



# City-County Consolidated Parks Board Meeting Agenda



**February 7, 2024 – 11:30 AM**  
**City-County Building 316 N Park Ave. Room 426**  
Zoom meeting link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95886198508>

Call to Order and Roll Call

Approval of the Minutes

January 3, 2024 Meeting video recording link: [video1106674091.mp4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=video1106674091)

Public Comment (Items pertaining to this agenda)

Unfinished Business

- A. None
- B. Public Comment

New Business

- A. Kindrick Legion Field Maintenance Proposal, Presented by Members of the American Legion Baseball League
- B. Downtown Public Restroom Proposal, Presented by John Dendy of the Helena Business Improvement District (BID)
- C. Public Comment

Staff Reports

- A. City Staff
- B. County Staff

Member Reports

- A. City Commission Report
- B. County Commission Report
- C. Helena School District Report

Public Comment (Items not on the agenda)

Member Announcements / Proposals for Next Agenda (March 6, 2024)

Adjournment

ADA NOTICE – CITY/COUNTY

The City of Helena and Lewis and Clark County are committed to providing access to persons with disabilities for its meetings, in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Montana Human Rights Act. The City and County will not exclude persons with disabilities from participation at its meetings or otherwise deny them the City and County services, programs, or activities.

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations to participate in the City's meetings, services, programs, or activities should contact the City of Helena Community Development Department, as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to arrange for the requested accommodation, at any of the following: Phone: (406) 447-8490; TTY Relay Service [1-800-253-4091](tel:1-800-253-4091) or 711, or via Email: [citycommunitydevelopment@helenamt.gov](mailto:citycommunitydevelopment@helenamt.gov), Mailing address & physical location: 316 North Park, Avenue, Room 445, Helena, MT 59623.

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations to participate in the County's meetings, services, programs, or activities should contact the Lewis and Clark County Human Resource Department, as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to arrange for the requested accommodation, at any of the following: (406) 447-8316, 316 North Park Avenue, Room 303, Helena, MT 59623; TTY Relay Service [1-800-253-4091](tel:1-800-253-4091) or 711, [hr@lccountymt.gov](mailto:hr@lccountymt.gov).



## **Downtown Public Restroom in Constitution Park**

### **Proposal**

- Helena Business Improvement District (BID) proposes to purchase, install, and maintain a prefabricated public restroom for downtown Helena.
- The preferred location is Constitution Park.
- The restroom will be open twenty-four hours per day and will be closed only in the coldest of weather.
- The City of Helena, Lewis and Clark County, and the BID have all reserved significant funds for the project.

## Need

- Good news! People are gathering on the walking mall, especially on the north end. It is finally functioning as intended. More people = more restroom use.
- Our unsheltered population has increased.
- Downtown businesses are providing restrooms, but their policies are inconsistent. Even if businesses allow restroom use for non-customers, they are closed much of the night.
- Visitors need an easily identified place to go to the restroom.
- Helena does not have a public restroom in the downtown business corridor.



## The Product: Portland Loo

### Why the Portland Loo?

- Take a look - <https://portlandloo.com/>
- Durable
  - Stainless steel construction, “prison grade” fixtures.
  - Easy to clean.
  - Graffiti-resistant coating.
  - Cold weather package – operates to 5 F.
- Safe
  - Louvers at top and bottom provide visual privacy but allow visual inspection for occupancy.
  - Any potential victims of crime can be heard from the outside.
  - Blue interior lights make finding a vein for intravenous drug use difficult.
- Accessible
  - Fully ADA compliant – this is rare in downtown Helena.
  - Room for a stroller or bicycle.
- Attractive – it looks good, right?



## **Location Considerations**

- Proximity to people/need.
- Prominence, observability.
- Grade and access.
- Installation cost.

