

COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

All meetings take place in the Commissioners Conference Room (3107)
located in City Hall @ 316 North 26th Street (3rd Floor)
and are open to the public unless otherwise noted

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 10, 2025

7:45 Calendar

8:00 COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSION

PLEDGE

DEPARTMENTS

1. **MDT & DOWL** - MT 3 Billings Corridor Study and Access Management Plan
2. **City of Billings Public Works** - City of Billings Water Storage Needs
3. **Finance** - Ostlund Building Employee Guidelines/Parking

COMMISSIONERS

1. Board Recommendations - Tom Rupsis & Austin Stacey to BSEDA
2. Commissioner Board Reports

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COUNTY BUSINESS

**Public comment is an opportunity for individuals to address the Board, however, the Board cannot engage in discussion or take action on items not properly noticed on the agenda.*

CLOSED: Litigation update, Ellison

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

1.

Meeting Date: 12/10/2025

Title: MDT & DOWL - MT 3 Billings Corridor Study and Access Management Plan

Submitted By: Erika Guy

TOPIC:

MDT & DOWL - MT 3 Billings Corridor Study and Access Management Plan

BACKGROUND:

Presentation

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss

Attachments

Presentation

DECEMBER 2025

HIGHWAY 3 ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN



AGENDA

1

Planning Study Overview and Study Schedule

2

Improvement Options Summary

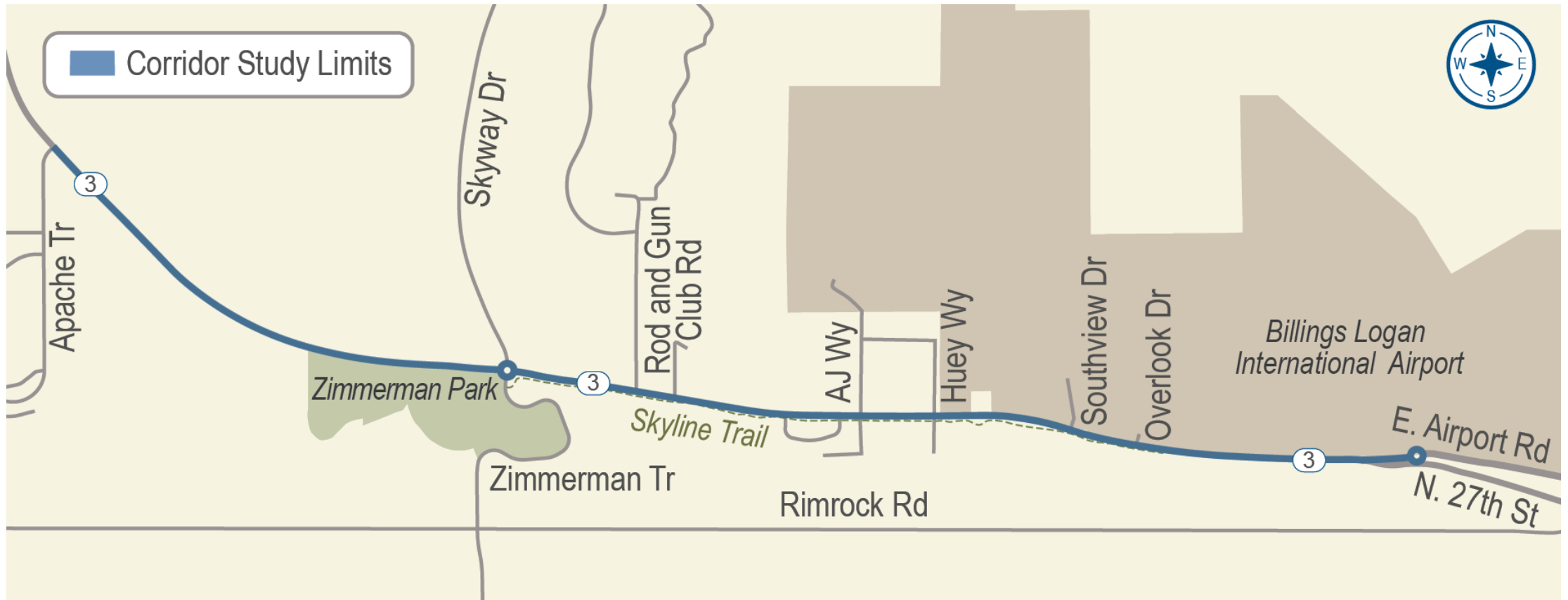
3

Access Management Overview

4

Next Steps

PROJECT MAP



WHY IS THIS CORRIDOR BEING STUDIED?



