

Dawn Hofheimer

From: Bryan Ries <ries.bryan@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2026 5:13 PM
To: Participate
Subject: Re: Urgent Request for Stronger Leadership on Highway 75 Construction Impacts

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for your response. I understand the City is not the controlling authority. That said, the severity of the disruption now requires more visible and immediate leadership from the City of Ketchum and Pete.

Please escalate this directly ahead of the Idaho Transportation Board meeting on **April 15–16 in Shoshone with Chairman Bill Moad**, District 4 Board Member Mitch Watkins, Board Executive Lorraine Dennis, and ITD Chief Operations Officer Todd Hubbard. The current conditions are causing unacceptable delays, spillover congestion through town, and increasing safety risks from speeding and aggressive driving in both directions.

This has moved beyond routine construction inconvenience. Residents do not need to be redirected to ITD. They need the City to push for solutions.

Ketchum City Leadership needs to press for immediate changes: no inactive lane closures, stronger peak-hour traffic mitigation, tighter work-hour discipline, and clear accountability from ITD.

Will you please confirm who from the City of Ketchum will be attending that meeting and specifically raising these concerns?

Bryan Ries

On Fri, Apr 3, 2026 at 3:26 PM Participate <participate@ketchumidaho.org> wrote:

Thank you for your email, Bryan. You may be aware that Highway 75 (even the portion that turns into Main Street through Ketchum) is managed by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). This is their project. They'd have to answer your questions regarding project or traffic closure management.

The City of Ketchum is in talks with ITD to see if there is anything that can be done to improve traffic flow. This includes potential opportunities to reconfigure the traffic closure, adjust stop light timing, or add flaggers. But keep in mind, the decision is ultimately ITDs.

Ketchum does not normally allow construction overnight in areas we have control over. In this case, last year, the City Council did allow ITD to do construction overnight. They took advantage of this a little bit last year, but couldn't most of the time because (1) not enough workers were available or (2) since the project includes partial federal funding, some workers are not allowed to work at night. My hunch is that the current City Council would also allow the overnight work this year, but ITD has not made that request of the city yet. However, they will be presenting a construction update to the City Council during the April 9 meeting. The topic could come up then.

ITD has a project web page that includes information on the construction. It is available at <https://itd.idaho.gov/project/idaho75/>. Also included on this page is contact information if you wish to reach out to them.

Best,

CITY OF KETCHUM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

P.O. Box 2315 | 191 Fifth St. W. | Ketchum, ID 83340

o: 208.726.3841 | f: 208.726.7812

participate@ketchumidaho.org | ketchumidaho.org

From: Bryan Ries <ries.bryan@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 2, 2026 9:17 AM

To: Peter Prekeges <pprekeges@ketchumidaho.org>

Cc: Participate <participate@ketchumidaho.org>

Subject: Urgent Request for Stronger Leadership on Highway 75 Construction Impacts

Dear Mayor Prekeges,

I am writing to express my serious concern about the recommencement of construction on Highway 75 and the growing impact it is having on daily life in our community.

This morning, it took me an hour and a half to drive five miles. As I approached the Elkhorn stoplight, three of the five lanes were closed, yet there was not a worker in sight. Yesterday, it took me over an hour to travel on 2nd Street from the post office toward River Run just to access Highway 75.

This level of disruption is not sustainable for residents, workers, local businesses, visitors, or the broader economy that depends on reliable access and a positive experience in Ketchum. It is also creating safety concerns, including the risk of accidents as frustrated drivers speed, change lanes aggressively, or take unnecessary chances in both directions of traffic.

I respectfully ask that you step up with visible leadership and bring together the appropriate city, county, and state partners to improve how this project is being managed. At a minimum, there should be tighter oversight of lane closures, better coordination of work schedules, and a more effective traffic management plan designed to reduce commute times as much as possible.

It is also reasonable to ask why a better system is not in place to optimize work hours, including evening work where appropriate, and to manage traffic patterns in a way that minimizes unnecessary delays when work is not actively underway.

Our community understands that infrastructure work is sometimes necessary. What is difficult to accept is avoidable congestion, inadequate traffic flow, and the absence of a clearly managed plan to lessen the burden on the public. I hope you will use your office to drive a more responsive and accountable approach.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Bryan Ries
208-481-1164

April 7, 2026

Hello Mayor and Councilors,

The code update of Title 1, 2 & 4 is labeled as a "... a general review to update, streamline, remove unnecessary or inapplicable language, clarify and modernize existing City Code." This is misleading. Modernize = policy change. Let's call it what it is.

The updates need some more organization to achieve these goals. Policy changes need to be deliberated with facts.