## **Best Location: Constitution Park**

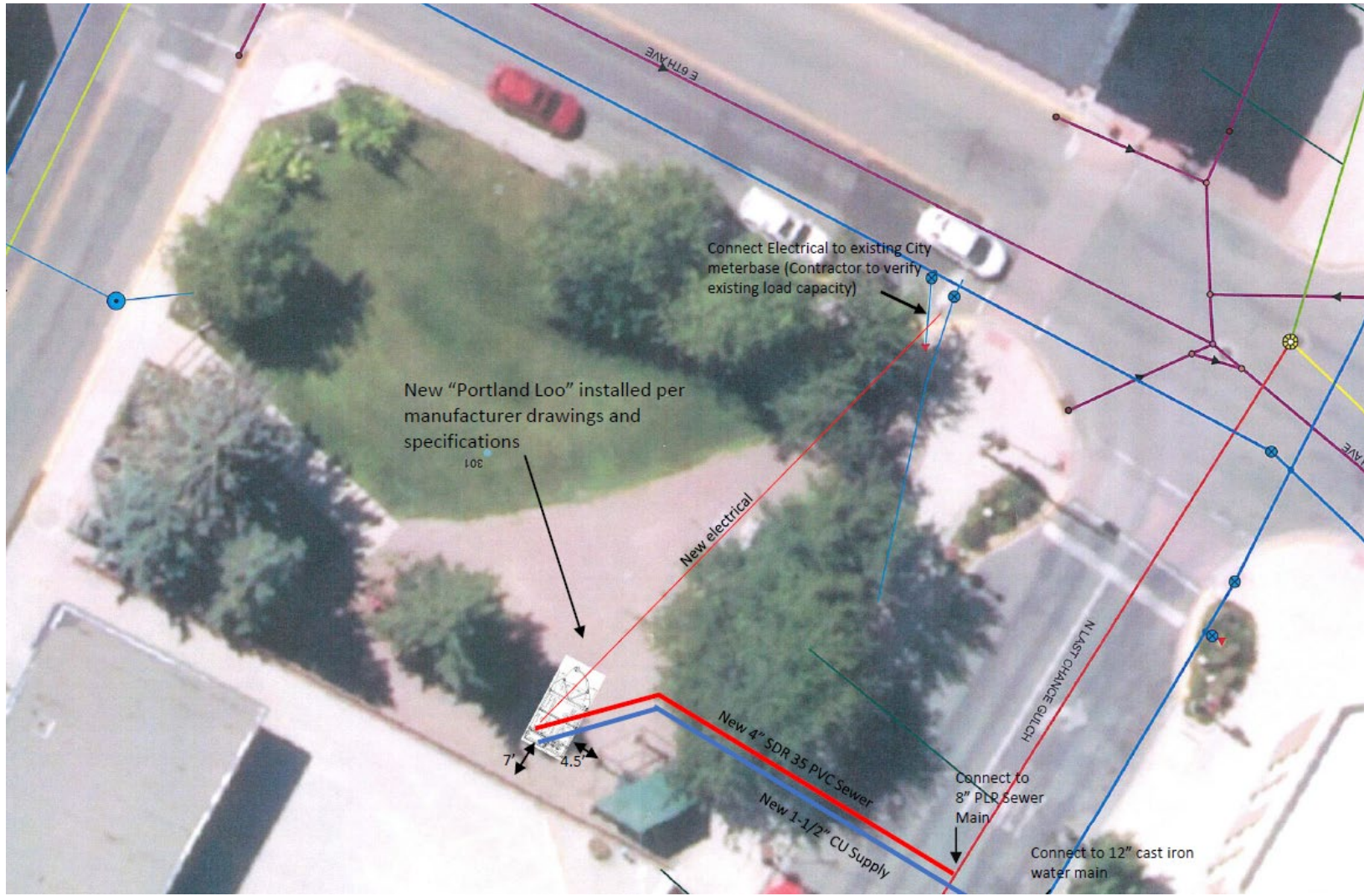
- Location successfully tested by BID portable restroom since April 2023.
- Near where people gather.
- In the middle of the commercial core.
- Between public restrooms at tennis courts and library.
- Prominent location for visitor visibility and use.
- Observable from 6<sup>th</sup> and Last Chance.

