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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MISSOULA COUNTY TO CONSIDER GREEN BUILDING POLICY**

Missoula, MT – The Missoula County Commissioners will consider a resolution adopting a [Green Building Policy](#) at their public meeting on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> in room 201 of the Courthouse Annex. The County’s Green Government Committee developed the policy that “encourages and promotes green building practices in the design, construction, remodeling, and operation of County owned facilities” earlier this year. The goal of the policy is to “provide environmental benefits, create local jobs, improve employee health, productivity and the quality of workspace, enhance asset value, and achieve the highest, most cost-effective environmental performance possible over the life of County projects”.

The policy directs offices and departments to incorporate or support the use of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) methods and techniques, whenever possible, and establishes specific requirements for new construction and major renovation, and guidance for remodels and minor renovations, leased and rented spaces, and existing buildings. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) is a national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. The LEED rating system calls for buildings to be constructed in ways that have been proven to reduce the consumption of energy and other natural resources, improve building performance, cost efficiency, and building longevity.

The Missoula County Green Government Committee was established more than a year ago and is charged with developing and implementing policies that advance the County’s commitment to green government best practices and engage in education and outreach with County employees and the general public. Committee members represent multiple County departments including Facilities Management, Public Works, the Commissioners’ Office, Information Services, the City-County Library, and the City-County Health Department.

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