- Why is 2.01.070 Reconsideration and Appeals included in the middle of Title 2 under Mayor and Council? Are there more odd/awkward item placements?
- Why are numbered items missing? Why not re-number items in numerical order? This is a rewrite for better clarification...
- Much of the added descriptions are not codes and would be better served in a Manual of City Governance Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines that can be updated by resolution. McCall has a good one:
<https://portal.laserfiche.com/Portal/DocView.aspx?id=213675&page=3&repo=r-d76fb24e>
- Reference State Codes whenever applicable and make them accessible with a click if possible. Don't just drop them.
- It is impossible to understand the changes without a side by side with the current Titles. How is the public supposed to know what they are replacing? Changing policies and code re-writes are all about transparency...

My focus has been on Title 2, primarily the runoff proposals. Thank you for re-evaluating the council run off. As you found out, it doesn't work and is not allowed by state code unless council seats and/or districts are adopted (50-707B). The mayor runoff may seem like a no brainer, but it too, deserves a closer look to avoid unintended consequences.

- How many towns in Idaho have mayor only run-offs?
- What is the cost to both the city and the candidates?
- How does the timeline work for absentee ballots?
- No other city in Blaine County has a runoff requirement so this would be an election, done sporadically, with only one ballot issue/item for one city.
- What is the voter turnout for a run-off? In 2001 the only runoff in Blaine County history, the voter turnout for the runoff was 32%. That was 57% less than in the general election which had 56% voter turnout.

Moving forward, let's make the Municipal Code live up to all the hype.

Anne Corrock

Dawn Hofheimer

From: Kristin Poole <poolekristin8@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 9:51 AM
To: Participate
Cc: Daniel Hansen; chedberg@comlib.org
Subject: Public Comment Second Reading Ordinance 1272 [City Code- Title 2 - Administration and Personnel], and Ordinance 1274 [City Code- Title 4- Commissions and Boards]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I would like to submit public comment on the proposal to dissolve the Ketchum Arts Commission and merge its responsibilities into a Cultural and Heritage Commission. I do not think that the current plan makes sense for the city. The Arts Commission is a needed and necessary stand alone Commission. To add additional responsibilities and to broaden its scope is to diminish its ability to meet its current mission and to continue to serve the community.

I have been a member of the Ketchum Arts Commission for the past 3 years. Prior to my service on the Commission, I served the community as the Artistic Director of the Sun Valley Museum of Art for 25 years. I was around long, long ago when the Ketchum Arts Commission was first formed by Claudia McCain, Gail Severn, myself and a handful of others. Since its inception the Arts Commission has accomplished a great deal for the City of Ketchum from acquiring and installing a wide range of public sculpture to developing rotating art installations on 4th St, to public mural competitions, to implementing juried competitions for art on city infrastructure (sidewalks, crosswalks, and sewer plates), as well as presenting dance and music events events. To my knowledge there has always been a full slate of activities and city matters to take up meeting agendas. There remains a great deal on the current commissions to-do list including executing a thorough inventory of the city's art holdings to determine current conditions and set up a schedule for regular maintenance. While arts commission work occasionally overlaps with cultural and heritage issues, it is certainly not the majority of work that the commission engages with. Adding this additional work will not only sideline important priorities, it will also require a different kind of expertise on the Commission itself.

Historically the Arts Commission has been made up of a range of individuals, nearly all of whom are arts professionals, who have knowledge in various artistic disciplines and arts related skills. During the past three years each one of the commissioner's specific area of expertise has been called on to inform us as we execute our duties. It would be challenging and a diminishment of our capabilities were we to have to let any one of the current commissioners go to fulfill the new requirements outlined in the current ordinance. The Arts and Heritage Commission has outlined a need for individuals with knowledge of Archeology, History and Landscape Architecture. While those kind of professionals are not excluded from the Arts Commission, a Cultural and Heritage Commission would need to have them represented, thereby diminishing the number of arts professionals to advise on relevant matters.

I urge you to reconsider the development of a Cultural and Heritage Commission. The current Arts Commission is functioning at a very high level and has been working hard to fulfill its responsibilities. To my knowledge, it's not broke. To reconfigure it will certainly compromise its success.

With thanks for your work on behalf of the community, Kristin Poole

Dawn Hofheimer

From: HP Boyle <boylehp@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 10:35 AM
To: Participate
Subject: Public comment for Council on Dark Skies

As you make the Dark Skies proclamation this week, please give thought to what you can do to reduce the ever-increasing light dome over Ketchum. Our night sky is so bright that Sun Valley Co uses pictures of Ketchum lit up at night as part of their advertising.

What can the Council do?

