

Appendix B
Written Public Comments

(Source: Citizens, May 2008 through June 2009)

Comments Received after
First Public Meeting
(May 20 through September 8, 2008)

Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? yes
If so,

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

safety

What are the travel concerns?

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

no

What are the most logical termini?

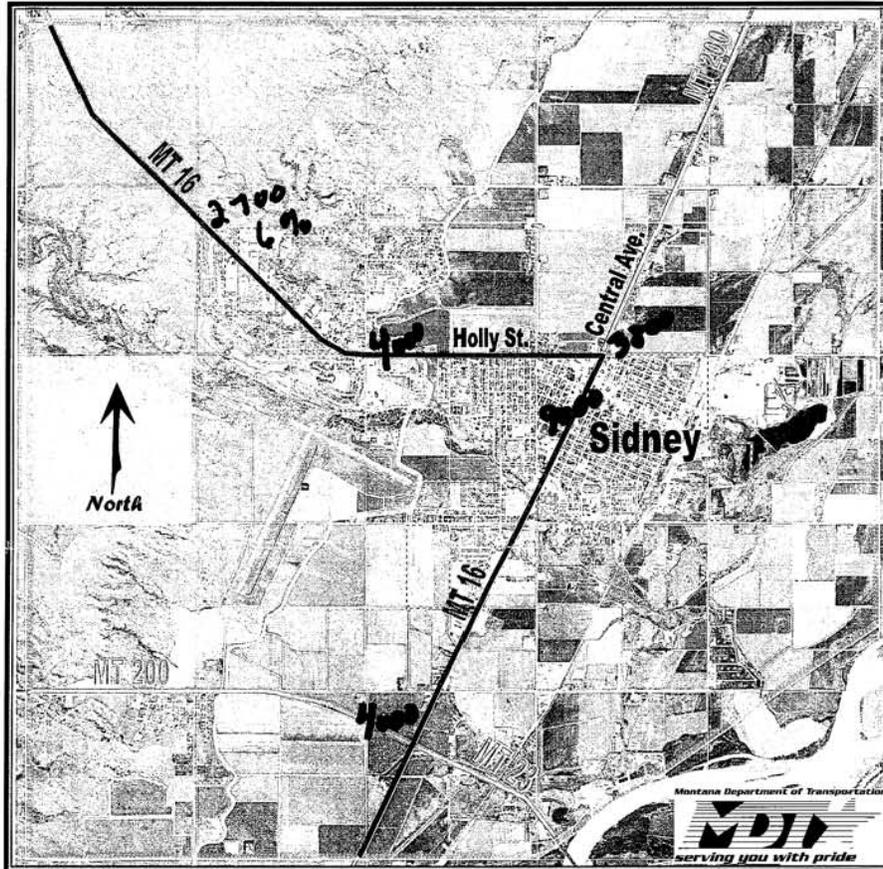
What are some major opportunities and constraints?

We also invite your general comments:

Comment #1 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Sharon L. Rau

Address: P.O. Box 1029

Sidney MT 59270

e-mail: _____

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a ^{Truck} ~~bypass~~ route around Sidney needed? yes
If so,

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

What are the travel concerns?

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

What are the most logical termini?

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

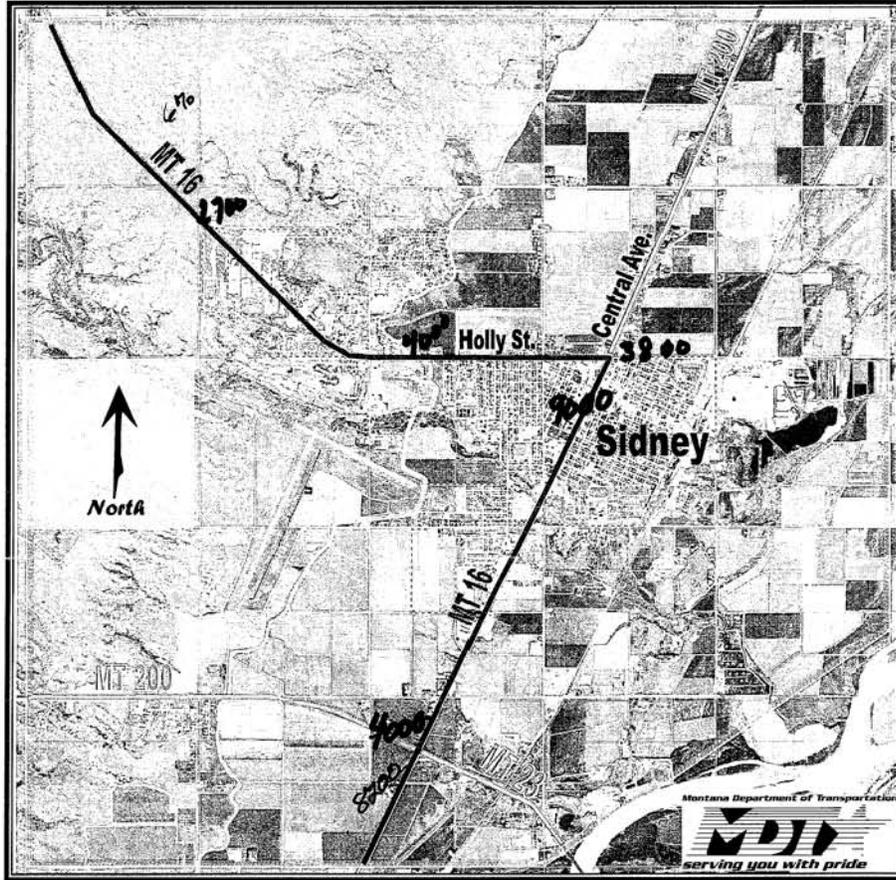
We also invite your general comments:

Comment #2 (cont.)

- Please mark the map below with:
- Your preference on an alignment
 - Any constraints you have identified

03-40.5 more

*3400
1090*



6378 -05

To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: *1st Choice Collision* *07-8270*

Address: *PO Box 456*

Sidney MT 59270

e-mail: *1stchoice@midrivers.com*

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? yes
If so,

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

GET heavy TRUCKS & equipment MOVEMENT OUT OF
DOWNTOWN

What are the travel concerns?

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

NO

What are the most logical termini?

Build a Bex around the city, 3 miles x 3 miles

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

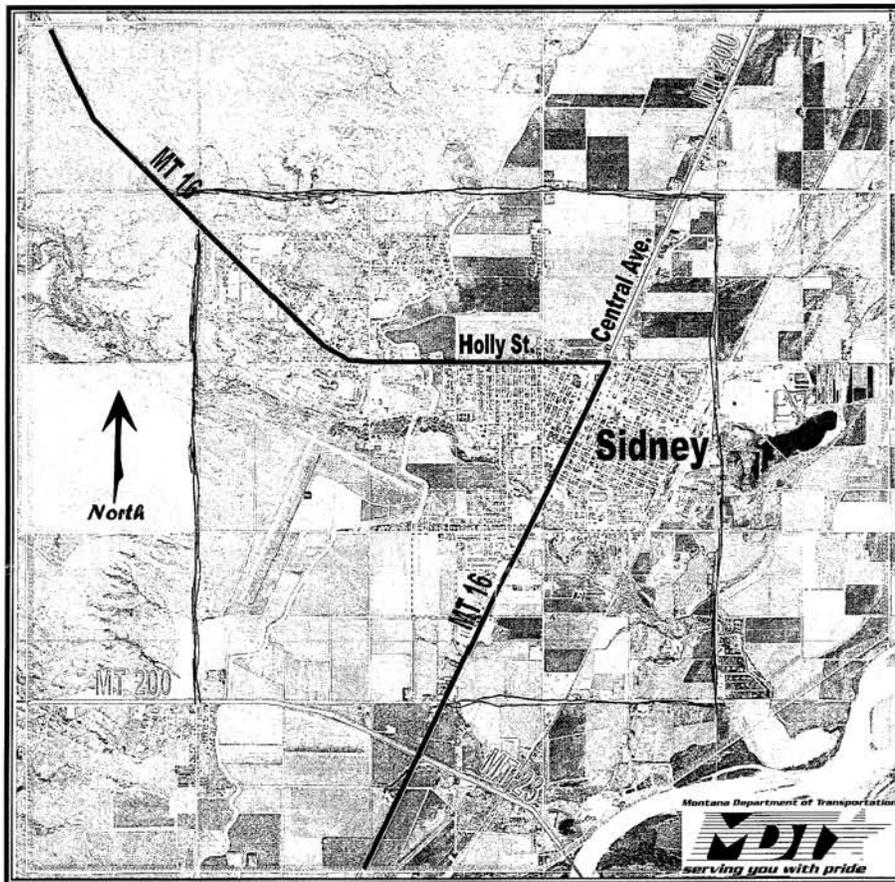
We also invite your general comments:

