

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Terry Cunningham, Mayor
Joey Morrison, Deputy Mayor
Jennifer Madgic, Commissioner
Douglas Fischer, Commissioner
Emma Bode, Commissioner

SUBJECT: Authorizing a Letter and Op-ed Related to the Ownership of King Arthur Park

MEETING DATE: October 7, 2025

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Citizen Advisory Board/Commission

RECOMMENDATION: Authorizing a Letter and Op-ed Related to the Ownership of King Arthur Park

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

BACKGROUND: The City of Bozeman has spent several years prioritizing affordable housing, using every tool available – from tax breaks to taxpayer revenue – to support projects throughout the city.

The 338 workforce homes within the King Arthur Park and Mountain Meadow Estates mobile home parks represent nearly 1/10th of the affordable mobile home stock within Gallatin County. Those homes, while outside city limits, house individuals and families who work and shop within city limits and/or go to school within the city.

The two mobile home parks offer important, dignified affordable housing within the region that require neither tax breaks nor public subsidies. With the owner of the land beneath those homes seeking to sell the properties, that housing stock is now in danger. Residents have unionized and are seeking to negotiate a purchase with the owner, Gary Oakland of Billings-based Oakland & Co., but so far have been rebuffed.

The attached resolution lays out a strategy to appeal to Mr. Oakland's "better angel." It contains a letter from the Commission asking Mr. Oakland to look at Montana's long tradition of Montanans – particularly those graced with good fortune – helping each other. If the letter produces no response from Mr. Oakland within five business days, the Commission will submit the attached op-ed to the Billings Gazette and Bozeman Daily Chronicle for publication.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None identified

ALTERNATIVES: As per the Commission

FISCAL EFFECTS: None

Attachments:

[Commission Letter 9_30_25.doc](#)

Report compiled on: September 29, 2025