

**TRANSITION ADVISORY PLAN
FOR THE
TOWN OF MANHATTAN, MONTANA**

This Transition Advisory Plan for the Town of Manhattan has been prepared by the Manhattan Local Government Review Study Commission pursuant to Section 7.01 of the Charter and 7-3-193 and, by reference, 7-3-157, MCA.

I. Effective Date and Scope of the Charter:

1. Pursuant to Section 6.02 of the Charter and 7-3-156 and 7-3-706, MCA, the Charter becomes effective on January 1, 2006.
2. Pursuant to Section 1.04 of the Charter, and 7-3-701 and Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Montana, Charter provisions establishing executive, legislative, and administrative structure and organization are superior to statutory provisions.

II. Transition Procedures for Town Employees and Elected Officers:

1. Pursuant to Section 7.02 of the Charter and 7-3-158, MCA, no Town employee shall lose employment solely because of the adoption of the Charter.
2. Pursuant to Section 7.02 of the Charter and 7-3-158, MCA the mayor and members of the town council may continue in office until the end of the term for which they were elected and their salaries shall not be reduced.
3. The charter does not alter the status of the city judge.

III. Transition Procedures Related to Self-Government Powers:

1. Pursuant to Section 1.01 of the Charter and 7-3-702, MCA and Article XI, Section 6, of the Constitution of Montana, the Town of Manhattan shall have all powers not prohibited by the Constitution of Montana, the laws of Montana or this Charter. Refer to Part 1, Chapter 1, Title 7 for limitations on self-government powers.
2. Pursuant to Section 1.03 of the Charter, the property tax mill levy limit of the Town is limited to that of Montana municipal governments with general government powers, except with the prior approval of a majority of the Town's electors voting on the question.

IV. Transition Procedures Concerning the Election of Town Officers:

1. The Town Clerk shall, not later than January 13, 2006, advise the Gallatin County Election Administrator by certified mail that future elections of the officers of the Town of Manhattan shall be conducted on an at-large and nonpartisan basis pursuant to Sections 2.05 of the Charter and 7-3-704 and 705, MCA.

V. Transition Procedures Concerning Town Ordinances and Resolutions:

1. Pursuant to Section 7.03 of the Charter and 7-3-159, MCA all ordinances and resolutions in effect on the date the Charter becomes effective shall remain in effect until repealed or amended as provided by law.

2. Pursuant to Section 7.03 of the Charter and 7-3-159, MCA, all Town rules, resolutions and ordinances shall be reviewed and, where necessary, revised or repealed to provide for consistency with this Charter and state law no later than June 30, 2008.

VI. Transition Procedures Concerning Appointed Boards and Commissions:

1. All boards, commissions and advisory bodies to the Town of Manhattan in existence at the time the Charter becomes effective shall continue until reconstituted, reappointed or dissolved by the governing body.

VII. Transition Procedures Concerning Existing Town Contracts and Debt:

1. Contracts in effect and debt owing by or due to the Town of Manhattan at the time this Charter becomes effective shall not be thereby effected.

We, the Study Commissioners of the Town of Manhattan do hereby certify that this is the Transition Advisory Plan approved by the Study Commissioners of the Town of Manhattan.
In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

SEAL

Done at Manhattan , Montana this ___ day of _____, 2005.

ATTEST: _____
Town Clerk

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW
STUDY COMMISSIONERS