

# Memorandum

**REPORT TO:** Study Commission

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

**SUBJECT:** Upcoming Agendas Discussion

**MEETING DATE:** January 28, 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 22, 2026