

# Memorandum

**REPORT TO:** Study Commission

**FROM:** Caeleb Heinen, Recording Secretary  
Mike Maas, Ex Officio  
Dan Clark, MSU Local Government Center

**SUBJECT:** Learning session for Wards/Districts

**MEETING DATE:**

March 25, 2026

Citizen Advisory Board/Commission

Participate in a Learning Session with Montana State University Local Government Center's Dan Clark on the specificities of Wards and Districts.

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

Mandatory Reading:

- At-Large VS Wards
- Wards Documents for Bozeman 2026

Supplemental Information:

- District Based Elections and Class Based Representation Evidence from the California Voting Rights Act
- Free Cities Center Analysis City Representation
- MIT At Large Elections and Minority Representation in Local Government
- Primer Districts vs. At-Large Elections Digital
- Trade-Offs between at-large and single member districts UofHouston
- Wards at-large in Canadian Cities
- Wards vs At Large on Diversity
- At-Large vs Ward - Implications for Public Infrastructure
- Hybrid City Council Election Systems

None Identified

As per the Study Commission

None Identified

**AGENDA ITEM TYPE:**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

**BACKGROUND:**

**UNRESOLVED ISSUES:**

**ALTERNATIVES:**

**FISCAL EFFECTS:**

Attachments:

At-large VS Wards 3.12.26.pdf

Wards Documents for Bozeman 2026.pdf

1. district-based-elections-and-class-based-representation-evidence-from-the-california-voting-rights-act (1).pdf

2. pacificresearch.org-Free Cities Center Analysis City representation Single-member districts versus at large (1) (1).pdf

3. MIT At Large Elections and Minority Representation in Local Government.pdf

4. Primer\_DistrictvsAt-LargeElections\_Digital-1.pdf

5. Trade-Offs between at-large and single member districts-UofHouston.pdf

6. Wards at-large in Canadian Cities Candian Journal of Poli Sci.pdf

7. Wards vs At large on Diversity.pdf

8. At-Large versus Ward -Implications for Public Infrastructure.pdf

9. Hybrid City Council Election Systems.pdf

Report compiled on: March 19, 2026