MT 3 is a high-volume corridor and traffic is expected to increase with new development.



Understand projected impacts associated with recently completed Skyway Drive.

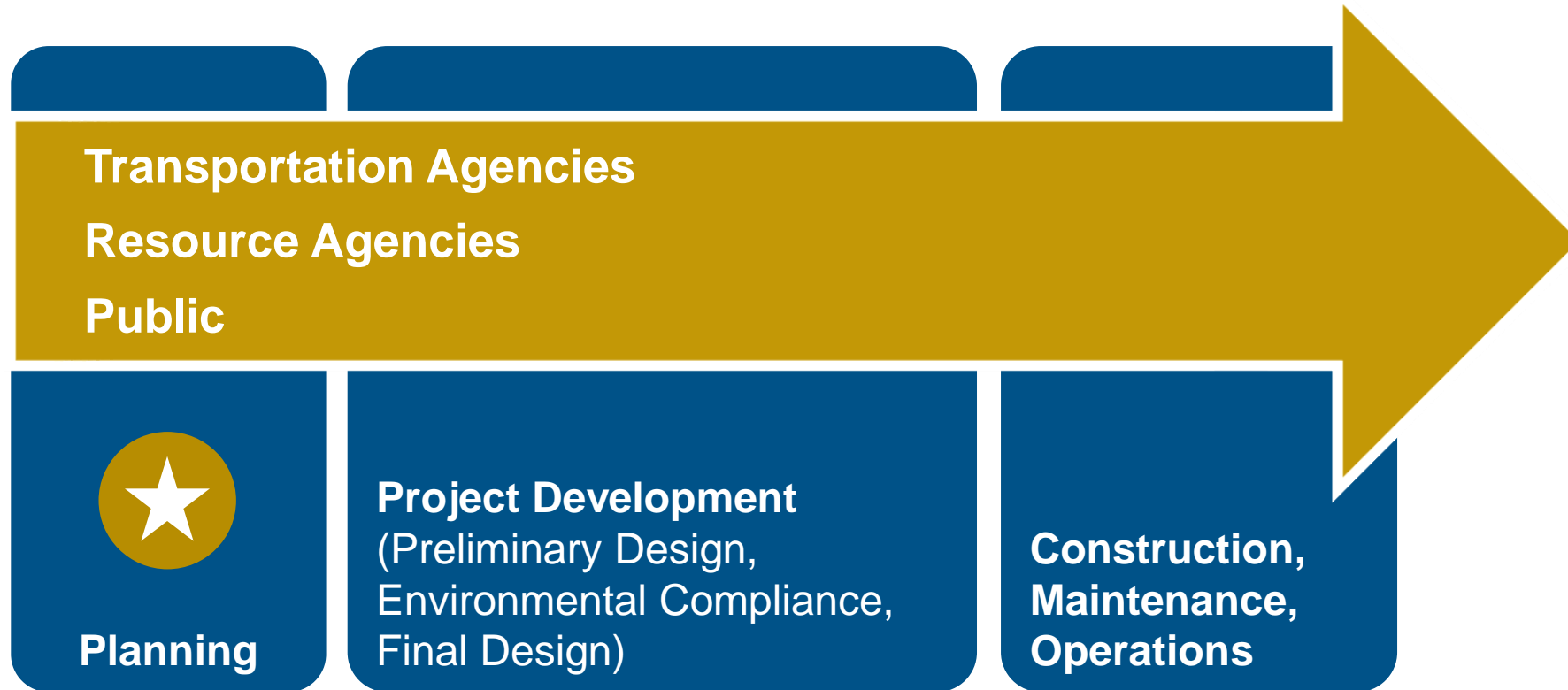


Several regional trails converge at the intersection of MT 3 and Zimmerman Trail.

