



OUR TOWN

Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains

February 2016
Issue No. 149

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www.haileycityhall.org



Wildlife - Deer and Elk Habitat

East Hillside and Ridges Are Closed

If you hike east of Cutters Park, you will see this informational sign posted there. The trails that go up the canyons and over the ridge are closed in the interest of protecting the winter habitat of deer and elk. Please restrict your hiking to the trail bordering the canal.

The northernmost winter range for mule deer in the Big Wood River drainage, the Quigley area is considered a contiguous block of important winter habitat. Red Devil, Hangman Gulch and neighboring gulches are home to some 400-500 deer in winter. This is the highest density of wintering deer in the valley. This year, the area is also full of elk.

Deep snow and cold temperatures make winter a stressful time for wildlife. Hikers may cause them to move, stop feeding or get up from their beds or away from thermal cover. All this makes them use precious energy in the form of vital fat stores.

In 2006, the City of Hailey annexed a planned private subdivision known as Old Cutter's. This subdivision adjoins the Red Devil drainage. As part of the process of review by various agencies, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and required that the City of Hailey post as closed the area behind the subdivision as Critical Winter Range from December 1-April 15th each year. Following that requirement, this sign was erected.

Emergency Services High Snowbanks & Traffic Safety

Visibility at Hailey intersections is reduced significantly by snowbanks. Hailey Police Department cautions motorists approaching or driving through unsigned intersections. Slow down to make sure entering the intersection is safe. Nose into the intersection until you can see properly whether there are oncoming cars or pedestrians. Yield the right of way.

Calendar



Important Dates

City Council.....	02/08/16
Art & Historic Preservation Commission.....	02/11/16
Hailey Parks & Lands Board	02/17/16
Hailey Public Library Board	02/17/16
Planning & Zoning Meetings.....	02/22/16
Tree Committee	02/11/16
Urban Renewal Agency	02/10/16
Presidents Day*	02/15/16

* City Hall and Library Closed

Grow. Eat. Save.

2016 Wood River Victory Garden Class

Six classes and optional workshops prepare you for gardening in the Wood River Valley

February 18th – April 28th
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Blaine County Community Campus

Course materials fee: \$45 per individual or first family member, + \$5 for each additional family member enrolled
Scholarships Available

To register or for more info, contact University of Idaho Extension
302 1st Ave. S. Hailey, ID; (208)-788-5585

To enroll education through diversity the University of Idaho is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educational institution. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program participation or reasonable accommodations need to contact Sarah Bouslog at Blaine County Extension 521-144, 4th floor at 502 First Ave. South, Hailey, ID 83426, (208) 788-5585, sarah@uidaho.edu.



Emergency Services

Hailey Fire Fighter of the Year

Congratulations to **Bill Freer** for earning the Hailey Fire Department's coveted **2015 Fire Fighter of the Year** designation. Bill started his paid-on-call work in 2012, and since that time has consistently stepped up and volunteered his time for special duties and projects. In 2015, Bill has recorded over 40 hours of training, responded to 61 emergency calls, and is presently studying for the department engineer position.



Congratulations also go out to **Josh Murphy** for the **2015 Rookie Firefighter of the Year**. Josh started his training in 2014 and graduated the fire academy in 2015. His enthusiasm for the work shows in how frequently he volunteered for special duties and projects. In 2015 Josh recorded over 98 hours of training and responded to 56 emergency calls.



These recognitions take the form of peer nominations and awards. In an environment where life-safety and success is built on trust in your training and trust of your peers, the designation is highly coveted by firefighters.

Assistant Fire Chief **Carl Hjelm** completed two years of service as Assistant Chief, after being voted to that position by peers. Carl now has assumed the role of Captain of Hailey Squad A. One of Hailey's long-term, tenacious fire service experts, Carl began his volunteer service to Hailey Fire Department in 1992. His tireless shouldering of many special duties and projects includes teaching his Squad & South Valley Fire Classes. He assisted in compiling the specifications for the department's new proposed fire apparatus. In 2015 Carl recorded over 60 hours of training and responded to over 91 emergency calls. **THANK YOU CARL HJELM!**



Hailey Public Library February Events

Story Time - Fridays at 10:30AM

NEW Story Time - Wednesdays at 10:30AM

TNT Thursdays - Thursdays 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Time to Tinker - Every Wednesday beginning 02/10/16! This self-directed program is geared toward 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Join us for some tinkering!

