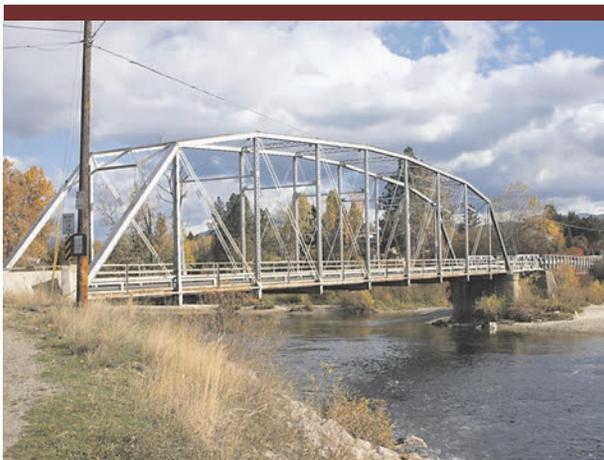


Informational Meeting To Discuss The Maclay Bridge Planning Study

Missoula County, in partnership with the Montana Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), have initiated the development of the Maclay Bridge Planning Study to determine potential needs of the Maclay Bridge and connecting roadways within the area. The first in a series of four informational meetings will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at the Big Sky High School Multi-Purpose Room, 3100 South Avenue West in Missoula.

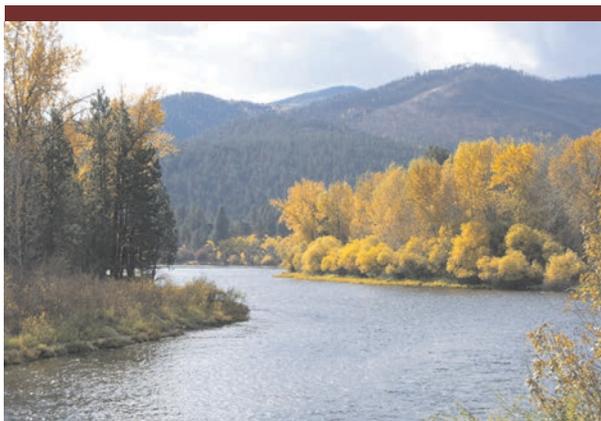
The meeting will be an open house format starting with a presentation at 6:00 p.m., followed by a question and answer period. The purpose of the meeting is to inform interested parties about the scope and purpose of the planning study, and to solicit input on the existing conditions and issues within the study area that may be relevant to the planning effort.



The Maclay Bridge Planning Study is a pre-National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) study that allows for earlier planning-level coordination with community members, stakeholders, environmental

resource agencies, and other interested parties. The study will assist in facilitating a smooth and efficient transition from transportation planning to future project development/environmental review, if any, based on need and funding availability. The Maclay Bridge Planning Study is a planning-level study and is not a design or construction project.

The planning study will identify feasible improvement options, if any, to address safety, geometric and environmental concerns based on needs of the Maclay Bridge and connecting roadways presented by the community, study partners, resource agencies, and other interested parties.



The Maclay Bridge crosses the Bitterroot River approximately 2.75 miles west of Reserve Street via North Avenue. North Avenue connects to the existing bridge as the eastern approach, and River Pines Road serves as its western approach.

Participation is a very important part of the process, and citizens are encouraged to attend and participate. Opinions, comments and concerns may be submitted in writing at the meeting, by mail to:

Sheila Ludlow, Project Manager
MDT Statewide and Urban Planning
PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620-1001

or online at

www.mdt.mt.gov/mdt/comment_form.shtml

Please indicate comments are for the Maclay Bridge Planning Study. MDT will collect and share all comments with study partners to better understand the potential issues and concerns within the vicinity of the Maclay Bridge.

Future announcements will be made prior to all events through the local media and the study mailing list. Interested parties are encouraged to join the study mailing list by submitting their name and contact information to Jeff Key at jeff.key@rpa-hln.com

A study website has been developed and can be accessed at
www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/maclay/



LOOKING FORWARD*

EVENT	DATE
Community Meetings	No. 1 _____ April 24th, 2012
	No. 2 _____ Mid-June, 2012
	No. 3 _____ Early September, 2012
	No. 4 _____ Early January, 2013
Draft Report	Early January, 2013

*Comments will be received throughout the course of the study.



Missoula County, MDT and RPA attempt to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program, or activity associated with this project. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request. For further information call (406) 447-5000 or TTY (800) 355-7592, or call Montana Relay at 711. Accommodation requests must be made at least 48 hours prior to any scheduled meetings and/or other activities.

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Maclay Bridge Planning Study

