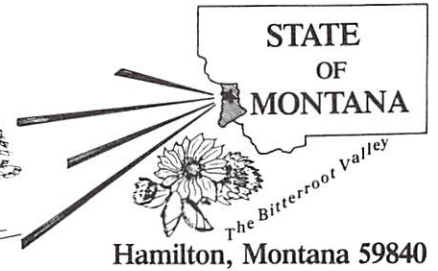


COUNTY OF RAVALLI



March 24, 2026

To the T-Mobile Hometown Grants Review Committee:

On behalf of the Ravalli County Board of Commissioners, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Hamilton Downtown Foundation's proposal to construct the Hamilton Community Ice Rink at Big Corral Park. This project represents an exciting opportunity to activate a growing county park while creating a welcoming space where residents and visitors can gather and enjoy winter recreation.

Big Corral Park has long been envisioned as an important recreational asset for Ravalli County. During the county's community feedback open houses related to the park's planning process, residents of all ages and backgrounds expressed strong interest in seeing the park become a family-friendly recreational space, including enthusiasm for the possibility of an ice rink on the grounds. While the county continues working toward the resources needed to fully implement the park's long-term development plans, the proposed refrigerated ice rink provides a practical and achievable way to begin bringing activity to the site in the near term.

Ravalli County has approved a three-year lease agreement allowing Hamilton Downtown Foundation (HDF) to develop and operate the community ice rink within Big Corral Park, demonstrating the county's support for the project and its compatibility with the park's long-term vision. The rink allows the community to begin using and enjoying the park while remaining aligned with future park improvements as they are implemented.

HDF has demonstrated strong leadership in developing a thoughtful, feasible project with broad community support. Once complete, the rink will provide accessible winter recreation, opportunities for community events, and a gathering place for residents of all ages to connect during the colder, more isolating months.

As a public amenity located within a county park, the Hamilton Community Ice Rink will serve residents from across Ravalli County while also enhancing the experience of visitors traveling to the Bitterroot Valley. Activating the park with a vibrant winter destination will strengthen community connection and help grow an untapped winter tourism economy while allowing future park development to unfold over time.

The Ravalli County Commissioners appreciate HDF's commitment to projects that strengthen community life in the Bitterroot Valley. We believe the Hamilton Community Ice Rink will become a valued gathering place and an important step in bringing the vision for Big Corral Park to life.

We strongly encourage your support of this project.

With gratitude,

Dan Huls, Chairman
Ravalli County Board of Commissioners