

# CITY OF SHELBY

# August 2019 Newsletter

# Dear Shelby Residents,

We hope you have had a safe and relaxing summer. We thank you for your patience and cooperation as we continue to work on several critical infrastructure projects. Work should wrap up on the  $4^{\text{th}}$  cell sewer project east of Shelby in late fall. The north side storm water drainage project is nearly complete, with the Roosevelt Highway project continuing into the fall. Crews are also completing some street repair and chip sealing. Please be aware of work crews and potential slowdowns in construction areas.

The Federal Rail Administration Railroad Safety project has been designed and is now waiting multi-agency approval to move forward. The water line extension project is 50% complete with the contractor waiting on pump station components to complete the line east of Shelby. The city is now in the start-up phase of a wellfield improvement project that was funded through the Montana Department of Natural Resources, Treasure State Endowment Program and Army Corp of Engineers and working on a grant opportunity to assist in the cost of recoating the interior of the City Shop Water Tank.

The city will be making improvements to the Shelby Swimming Pool later this fall, replacing the original steel pool gutter system. The Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks Land Water Conservation Fund awarded Shelby funding to complete this critical project. The city will

## Special points of interest:

- Safe Routes to School
- Bike & Pedestrian Safety
- Walk n' Wheel/Fit Fridays
- School District #14 Reminders
- Safe Driver?
- Texting & Driving
- Dumpsters
- Visibility at Intersections
- Carousel Help
- Thank You
- Recycle Shelby
- Civic Center

also be completing the signage for the east entrance into Shelby thanks to the generosity of First State Bank in the coming weeks. The city is also working on an application for Montana Office of Tourism grant dollars to begin replacing other entrance signs and public park identification signs.

Thank you to all who have kept their yards and properties mowed and maintained. City workers have had to deal with badgers, skunks and snakes, so well-kept properties help them do their job more safely.

With the beginning of the school year, we hope you drive with caution as kids will be walking and biking to school soon. Informational articles are included in this newsletter that we hope you read and share with friends and family as together we can continue to make Shelby a great place to live, work and raise our families.





If you didn't know, the City of Shelby has a weekly Facebook post to keep residents up to date on city projects, programs and events. You can follow the City of Shelby on Facebook at **Shelby Montana**. Please look for "THIS WEEK IN SHELBY" each Monday for a list of projects the city is currently working on; infrastructure projects affecting traffic; garbage pickup routes; meetings; and Civic Center activities. If there are any changes to the schedule or notifications, please check the City's Facebook page daily for updates.

## Safe Routes to School

# Safe Routes to Schools 2019

Today, more than ever, there is a need to provide options that allow children to walk and bicycle to school safely. Many communities like Shelby struggle with traffic congestion around schools. At the same time, children in general engage in less physical activity, which contributes to the growing epidemic of obesity.

Safe Routes to School programs share one common goal – to improve the health of kids and the community by making walking and bicycling to school safer, easier, and more enjoyable. SRTS programs use a variety of education, engineering and enforcement strategies that help make routes safer for children to walk and bicycle to school and encourage more children to participate.

The City of Shelby has been very fortunate to have been awarded funding several years ago through the Montana Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School Program to work towards that goal of making our community safer for our children and families to walk and bike. The city made great improvements over the years to the arterial sidewalks leading to the school campus and the bike path along Oilfield Avenue. All these projects are directed toward making our community more walkable and bikeable.

At the same time, a task force made up of city and school officials/staff, and the Toole County Sheriff's office continues with an education campaign. For the last 12 years, the task force has planned Walk n' Wheel Wednesdays and Fit Fridays with prizes for those children who take part. Shelby Elementary School celebrates the end of each school year with the Kid's Marathon to further encourage our children to become more active. This event has been a huge success and great achievement for the students and staff at Shelby Elementary.

This newsletter has very informative articles and information from our school district, Toole County Sheriff's Office and Safe Routes to School task force. Citizens of Shelby are encouraged to offer input or assistance in developing and initiating new programs and projects that continue to encourage, educate and engineer a more walkable and bikeable community. Please call Lorette Carter, City of Shelby at 434-5222 or e-mail <a href="mailto:shbcdc@3rivers.net">shbcdc@3rivers.net</a> if you're interested.