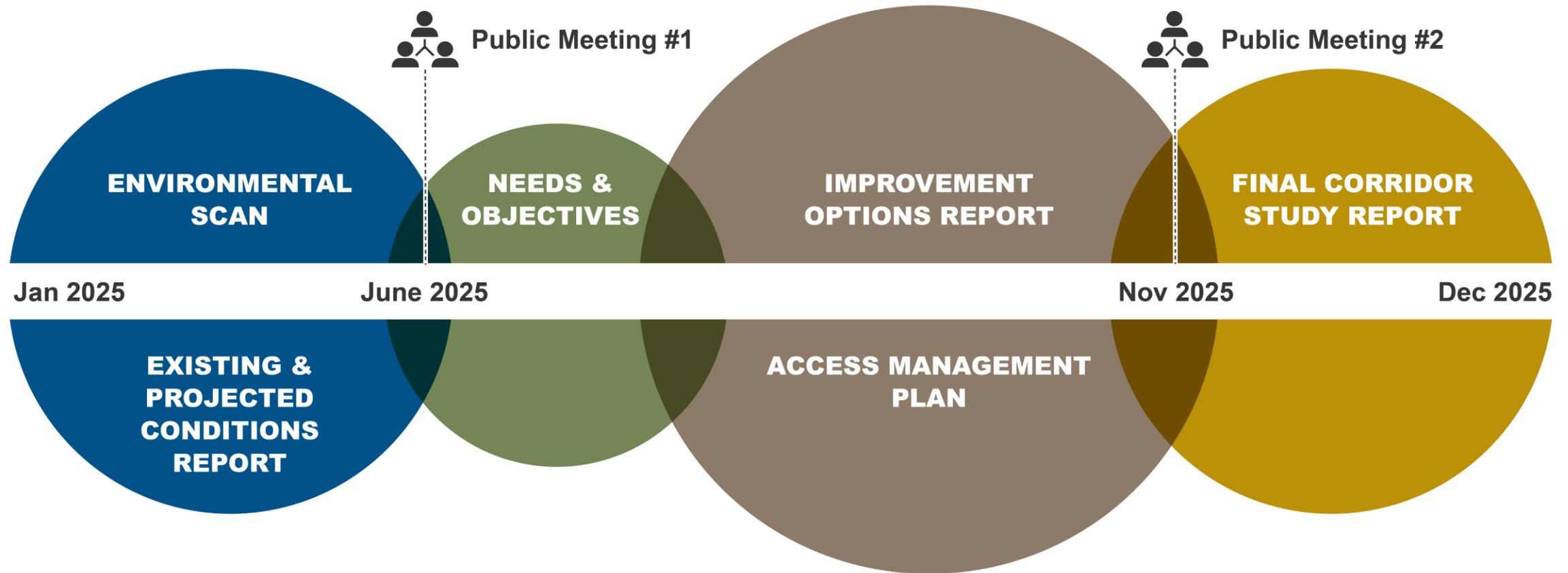
WHAT IS A CORRIDOR STUDY?



A corridor study is conducted **before** design, right-of-way acquisition, environmental compliance, and construction.