## **Why not on the walking mall?**

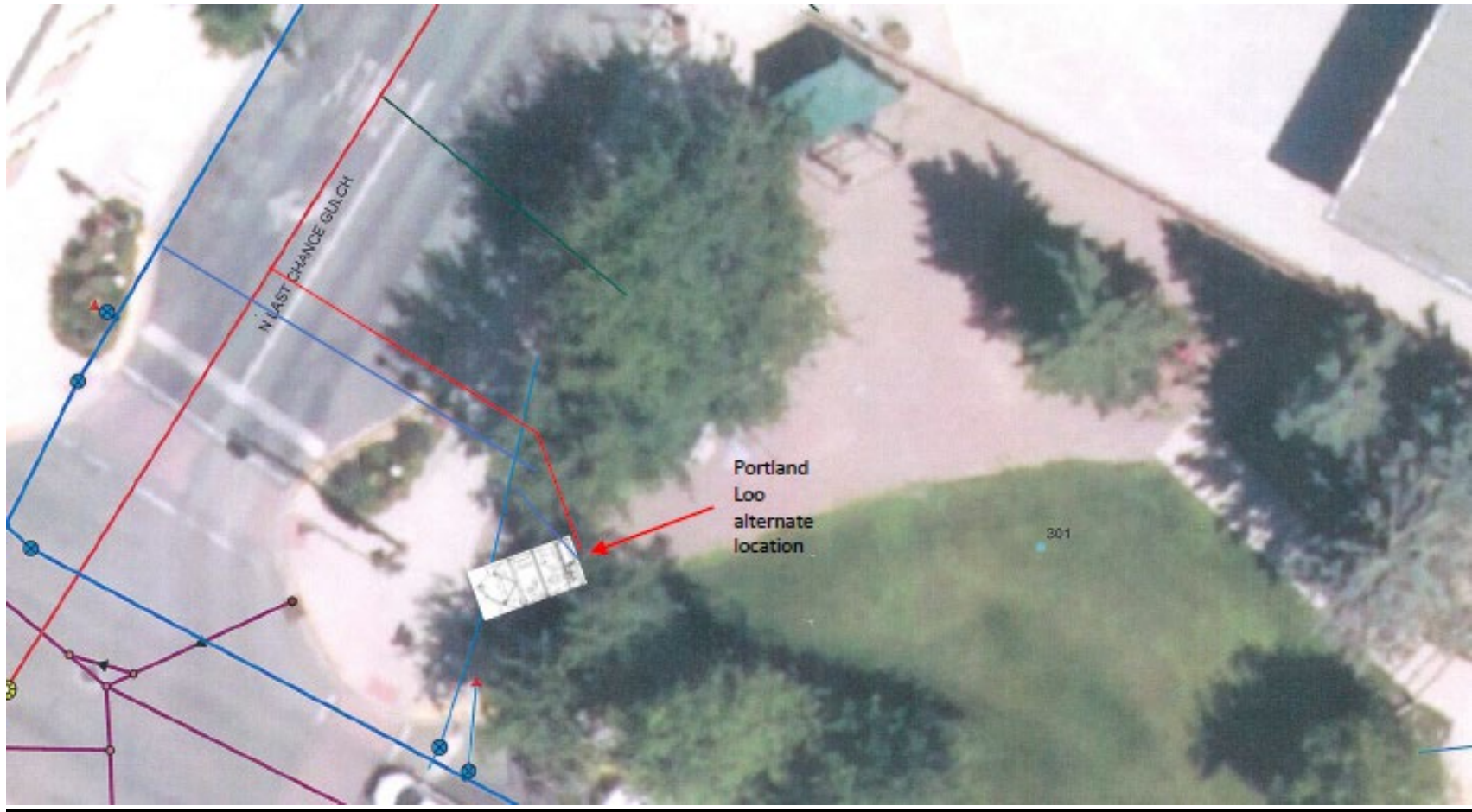
- Installation cost would be greater.
- More isolated from view: more likely for an encampment.