1. Require retrofitting of external fixtures when grandfathered buildings apply for renovation permits
2. Change the dark skies ordinance to regulate not just fixtures, but also lumens. Many developers end up with dark skies due to large windows. The PEG hotel was promoting its floor-to-ceiling windows before they killed the project. I look out at Zernergy's huge window, lit up like a lighthouse all night long, as well as Thunder Springs massive window, lit up all night long. For five years, I tried to get them to turn off the lights at night, but they refused. Bluebird stairwells are more examples. How about requiring shades like these for windows in our building code? A lumens regulation would address this and is something other cities have adopted.
3. Enforce the Christmas lights ordinance. It's frustrating to see these lights left on all night, especially well after Christmas.

Proclamations are nice, but do nothing to protect dark skies. Let's move beyond the performative to the substantive.

Thank you,

Perry Boyle
Ketchum

Dawn Hofheimer

From: HP Boyle <boylehp@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 10:45 AM
To: Participate
Subject: Public Comment on ITD Construction

As the Council reviews this, please examine the details of ITD's work plan. From what I observe, very little actual work gets done most of the time. Each time I drive by the construction site, I count the number of people present and how many are actually working on the road. On average, there are 9 people on site, but only 2 are working on the road itself. The rest are either idling or holding traffic signs. This work could have been completed by now if ITD had allocated proper resources to get it done. The economic impact on Ketchum from poor road construction is significant. Please hold ITD accountable.

Thank you,

Perry Boyle

Dawn Hofheimer

From: Ed Simon <edsimon@sunvalley.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 4:25 PM
To: Participate
Subject: Agenda Item No. 9 Silver Creek Lease Assignment

To the Mayor and City Council

Re: Agenda Item 9. Silver Creek Lease Assignment

This agenda item is in contravention of the Idaho Constitution as cited below. The very language of the agenda item stating “The City of Ketchum has been the financial guarantor (emphasis added) of the Silver Creek transitional housing...” by its very language and the “Letter of Credit” referenced in the “Assignment”, is not permitted under the Idaho Constitution. There exists no provision under Idaho law that would supersede the Constitutional provisions, and the fact that the City has apparently been previously involved, cannot and does not overcome these prohibitions. You cannot by contract, or otherwise, create a waiver to justify this approval.

In addition, since the underlying involvement, and financial history of any contribution made by the City, is not included in this agenda item, it is impossible for the public to evaluate the costs incurred by the City. Has the Silver Creek rental had a cost benefit to the taxpayers of Ketchum, or has, or will, Ketchum be squandering more taxpayer funds on a failed project.

Please consider the Constitutional provisions below, before proceeding on this unlawful action.

Ed Simon
Ketchum

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Article XII

SECTION 4. MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS NOT TO LOAN CREDIT. No county, town, city, or other municipal corporation, by vote of its citizens or otherwise, shall ever become a stockholder in any joint stock company, corporation or association whatever, or raise money for, or make donation or **loan its credit to**, or in aid of, any such company or association: provided, that cities and towns may contract indebtedness for school, water, sanitary and illuminating purposes: provided, that any city or town contracting such indebtedness shall own its just proportion of the property thus created and receive from any income arising therefrom, its proportion to the whole amount so invested.

ARTICLE VIII PUBLIC INDEBTEDNESS AND SUBSIDIES

Section 4. COUNTY, ETC., NOT TO LOAN OR GIVE ITS CREDIT. No county, city, town, township, board of education, or school district, or other subdivision, **shall lend, or pledge the credit or faith thereof directly or**

indirectly, in any manner, to, or in aid of any individual, association or corporation, for any amount or for any purpose whatever, or become responsible for any debt, contract or liability of any individual, association or corporation in or out of this state.

Dawn Hofheimer

From: Claudia McCain <cvmccain@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 12:17 AM
To: Participate
Cc: Daniel Hansen; chedberg@comlib.org
Subject: Public Comment: Second Reading Ordinance 1272 (Commissions and Boards)

Dear Mayor and City Council

Since 2009 the Ketchum Arts Commission (KAC) has served the city well representing its dedication to the cultural landscape of our community, its citizens and visitors. Through the vision of the arts professionals serving on the KAC the city has amassed a significant art collection through donations, acquisitions and commissions as well as created engaging art work throughout the city - whether it be Art on 4th, lively artist adorned utility boxes, artist designed manhole covers, crosswalk art, dance and music performances and juried art programs, to name a few.

Recognizing the mission and accomplishments of the KAC, I do not endorse the proposal to abolish the commission and merge it with the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) to create the Cultural and Heritage Commission. The KAC has functioned well as a stand-alone entity. Reconfiguring the structure of the Commission, as well as reducing the number of commissioners (with potentially differing visions) and adding responsibilities will not serve the new commission or the volunteers, or ultimately the city.

