

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Study Commission

FROM: Caeleb Heinen, Recording Secretary
Mike Maas, Ex Officio

SUBJECT: Upcoming Agendas Discussion

MEETING DATE: February 18, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Citizen Advisory Board/Commission

RECOMMENDATION: Planning for the upcoming February/March agendas.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.1 Outreach: Continue to strengthen and innovate in how we deliver information to the community and our partners.

BACKGROUND:

Executive leader of the City

- City manager structure (Article III)
- Executive mayor
- Hybrid

Topics:

- Benefits & challenges of each form
- What do other MT cities do?
- What are cities outside of MT doing?
- What are best practices

Feb-March focus:

- Feb 5: Learning session on benefits & challenges; what other MT cities are doing.
- Feb 18: Learning session best practices from other cities and beginning of discussion.
- March 5: make preliminary decisions about potential changes to executive leadership of the city

Use chart that we'll have to develop for tentative report to discuss existing characteristics and proposed change

Speakers:

MSU Local Gov't Center

Required materials for reading:

- [Montana Charters reviewed by study commission](#)

- [Model charter from National Civic league](#)
- Charter commentary in previous [study commission report](#)

Decisions to be made:

- Recommendations
- Charter modifications
- Sub-option changes: binary choices to be voted on

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None identified

ALTERNATIVES: As per City Study Commission

FISCAL EFFECTS: None

Report compiled on: January 29, 2026