# Location 1: North

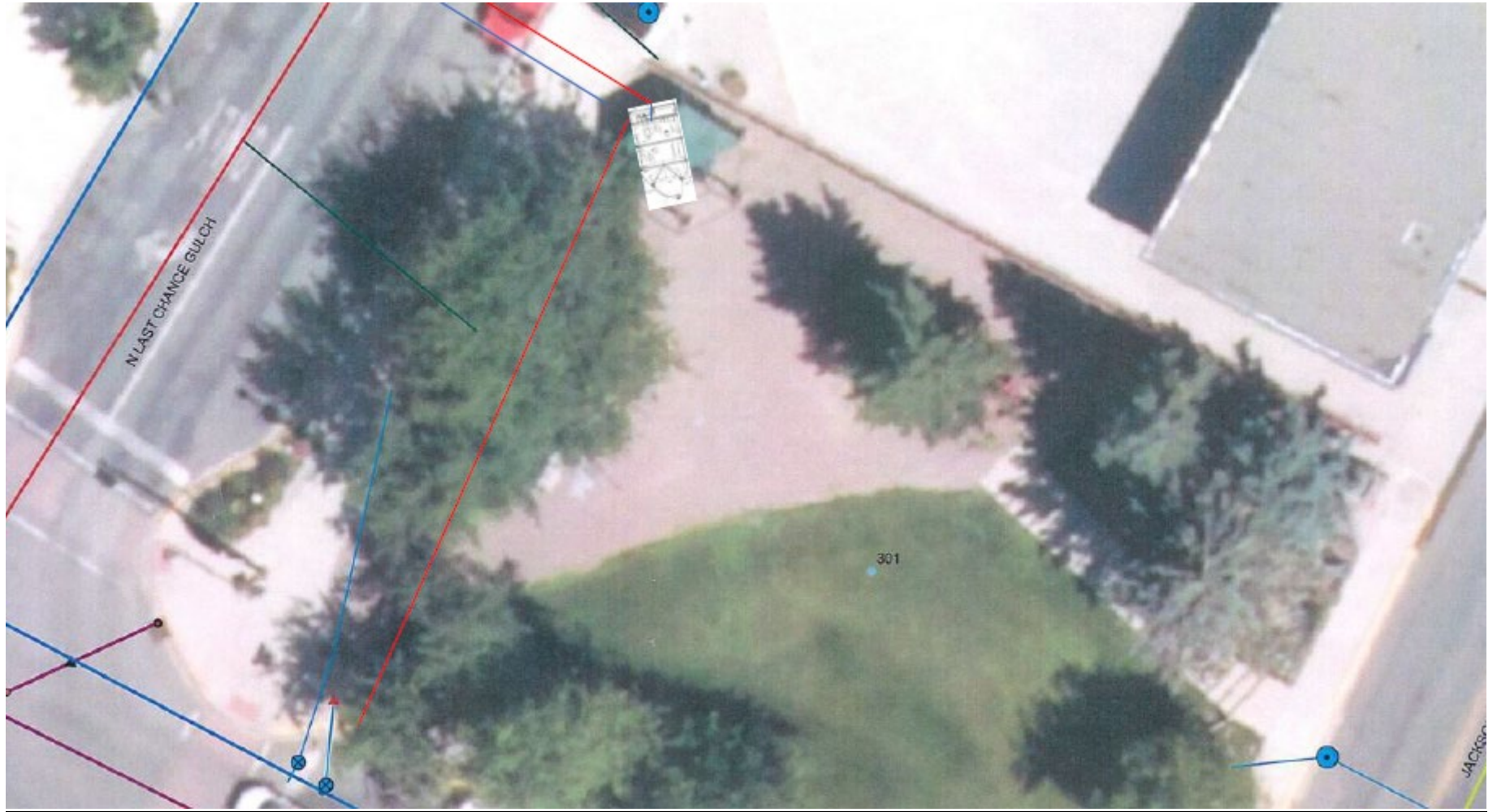


## Location 2: Southwest Corner





## Location 3: Northwest Corner



## **Funding**

City of Helena (General Fund Surplus):	\$98,000
Lewis and Clark County	\$35,000
BID	\$44,000
Unsecured Other (TIF?)	<u>\$63,000</u>
	\$240,000

## **Cost**

Portland Loo	\$160,000
Installation	<u>\$80,000*</u>
	\$240,000

\* Based on north location.

## **Ongoing Management Plan**

The BID will:

- Buy the Loo.
- Contract for installation.
- Maintain the Loo (repairs).
- Clean or manage cleaning.
- Provide and stock paper and cleaning supplies.

Asking the City of Helena to (not yet confirmed):

- Pay for utilities – electricity, water, and sewer.
- Assist with weatherization if necessary.

# **Downtown Public Restroom in Constitution Park**

## **Conclusion**

- Helena needs a downtown public restroom.
- The BID is willing to take the lead on buying, installing, and maintaining it.
- We have most of the funding secured.
- We need approval to apply for TIF funds.

Please endorse the installation of a Portland Loo at Constitution Park.

**Questions?**