Together we can all work to continue to make Shelby a great place to live, work and raise our families.

# **Back to School Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Tips**

It is the beginning of the school year and now is the perfect time to review traffic safety practices. When parents are walking and biking with their children, they are encouraged to talk to them about street safety and show kids how to interact with other pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles. Young children need supervision until about age 10 or even older, depending on the child. It is important for both bicyclists and pedestrians to pay attention and listen to their surroundings. Everyone should avoid wearing headphones that mute their surroundings and avoid cell phone use while walking and biking.

#### As a pedestrian:

- Teach children to stop at the edge of the street and look for cars.
- Make eye contact with the driver before crossing the street.
- Look left, right, left and over their shoulder for traffic.
- Teach them to cross at intersections and crosswalks when possible.
- It is important to follow all signs/warnings especially at our Galena railroad crossing.
- Wear bright clothing and reflective material if possible.

#### As a bicyclist:

- Helmets should always be worn no matter how slowly you are riding. Start the helmet habit early and parents should promote this by always wearing a helmet themselves.
- Be sure the helmet fits well, is adjusted to the head, and covers the forehead.
- Bicycles are vehicles. Children should not ride bikes in the road until they fully understand traffic rules and parents should show them how to follow them.
- When riding in the roadway, ride in single file on the right side of the street going the same direction as the traffic.
- · Obey all traffic signs, signals and warnings.
- Parents are encouraged to practice with children by riding in a straight line, as well as stopping and speed control.
- Look left, right, left and over the shoulder before crossing, turning or entering the roadway.
- Bicyclists are encouraged to also slow down and look for traffic entering and exiting the roadway.
- Ride so others can see you, stay out of a driver's blind spot and wear bright reflective clothing.
- Use hand turning signals so all traffic can see your intentions.

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Let's make it a safe school year, walking and biking to school!

## WALK N WHEEL WEDNESDAYS & FIT FRIDAYS!



Each Wednesday morning beginning September 11th and Friday morning, beginning September 13th, elementary students are encouraged to walk or bike to school. Each participant will be entered into drawings for great prizes to be given away at the end of the school year.

Walking school buses are at the former Middle School and the intersection of Oilfield Avenue and Sheridan Street with adults stationed at each site to walk children to school. Participants will leave the old Middle School at 7:35 am and Oilfield/Sheridan intersection at 7:45 am.

All children riding bikes MUST wear helmets, walk their bikes over the viaduct and ride ahead of the walkers.

Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> is International Walk to School Day. Shelby is celebrating its 12<sup>th</sup> year participating in this walking event. Classes will be challenged to participate with the largest percentage class participating rewarded by the City of Shelby. See you on Wednesdays and Fridays!

## **Reminders from School District #14**

#### **Passing School Buses**

Passing a bus when loading or unloading children is a **violation of the law.** This continues to be an issue every year and we hope that it never becomes a catastrophe. Bus drivers are legally bound to report passing violations to local law enforcement agencies. **Please, for the safety of all the children, do not pass a school bus that is stopped or preparing to stop.** Also, our buses use the stop signs mounted on the side of the bus at in-town stops. Please obey these stop signs just as you would the red flashing lights.



#### Traffic Flow, Parking, Student Drop-Off Areas

School District #14 is very concerned with student safety. One of the more dangerous times at school is in the morning and in the afternoon when children are arriving and departing from school. To insure that our students are safe, we are asking the community's cooperation in adhering to the designated student drop-off and pick up areas as well as obeying all no parking or stopping areas.

- **1. RED ZONES:** Any area where the curb is painted red is considered a **no parking or stopping zone.** These red zones are fire lanes and must be kept clear at all times for emergency vehicles.
- **2. YELLOW ZONES:** Are no parking zones. Please do not park anywhere the curb is painted yellow. Also, do not stop in the yellow zone that is marked as the bus loading zone near the school buildings.
- **3. HANDICAPPED PARKING:** Do not park in handicapped parking spaces, unless you have the appropriate permit which allows you to do so.
- **4. SENIOR CITIZEN PARKING FOR EVENTS:** The parking spaces along the Vo-Ed building on the north side of the gym are reserved for Senior Citizens.
- 5. **ELEMENTARY STUDENT DROP-OFF AREA:** The drop-off and pick-up area for students attending Shelby Elementary School is along Westwood Street on the east side of the school. Please use this area rather than the front of the school.
- **6. MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL DROP-OFF AREA:** The drop-off area for Middle School and High School students is at the West end of the high school building near the main entrance.
- **7. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING/PARKING FOR SCHOOL EVENTS:** The School District asks that you utilize the parking lot behind the high school for school activities. The back lot is paved, has very easy access and is well lighted. It is a much safer and secure location to park.
- **8. Speed Zones:** Please remember that the speed limit around the schools is 15 mph.

