

Two-Way Restoration Project

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How will this project impact parking?

- **Back-in angle parking** will be recommended in some areas for consistency and safety purposes.
- **Parallel** and **pull-in** (within the parking garages) parking will still be available.
- There will be a reduction in parking where existing angle parking is converted to parallel parking.



How will this project impact downtown traffic?

Restoring one-way streets to two-way and upgrading the existing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure will ultimately slow traffic through the downtown core, encouraging a safer environment for multi-modal activity. Montana Avenue, 1st Avenue North, 4th Avenue North, and 6th Avenue North will remain one-way couplets for the time-being, offering a direct route through downtown.

How is this project being funded?

- City of Billings and downtown TIF funds are being used on this project
- TIF (*tax increment financing*) is mechanism used by local governments to fund public infrastructure and community improvements in a specific geographic area. As property values increase, the difference in the increase in property taxes goes back into the TIF district to help pay for future developments.

Why is back-in parking proposed?

- Visibility: Drivers have a clearer view of traffic, pedestrians, and bicyclists when leaving the space and can enter the traffic stream directly
- Access: With the back of the vehicle next to the sidewalk, it enables safer loading/unloading of the trunk
- Passenger safety: It gives passengers more protection when entering and exiting the vehicle
- Consistency: Many corridors downtown are owned by MDT. They recently established that any angled parking on those routes must be back-in.

When will construction happen?

- Road resurfacing and restoration of the two-way streets is tentatively planned for the summer of 2024 depending on the availability of materials.
- If a Montana Avenue road diet moves forward, that work will happen concurrent with a future Montana Department of Transportation road resurfacing project (Date: TBD).

Additional Questions/Comments?

Visit our website to learn more, send us a message, or sign up for email updates:

<https://billings2way.com>