Certainly, as a founding member of the KAC, a previous President, former commission member - serving for a combined total of 14 years, and having represented the city in other arts initiatives, I have a long history and insight to the Commission that is unique, and a role that I cherish. It is my hope that the KAC can continue as an independent Commission. I respectfully request that you rethink the proposal for the Cultural and Heritage Commission and instead allow the KAC and the HPC to continue as separate advisories.

Thank you for what you give to our city. I appreciate your consideration of my concerns.

With Best Regards,

Claudia McCain
Ketchum Resident



**Ketchum Business Advisory Coalition Public Comment - City's Contract With Blaine County Sheriff's Office
April 8, 2026**

The Ketchum Business Advisory Coalition (KBAC) respectfully requests that the City Council pause any vote to terminate the existing contract with the Blaine County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services in Ketchum until more information can be gathered and made available to the community, so that local voices can be fully heard regarding this important decision.

Our local businesses, and all local residents, greatly value and support a community policing model and the strong presence, professionalism, and relationships provided by our law enforcement officers. Public safety is at the heart of a healthy community, which means that continuity, clarity, and trust in policing services are crucial for keeping our community stable and secure.

We understand that the City has already invested in an evidence room designed to Sheriff's Office specifications. However, we ask for clarification on these important questions that will help everyone understand the full implications of any potential change:

- Would a local jail/holding cell be required under a new law enforcement model, and if so, where would it be located and what would the cost be, and how it would affect the City's budget?
- If individuals detained within city limits must be transported to the County jail in Hailey, would the Sheriff's Office charge a fee for those in custody from Ketchum?
- What logistical, financial, and staffing implications might arise from these changes?
- Would there be an interim period during which full-time professional law enforcement would not be provided in Ketchum?

We also strongly encourage the City to continue supporting a full-time detective position. Investigative capacity is vital, not only for resolving cases and assisting victims, but also for deterring repeat offenses and sustaining confidence among residents, employees, and visitors.

Given the complexity and lasting impact of this decision, we believe a careful and transparent process guided by data, clear cost analysis, and open community engagement is essential.

Lastly, the local business community is concerned about law enforcement officer's job security and is mindful that officers should receive adequate salary and benefits, regardless of how the sheriff's contract is ultimately resolved.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration and your ongoing commitment to keeping Ketchum a safe, thriving place to live, work, and do business.

Sincerely,
The KBAC Board Of Directors

Dawn Hofheimer

From: Jody Beckwith <jodybeckwith@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2026 9:26 AM
To: Participate
Subject: Feedback on Policing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

We have been reading all the articles in the paper this week. We live in West Ketchum and had an incident with the police showing up at our doorstep on New Year's Eve accusing us of stealing someone's Apple Watch.

The incident left us very uncomfortable with our police force.

If anyone is interested in the details, please contact us.

Tom Beckwith
206-718-5240
tgbeckwith@gmail.com

Jody Beckwith
206-718-5240
jodybeckwith@gmail.com

Jody

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Jody Beckwith

Dawn Hofheimer

From: trina peters <trinapeters@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2026 10:47 AM
To: Participate
Subject: Merging of KAC and Historic Preservation Commissions

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mayor Pete and City Council members:

I'm writing re the second reading of Ordinance 1272 to merge the Ketchum Arts Commission with the Historic Preservation Commission, which I just learned about. As a former KAC Chair and Commissioner (for 6 years), I strongly oppose the combination of the two commissions. They each require members with unique expertise, knowledge and experience, and I fear that this new commission will have a diluted impact. I know from first hand experience how much great work the KAC has accomplished since its formation, a result of the ideas, experience and networks of professionals deeply involved in Ketchum's arts community. The KAC has proven highly effective as a stand along commission, delivering consistently excellent public art experiences for our residents and visitors. I encourage you to re-think this short-sighted idea to merge the two commissions. Trina Peters, Ketchum resident

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Trina Peters
208-440-5561
trinapeters@gmail.com

Dawn Hofheimer

From: Suzanne Huttar <shuttarwjcoffice@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2026 12:04 PM
To: Participate
Subject: Proposed Ketchum Police Force

Dear Mayor & City Council Members,

Dissolving the Blaine County Sheriff 's Contract with the City of Ketchum and so hastily taking on one more entity to our City's Financial Budget without reporting to the public or allowing a full review of your numbers is not showing ANY sort of transparency as elected government officials.

This is a clear sign of the new Mayor & two rogue City Council Members working on their own without forethought as to their actions.

WHY would we need a Ketchum City Police force after 20 years of so, when the adoption of the original merger with the Blaine County Sheriff allows for a better overall use of resources as well as knowing what is directly happening in the Valley?

Can you please provide signs of escalating need for "boots on the ground" other than you now wanting to use highly trained law enforcement officers to monitor our City's parking?

Please do not act on dissolving another contract.

Thank you,
SHuttar
Ketchum Resident