people that want to stop in town will, a TRUCK Bypass
would NOT Kill DOWNTOWN

Comment #3 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: GARY SCHOEPP

Address: 1399 22 90 NW

SIDNEY MT 59270

e-mail: action@midrivers.com

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? YES
If so,

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

TO REDUCE HEAVY TRUCK TRAFFIC FROM
CENTRAL AVE

What are the travel concerns?

HEAVY TRUCK TRAFFIC - 8' PARKING ON CENTRAL

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

YEAR ROUND TRAFFIC

What are the most logical termini?

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

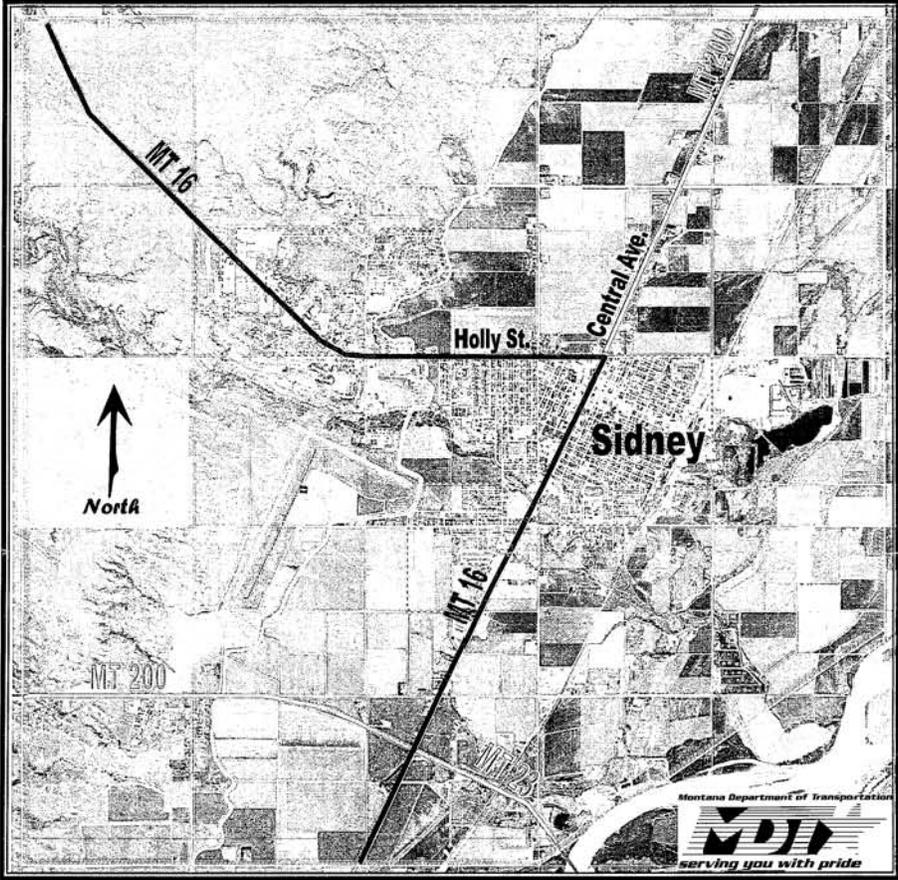
W/ A BYPASS THE CITY COULD DEVELOP DOWNTOWN

We also invite your general comments:

BRET SMELSER - THANKS FOR YOUR WORK!

Comment #4 (cont.)

- Please mark the map below with:
- Your preference on an alignment
 - Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

e-mail: _____

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? Yes
If so,

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

What are the travel concerns?

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

What are the most logical termini?

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

We also invite your general comments:

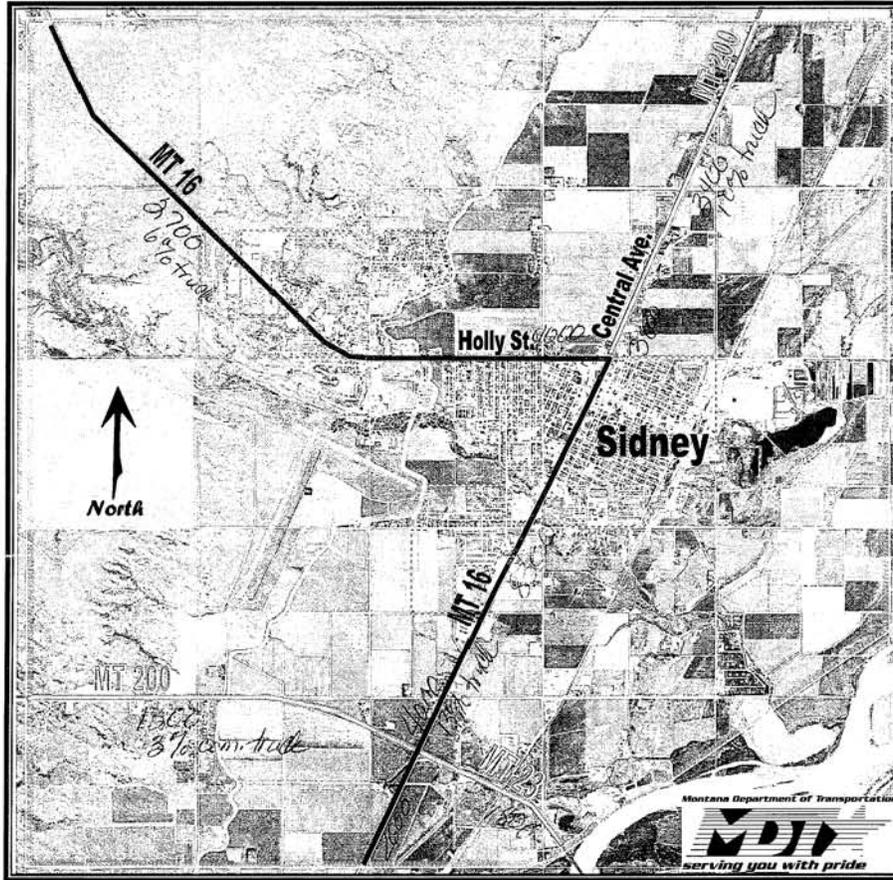
We are the land owners that would be affected
by the west by-pass.
The road that parallels the MT trust land (which
we lease) between CR 124 & the airport is a private
oil well road. We run cattle in all that area. We
are concerned about the impact truck traffic would have
across our ranch and to our registered herd of cattle.



