

Chris Taggart

From: Mark Snider <dukeysnider@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 3:07 PM
To: Chris Taggart
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Homelessness

TAX PROPOSAL FOR RAVALLI COUNTY

I would like the commissioners to entertain the idea of a small tax increase for the sale of new and existing homes in Ravalli County.

The Bitterroot Affordable Housing Coalition consisting of the Bitterroot Family Shelter, Bitterroot RC&D, District XI Human Resource Council, First Presbyterian Church, Ravalli Services, SAFE and Summit Independent Living and others reported that:

- * Shelter beds in Ravalli County are full with people waiting.
- * 50% of renters and more than 30% of home owners are cost burdened.
- * Housing for the homeless is not available or affordable.
- * Wages are low and rents are at an all time high.
- * Section 8 housing has a 3 year waiting list.
- * Many residents cannot afford their rent or mortgage unless they neglect food and healthcare for themselves and their family.

I would like the Ravalli County Commissioners to authorize a tax increase of 001% on the sales of all newly built and existing homes to fund shelters for abused women, the poor and homeless in our community.

Here is an example, if a home is selling for \$400,000.00 there would be a tax of \$400.00. This would be about four pennies a week on a 30 year mortgage. And what kind of person wouldn't help with .04 cents a week if he could afford a \$400,000 home? Exceptions could be for homes that provide shelter for the homeless and needy and others in crisis.

Please let me know if you support this idea. If you will not support it, please let me know why so we can work it out together to help those in need in Ravalli County.

Sincerely,

Mark Snider

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