

RESOLUTION NO. R17-12

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ISSUE
A FORMAL WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION REQUESTING USE OF URBAN FUNDS FOR TWO IDENTIFIED
HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS WITHIN THE CITY OF LAUREL.**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana:

Section 1: Approval. The attached letter to the Montana Department of Transportation (“MDOT”) is hereby approved and the two projects described within the MDOT Letter are approved as high priority projects by the City Council. The City Council further authorizes MDOT to utilize the City’s Urban Funds to pay for the two high priority projects are described therein.

Section 2: Authorization and Execution. The Mayor of the City of Laurel is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the MDOT Letter that is attached hereto and incorporated herein on behalf of the City of Laurel.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on May 2, 2017, by Council Member
Poehls.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 2nd
day of May, 2017.


APPROVED by the Mayor this 2nd day of May, 2017.

CITY OF LAUREL

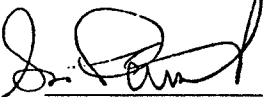


Mark A. Mace, Mayor

ATTEST:



Bethany Keeler, Clerk/Treasurer



Sam S. Painter, Civil City Attorney

CITY HALL
115 W. 1ST ST.
ADMIN: 628-8456
WATER OFC.: 628-7431
COURT: 628-1964
FAX 628-2241

City Of Laurel

P.O. Box 10
Laurel, Montana 59044



Office of the Mayor

April 25, 2017

Montana Department of Transportation
Attn: Gary Neville
424 Morey Street
Billings MT 59104

RE: City of Laurel Urban Funds

Dear Gary:

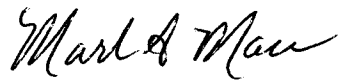
The City of Laurel is requesting, as an identified priority project the use of state accumulated urban route funding for the anticipated projects located at East and West Railroad Streets, South 1st Avenue and Main Street in Laurel. These projects were determined to be the most necessary and warranted use of bonding and Tax Increment Finance dollars (TIF) to upgrade poorly functioning intersections within the City. The City of Laurel updated its Transportation Plan in 2014 and Section SR3 of the plan recommends "the installation of a traffic signal, or other traffic control device, be evaluated and installed..." East and West Railroad Streets in the plan section MSN-7 were determined sub-standard and in need of re-construction to meet current urban design standards, and implemented with SR3. The plan also identified the traffic congestion at South 1st Avenue and Main Street in section MSN-8 of the plan as another "bottleneck" for traffic flow. The TIF district followed-up the transportation plan with a TIF specific plan named the *Laurel Gateway Plan* in 2015. The plan designated the two intersections as the largest bondable project the TIF could undertake to make a large impact on the district and City.

The City has contacted the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) seeking assistance to move these projects forward in a timely manner using urban route funding. The anticipated cost for both projects is \$5.7 million. The project would be totally funded with urban route dollars and a bond from the TIF, which would extend its life for an additional 15 years. The projects would be fully built during construction with no need for phasing and would like to be done within the next 3 budget years.

Please use this letter as a formal request to release the urban route funding for the City of Laurel.

If you have any questions, please contact my Chief Administrative Officer, Heidi Jensen at 406-628-8456 or hjensen@laurel.mt.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Mace". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mark A. Mace
Mayor