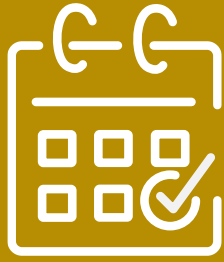
SCHEDULE



STUDY PURPOSE



**Identify
corridor needs
and objectives**



**Identify
short-term and
long-term
improvement
options**



**Develop
planning level
cost estimates**



**Identify funding
sources**



**Develop
an Access
Management
Plan for the
corridor**

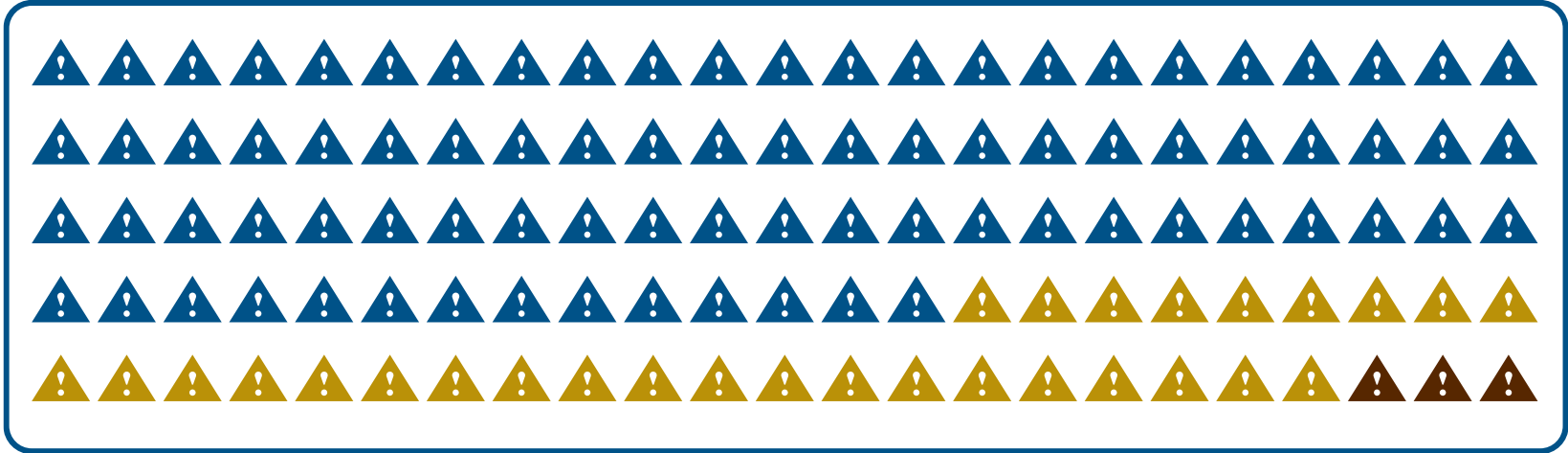
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES

NEED 1: IMPROVE CORRIDOR SAFETY

Objectives

- Reduce fatalities and serious injuries in support of Vision Zero
- Reduce vehicle conflicts
- Improve safety at non-motorized crossings

 115 Total Crashes (2019-2023)



 29 MINOR INJURY CRASHES

 3 SERIOUS INJURY AND/OR FATAL CRASHES



25%

Rear-End Collisions



51% of crashes occurred

AT INTERSECTIONS

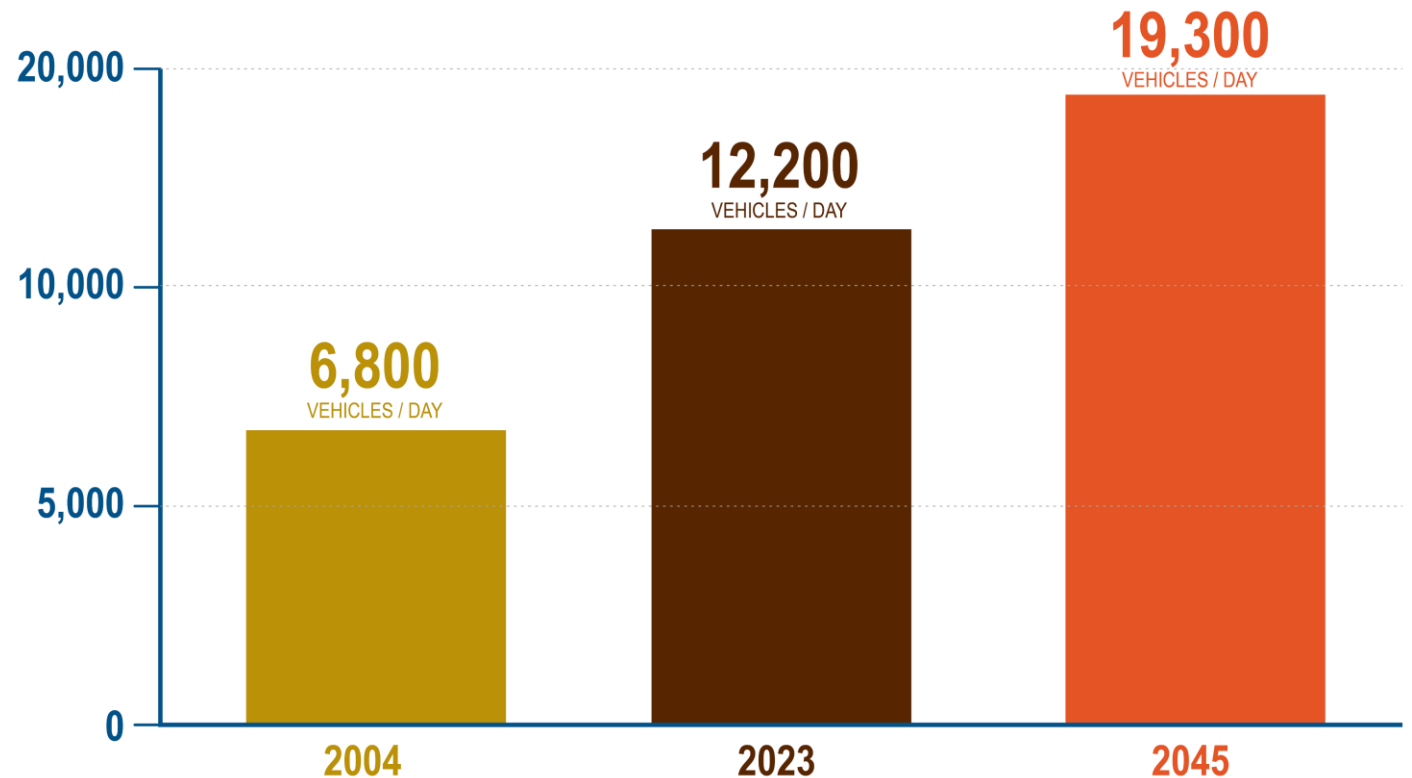
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES

