

From: [Emily Williams](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Limiting outdoor residential energy usage
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 11:47:18 AM

Hello Ketchum City Council,

I'm writing to express my support for limiting and/or offsetting (with renewable energy systems) outdoor residential energy usage, including private snow melt system emissions. Doing so aligns with Ketchum's clean energy resolution and puts the city on a path for a more sustainable future.

Thank you for all of your work, and I hope the City continues to prioritize the commitments made in the Clean Energy Resolution.

Kindly,
Emily Williams

205 Ritchie Drive, Ketchum

From: [Robert Lonning](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Snow melting discussion
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 12:29:15 PM

Dear Ketchum City Council,

The resolution, Resolution 20-031, adopted on December 21, 2020, reflects the City's commitment to clean energy. It is my hope that any discussions about residential snow melting technology be informed by this commitment. I agree with the text in the Agenda Memo that such residential systems DO NOT "provide a public benefit" and appear to be at odds with the City's commitment to clean energy. Like so much the City Council works on, I understand there is no easy answer, but I hope the Council recognizes that clean energy is more important for the public benefit going forward.

Thanks for all you do,

Robert Lonning
201N. 3rd Ave.
Hailey

From: thall@alberthallassociates.com
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Updated Warm Springs Preserve Plan
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 1:28:04 PM

Members of the Ketchum City Counsel and Warm Springs Preserve Design Team,

We write today to add to previous input that we provided in writing and again during public comment at a recent public review of the Preserve Master Plan design progress, which was held on February 14, 2023.

As before, we commend the work of the design team and all those involved in the project from land acquisition to current plan status. We remain fully supportive of the vast majority of the design recommendation contained in the current plan with one significant exception. On page 79 of the most recent plan it states the following:

"Many community members expressed excitement about creating one or two access points that would cross Warm Springs Creek or the Big Wood River to connect to trails in the Preserve. The City and design team studied various options and, based on feasibility, determined that the two locations shown in the map to the right would be potential access locations. A West Ketchum connection below the confluence would be on Bureau of Land Management land and require approval from the Bureau of Land Management. The second neighborhood connection shown requires additional study and community support. Access could range from simply improving the safety of the existing public access point or to installing year-round footbridge."

Although the statement above is careful to mention that the second neighborhood connection "...requires additional study and community support..." there is no mention of the broad and considered opposition to locating an access bridge across Warm Springs Creek at Broadway Court. We have followed this discussion in its various iterations, including during the February 14 meeting and the statement above fails to capture the depth and breadth of public opposition to the second neighborhood connection.

Our purpose in writing at this time is to once again strongly urge the design team and council to eliminate consideration of locating a bridge across Warm Springs Creek at Broadway Court. We wholeheartedly support improvement of public access to the neighborhood side of the creek, and respectfully ask again that the review process take seriously the adverse impacts that would be derived from locating a bridge at that location. We won't repeat our earlier writings on this topic, but briefly those adverse impacts include:

1. Providing access across the creek to the one area of floodplain in the project that remains nearly in its natural state is contrary to the stated goals of the plan. On page 75 of the plan, it states that, "On the southern property, minimal human influence has allowed much of the native ecosystems to thrive. However, a few minor improvements can substantially influence floodplain connectivity." Locating a bridge to provide human access to the area does not represent a minor improvement and is contrary to the goal of minimal human influence [which] has allowed the native ecosystem to thrive.
2. The floodplain in question has always been a thriving wildlife habitat and a bridge access will increase the probability of human/wildlife interactions at a time when wildlife habitat throughout the Wood River Valley is shrinking at an alarming rate.

3. Adding access at Broadway Ct will increase congestion in a neighborhood that has seen the construction of seven new residences in a three block radius in the last several years with at least three more in the planning stages. This has already caused traffic and pedestrian conflicts and parking issues for a neighborhood that lacks the infrastructure to accommodate such growth.
4. There is a history of individuals utilizing illegal bridging to cross the creek at that location in order facilitate the transport of power and sports equipment on to the riparian and floodplain across the creek. This resulting in the degradation of riparian vegetation, limbing of trees to improve personal view corridors and installation of sports equipment such as bow and arrow targets, slack lines strung between trees, sling targets and household furniture on both sides of the creek and late-night incursions into the area resulting in public nuisance complaints. A permanent bridge will simply exacerbate the problem further and the area is not easily accessible to law enforcement or city code enforcement officials.

