

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Inter-Neighborhood Council

FROM: Andre Zollars

SUBJECT: Bozeman Neighborhood Connection (10 minutes)

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Citizen Advisory Board/Commission

RECOMMENDATION: None

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.2 Community Engagement: Broaden and deepen engagement of the community in city government, innovating methods for inviting input from the community and stakeholders.

BACKGROUND: Andre Zollars joins the Inter-Neighborhood Council to share about the grassroots group, Bozeman Neighborhood Connection.

The idea is to rebuild the fabric of Bozeman by connecting people at the lowest level - neighborhoods. People connecting with people is the surest way of increasing communication, offering support and ultimately building resiliency and strength. Think of the free library that is prominent around Bozeman, and then take that a step further. Imagine within a neighborhood: a tool loaning program, ride assist program, baby/dog sitting emergency assistance, food/garden sharing, hobby groups created, social events planned, disaster relief assistance and sharing of items like generators. The list can go as far as our imaginations and desired connections allow.

Now, take this idea and add in an administrative/communication structure that can cross-level support and relationship building between neighborhoods. That central administration can ensure help for struggling neighbors who lack what is needed, by garnering supplies from neighborhoods that are flush. Really, we are building small communities within Bozeman and reconnecting with our small town Montana roots where taking care of your neighbor is a paramount value. We believe that we can push back against divisiveness, by simply offering connection and looking out for the well-being of our neighbor.

The [Bozeman Neighborhood Connection website](#) tells a bit about us and offers a place for folks to sign up. We are also on [Facebook under Bozeman Neighbor Connection](#).

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None

ALTERNATIVES: None

FISCAL EFFECTS: None

Attachments:

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Report compiled on: May 7, 2026