

## Laurie Hire

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**From:** bcc  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2018 12:41 PM  
**To:** Laurie Hire; Heather Peters  
**Subject:** FW: Open Space Meeting

Sarah Bell

Administrative Assistant

Board of County Commissioners

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**From:** Jim Conkle <[jimconkle@yahoo.com](mailto:jimconkle@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 08, 2018 7:13 PM  
**To:** bcc <[bcc@missoulacounty.us](mailto:bcc@missoulacounty.us)>; conkle <[jimconkle@yahoo.com](mailto:jimconkle@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Open Space Meeting

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Jim Conkle <[jimconkle@yahoo.com](mailto:jimconkle@yahoo.com)>  
**To:** [bcc@missoulacounty.us](mailto:bcc@missoulacounty.us) <[bcc@missoulacounty.us](mailto:bcc@missoulacounty.us)>; conkle <[jimconkle@yahoo.com](mailto:jimconkle@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 8, 2018, 7:10:24 PM MDT  
**Subject:** Open Space Meeting

Hi

This is being sent at about 7 PM on Sun 7/8.

I encourage you to postpone your decision on this request until you do some independent research and seek out input.

I assert that probably less than 10-15% of the voting public know about this proposal and your meeting.

As far as I know, The Missoulian and the TV stations have not covered it.

The meeting is being held on a workday at 9 AM, excluding most laborers. (I'm not saying many would attend at any time)

Only 6 public comments have been posted.....Missoula County population.....117,000 or so.

I have not seen any independent analysis of this issue.

Just opinion pieces.

If this is put to the voters, it will pass. I have just reread "Profiles in Courage" about the politicians who voted against their self interests. My opinion, your decision should not be based on "we are just allowing the citizens to vote on it" when the probability of passage is 99%. You are voting for its passage. Bernie Sanders stated that he lost many areas as "poor people don't vote in large numbers". I believe you realize who will be out in force for this vote

It is all about the process to me. As Democrats, I assume you are not touting the manner that President Obama's Supreme Ct nominee, Garland, did not even get a hearing. Totally legal. Great Republican strategy. Absolutely terrible for the long run as to process, civility, and citizen involvement.

The bond will still pass, but if you did some serious outreach and investigation before voting, possibly you could keep some voters believing in the process.

- 1) Go to Seeley Lake, Frenchtown, and other parts of the county and sit down with them.
- 2) Hire an independent economist to explore the pros and cons
- 3) Talk to other cities and find what their policies have done as to affect on different groups.
- 4) etc
- 5) After that, publish an opinion piece as based on your investigation.

A failed process will continue to divide our community and will continue to reduce communication.

Thxs  
Jim Conkle  
Missoula