Comment #5 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Gartner-Denowik Angus Ranch
Mick Denowik

Address: 34750 County Road 127

Sidney, MT 59270

e-mail: gclar@midrivers.com

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Interested in Stakeholder

Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? YES
If so,

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?
''' SAFETY '''
REROUTE TRUCKS

What are the travel concerns?
''' SAFETY '''
TRAVEL EASE THROUGH TOWN

Are the travel concerns seasonal?
NO

What are the most logical termini?

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

We also invite your general comments:

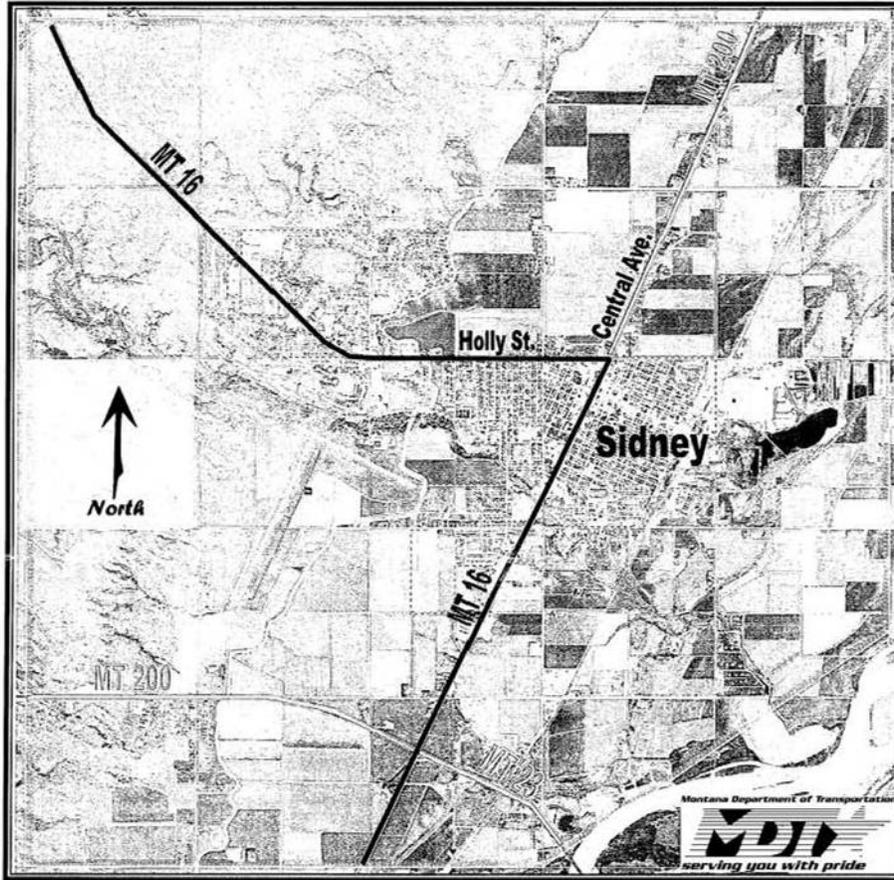
RE-MODELING CENTRAL - (3 LANES - SYNC LIGHTS)
NEEDED ~~THE~~ REGARDLESS OF BY-PASS
TWO BY-PASSES ARE NEEDED DUE TO THE
JUNCTIONS INVOLVED
CANADA TRUCKS, LOCAL CONTRACTORS, ~~TRUCK~~ LOCK
TRUCKS CERTAINLY NEEDED IMPROVED EAST ROUTE
F



Comment #6 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Darryl James

Address: 1950 Crocus Dr

e-mail: djames@midriver

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? *Not if it means existing residents would be displaced or at a total inconvenience. Fixing current truck route is needed.*
What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

What are the travel concerns?

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

What are the most logical termini?

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

We also invite your general comments:

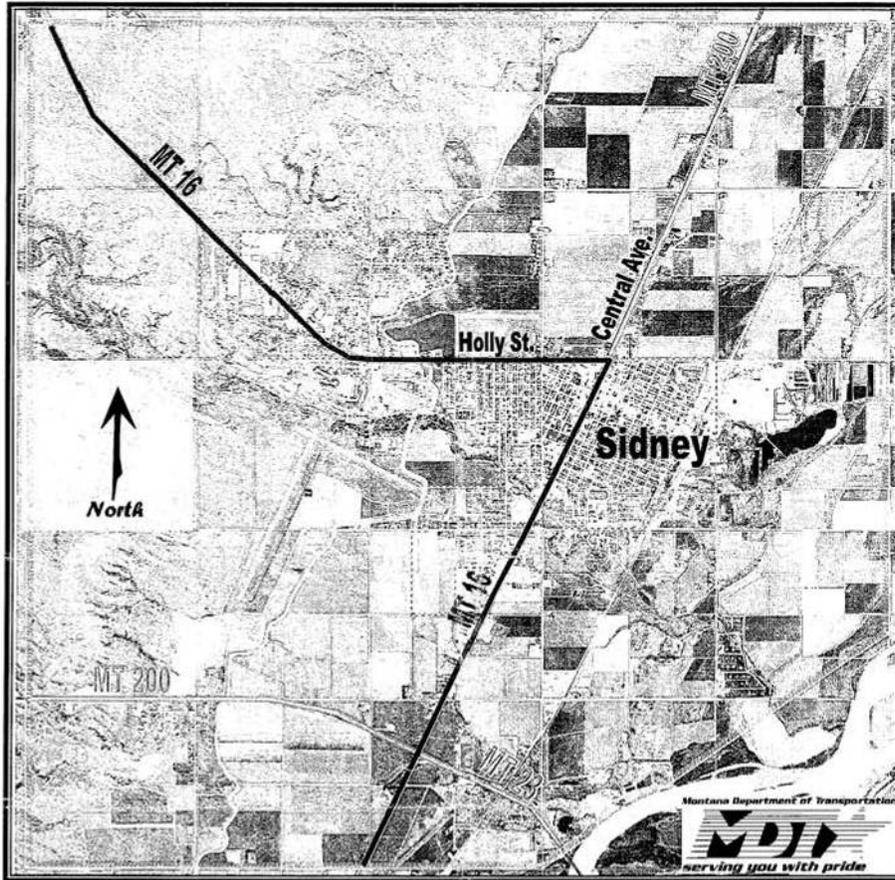
My husband & I live on the SE side of existing truck route. There are quite a few trucks that go by & this existing truck route does need fixing. S.W. part of town would be ideal in that it would get trucks to their destinations quicker & a lot of oil activity goes to the west, however, no were road money wise, it would be more costly there than on the SE side of town. Not only on the SE side are there residents, but an electrical & gas substation. Putting a truck bypass would not keep trucks from going down Central Ave, as these



Comment #7 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Marna Vickie Strouse

Address: 908 9th Ave S.E. Sidney, MT 59270

e-mail: _____

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? yes

If so,

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

1. Relieve pressure on Central Ave.
2. Improve safety and access at Central & Holly St.
3. Most important - Safety on Central Ave.

What are the travel concerns?

1. Change Central Ave to three lanes. Pedestrian safety, school zone, dual use of the turn lane.

Are the travel concerns seasonal? No.

What are the most logical termini?

Highway 16 North - Highway 200 So at Great Plains Supply.

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

Logical way to utilize one route to relieve the two state routes - Hwy's 16 & 200.

