

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Chris Saunders, Community Development Manager
Erin George, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Special presentation on process, projections, and other data for the Bozeman Community Plan Technical Compliance Update, Application 23333

MEETING DATE: August 26, 2025

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Community Development - Legislative

RECOMMENDATION: Receive information

STRATEGIC PLAN: 4.2 High Quality Urban Approach: Continue to support high-quality planning, ranging from building design to neighborhood layouts, while pursuing urban approaches to issues such as multimodal transportation, infill, density, connected trails and parks, and walkable neighborhoods.

BACKGROUND: The 2023 Legislature adopted a new legal framework for land use planning and regulation that applies to Bozeman and completely replaces the laws that governed earlier regulations. Bozeman must update and replace its regulations to comply with the Montana Land Use Planning Act ([MLUPA](#)) [External Link], Title 76, Chapter 25 Montana Code Annotated. Bozeman's land use plan and supporting issue plans address how the City of Bozeman intends to grow, the impacts of development and various ways to mitigate impacts of additional development.

The Bozeman Community Plan 2020 (BCP) was adopted in November 2020. It is the City's plan for land use and development. The City of Bozeman actively manages its infrastructure. Bozeman has been planning for growth for decades as evidenced by the number and comprehensiveness of adopted issue plans referenced in each Growth Policy the City has adopted, including the Bozeman Community Plan 2020. Each plan contains analysis of existing and future needs. For detailed evaluation of each plan please consult the appropriate facility plan. Some facilities, such as transportation, address the demands placed by many thousands of daily commuters and of persons passing through the community. Others, like stormwater, primarily address needs by residents. A comparison of individual plans will therefore show differences in the size of anticipated service populations now and in the future. Several issue plans have been updated since the adoption of the BCP. The technical edits to the BCP will update plan references, add new documents to meet changed data requirements, and refresh information found throughout the plan.

This special presentation will address the overall process and schedule for public awareness, identify some information on population trends, and share other related information. This is an introduction to the project and no final work has been completed. Public workshops are scheduled on August 25th and 27th. Dates, locations, and times are available at the [project website](https://engage.bozeman.net/community-plan) [External Link], <https://engage.bozeman.net/community-plan>. Documents, frequently asked questions, drafts of the updated plan, and other materials will be posted there.

The need to update the Bozeman Community Plan in response to changes in state law was discussed during the Sept 17, 2024, City Commission meeting and at various public outreach events during the UDC supplemental public engagement fall 2024 and spring 2025. The City Commission approved the public engagement plan for this project on July 15, 2025.

- UNRESOLVED ISSUES:** None.
- ALTERNATIVES:** As identified by the City Commission.
- FISCAL EFFECTS:** Funds for the project have been previously budgeted.

Report compiled on: August 18, 2025