

## Chris Taggart

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**From:** Brittany McKenzie <brm821@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 9:45 AM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners Office  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support of Bike Walk Bitterroot TA grant request

Dear Commissioners,

I am a Ravalli County resident, a parent, and a preschool teacher in our community. In each of my roles, I encourage children (and their families) to get outside, be active and spend time in the natural world. I love living here because of the access to the outdoors, the family friendly community, and the spirit of togetherness that we have.

While I don't personally know the Leonardi family, I was extremely shaken when I learned of Robert's death. As a parent, my heart hurt and it made me think about my own son's mortality in ways I hadn't before. As a community member, I was appalled that it had happened and that we hadn't done more to make our streets safer for all children, especially those streets that have been discussed as being fast and dangerous for years. I support Bike Walk Bitterroot's request for the County to pursue a Transportation Alternatives grant to construct a trail along Golf Course Road. This trail will provide a safe way for my son to ride his bike to his friend's houses, connect the existing (and amazing) RAL trail to town, and create another way for our county's children and families to get outside and be together. I urge you to approve this project, not only for the betterment of our community and to create recreational opportunities for our future, but to honor our past and remember Robert Leonardi and his family.

Thank you,  
Brittany McKenzie

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