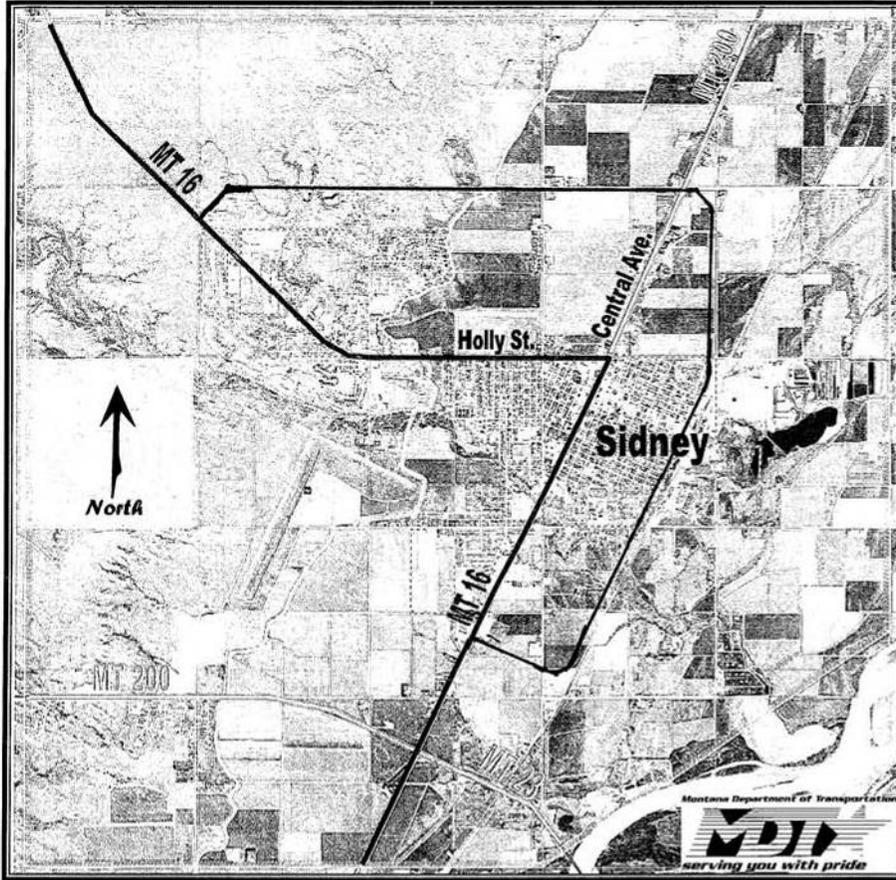
We also invite your general comments:

Will allow for industrial development at both the North junction at Hwy 16 and at the South junction of Hwy 200. Eliminates the need for a roundabout, signage, traffic lights or re-build of the highway junction at Holly Street and Hwy 200 & 16 at the Post Office.

Comment #8 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Delph Harris

Address: Box 1125

Sidney, MT 59270

e-mail: smc @ midrivers . com .

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? NO - NOT ON 9TH AVE. SE.
If so, yes if you go with a west Bypass.

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

To Keep The TRUCK TRAFFIC off of
CENTRAL AVE. & off of 9TH AVE. SE.

What are the travel concerns?

we don't need HAZARDUS MATERIAL going
THROUGH TOWN ON CENTRAL AVE. OR 9TH AVE. SE.

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

NO - with the oil boom. it is year AROUND,
there is no TRUCK PARKING so people who want to
SHOP Sidney, will SHOP by smaller vehicles.

What are the most logical termini?

West Bypass only way to go, Secondary Road
would be 55-70 MPH Speed Limit.

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

We also invite your general comments:

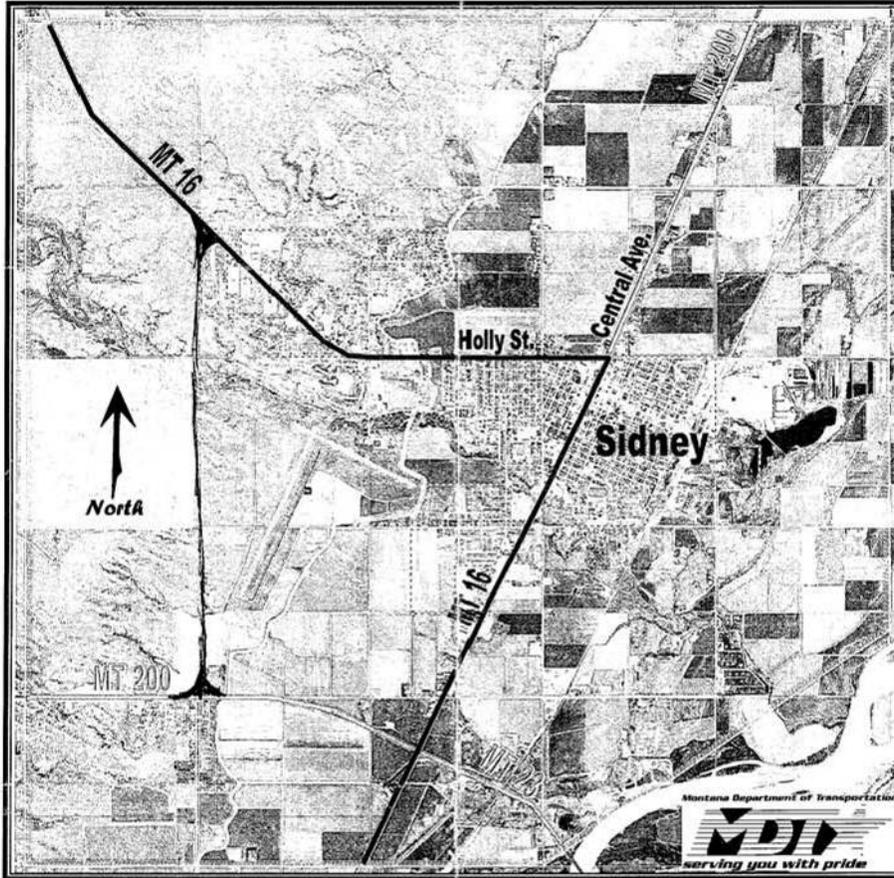
If you're going to eliminate the traffic on 200 & 16
a West Bypass is needed.

Truckers don't HAVE ANY PARKING so How
are we going to Loose Revenue
from the TRUCKERS.

Comment #9 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Larry L. Mandt

Address: 682 9th Ave SE

Sidney, Montana 59270

e-mail: _____

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Scoping Meeting
May 20, 2008

Please help us answer the following questions:

Is a bypass route around Sidney needed? Yes
If so,

*I would like to be
part of the
Stakeholders Group*

What are the primary transportation needs for the bypass?

Wide + high with gentle curves,

What are the travel concerns?

Are the travel concerns seasonal?

Beef harvest is about 3 weeks, oil activity is 12 months

What are the most logical termini?

Corner of Hwy 16, 200 + Holly St. with a Traffic light at this intersection

What are some major opportunities and constraints?

There will be a number of property owners upset so the price must be more than fair, even if the City & County have to put their money where their mouth is.

We also invite your general comments:

I understand the route we have been using for a "truck route" isn't even though it is marked as such. for as long as I can remember therefore it should be easy to make this route useable simply make widths + corners bigger raise the low hanging wires. Purchase the extra right of way + make it happen.

