



BIKE/WALK ALLIANCE for MISSOULA

**PO Box 8881
Missoula, MT 59807**

December 9, 2009

Mr. Doug Moeller, District Administrator
Montana Department of Transportation
2100 W Broadway
PO Box 7039
Missoula, MT 59807-7039

Dear Mr Moeller:

The Board of Directors of Bike Walk Alliance for Missoula represents our over 100 members who move themselves on foot and bicycle. We have been continually concerned about safe and equitable transportation infrastructure facilities on the MDT facilities which run through Missoula.

Thus we want to reiterate our previously stated advocacy for installation of 5-foot bike lanes on Russell Street from Mount to Brooks as a component of the "Kent Street Turning Movements" project.

As an appropriate context-sensitive solution, updating Russell Street with bike lanes in this road segment is now particularly necessary due to the recent loss of two north-south bike / pedestrian pathways on vacated portions of Regent and Oxford Streets that have been closed off by private property owners. Bike lanes on Russell Street would well serve the adjacent central urban neighborhoods and commercial districts of Missoula and additionally grant a much needed buffer for pedestrians walking along the narrow curb-side sidewalks on this roadway.

We look forward to your expertise at integrating bike lanes into this street project. Thank you for your consideration and a your response with a community-friendly, context-sensitive solution for this street in the near future. As you no doubt know, the Missoula City Council recently adopted a Complete Streets Resolution which applies to all new or reconstructed streets. Thank you for attention.

Sincerely,

BWAM Board of Directors

Jean Belangie-Nye, John Couch, Ethel MacDonald, Marta Meengs, Bob Reider, Jim Sayer, Ginny Sullivan, Bob Wachtel

cc: Steve King, Missoula Department of Public Works
Jeremy Keene, WGM Group
Jeff Smith, WGM Group