

Chamber Board Endorses Bozeman City Charter

October 17, 2006 - The board of directors of the Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce has endorsed the proposed Bozeman City Charter.

“The Chamber has tracked this process since voters approved self-governing powers in 2001,” said Chamber CEO David Smith. “We’re pleased that our concerns were addressed.”

Key points that solidified the Chamber’s support were establishing annual reserves and a multi-year capital improvement plan.

“We want to make sure the taxpayers don’t have any surprises,” Smith said. “The keystone principle to that is a well-planned budget that looks into the future. We encourage voters to support the new charter so there is a safety net for big-ticket items.”

The charter will also validate neighborhood groups and give opportunities for a legitimate course of discussion on neighborhood issues.

The Chamber Board also endorsed Option A for the mayor question. "We did not see Option B as the best option for the future, so we suggest keeping the current format," Smith said.