



## Hamilton Area Transportation Plan 2009 Update



### Project Description

The City of Hamilton, Ravalli County and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) have initiated a community-wide transportation planning process. This process will assist the project partners, as well as the community at large, in guiding transportation infrastructure and implementation over the planning horizon (the year 2030). The City of Hamilton and Ravalli County have numerous transportation related issues that affect the efficiency and operational parameters of the existing transportation system.

Additionally, there are numerous available lands within the general planning area that could develop over the future years and possibly result in additional transportation impacts to the community's residents.

Although a transportation planning effort was undertaken by the City of Hamilton in 2002, this will be the first truly comprehensive, multi-modal transportation plan within the area. Transportation is a major concern to area residents today. The project partners expect

concern to remain high as growth continues and the challenges of accommodating travel needs become more difficult. A comprehensive Transportation Plan will provide an opportunity for city, county and state officials, staff and residents to work together to develop the innovative approaches necessary to plan and implement a transportation system that will serve the community's citizens well into the future.



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### Project Schedule

The project schedule is an eleven-month time frame. The project began on February 4, 2009 and strives for a final document and project completion near December 31, 2009.

### Public Involvement

The development of this Transportation Plan includes an extensive public involvement process. This process has been designed to encourage public involvement and meaningful participation. Several public outreach activities will be held on the project over the course of the project's development.

The first round of public outreach will occur during the second week of July, 2009. Presentations and workshops will be made to the Hamilton City Council, the Ravalli County Commissioners, and the general public as noted:

#### Ravalli County Commission

Tuesday, July 7 (2:00-3:00 PM)  
County Commission Chambers

#### General Public Workshop

Wednesday, July 8 (6:30-8:00 PM)  
City Hall Community Room

#### Hamilton City Council

Tuesday, July 7 (7:00-7:30 PM)  
City Hall Community Room



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the purpose of this Transportation Plan?

The purpose of this transportation planning effort is to evaluate the community's transportation system, and identify what is needed to make the system function adequately over the course of the planning horizon (year 2030). Considerable work has been performed through other projects in the community. However, due to growth pressures and the need to link to the various planning efforts occurring throughout the Hamilton area, it was decided that the entire community needed to be examined as a whole when examining transportation conditions and future needs. The purpose, then, is to develop a Transportation Plan that coordinates with the desires and direction of the community as a whole, while still providing a safe, functioning, and multi-modal transportation system that can accommodate existing and future travel demands. The end product of this important planning effort will be a useable Transportation Plan that can help guide infrastructure improvements in the community.

### How are community leaders and agencies involved in the study?

The planning process is collaborative in nature, involving area elected officials, agency representatives, transportation organizations, user groups and landowners to ensure local perspectives are represented. A Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) has been formed to facilitate ongoing participation and guidance

by key stakeholders, agencies, and organizations. The CAC will meet with the project team no more than six (6) times over the calendar year 2009 to provide input, share ideas and review and comment on draft plan recommendations.

Additionally, a project Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been formed to provide technical guidance and review to the consultant as the project develops.

### Who is the project management team?

The City of Hamilton, in partnership with the Montana Department of Transportation and Ravalli County, is the contracting authority for this study. The Helena office of Camp Dresser and McKee is assisting the three project partners in completing the planning effort by the end of December, 2009.

### How will the results of the study be used?

The results of the study will be used to guide transportation infrastructure needs within the community over the planning horizon. It will also assist in setting the course for improvements related to multi-modal access and community desires for transportation facilities. The results of the study will also provide information to support efforts to identify funding for future projects. CDM and the project partners will collect and consider all public comments received to better understand the public view of potential issues.

### How can the public/community contribute to the study?

The general public is invited to participate in the process through public information meetings and open house events (scheduled to begin in early July, 2009) and ongoing project information review and input. A project web site has been developed to provide on-line opportunities to comment on the needs of the region's transportation system and later, on the draft plan recommendations. Dates, times, and locations will be announced prior to the events through the local media and the project emailing list.

Those with a specific interest in the project are encouraged to join the project emailing list. They can do so by submitting their name and contact information to Jeff Key at the address or e-mail shown below, calling the recorded comment line at (800) 714-7296, or completing and returning the project comment sheets that will be distributed at all formal public outreach events at appropriate points during the projects development.

## Project Website Information

**Check out the project website at:**

[www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/hamilton](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/hamilton)

*The City of Hamilton, Ravalli County, the MDT, and CDM 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) 363-3316 or TTY (800) 335-7592, or by calling Montana Relay at 711. Accommodation requests must be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled activity and/or meeting.*

## Project Partners



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