

May 31, 2022

Mayor and City Commissioners of Helena
316 N. Park Ave.
Helena, MT 59623
Sent via email

Dear Mayor Collins and Commissioners Dean, Feaver, Logan, and Reed,

The Citizen Conservation Board (CCB) would like to establish a reliable and direct line of communication with the Helena City Commission. It is our understanding that some City Boards have an assigned Commission member, and our board respectfully requests that a Commission member be assigned as a liaison to the CCB and keep apprised of the CCB's activities and attend our monthly board meetings as the Commissioner is able.

We believe that such a liaison between the CCB and Commission would be very helpful in improving communication and ensuring that our priorities and actions are working in concert with those of the City's. Discussions with the Department of Public Works' staff, as well as comments at the March 23rd Administrative meeting, indicate that this is a desire of the Commission as well.

Also, on September 13, 2021, the CCB sent a letter to the Commission (attached) requesting that the term of the Board, scheduled to expire in January 2023, be extended and the size of the board be expanded. We realize that the Commission has had a number of high-priority issues to deal with since then, but we also believe that it is important that the Board be strengthened and extended to support the Commission in directing the City's sustainability efforts and response to the climate emergency. We urge you to consider our recommendations regarding the CCB composition and term at a July Commission meeting, so that we can continue to support critical sustainability measures undertaken by the City of Helena.

Thank you for your consideration of these two requests, and we look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana Hammer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Diana Hammer
Chair, Citizen Conservation Board