NEED 2: IMPROVE CORRIDOR OPERATIONS

Objectives

- Accommodate existing and future travel demand
- Improve intersection operations and level of service
- Improve non-motorized mobility and accessibility
- Maintain reasonable access to adjacent businesses and residences

Change in Daily Traffic on Corridor from 2023 to 2045 (↑7,100 vehicles)



FAILING TRAFFIC
operations in 2045

2.1% GROWTH EXPECTED
PER YEAR

IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS SUMMARY

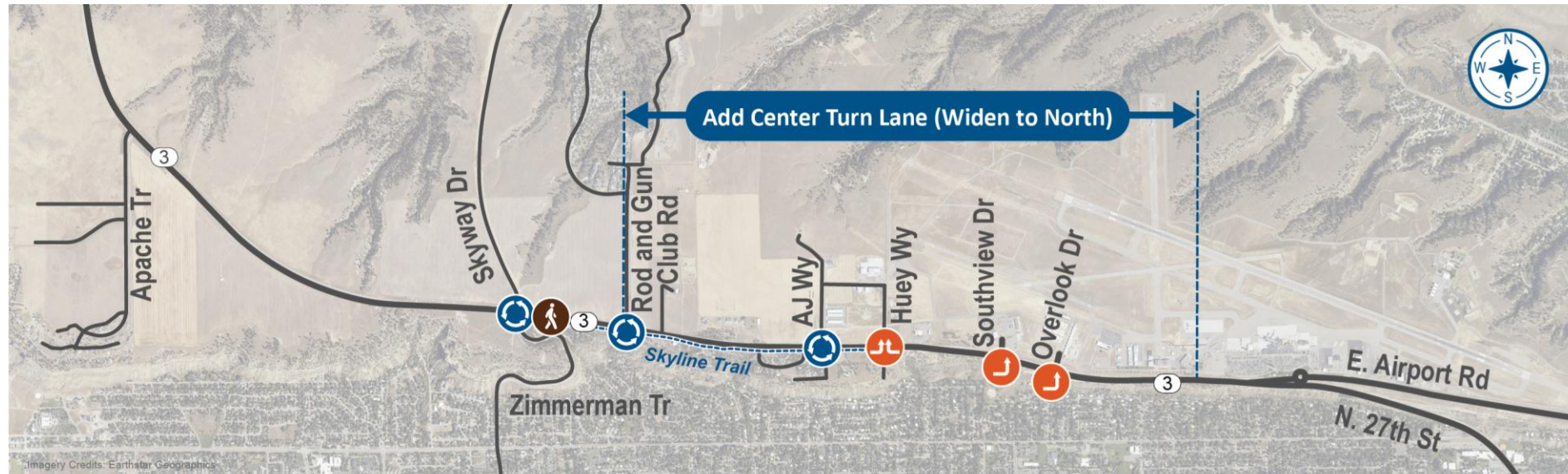


This study identified a

RANGE OF IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS

to address the corridor

NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES



New or Upgraded Roundabout Added Turn Lanes Pedestrian Tunnel Improve Trail Crossing Sight Distance

Other recommended improvements not depicted:

- *Access Management*
- *Travel Demand Management*

ACCESS MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

What is Access Management?

