

## Jessica Chamberlin

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**From:** Kali Godfrey <director@sidneymt.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 2:13 PM  
**To:** Jessica Chamberlin; Jeff Hintz; Rick Norby  
**Subject:** City Lot Proposal  
**Attachments:** Vision Board.pdf

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Mayor, Aldermen and whom it may concern,

Please consider utilizing the city lot adjacent to City Hall as a town square.

Our downtown lacks a cornerstone for local events and gatherings. Investing funding into the proper infrastructure for intentional place making will serve as an economic development strategy, a community building tool and marketing for Sidney. There are even indicators that placemaking cultivates positive mental health outcomes.

Placemaking inspires people to collectively reimagine and reinvent public spaces as the heart of every community. It's a strategy that strengthens the connection between people and the places they share – a concept very underutilized in rural communities. Placemaking centers around sociability, uses and activities, access and linkages, comfort and image. It's a best practice adapted by urban designers, the Montana Department of Commerce and American Planning Association.

Specific items I'd love to see include a retaining wall with local mosaic art on one side, benches on the interior and a garden area on the top. Ideally, electricity would be built into the retaining wall – ideal for food trucks and small pop up businesses. The retaining wall is crucial for the safety of small children and separation from the highway. I am also a proponent for a large downtown clock on a pedestal. A gazebo or covered gathering space would also add to the character of our downtown. This would be the perfect situation for strung aesthetic lighting as well.

For reference, Colleen has drawn a vision of what could be.

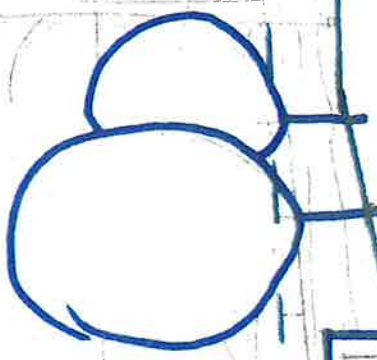
I really feel like this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to create a real legacy for our downtown – and something that's been a long time coming.

The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to seeking funding for the expansion of this project should the City decide to pursue.

Thank you for considering,

Kali Godfrey  
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Close to (unclear)



SUN RISE

Yellow field  
w/ pop & trees

Green field  
w/ land and trees

Blue field  
w/ trees & trees