Blind Date with a Book – All month long! Join HPL for Blind Date with a Book. You might just fall in love... Pick any book from our display, check it out and take it home. Complete our survey and enter for your chance to win dinner on us!

Gardening in the Wood River Valley – Tuesday, Feb. 2nd – The Hailey Public Library will be hosting an Information Meeting in collaboration with the Wood River Victory Garden Class. To learn more about gardening in the Wood River Valley, join us!

Food for Fines – Feb. 8th through Feb. 13th – Love your library! Exchange your canned goods and other non-perishable food items for overdue fines to help local families in need. One food item = \$1 in overdue fines (up to \$10 per account).

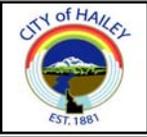
Libraries are diVine – Sunday, Feb. 7th and Feb. 21st – Starting at 6:00PM Join HPL at diVine Wine Bar for the screening of February's films: *Sabrina (1954)* and *Notting Hill*. Doors open at 6:00PM. Dinner and drinks are available for purchase. Movie starts at 6:30PM.

Let's Talk About It Book Discussion – Thursday, Feb. 18th – Starting at 6:00PM HPL will be hosting the third book discussion for *Let's Talk About It*. Our third book, *Like Water for Chocolate*, supports this year's theme perfectly, "We Are What We Eat." For more information, please visit our website or swing on by!

Hailey Public Library Board Meeting – Wednesday, Feb. 17th – Starting at 5:30PM

LIBRARY EVENTS

LIBRARY EVENTS



KEY STREETS - CONNECTING US SAFELY

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

WE'RE ON A MISSION TO *Make Hailey Better!*

We all know Hailey is a great place to live, and we are on a mission to continue to make it better. It's time to start talking with you, our constituents and voters, about funding some of Hailey's essential infrastructure needs.

WHAT WE NEED:

- Hailey currently has no sustainable way to provide the capital funds necessary to maintain and improve our town's physical assets.
- Hailey's basic maintenance needs are underfunded by \$300,000 per year. We operate extremely lean and efficiently, but risk sacrificing quality of life.
- Hailey's 20-year Capital Improvement Plan shows that we need \$1 million per year to maintain and improve our infrastructure assets, such as:
 - ⇒ Buildings/Equipment for Police, Fire, etc.
 - ⇒ Safe & Vibrant Main Street/Downtown
 - ⇒ Sidewalks, Bike/Pedestrian Paths, Roads
 - ⇒ Parks, Trees, River Access
 - ⇒ Safe Water Systems

We are actively developing a long-range plan for sustainable funding of our critical capital needs, but have the opportunity now to start with some smaller, but very impactful projects.

OUR INITIAL PROJECT PRIORITIES:

Initial projects which could be completed under a two-year funding plan would:

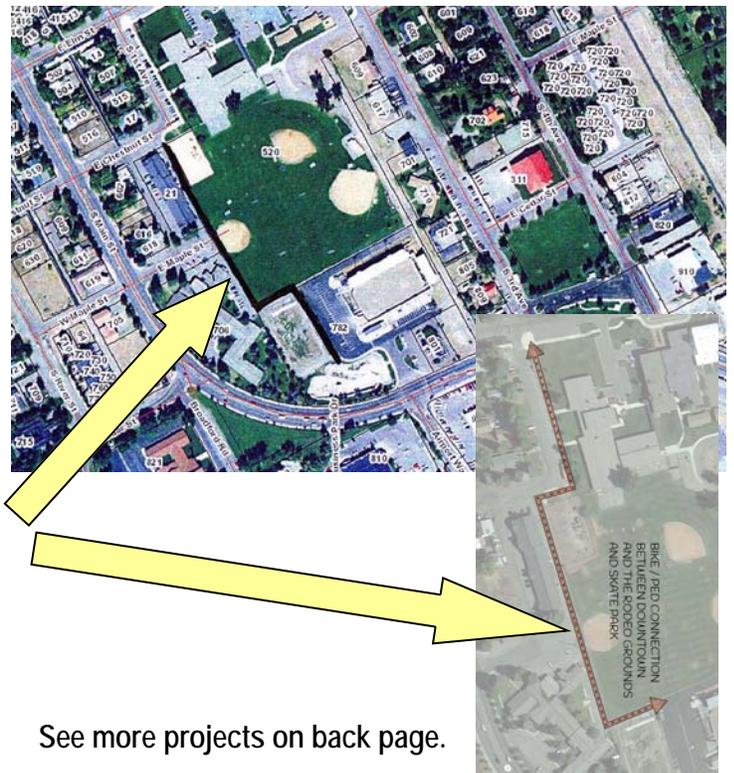
- Improve safety of travel on key streets for pedestrians and cyclists, especially for kids between schools and recreational facilities.
- Make Main Street both safer and more vibrant.
- Improve basic maintenance of sidewalks.
- Enhance the quality of life for all our residents, and enhance overall property values.
- Implement some "Lighter Quicker Cheaper" (LQC) Projects in various areas around town to stretch dollars as far as possible.