We ask for your cooperation in making the Shelby School campuses a safe place for our children.

### Are you a Safe Driver...?



Another school year has begun and children in our community are walking or riding their bicycles to and from bus stops and school. As we patrol this area, we see many children walking across streets without looking and bicyclists who ride through stop signs and across busy intersections. We also see many motorists not stopping for people in crosswalks waiting to cross or distracted with phones.

Many of us think that we are safe drivers. And yet, many exceed the speed limit, roll through stops signs and drive while distracted or in a hurry. These actions can turn deadly in an instant.

The cars that we drive are built for comfort and speed and drivers often forget that they are operating a piece of heavy machinery. There are more than 41,000 deaths on the road nationwide each year and 5.3 million injuries, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Please take a moment to look at your own driving habits. Most people want to do the right thing...and by making a few simple changes in our daily driving habits, we can stop a tragedy before it happens.



#### TALK TO YOUR TEEN ABOUT TEXTING & DRIVING

As school and high school sports are set to begin, we remind parents to have daily conversations with their teens about the important rules they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a passenger car, truck, or SUV. These rules should address the greatest dangers for teen drivers which number one is DISTRACTED DRIVING!

#### THE PROBLEM — TOO MANY TEENS ARE DYING ON OUR ROADS

- Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens (15 to 18 years old) in the United States ahead of all other types of injury, disease, or violence.
- Distracted driving accounts for approximately 25% of all fatal crashes and teens are the largest age group involved in these fatalities.
- Distractions while driving are more than just risky—they can be deadly. 2017-2018 showed among teen drivers involved in fatal crashes, 58% percent were reported as distracted at the time of the crash.
- Distracted Driving has been called an American EPIDEMIC and is completely preventable.

Parents – you've guided your teen this far. Driving is a new chapter, a step toward independence for many teens. But your job is not done. Surveys show that teens with parents who set firm rules for driving typically engage in less risky driving behaviors and are involved in fewer crashes. But your kids can't listen if you don't talk.

- Get the facts about teen driving and share these statistics with your teen.
- Know Montana's nighttime driving restrictions, passenger restrictions, and all the graduated driver licensing (GDL) restrictions, and help enforce them.
- Be a good role model for your teen driver and set an example with your own safe driving habits.
- Remind your teen that driving is a privilege, not a right, and it must always be taken seriously.
- Set the rules before they hit the road.

Start the conversation with your teen about safe driving habits now and continue the conversation every day throughout the year. Even if it seems like they're tuning you out, keep reinforcing these rules. They're listening—your constant reminders about these powerful messages will get through.

Get creative! Talking is just one way to discuss safe driving. You can also write your teen a letter, send e-mail or text reminders, leave sticky note reminders in the car, or use social media to get your message across.

Get it in writing. Create a parent-teen driving contract that outlines the rules and consequences for your teen driver. Hang the signed contract in a visible place as a constant reminder about the rules of the road.

If you and your teen are going somewhere together, let your teen drive. Make sure he or she is following the guidelines you've set.

**DUMPSTERS** • • • Many neighborhoods within Shelby share a communal dumpster as well as individual rollouts. We ask that residents please be considerate of their neighbors and garbage collector when filling the dumpster. Large items hanging out and over the edges prohibit the garbage collector from picking up the dumpster and properly dumping it. Tree branches take up so much space in the dumpster residents



have a hard time putting their household garbage in. At the same time, items left near the dumpster are not able to be picked up by the driver.

The landfill has a large container at the landfill for trees branches and compostable materials. If you do not have the ability to take a large item to the landfill, please call the City Shop at 434-5564 for assistance. If your company or worksite needs a large 20 yard container, please call the City Shop for rental details.

