considerations / Comment Matrix							
MISCELLANEOUS							
Project Website	█						
Public Involvement Plan (PIP)	█						
Project Newsletters		█					
Press Releases	●	←			ANNOUNCING PUBLIC MTG. #1		
Comment Matrix Summarizing Comments/Concerns by Public							
Meeting Agendas and Minutes (as applicable)							

PROJECT LIMITS



AUG-13	SEP-13	OCT-13	NOV-13	DEC-13
★	★	★	★	★
★				



Contacts:

Jeff Key, PE

RPA Project Engineer

Robert Peccia & Associates

406-447-5000

Jeff.key@rpa-hln.com

Steve Prinzing, P.E.

MDT Project Manager

MDT Great Falls District

406-454-5899

sprinzing@mt.gov

NEXT STEPS

The first public meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at the Joe Meagher Memorial Civic Center, 800 E. Railroad in Cut Bank, MT. The meeting will start with a presentation at 6:00 p.m., followed by a comment, question and answer period. The purpose of the meeting is to explain the purpose and need for the project, present the project schedule, and solicit community feedback. Participation is a very important part of the project development process, and citizens are encouraged to attend and participate.

For more information, please contact RPA's Project Engineer Jeff Key at (406) 447-5000 or MDT Great Falls Preconstruction Engineer Steve Prinzing at (406) 454-5899. Opinion, comments and concerns may be submitted in writing at the meeting, by mail to Jeff Key, Project Engineer, Robert Peccia and Associates, PO Box 5653, Helena, MT. 59604, or online at: www.mdt.mt.gov/mdt/comment_form.shtml

Please indicate that your comments are for the Cut Bank Urban Reconstruction Project, UPN 7624 and submit comments by March 12, 2013.

MDT and RPA attempt to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program, or activity associated with this study. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request. For further information, call (406) 447-5000 or TTY (800) 335-7592, or call Montana Relay at 711. Accommodation requests must be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled activity and / or meeting.