- The coordinated planning, regulation, and design of access between roadways and land development
- Promotes efficient and safe movement of people and goods by reducing conflict points
- Without access management, growing corridors can deteriorate functionally and aesthetically



ACCESS MANAGEMENT GOALS

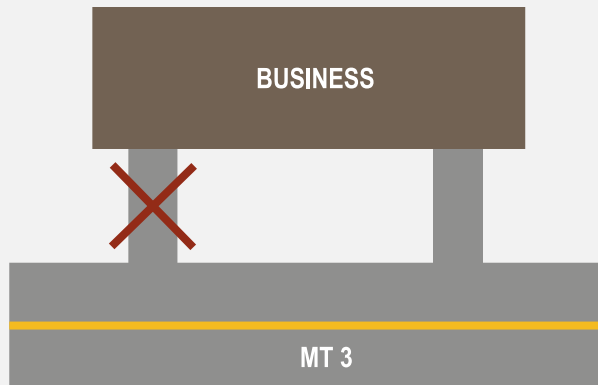
- **Safety:** Promote safe and convenient transportation for both motorized and non-motorized users in support of Vision Zero
- **Mobility:** Maintain efficient traffic flow, minimize delay for through-traffic, and reduce operating costs for freight and motor vehicles
- **Economy:** Preserve property values and attract economic development
- **Livability:** Support neighborhood livability and preserve the long-term functionality and investment in the transportation system