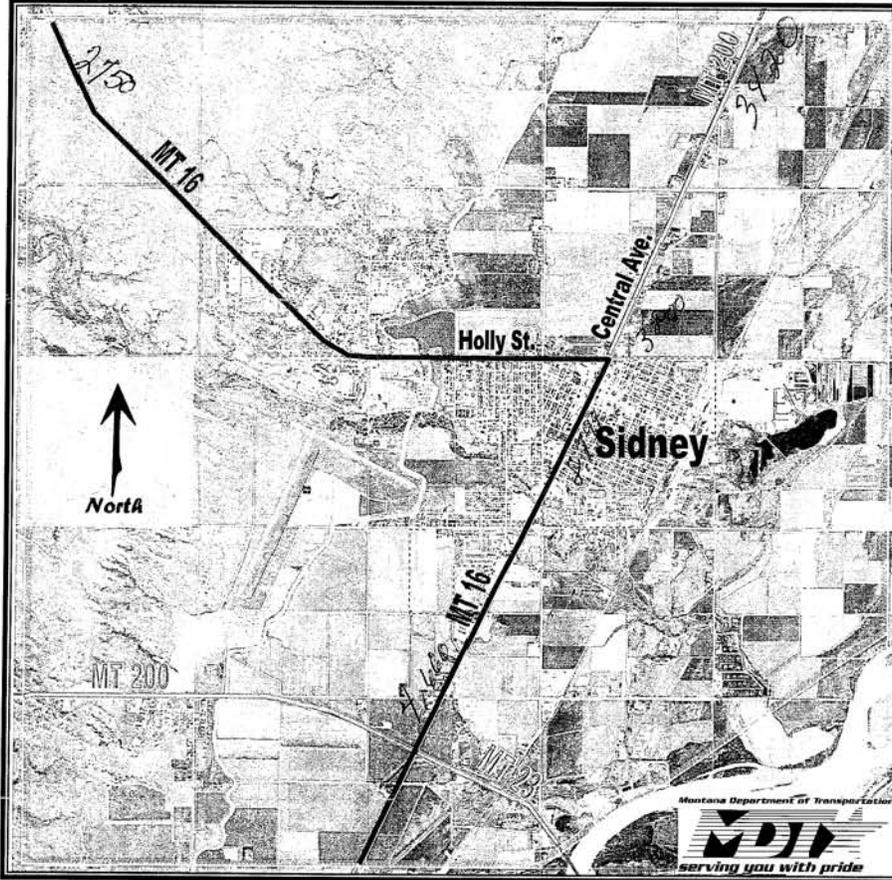
Install a traffic light at corner of Holly +



Comment #10 (cont.)

Please mark the map below with:

- Your preference on an alignment
- Any constraints you have identified



To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Duane Mitchell

Address: 221 So. Lincoln

Sidney, MT 59270

e-mail: _____

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Darryl L. James
HKM Engineering
PO Box 1009
Helena, MT 59624-1009



Comment #10 (cont.)

The way I see this whole issue is just purchase the additional right way on the Corners & on east side of 9th ave S.E. & 9th ave N.E.

The lot on corner of Highway 16 & 14th St. S.E. if you owned it would make a nice gentle turn to the east on "Designated Truck route."

I understood this route would be located on the south side of the high school, however this route has been here before the high school was built as far as I know.

The irrigation ditch on the north of route & south of school could easily be in a pipeline, as the Lower irrigation Project did on North side of Sidney.

Comment #11

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

I am unable to attend the meeting about the Truck By-pass in Sidney. Would you PLEASE read the following for me at the meeting?

Creating a truck bypass around Sidney really worries me. Our downtown businesses are struggling the way it is. If you create a truck bypass, don't you think all travelers will want to take it to avoid town traffic? That means that people won't stop to get a snack, or fill up with gasoline, or grab something to eat, or maybe even shop? We already have a truck route. Can we some-how enforce truck use of it? If we can't, then how can you enforce use of a truck by-pass? Please consider again.

Thank you
Robyn Heck, Sidney

Comment #12

From: Eldean & Sandy Flynn [mailto:esf@wb.midrivers.com]
Sent: Monday, September 08, 2008 7:59 PM
To: James, Darryl
Subject: Sidney Bypass

Darryl James

I would like to comment on the bypass at Sidney. Sidney needs two bypasses one around the west of town and one around the east.

I pull a 53' trailer and give up taking the truck route because I can't negotiate the corners very well with the heavier traffic. It becomes easier and faster to go down town.

If you visualize trying to make the turn at the post office and go east. If some one is trying to make a left turn to go down town I can't make the turn east. Traffic backs up all around.

Then the turn at the Pepsi plant going south. I need to get in the on coming lane to make the turn right, because of the cut across of the trailer. If the traffic is heavy I can't make the right turn. The trees and trailers houses make it impossible to see. So if traffic is heavy I will stop it, trying to make the turn.

The right turn at the High School if the traffic is heavy I can't make the right hand turn because I need to take all of their lane to keep out of the ditch.

The left turn at UBC stop light is ok.

You need a light at the post office intersection

Than you
esf@wp.midrivers.com

Comments Received after
Second Public Meeting
(March 12 through April 8, 2009)



Sidney Bypass Study

**Public
Information
Meeting**

City of Sidney Invites Your Comments:

March 12, 2009

I FAVOR FULL BYPASS ROUTE, STAYING AWAY FROM POPULATED AREAS (14th AVE & HOLLY)

STARTING SOUTH OF SIDNEY, GOING NORTH OF SIDNEY TO 200, THEN ALSO INSTALL RD TO HIGHWAY 16 ACROSS NORTHERN ROUTE

To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name:

Jerry Nypher

Address:

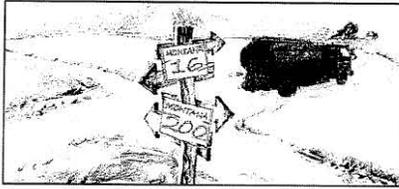
*2327 LINCOLN AVE SE
SIDNEY, MT
59270*

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Carol Strizich
MDT Planning
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Please indicate comments are for the Sidney Bypass Study and submit comments by **March 27, 2009**.





Sidney Bypass Study

**Public
Information
Meeting**

City of Sidney Invites Your Comments:

March 12, 2009

I own and operate a C-Store with truck stop, parking, fuel on Highway 16 on the northwest end of Sidney. Truck traffic is a large part of our business so I would be opposed to a North East ~~to~~ bypass around my business for selfish reasons. I think the existing truck pattern would be adequate if Holly and 9th were rebuilt along with a new corridor to get away from the high school. I also believe that a street light on Holly & Central is absolutely essential no matter what. Central in my opinion should be 3 lane.

To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Greg Miller

Address: 323 23rd Ave N.W.
Sidney, MT

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Carol Strizich
MDT Planning
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Please indicate comments are for the Sidney Bypass Study and submit comments by **March 27, 2009**.



DOWL HKM



GALLATIN PUBLIC AFFAIRS
ANALYSIS • ADVOCACY • ADVANTAGE



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Information Meeting

City of Sidney Invites Your Comments:

March 12, 2009

Living on 14th SE - There is so much traffic - with school - hopefully you can "by-pass" 14th and go the south route - I would really like to see the for west + north - new route for truck traffic. would also help with the farmers & beet harvest.

To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Robert & Joan Bell

Address: 203 14th ST SE
Sidney, MT

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Carol Strizich
MDT Planning
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Please indicate comments are for the Sidney Bypass Study and submit comments by **March 27, 2009**.



Comment #4

From: Garth Kallevig [mailto:gkallevig@stockmanbank.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 2:45 PM
To: Mengel, Ray
Subject: FW: Deana please print this on Bank Letter-Head Thanks!

Montana Department of Transportation

Re: City of Sidney Truck Bypass

To: Ray Mengel

Thank you for the hard-work and detailed presentation on Tuesday evening!! I now understand why these projects take so long from start to finish.

I am a "hometown" boy of 56 years and for the last 28 years have worked at Stockman Bank. I am also a retired Sidney Volunteer fireman of 20 years. My office sits on the corner of Central Avenue and West Main Street.