KEY STREETS - PROPOSED PROJECTS

1. Paved pedestrian/bike path on Myrtle connecting Main Street and WR Middle School to other parts of town and bike paths. Myrtle Street rendition below.



2. Paved path connection near Hailey Elementary to help children get to the Hailey Skatepark and Campion Ice House without biking along Hwy 75. See map inserts below in which paved path is shown as black line along Nelson Field in the top, with bottom detail close-up along Nelson Field and Campion Ice House.

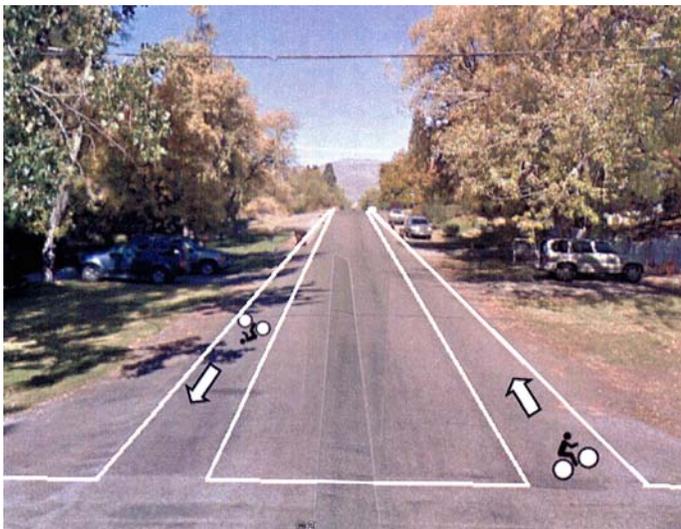


See more projects on back page.

- Other projects could include a Croy Street bike lane, making existing sidewalks more passable by maintaining damaged areas, connecting old Hailey sidewalks to intersections, improving ADA accessibility to sidewalks.



- LQC (*Lighter Quicker Cheaper*) Stripe bike lanes onto Second Avenue, to provide safe passage for bicyclist traveling from Middle School to Hailey Elementary. See rendition below.



- LQC (*Lighter Quicker Cheaper*) Create residential area roundabouts to slow traffic down and test, through pop-up methods, whether a roundabout has the desired effect. In the renditions below, the one at left is made from a water trough, the one at right from an old tire.



WHAT WILL IT COST?

KEY STREETS Projects Cost: \$375K for 2 years = \$750K

HOW WILL WE PAY FOR IT?

We are considering asking Hailey voters to approve a small, temporary, two-year property tax levy to fund these short-term priority projects.

IMPACT ON PROPERTY TAXPAYERS:

- Hailey voters continue to pay the same amount they have been paying the last two years for BCRD levy, but pay it to Hailey.
- Add \$25 each year on \$100,000 taxable value for 2 years.

To explain further: Two years ago voters approved the Blaine County Recreation District's two-year levy override to repave the Wood River Trail Bike Path. Hailey property owners have been paying \$21 per \$100,000 of taxable value for these bike path improvements. Those payments are now complete, and we propose that Hailey voters consider continuing to pay that amount to Hailey, and add another \$25 to it for the KEY STREETS Project. The city will also contribute funds from its General Fund budget as feasible.

Total Additional* Property Tax Cost (for 2 years) (with Homeowners Exemption)

Property Value	Cost/Year after Exemption	Total Additional Cost
\$200,000 home =	\$25/year x 2 years	= \$50
\$250,000 home =	\$37/year x 2 years	= \$75
\$350,000 home =	\$62/year x 2 years	= \$125
\$450,000 home =	\$87/year x 2 years	= \$175

* These numbers do not include the \$21 per year taxpayers have been paying under the BCRD levy for the past 2 years.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK...

The Hailey City Council will discuss this measure and key projects during its February 8 and March 7, 2016 City Council meetings. (5:30pm, Hailey City Hall).

Consider coming to one of our meetings to give your ideas and input.

I welcome your involvement in helping us with our mission to ***Make Hailey Better!***