

# Memorandum

**REPORT TO:** City Commission

**FROM:** Taylor Lonsdale, Transportation Engineer  
Nicholas Ross, Director of Transportation and Engineering

**SUBJECT:** A Resolution Declaring the Intent of the Commission to Change the Name of Thomas Drive to North 27th Avenue

**MEETING DATE:** June 2, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM TYPE:** Resolution

**RECOMMENDATION:** Consider the Motion: I move to approve a resolution Declaring the Intent of the Commission to change the name of Thomas Drive to North 27th Avenue.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** 1.3 Public Agencies Collaboration: Foster successful collaboration with other public agencies and build on these successes.

**BACKGROUND:** City of Bozeman Resolution 3628 Adopting a Rule of Procedure for the Change of Name of Streets and the Discontinuance, Abandonment or Vacation of Streets or Alleys outlines the process for changing the name of a street.

In accordance with Resolution 3628, the Department of Transportation and Engineering submitted a petition to change the name of Thomas Drive to North 27th Avenue, which was acknowledged by City Commission via Consent Agenda on April 7, 2026, and forwarded to City staff for review.

Transportation and Engineering staff completed review of the street name change and recommend changing the name of Thomas Drive to North 27th Avenue. The attached memo shall be considered the Engineering Staff Report as required by Resolution 3628.

Thomas Drive is a dead-end north-south local street segment. The south end of Thomas Drive connects to North 27th Avenue at Baxter Lane. To the north Thomas Drive aligns with the intersection of North 27th Avenue and Cattail Street. North 27th Avenue exists north and south of Thomas Drive.

North 27th Avenue is identified as a Collector Street in the City's Transportation Master Plan because North 27th Avenue serves to connect neighborhoods and collect traffic from local streets. Over the last decade, several Gallatin County inholding parcels along Thomas Drive have annexed into the City. Through the City's Capital Improvement Program, the City plans to reconstruct Thomas Drive to meet the City's collector street

standard. Specifically, the City’s capital improvement Project SIF 152 – N 27th Avenue: Baxter Lane to Cattail Street, which started construction on May 11, 2026, and will include a traffic signal at Baxter Lane and a roundabout at Cattail Street.

It is City policy for all new streets to assume the name of the street with which it aligns unless the street does not and cannot in the future connect to an existing street segment along the alignment. Changing the name of Thomas Drive will bring the street segment into compliance with City policy. Additionally, changing the name of Thomas Drive will provide continuity and consistency for emergency response agencies and residents.

The proposed motion “Declaring the Intent of the Commission to Change the Name of Thomas Drive to North 27th Avenue” is the next step in the City’s street name change procedure in accordance with Resolution 3628, which directs the City Clerk to publish public notice of the proposed street name change as required in Montana Code Annotated. The public notice will identify that the regular session of the City Commission to be held at the Commission Meeting Room located at City Hall, 121 N. Rouse Avenue, Bozeman, Montana, on Tuesday, the 14th day of July, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. will serve as a hearing for all objections to changing the name of Thomas Drive to North 27th Avenue. Commission decision on the petition will be made at that time.

**UNRESOLVED ISSUES:** None.

**ALTERNATIVES:** Failure to approve will result in the denial of the petition prior to hearing and decision.

**FISCAL EFFECTS:** None; expenses already accounted for in the City’s capital improvement Project SIF 152 – N 27th Avenue: Baxter Lane to Cattail Street.

Attachments:

[Resolution \\_\\_of\\_\\_ Intent Thomas Drive to N 27th Ave.docx](#)

[Notice\\_of\\_Intent-Thomas Dr to North 27th Ave\\_Final.docx](#)

[Mailing List\\_Thomas Dr to N 27th Ave.pdf](#)

[Thomas Drive to N 27th Ave Exhibit A](#)

[Staff Report - Thomas Dr to North 27th Ave](#)

Report compiled on: May 13, 2026