Comment #1---with regards to safety and common sense---I have witnessed many accidents and near misses due to the 4 lanes of traffic on central avenue. The three lane idea is GREAT!!!

Comment #2---the commercial truck traffic on Central Avenue has created unsafe ruts, potential hazardous material spills, fire, and explosions. We have been very fortunate to avoid anything catastrophic. Any solution to move these trucks from Central Avenue will make our pedestrians, businesses, and moving traffic safer!!

Comment #3---I have tried to digest the conceptual corridors and preliminary analysis presented Tuesday night. I think I was fairly open-minded going into the meeting.

Trucks coming from the west on the Culbertson Highway---I think a straight shot to the post-office intersection is the best route---when they get to the intersection (for which we need a light and bigger turning area/radius)---they can either cross to the east truck route (existing) or turn north to the Fairview Highway---thus avoiding downtown central avenue. Trucks coming from the North Fairview Highway would come all the way to the post-office intersection and either turn east or west to either truck route.

Trucks coming from the south on the Glendive Highway---I like the idea of having them turn east by Great Plains and then North parallel to the railroad tracks and then coming onto the east truck route (9th Ave). This takes out the commercial trucks and farm to market trucks that now have to all go past the high school area. This also opens up for the future---some industrial growth along both sides of the truck route that turns east at Great Plains.

I hope this helps---and I would be glad to answer any questions that my comments raise.

Thank you,

Garth N. Kallevig
Branch President
Sidney Office
Phone 406 433 8600 Ext. 8614



Comment #5

Sidney Bypass Study

Public Information Meeting

City of Sidney Invites Your Comments:

March 12, 2009

1st - Widening of 9th Ave SE w Sidewalk on west side curb & gutter on right.
 2nd - extend road to south and coming back on to Highway 16 further south of Sidney - Not utilizing 14th St.
 3rd - extend north end of truck route out to the county road Busch Ag ~~road~~ ^{uses} and not using east Holly
 4th - Send North traffic out Co Rd 126 not past the P.O.
 5th - Stop light at Po - eliminate current Credit Union & 2nd St Stoplights & add another @ 4th St
 So the Jr high has a light @ Both corners.
 order of importance 1st 9th Ave 2nd North end of Truck Rte
 3rd South end of truck Rte 4th North Run to Culbertson Highway

To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Craig Greenett
 Address: Box 885
Sidney Mt
59270

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Carol Strizich
 MDT Planning
 2701 Prospect Avenue
 PO Box 201001
 Helena, MT 59620-1001

Please indicate comments are for the Sidney Bypass Study and submit comments by **March 27, 2009.**

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2009



Comment #6

From: Robert Elliott [mailto:relliott@midrivers.com]

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 11:46 PM

To: Strizich, Carol

Subject: Sidney Bypass

Dear Carol:

I was quite concerned to read about how the DOT is considering using 9th Avenue in Sidney for their truck route. Elementary school children cross and use 9th Avenue to get to and from school. There are more small children that live on 9th avenue than any other street in the town of Sidney. The old truck route bypasses most of the neighborhoods and no child needs to cross it to get to school. The majority of the people in Sidney would prefer that the DOT leave everything just as it is. For the safety of the small school children, I urge the DOT to use common sense and not locate the truck route on 9th avenue.
Robert Elliott

3-19-09

Concerning Sidney Bypass Study:

Being a resident of 9 Ave SE I strongly object to the current proposed route. What would be wrong with just leaving as it is only patching 9 Ave and installing a light by the postoffice. The biggest reason this is being pushed for is because our Mayor wants a three lane central Ave. to his credit. Trouble is, if the three lane was put to a vote it'd never pass.

I think its extremely irresponsible to even be considering a project like this in these uncertain times. Especially when this project stands to greatly impact already stressed 9 Ave residents who would receive no compensation what so ever.

Respectfully

Sharon Mindt
102 9 Ave SE
Sidney Mt.

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2009 JPH

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

RECEIVED

MAR 23 2009

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

3-19-09

Sidney Truck Route Study;

I live on 9th Ave. S.E. Sidney, Mt.
I don't have a problem with repairing
the 9th Ave - but I have a problem
with widening it.

You need to repair - put a stop
light by the post office & either
the city or state needs to
patrioll 9th Ave. S.E. because of
people speeding - not only the trucks.

I don't believe it's right to have
all this hazardous material &
oil - salt water - gasoline & fuel
going through a residential area.
you better find a better place
for your truck route.

times are tough so why are you
trying to waste 30 million dollars
on a useless project?

concerned in Sidney, Mt.
Leroy L Minnett
6020 9th Ave S.E.
Sidney Mt.
59270

Comment #9



Sidney Millwork Co.

Celebrating Our Anniversary



RECEIVED

MAR 23 2009

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

March 20, 2009

M.D.T Planning
2701 Prospect Ave.
Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

Attention: Carol Strizich

RE: Sidney-Richland County Truck Route

Dear Carol:

I would like to submit for the record some pertinent facts concerning the proposed truck route and downtown renewal project for Sidney, MT. The late 70's early 80's City-Co planning board retained the engineering firm Marrison- Marlie to study and present a comprehensive plan for Sidney and the surrounding community. The study was to update a 1972 study plan that was outdated shortly after completion. The purpose of the study was to provide orderly growth, expansion, and prevent hit and miss sporadic development. Cost 25,000.00. Their planning suggested that Sidney would have a population of 13,000 by the year 2000. Didn't make it. They cautioned, "watch out for the tendency to get out of the city and prevent development outside the city limits in a crazy quiet pattern of land uses which is not desirable." Strip development tends to rob the downtown area of its main commercial function and should not be allowed. Do not desert the downtown support it. There wasn't much effort extended toward a transportation plan. The Richland County planning board contracted with Carmin Associates of Billings who hired Leigh Scott and Cleary of Denver to prepare a complete transportation plan for the City of

Comment #9 (cont.)

Sidney and Richland County. This study was completed and delivered to the City and County May 20 1983. The study was very complete and offered much for consideration and direction.

Such things as: Truck Route, Urban Growth, Conceptual Street Plans, Major Arterial Streets, Minor Arterial Streets, Collector Streets, plus much more.

I would like to offer the following for consideration. Starting at highway 16 North, exit east to County Road 126 travel east on 126 cross highway 200 and connect to a re-aligned county road 351. Connect to 9th avenue Northeast travel south to 14th street Southeast continue approximately 1500 feet past 14th South, turn right and travel westerly connecting to highway 200 at a 90 degree configuration. Install a stop light.

Items to consider:

- Eliminates truck traffic on Central Ave.
- Eliminates a need for stop light at Central Avenue and Holly Street.
- Convert Central Avenue to 3 lanes.
- Eliminate stop lights at
 - 2nd Street Southwest & Central Avenue
 - 2nd Street Northwest & Central Avenue

This will eliminate a number of problems that presently exist. 1. The problem at the intersection at Central Avenue and Holly Street. 2. Remove the truck problems on Central Avenue. 3. Eliminate the congestion at 14th Street Southeast, highway 200 & 16 South. 4. Reduce the excessive build-up of the traffic on Holly Street West. 5. Most of all, the improvement of safety

Comment #9 (cont.)

on Central Avenue and the development and improvement of the business district is extremely important.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my thoughts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dolph".

