

Helena Citizens' Council 316 N. Park Avenue, Room 320 Helena, MT 59623 Phone: 406.447.8493 <u>hcc@helenamt.gov</u> www.helenacitizenscouncil.com

23 September 2020

## TO: Mayor Collins, the Helena City Commission and Interim City Manager Reed

FROM: The Helena Citizens' Council

RE: Recommendation for Open Lands Advisory Board to include a member that represents persons with disability/mobility issues

## Offered by Meg Bishop, Secretary- passed unanimously

The Helena Parks and Recreation, Open Lands Advisory Board (HOLMAC) currently has a membership vacancy for a three-year term. The Committee performs various functions for the City related to the management of open space properties.

The HCC recommends that the City either designate one voting seat, or add an additional voting seat on the HOLMAC, to be a representative of persons with disabilities and/or mobility issues. It has long been recognized that Helena's open lands are a remarkable asset to our community, as well as to visitors. Since Helena's trail system is such a valuable resource to our community and adds significantly to our quality of life, we should ensure that access and project priorities are balanced and function in the best interest of all members of our community. Considerations for persons with disabilities should be integrated fully into the overall planning process of our open lands.