

## What is a Neighborhood Plan?

Neighborhood plans are non-regulatory and represent a vision for a neighborhood. They guide growth and development into the future in a way the residents want to see their area grow and develop. A neighborhood plan includes information and maps detailing land uses, opportunities and issues, and identifies goals and policies important to the residents.

## Who should be Involved in the Creation of a Neighborhood Plan?

As many people who live in your neighborhood as possible. The greater the public involvement and viewpoints in the creation of your plan, the greater the likelihood the plan will represent the entire community.



### EASY ACCESS

Pre-application meeting request forms AND applications can be found in our office as well as on our website:

[http://flathead.mt.gov/planning\\_zoning](http://flathead.mt.gov/planning_zoning)

## *Mission Statement:*

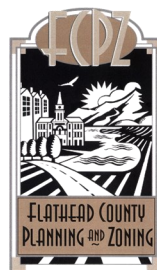
"The Flathead County Planning & Zoning Office is committed to providing the highest level of planning services. We will accomplish this through employees who anticipate public needs, and promote a work environment that encourages creativity, communication and cooperation. The Office will also encourage professional development and training for all staff members."

Flathead County  
Planning & Zoning

# Neighborhood Plans



## For more information, contact:



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Information Regarding  
Neighborhood Plans

## What are the Benefits of a Neighborhood Plan?

A neighborhood plan is a solid choice if you value your surroundings, where you live and want to see that they are maintained. With a neighborhood plan residents set the vision for growth and development in a way acceptable to most everyone.

- Neighborhood plans are prepared by the residents, with assistance from planning staff, for the betterment of the community;
- Most importantly neighborhood plans represents a community vision of what you want your community to be and look like in the future and are used as a guide and means to realize that specific vision;
- A neighborhood plan balances property rights for you, your neighbors and the community as a whole;
- A neighborhood plan gives greater predictability to residents who want to develop their property,.
- A neighborhood plan results in more efficient use of public services (like water and sewer, sheriff and fire responses, schools, streets and other public infrastructure) resulting in more effective use of your tax dollars;
- A neighborhood plan provides a greater voice into land use decision making by elected and appointed officials.



## What is the Process for Creating a new Neighborhood Plan?

- Community members approach Commissioners to request Planning Staff (Staff) assistance including the planning process and steps for creation of a new plan.
- If the Commissioners approve the request, the Staff then provides information through a series of workshops/meetings on neighborhood plans and the process. Over the course of these meetings staff will gauge the level of support for the creation of a new plan .
- If there is adequate interest in beginning the process, and the Staff has sufficient resources devoted to assisting the community in developing a neighborhood plan Staff will develop a work plan specific to the community's request with the support and approval of the Commissioners. The approved work plan will include periodic updates to the Commissioners to ensure transparency in the process, and keep the governing body abreast of developments.

### Just a reminder...

- Schedule a pre-application meeting to get the facts before submitting an application!
- Pay attention to application due dates and corresponding public meeting dates and timelines
- The more complete the application, the easier it is for the Planning Office to review. Answer **ALL** questions and submit **ALL** documents required to expedite the process!
- Once submitted, the application fee is **NON-REFUNDABLE!**
- There are **NO** guarantees of approval.