Again, we remain strong proponents of the work being undertaken to create and maintain such an important public amenity as the Warm Springs Preserve. We also appreciate the ability to provide public input. However, we are deeply concerned that some of that input seems not to have been considered seriously in the current draft of the plan and urge all parties to do so to avoid the unintended consequence of degrading the natural habitat of the southernmost floodplain or the quality of life for a Ketchum neighborhood that is ill equipped to accommodate additional traffic and human activity that will surely result from locating a bridge access at Broadway Court.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter and would welcome the opportunity to provide any additional input that the design team or city staff might find helpful as they continue their work.

Thomas Hall and Amy Mueller
534 Broadway Blvd
Ketchum, ID 83340

From: [Neil Bradshaw](#)
To: [Michael Conger](#)
Cc: chamilton@ketchum.or; abreen@ketchum.org; mdavid@ketchum.or; jslanetz@ketchum.or; [Lisa Enourato](#); [Jade Riley](#); [Aly Swindley](#)
Subject: Re: Land Bridge/ Floodplain /Warm Springs Preserve- City Council Vote April 3
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 1:32:31 PM

Thanks Michael,

As articulated to you earlier, the WSP master plan contemplates certain neighborhood connection points. Those connections are not a focus of our initial work (most of the initial work will be on riparian restoration and irrigation) and we will continue to solicit community input before any action is taken on the potential connection points.

Your email will be put the public domain for council deliberation.

Thanks for participating!

Cheers

Neil

NEIL BRADSHAW | CITY OF KETCHUM

Mayor

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On Apr 3, 2023, at 1:14 PM, Michael Conger <michaelconger1@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Council members-

It has come to my attention that you are conducting a vote on a number of issues concerning your master plan for the Warm Springs Preserve. I wanted to take this opportunity to show my repudiation for the proposed community bridge located near the southern floodplain on Broadway Blvd. Ketchum.

Although the "preserve" itself has its benefits and attraction, that is precisely what has contributed to its problems and dilemmas. Build it and they will come! The decisions that are made today will impact this community and the surrounding environment and resources for our future lives today and our Children's lives of tomorrow.

The impact of increased population and popularity of the Wood River Valley and

what it has to offer has undergone a significant and dramatic change in the last several years. The city of Ketchum has invested time, money and resources to an improved "Preserve" that will have a MASSIVE impact on the land and surrounding communities in perpetuity! This being said, if you start something and move forward in an aggressive fashion it will become more difficult to understand the impacts -negative or positive for years to come. By that time the structures are in place, trails are built and people from all parts will gravitate to this area (preserve) which will have a tremendous impact on our land, the ecosystem and the quality of life here as we know it.

Remember, The City is trying to implement, construct a way for a multitude of environments, habitats and ecosystems to co-exist in a very limited and small area!! BLM next to a 'preserve, next to a dog park, next to a floodplain, next to the river system, next to a neighborhood, next to a town that is only growing!!!! More access to these areas is NOT the solution, but only a recipe for disaster.

It is imperative that the City of Ketchum understand the future impact of your proposal and how it affects ALL people of this community. The OBVIOUS PROBLEM OF CONGESTION in the Valley from Bellevue to the SNRA is only going to continue to grow and become more of an issue as well as a negative impact on this area. I believe it is something that on this very day is a problem which has very few solutions.

To build more structures and access points allows only opportunity for more crowding, bottlenecks and overpopulation in areas where solitude, privacy and serenity are what make these key areas in the Wood River Valley special, and should remain that way in order to maintain the integrity of our neighborhoods and community as a whole. If you were to halt construction today in this valley I believe it would still take years to understand the impact it has in all aspects of our lives.

That being said, the proposed bridge AND TRAIL SYSTEM in the southern floodplain will only create a quagmire of people, pets, tourist, outdoor enthusiasts and with it comes noise, trash, animal waste, car pollution and noise pollution into a funnel of chaos, not to mention the overall impact on our ecosystems, riparian zones, elk, moose, owl, deer, cougar, waterfowl habitats as well as aquatic species and fisheries.

Let the floodplain do what nature has intended it to do- absorb excess water from spring runoff and truly act as a natural sanctuary for all wild things that live here, NOT some man made contrived 'preserve" that will only attract more people, traffic and problems down the road.

Lets keep this part of ketchum special in its natural state and focus on the "preserve" aspects of the master plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Conger