



---

Blaine County  
Land Use & Building Services  
Budget Supplement  
Fiscal Year 2024

---

## **FY24 Strategic Priorities**

The work of the Land Use & Building Department is directly correlated with sustainability particularly the sustainability of development and housing, the community's well-being in a number of respects and indirectly the safety and viability of the transportation systems. Our request for conference funding and related travel and other expenses correlate with the need for this department to continue to evolve on the front edge of land use and building ideas, to the extent possible in a Dillon's Rule state like Idaho.

## **General Information**

**Department: Land Use & Building Services**

**Budget Contact Person: Tom Bergin, Director**

**Budget Team Members: Jeff Giese (Building Official), Tom Bergin**

## **Department Profile**

### **Operational Description**

Land use planning, public engagement and administering state and local land use and building regulations

### **Department Vision**

A Professional Process; a Premier Product

### **Department Mission**

To conduct our service in the highest professional and ethical manner, remembering our public trust, the public interest and the importance of our stewardship of limited public resources; to provide guidance and technical expertise to elected officials, planning commissions, public agencies and citizens on community land use issues and priorities; and to lead the long-term commitment to the public's health and safety through the orderly use of land and protection of environmental quality.

## Land Use & Building Service Departmental Structure

## Fiscal Year 23 Annual Review

### Fiscal Year '23: Performance Metrics

(Following numbers are for calendar year 2022)

- Efficient - Metric 1 - Building permits issued: **246**
- Effective - Metric 2 - Building inspections conducted: **1457**
- Efficient - Metric 3 - Land Use applications: down modestly
- Effective - Metric 4 - Land Use public hearings: down modestly from last year before the Board, the P&Z Commission, before the Hearing Examiner
- Innovative - Metric 5 - Energy Mitigation Grant:
  - Ending due to state-imposed limits

### Fiscal Year '23: Budget-Related Highlights

- Highlight 1 – Comp. Plan Implementation >> **Consultant** >> prioritization of desired outcomes/implementation steps determined through workshops w/P&Z and BCC.
- Highlight 2 - Public Access >> **Signage installed** >> concerns expressed by adjacent landowners on-going.
- Highlight 3 - Building permits >> Staff have maintained a 4-week turnaround; Crystal Rigby (zoning specialist) hired; Tina Lewis>> achieved the International Code Council Permit Technician certification.
- Highlight 4 - Electronic process conversion >> **Scanning contractor** >> on-going scanning of closed bldg. permits: starting process to scan subdivision and zoning files.
- Highlight 6 - Vehicle fleet replaced.

### Fiscal Year '24 - Budget Request Highlights

#### Requested Resources and Associated Costs

- People
  - Staffing stability, a goal in '24;
  - Continue to work on Comp. Plan Implementation Action Items, including but not limited to, Sustainability goals such as bike/ped/mobility and water conservation.
    - \$50,000
  - Water Advisory Consultant
    - \$15,000
  - Contract Building Inspector & Fire Code Consultant

- \$12,500
- General Planning Projects - Consulting
  - \$20,000
- Other areas of transition:
  - Opengov annual cost
    - \$32,695.00
  - Scanning/Paper Conversion Effort
    - \$15,000 Bldg. & Land Use
  - Bluebeam (Plan Review Software)
    - \$2100.00

### **Fiscal Year '24 - Fiscal Year Anticipated Highlights**

- Anticipated Highlight 1 - Comp. Plan Implementation - prioritized action items should begin, be underway or accomplished
- Anticipated Highlight 2 - Water conservation projects identified, underway or completed
- Anticipated Highlight 3 - Electronic process conversion complete
- Anticipated Highlight 4 – [ *See Priority List below.* ]

<b>Project</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Status</b>
Riparian District Education Program	High	In process
5G Cellular/Wireless Ordinance	High	Nothing initiated
Stream Alteration Permit application requirements	High	In process
Stream Mitigation/Management Program	High	In process
Housing in Light Industrial District	High	Completed
Community Housing Overlay District - Commercial (increase density)	High	Initiated. Delayed as housing transitions; P&Z hearing. Need action by SV W&S District
Title 9 Housekeeping	High-Mid	Completed
Title 10 Housekeeping	High-Mid	Completed
Road Impact Fees	Mid	Nearly Complete
Tiny homes/Park models	Mid	Completed
Avalanche Overlay	Mid	Nothing initiated
Septic Inspection Program	Mid	Nothing initiated
Public Assembly Text Amendment	Mid	Nothing initiated
Private airfields, heliports	Low	Nothing initiated
Wildlife feeding ordinance	Low	Nothing initiated
Lighting ordinance/Sign Ordinance	Low	Completed
CAFOs - Confined Animal Feeding Operations	Low	Nothing initiated
St. Luke's hospital zoning	Low	Nothing initiated

Items outside the list:

Mountain Overlay District Amendments:	Initiated
Title 10, complete re-write of certain chapters:	P&Z recommendation
Airport Overlay Update:	BCC hearing in early June