



NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

This is the fourth newsletter providing you an update on recent events as we plan for the future of Kalispell's former industrial core. This newsletter includes the appointment of a steering committee, the city's hiring of an architectural firm to provide conceptual illustrations of areas within the Core Area Revitalization Plan and the Flathead County Economic Development Authority's purchase of a 40 acre future rail served industrial park. Please look at "next steps" in the process of completing the Core Area Revitalization Plan for ways to continue participating.

PLANNING BOARD APPOINTS CORE AREA STEERING COMMITTEE (CAST)

On March 13th the Kalispell Planning Board appointed a Core Area Steering Committee to assist in giving direction to the next phase of the Core Area Planning Project. The nine member steering committee is made up of the following diverse group of interested individuals:

- Pam Carbonari—Coordinator - Kalispell Business Improvement District; Kalispell Downtown Assoc.
- Kellie Danielson—President/CEO of Montana West Economic Development and Flathead County Economic Development Authority
- Tom Lund—President, Rocky Mountain Bank; Vice-Chair of the Kalispell Urban Renewal Agency
- Mike Mower—Property owner in the Core Area; Flathead County Fair Board Member
- Jim Ness—Vice-President, Glacier Bank; President of the Kalispell Downtown Association
- Matt Springer—Flathead Valley Community College, Resource Development Coordinator
- Diane Yarus—Property owner in the Core Area
- Joe Matulevich—Citizen member
- Blake Sherman—Kalispell Planning Board

The steering committee will help city staff and a professional architectural design firm develop a reuse or redevelopment plan for key "catalyst sites", prepare several street profiles and graphically visualize an area with the Burlington Northern tracks removed. These plans are not intended to be actual construction plans but more visioning as to what could happen in the downtown core. The committee will begin meeting in April with subsequent meetings every two to three weeks through the month of June.

CTA TO PROVIDE CONCEPT PLANS

The city council and many property owners within the district have asked that any recommendations for the future redevelopment of this area be done graphically. In other words put the vision to paper and show what the future could look like. To that end, the city advertized for professional services and hired CTA to work with the Core Area Steering Committee and city staff to identify key concept plans for catalyst sites and potential street designs representing future use of lands within the Core Area Revitalization Plan. CTA will produce the preliminary concept plans similar to that pictured of the future Hockaday Museum of Art expansion for review by the CAST members and then the public. Look for an open house in June to review the preliminary concept plans.



Hockaday Museum of Art

NEXT STEPS

The Planning Department has begun drafting a set of goals and policies based on input received from the public, property and business owners in the area. Once the draft set of goals, policies and concept plans are complete, they will be posted on the city's website at the following address:

www.kalispell.com/community_economic_development/brownfield_program.php

The city will be hosting another round of public meetings soliciting your input to determine if the plan is on target. The meetings are anticipated to take place in late May or early June. We will then incorporate needed changes and new ideas as suggested.

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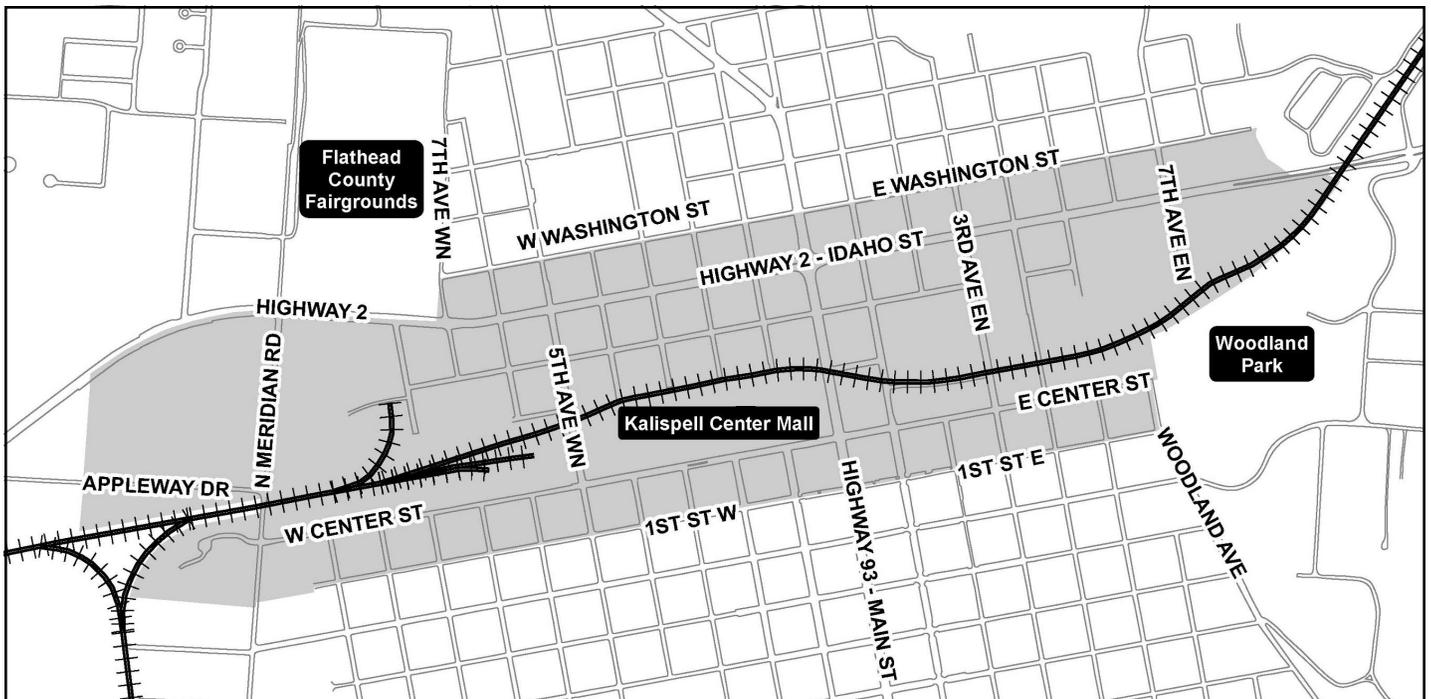
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CORE AREA REVITALIZATION PLAN MAP



FCEDA PURCHASES FORMER MCELROY AND WILKIN GRAVEL PIT SITE

The Flathead County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA) has finalized the purchase of the former McElroy and Wilkin gravel pit site. The site was purchased with funding provided by the U.S. Economic Development Administration. The site is located on the east side of Whitefish Stage Road and extends east to Flathead Drive. The property is approximately 40 acres in size and will be developed as a rail-served industrial park. The park will be marketed mainly to manufacturing, wholesale trade and agricultural businesses that need access to rail service. The goal is to develop the site over the next two years. The purchase and subsequent development of the former gravel pit site into a rail-served industrial park is a key piece in assisting in the redevelopment of the core area. It will provide a destination close to the core area with modern rail access which our current core area does not accommodate. Additionally, it will provide a strong employment base adjacent to the core area. Finally, it creates a future option to remove rail lines dissecting the core area thus making significant redevelopment possible.