VISIBILITY AT INTERSECTIONS - The City of Shelby is working in cooperation with the Sheriff's Office to address

properties that have shrubs, hedges and trees that impede the vision of motorists. Several accidents have nearly happened from motorists pulling out into streets with limited visibility from shrubs, hedges and trees. Please look at your property and boulevard. If you have vegetation that is blocking visibility, we ask that you trim it back. Distance & height requirements can be found in the Shelby Municipal Code 13-5-2 Visibility at Intersections on the Shelby website at <a href="https://www.shelbymt.com">www.shelbymt.com</a>. Thank you for helping make our community safer.

#### The Carousel needs our help!



The City of Shelby, Toole County and North Central Montana are so very fortunate of the incredible efforts of Mr. Harry Benjamin in establishing the Carousel Rest Area of Shelby. In the two years it took to bring the Carousel to life, Harry formed a non-profit; established a governing board; re-built the 1930 carousel; and constructed a beautiful permanent home.

The Carousel is now struggling with sustainability issues. Management is doing everything in their power to encourage and invite visitors while keeping prices down, but are facing shortfalls that could affect the future of the Carousel. The Carousel is asking for your generous support to help sustain the Carousel throughout the year. The City of Shelby, Shelby TBID, First State Bank, A.N. Deringer Inc., Brice & Diana Kluth and Laura Welker have all committed to supporting the Carousel. Can you help? Please call the Carousel at 424-8444 for details.

# Thank you for making our community blossom!

The City of Shelby is very fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who plant and care for the concrete planters that line Roosevelt Highway, Oilfield Avenue, Main Street and Central Avenue. These beautiful flowers and shrubs brighten Shelby roadways and welcome visitors and residents alike. The City would like to thank these individuals and businesses for the commitment to helping Shelby "bloom" this summer.

Roosevelt Highway
Bear Paw Credit Union
Crossroads Inn
Dash Inn
Glacier Motel
Marias River Electric
Pizza Hut
Taylor's True Value



Oilfield Avenue
Audie Bancroft
First Baptist Church
Ten Pin Alley
Barbara Mercer
Rosalie Manley
Melody Flesch
Shelby Citizen Volunteer Corp

Special thanks to the Shelby Merchant Association for purchasing flowers; Nicki Anderson of Shelby Floral & Gift, Lisa Hurley & the city crew for planting the flowers; and the wonderful volunteer waterers ~ Lisa Hurley, Sharon Dolan, Nicki Anderson & Louise Aegerter for keeping our planters looking beautiful!

Thank you again for your gift of time and making Shelby a welcoming community.



The Shelby Recycling Association is excited to have a new sign up at the recycling site located at 514 1st St. No. Thanks to Barbie of Big Sky Creative Works for making the sign and special thanks to Dennis Knickerbocker and Elisha Dempsey for installing the sign. The sign is a great reminder of the recyclables accepted and how they should be dropped off. As always, we hope everyone does their part to REDUCE • RECYCLE!

# **CIVIC CENTER**

434-5114 • 669 Park Ave

Summer's coming to an end and we are heading back towards that fall and winter weather pretty fast! No need to stay outside in the cold when you can bring your healthy goals and physical workouts indoors! The civic center has so much to offer individuals as well as families. We currently offer roller skating, workout classes, racquetball, a teen room, basketball, two cardio rooms and a weight room that can help anyone achieve their target result. At the Civic Center Office you will be able to purchase anything from a day pass, class passes, monthly passes to key fobs that will get you 24 hour access to our facility! This is our current information of class schedules and office hours:

#### Class Schedules

Monday: Hit Workouts/Weight room classes with Darcy White 12pm-1pm
Tuesday: Hit Workouts/Weight room classes with Darcy White 12pm-1pm
Wednesday: Spinning with Tressa Keller 5:30am-6:30am
Hit Workouts/Weight room classes with Darcy White 12pm-1pm
Thursday: Hit Workouts/Weight room classes with Darcy White 12pm-1pm
Yoga will be returning in the fall and the hours and days will be posted.

#### Civic Center Office Hours

Summer (June-August) Monday-Thursday: 10am-3pm Friday: 10am-2pm Fall/Winter (September-May)
Monday-Thursday: 2pm - 7pm
Friday: 2pm - 6 pm



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