Dolph Harris
801 9th Street Southwest
Sidney, MT 59270

Enclosure
Map Alignment

Comment #10
March 22, 2009

Carol Strizich
MDT Planning
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

RE: Proposed Truck Route Changes: Sidney, Montana

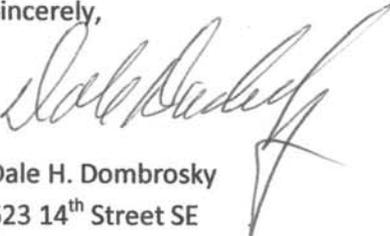
Dear Ms. Strizich;

I am writing to you to comment on the proposed changes to the truck route in Sidney, Montana.

I am a resident of Sidney and have lived along the truck route for nearly 40 years. I am opposed to all three of the design suggestions brought up at the public meeting in Sidney on Thursday March 12, 2009 as are most of my neighbors. The general consensus appears to be relatively simple. Most people would be satisfied with, or approve a plan, to make repairs to the existing route on the north and south corners and installation of a traffic light at Holly Street near the Sidney Post Office. Resurfacing the truck route and a single sidewalk design is also a possibility.

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter. A formal petition is being planned and will follow at a later date.

Sincerely,


Dale H. Dombrosky
623 14th Street SE
Sidney, MT 59270
(406) 488-2410

RECEIVED

MAR 24 2009

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Comment #11

-----Original Message-----

From: tysses@midrivers.com [mailto:tysses@midrivers.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 4:56 PM

To: Strizich, Carol

Subject: Sidney Bypass Proposal

Carol,

We are commenting on the article "Truck Route Discussed at Meeting" in the March 18, 2009 Sidney Herald. We have been under the understanding that 9th Ave SE is a "Farm to Market Road" that has been used as a truck route.

That was stated at one of the early meeting last fall. We strongly feel if this is made into a truck route, there should be a sidewalk on the east side also. The article states a show of hands favored a sidealk on the west side only. Has anyone polled the people who live on the east side?

We are the ones who will be directly affected. We will be back in Sidney in early April and would like to vist with you on this issue. Our address is 902 9th Ave SE. Please present this concern of ours at the meeting Thursday night, as we are still in Az an are unable to be there.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Sandy and Art Tysse

Comments #12-36

March 22, 2009

Carol Strizich
MDT Planning
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

RE: Proposed Truck Route Changes: Sidney, Montana

Dear Ms. Strizich;

I am writing to you to comment on the proposed changes to the truck route in Sidney, Montana.

I am a resident of Sidney and have an interest in the proposed truck route changes. I am opposed to all three of the design suggestions brought up at the public meeting in Sidney on Thursday March 12, 2009 as are most of my neighbors. The general consensus appears to be relatively simple. Most people would be satisfied with, or approve a plan, to make repairs to the existing route on the north and south corners and installation of a traffic light at Holly Street near the Sidney Post Office. Resurfacing the truck route and a single sidewalk design is also a possibility.

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter. A formal petition is being planned and will follow at a later date.

Sincerely,

Individual form letters sent by the following:

Bryan Gartner	Shannon Erickson	Jodi Heimle	Dan Williams	Walter Reichenbach
Travis Cundiff	Shannon Sletvold	Dusty Sletvold	Scott Joslin	Richard Buxbaum
Chuck Peterson	Cody Johnston	Jeremy Pfau	Dennis Latka	Cherise Partin
Joey Unruh	Tim Partin	Jami Anderson	Leroy Pfau	Park Allen
Thomas Wick	Michael Harvey	Bryan Christensen	Brandon Macgrady	J.K. Petersen

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2009

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Comment #37

March 26, 2009

Carol Strizich

MDT Planning

PO Box 201001

Helena MT 59320-1001

Hi Carol,

As a truck driver that uses the highway system in and around Sidney, MT, I would like to make my thoughts known.

What seems to be the least expensive and most effective would be to use the truck route that already exists, with some modification.

- Starting on the south Side of Sidney going east on 14th Street, widen the road with a sidewalk on the north side and make the corner off central (Highway 16) wider.
- Make the corner at 14th Street & 9th Avenue much wider heading north and make 9th Avenue wider with a sidewalk on the west side.
- Improve the corner where 9th Avenue turns onto Holly Street with a sidewalk on the south side.
- Install a traffic light at the intersection of Holly Street and junctions of Highways 16 & 200

Sincerely,



Duane Mitchell

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2009
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture

909 South Central Avenue • Sidney, Montana 59270 • Phone 406-433-1916 • Fax 406-433-1127

• Email: schamber@midrivers.com • www.sidneymt.com

The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture wishes to express that the Sidney Truck Route public information meeting of March 12, 2009 showed movement in the right direction for our community.

We support the plan to rebuild 9th Avenue East, which is a farm-to-market route, as the first phase. The Chamber believes that it will take truck pressure off of Central Avenue. This creates a Central Avenue which may perhaps be more pedestrian and shopper friendly, and could ultimately help create a 3 lane avenue.

The Chamber recognizes that it may be a hardship and inconvenience for some along 9th Avenue East, but also believe it will fashion a more attractive area, and provide sidewalks which the public will enjoy. Overall Sidney will have a better appearance for everyone to appreciate.

Sincerely,
Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Board of Directors



Sidney Bypass Study

Public Information Meeting

City of Sidney Invites Your Comments:

March 12, 2009

If you cannot stop trucks from driving on Central Ave. - Sidney, Mt. please consider eliminating parking on Central Ave. + make the highway wider for better flow of traffic. Consider a stop light at intersection of Holly + Central + making the turning lanes wider on existing truck route.

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APR 08 2009

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Lonnie Price

Address: 2397 So. Central Ave.

Sidney, Mt 59270

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Carol Strizich
MDT Planning
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Please indicate comments are for the Sidney Bypass Study and submit comments by **March 27, 2009.**



Comments Received after
Third Public Meeting
(April 9 through June 26, 2009)

Comment #1

-----Original Message-----

From: www@mdt.mt.gov [mailto:www@mdt.mt.gov]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 8:38 AM

To: MDT Comments - Project

Subject: Comment on a Project Submitted

A question, comment or request has been submitted via the "Contact Us" web page.

Action Item: Comment on a Project
Submitted: 06/05/2009 08:38:25
Project Commenting On: Sidney_Truck_Route
Name: Sarah Herman
Address Line 1: 218 9th Ave SE
City: Sidney
State/Province: MT
Postal Code: 59270
Email Address: sarah-herman@hotmail.com
Phone Number: 406-488-9013

Comment or Question:

Being a resident on 9th Ave SE, I strongly object to the current proposed route. Why is everyone so worried about downtown, why arent they worried about the residents that live on the street that are going to have to move or the residents house value going down the drain! The council already voted NO on the 3 lane highway so why does the mayor keep pushing for it. They cant make the trucks use the truck route now so why do they think they will use it then. I think it is a bunch of bull crap that the mayor is more worried about his downtown looking good than his residents of the town. There are a lot of people that have lived on 9th Ave for a long time and they cant afford to sell and move and who is going to want to buy their house with a truck route in there front yard!! Put your money were your mouth is and buy the properties or at least compensate the residents for having to have it even closer in their yards. Yes we moved there knowing the truck route was their but we did not move their knowing the truck route was going to be wider and in our yards. THINK ABOUT THE RESIDENTS AND NOT ABOUT MAKING OUR TOWN LOOK BEAUTIFUL!!!!

Comment #2

From: Butch Renders [mailto:des@richland.org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2009 4:39 PM

To: Strizich, Carol

Subject: Sidney Truck Route Study

I would like to start with my strong support for this project. I believe you have a good grasp of the priorities of the community with your numbered sequence and with the addition of sidewalks to the 9th Ave section it looks very good. I do have a concern that the intersection of 9th Ave and East Holly will be improved for BOTH directions. It needs to be made more user friendly for traffic going to and from East Holly as well as the new direction of going north on County Road 351.