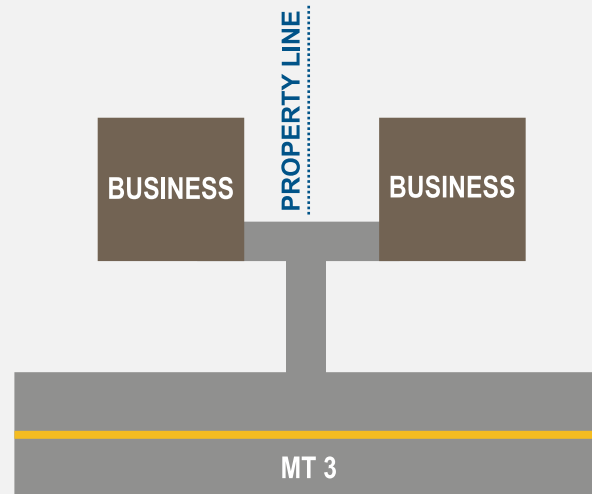
Source: NCHRP 1032

ACCESS MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

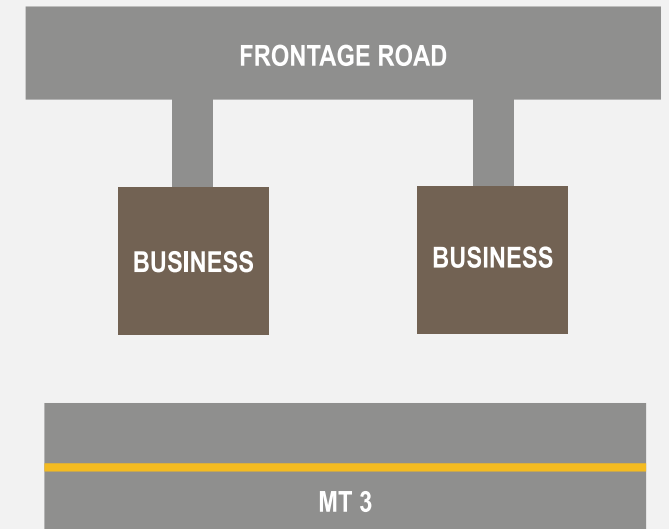
Consolidate/Eliminate Approaches



Shared Access on Property Line

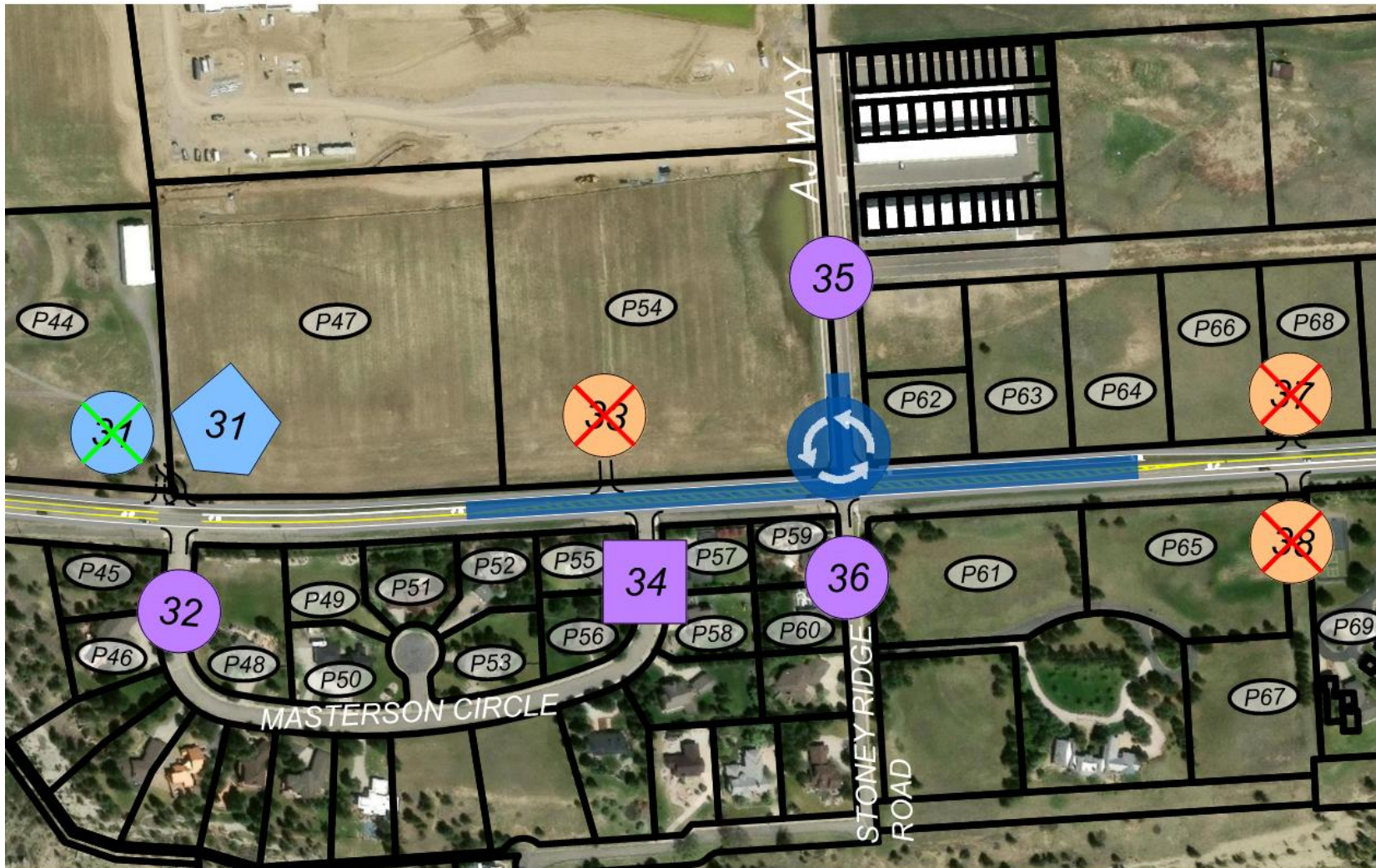


Frontage/Rear Access



Guidelines regulate the spacing, location, and design of approaches

ACCESS MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS - EXAMPLE



Legend

- # Private Approach
- # Public Approach
- # Field Approach
- ✗ Relocate Approach
- ✗ Close Approach
- P# Parcel Number
- # Joint-Use
- # Right-In, Right-Out
- Property Line
- Potential Future Roundabout
- Splitter Island Limits

ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public and Stakeholder Involvement

- Certified letter mailed to adjacent landowners on November 5
- Public meetings held on November 19 and 20

Next Steps

- Address public comments and meet with landowners as needed
- City and County review and approval of draft Access Management Plan
- Transportation Commission review and approval



STUDY CONTACTS



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MDT Project Manager

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Draft study documents available **online** at:



<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/hwy3billings/>

QUESTIONS?



B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

2.

Meeting Date: 12/10/2025

Title: City of Billings Water Storage Needs

Submitted For: Monica Plecker, Public Works Director

Submitted By: Monica Plecker, Public Works Director

TOPIC:

City of Billings Public Works - City of Billings Water Storage Needs

BACKGROUND:

City of Billings Public Works staff will present information to the BOCC regarding additional water storage needs. In looking at potential future locations, the City has identified Zimmerman Park as feasible area and would like to discuss with the BOCC.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss.

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

3.

Meeting Date: 12/10/2025

Title: Ostlund Building

Submitted By: Erika Guy

TOPIC:

Finance - Ostlund Building Employee Guidelines/Parking

BACKGROUND:

See Attached

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss

Attachments

Employee Guidelines

To All Ostlund Building County Employees

As we prepare to move into the newly remodeled Ostlund Building, the Board would like to provide a few guidelines to help ensure a smooth transition and to maintain the professional environment our community expects.

All construction, renovation, improvements as well as preventive maintenance in the Ostlund Building will be handled exclusively by the Facilities Department. In the event offices or common areas require attention, rather than attempting repairs or changes on your own, please let your department head, or Elected Official know, they will coordinate with Facilities to address any issues.

Designated storage areas will be assigned to each department and any storage outside those areas, particularly in offices, must be approved in advance by department heads and Facilities.

For safety reasons, personal space heaters are not allowed; Facilities will provide approved units if needed. Additionally, to keep our new workspace clean and professional department heads are responsible for ensuring employees maintain orderly offices. Couches, throw rugs, excessive décor, excessive amount of plants and other non-standard furnishings are not allowed.

Please note that smoking is not permitted anywhere inside the building, nor will there be any designated employee smoking areas near entryways or exits to the Ostlund Building. To maintain clear hallways, bicycles may not be brought inside the building. A secure bike rack will be provided outdoors for your use.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation in caring for this newly renovated building and helping us keep it a safe, functional, and professional space for both staff and the public.

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

1.

Meeting Date: 12/10/2025

Title: Board Recommendations

Submitted By: Erika Guy

TOPIC:

Board Recommendations - Tom Rupsis & Austin Stacey to BSEDA

BACKGROUND:

See Attached.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss

Attachments

Board Recommendation - Tom Rupsis & Austin Stacey to BSEDA



December 4, 2025

Board of Commissioners
Yellowstone County

**RE: Recommendation of the EDA Nominating Committee and Board of Directors:
Big Sky Economic Development Authority Board of Directors Appointments**

Dear Commissioners:

The Big Sky Economic Development Authority (EDA) Board of Directors voted December 4, 2025, to confirm the recommendation of the Big Sky Economic Development Nominating Committee for the appointment of two applicants to fill the open positions on the Big Sky Economic Development Authority Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee evaluated six applications that were submitted, and conducted interviews of all six applicants, and hereby, with the confirmation of the Big Sky Economic Development Authority Board of Directors, makes the following recommendation:

Recommendation for the appointment of **Tom Rupsis** and **Austin Stacey** to each serve a 5-year term on the Big Sky Economic Development Authority Board of Directors, beginning January 2026.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Big Sky Economic Development Nominating Committee and EDA Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brandon Berger", is written over a faint, larger signature.

Brandon Berger
Interim Executive Director
Big Sky Economic Development Authority

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

Meeting Date: 12/10/2025

Title: CLOSED: Litigation update, Ellison

Submitted For: Melissa Williams, Deputy County Attorney

Submitted By: Melissa Williams, Deputy County Attorney

TOPIC:

CLOSED: Litigation update, Ellison

BACKGROUND:

CLOSED

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Agenda Item