At the south end the improvement to 14th Street rather than the new road looks as though it would be more economical and I believe would do the City of Sidney more good than building a new road out of town.

Also please remember the bike/walking path and the possible future expansion could tie into the 9th Ave improvements.

Thank You to the whole team for work that has gone into this project.

W.C. (Butch) Renders

Richland Co. DES

Comment #3

Date: June 17, 2009

To: Whom it may concern

I strongly support altering Central Avenue through the downtown of Sidney and making this a three-lane road. Having recently driven through towns that have this configuration on the main highway through their downtowns it is easy to see how much better this would be than our present four-lane setup. The first concern I have is for safety of the people crossing Central Avenue and for those that park along the sides of this street. When I first moved to Sidney, I noticed that some people park their vehicles with two wheels up on the sidewalk. I quickly realized this was to avoid being sideswiped or losing a mirror. Wider lanes would allow more clearance for those parking and driving. When large trucks use Central Avenue through town, the road in reality becomes a two-lane road. There is not room for another vehicle to drive safely next to the truck so people either speed up to move past the truck, which isn't safe, or they stay behind the truck until they are through town.

I know that change is hard for some people but sometimes change can improve what we have. The proposed changes will improve traffic through the downtown and will also be beneficial to the business and assist with growth in Sidney.

For this change to work, some improvements will be needed on the existing truck route. The present truck route does not take much longer than going down Central Avenue. If a stop light was installed on the corner of Central Avenue and Holly Street, safety would improve and trucks could easily move back onto the highway going either west or north.

I would urge you to move forward with the reconstruction of Central Avenue into a much-needed change to three lanes.



Steven C. Sing
35177 County Road 118P
Sidney, MT. 59270

Comment #4

-----Original Message-----
From: www@mdt.mt.gov [mailto:www@mdt.mt.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2009 8:08 AM
To: MDT Comments - Project
Subject: Comment on a Project Submitted

A question, comment or request has been submitted via the "Contact Us" web page.

Action Item: Comment on a Project
Submitted: 06/18/2009 08:07:56
Project Commenting On: Sidney_Truck_Route

Comment or Question:

Since when do we not have the freedom of speech. What Cal Oraw said last night was his opinion it was not suppose to be everyones opinion it was his. So for the mayor to say it was off the page- get off of your high horse Brett because not everyone agrees with you. What Cal stated was his OPINION and he stated that it was HIS opinion. If you didnt like HIS opinion then be quiet and move on.

Comment #5

-----Original Message-----
From: www@mdt.mt.gov [mailto:www@mdt.mt.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2009 11:27 AM
To: MDT Comments - Project
Subject: Comment on a Project Submitted

A question, comment or request has been submitted via the "Contact Us" web page.

Action Item: Comment on a Project
Submitted: 06/18/2009 11:26:56
Project Commenting On: Sidney_Truck_Route
Name: Ryan Herman
Address Line 1: 218 9th Ave SE
City: Sidney
State/Province: MT
Postal Code: 59270
Phone Number: 4064889013

Comment or Question:

You keep saying it is the communities choice of what is going to happen, so why is it that all of the residents that this is going to effect are saying no way go the other way, but they keep it on 9th avenue. How many times does the council have to vote the 3 lane down before the mayor will accept it?! The 3 lane is out so QUIT pushing for the truck route to be on 9th. Why cant it go around the other way? We are going to spend a TON on it anyway so why not add a little more and put it out where no one will be bothered!

Comment #6

-----Original Message-----

From: www@mdt.mt.gov [<mailto:www@mdt.mt.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2009 11:49 AM
To: MDT Comments - Project
Subject: Comment on a Project Submitted

A question, comment or request has been submitted via the "Contact Us" web page.

Action Item: Comment on a Project
Submitted: 06/18/2009 11:49:07
Project Commenting On: Sidney_Truck_Route
Name: 9th Ave Resident
City: Sidney
State/Province: MT
Postal Code: 59270

Comment or Question:

Why can the landowners by the airport and that area get the immediate approval of their no but the residents on 9th have to deal with it. That is bullcrap! We dont want it either, it effects a lot of older people who can not afford to sell their houses and move. If they get their NO respected then we the residents of 9th should also!

Comment #7



Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture

909 South Central Avenue • Sidney, Montana 59270 • Phone 406-433-1916 • Fax 406-433-1127

• Email: schamber@midrivers.com • www.sidneymt.com

June 25, 2009

To: Montana Department of Transportation

Re: Sidney Truck Route Study

The Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture was in attendance at the June 17th Sidney Truck Route Study meeting. This Study shows that a lot of planning has been done for Sidney which will have long term benefits.

The Chamber is especially encouraged that it will help with progress on changing Central Avenue to a three-lane configuration. Our people, visitors, and businesses will all benefit from this work.

Sincerely,
Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture

Comment #8



Sidney Truck Route Study

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JUN 24 2009

FINAL Public Information Meeting

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

City of Sidney Invites Your Comments:

June 17, 2009

Since you (state) don't have any money to build or repair, leave the 9th ave, rough & full of holes - that way the truckers & whoever else will maybe slow down.

If you get the money, put it to good use & cross the RR tracks and get the truck route out of town like all other cities. It is a hazard going down central ave and across 9th ave. S.E. no matter what.

To receive further project information, please provide your name and address:

Name: Larry Mills
Address: 602 GRAVE SE
Sidney, Montana
59270

Please leave your comments with Project Team staff at the meeting, or mail to:

Carol Strizich
MDT Planning
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Please indicate comments are for the Sidney Truck Route Study and submit comments by **June 26, 2009.**

Comment #9



Sidney Millwork Co.

Celebrating Our Anniversary



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JUN 29 2009

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

June 24, 2009

M.D.T. Planning
2701 Prospect Ave.
Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

Attention: Carol Strizich

RE: Sidney-Richland County Truck Route

Dear Carol:

It is very interesting to hear the comments from the public relative to the above study. There are those that see the process as a total effort to injure their lives when in effect the benefit to the people, city, county and State is the number one goal.

The study has identified the very best possible routing to improve traffic patterns and safety. By providing a route for large trucks, farm and commercial trucks as well as those units that transport chemicals and hazardous materials, we are safer! Is this not very important to developing a safe, attractive, convenient and successful business district?

We should keep in mind; Sidney has utilized most all of the land that was originally planned for industrial and commercial development. In order to promote "orderly" growth this is one aspect that would favor the truck route planning. The South alignment opens up a new world of opportunity. The North 126 development could make for the same type of development in that area. With some foresight and imagination the residential possibilities are exciting.

Comment #9 (cont.)

The Conceptual Future Land Use plan included in the 1983 Transportation plan for the City of Sidney and Richland County certainly fits the present Truck Route Study like missing pieces of a jig saw puzzle both to the North and South.

We should keep in mind, the need for a traffic light at Holly and Central Avenue would no longer exist. Couple that with the elimination of traffic lights at Central Avenue & 2nd St, the North and South traffic flow on Central Avenue would improve immensely.

Every meeting there seems to be the issue of trucks being allowed to continue use of Central Avenue because of the road designation. If a truck route is available, is it possible to force trucks to use the truck route, except for local delivery?

It's all about spending money wisely. Improving access to Busch Ag, Sidney Sugars, Yellowstone Livestock, the elevators, the oil related industry, plus all of the businesses on Central Avenue, makes this a very wise effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my thoughts.

Sincerely,



Dolph Harris
801 9th Street Southwest
Sidney, MT 59270