

9. Public Facilities

PART 1: KEY FINDINGS

1. Water System

As late as 2004, the Anaconda water system was leaking an estimated 2.2 million gallons every day. This water was not only expensive for the County to pump and treat, it represented a wasted resource. However, starting in 2002 the County took advantage of the National Resource Damage grant program to replace over 110,000 linear feet of water line, and while there is still work to be done on the system, leakage has almost been eliminated. Also, 365 voluntary water meter installations were made from 2013 through 2016. Finally, a water main was extended to the Mill Creek area to facilitate industrial development in the Mill Creek TIFID (Tax Increment Financing Industrial District).

2. Wastewater System

After many years of visioning, project planning, and system design, the County has finally brought central wastewater collection to the West Valley. Construction began in 2015 and hookups started in 2016, with a goal of connecting 260 residences to sewer. Many low and moderate-income households were assisted in the costs of connection and septic system abandonment by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Montana Department of Commerce. Central wastewater collection is essential to protect the County's well field and for the West Valley to provide the workforce housing that will be needed as ADLC begins to meet its economic development objectives. The wastewater treatment facility, storage, and irrigation system are generally in good condition and have capacity for future growth. The County continues work to improve the collection system in and around Anaconda. Opportunity continues to be served by individual septic systems.

3. Storm Water Systems

Historically, the limited urban storm water collection system has been generally undersized and laden with sediment. A storm drain facility master plan has been discussed for years, and was called for in the 2015 Capital Improvements Plan, but has yet to be initiated. This master plan would not only coordinate improvements and extensions to the existing system, it would establish drainage criteria for the system that would let land planners and designers know up front the frequency and duration of the storm event they would have to retain or detain on their property. Regardless, the system continues to be improved and extended incrementally with new storm drains being installed on Ogden and Tammany streets. Drainage in the Red Sands industrial area continues to be an issue between the County and the state Department of Transportation. Best management practices and community education to minimize non-point pollutants continue to be recommended.

4. Parks & Recreation

Since the original Growth Policy was adopted in 2010, the Park & Recreation Department has made significant restroom, irrigation, and parking lot improvements to existing parks. In addition, the Opportunity neighborhood park at Beaver Dam School was completed, and extensive work on Washoe Park and Haefner's Dam was completed using NRDP funds. The master plan for those facilities was assisted by the Washoe Park Foundation. A parks and trails master plan was completed in 2009 with improvements paid by a \$300,000 Congressional appropriation. According to the 2015 CIP, reroofing at some facilities is needed and trail segments remain to be

constructed. The loss of gym space and indoor walking facility caused by the closure of the Daly Gym has not been made up to this point.

PART 2. EXISTING CONDITIONS

1. Water Facilities

A. Overview

The water system was originally constructed by the Anaconda Company and was eventually turned over to the local government. The poorly maintained system was in a considerable state of disrepair when it was taken over by Anaconda Deer Lodge County (ADLC) and experienced a tremendous amount of water loss due to leaking water mains. However, from 2002 through 2016, the County has replaced over 110,000 linear feet of water pipe and mains, reducing leakage from 2.2 million gallons per day to less than .4 mgd. The water system serves over 2,750 users, and there are now (as of Nov. 2018) 946 water meters on the system. The water system preliminary engineering report (PER) study area boundaries are indicated on Map 9-1. At present, no tap fees or capitalization fees are required for connecting to the system.

B. Distribution System

The distribution system can be divided into three areas. The system west of Larch Street in Anaconda was constructed in the 1950's and with reasonable maintenance, continues to perform satisfactorily. The remainder of the system includes the very oldest parts that were originally constructed by the Anaconda Company. In these areas the system was built with thin-walled, bitumastic-coated kalimane steel piping. Over the last 100 years, much of this pipe has corroded allowing substantial amount of water to escape the system. However, as noted above, ADLC has been systematically replacing the older, leaking mains, and by the end of the 2018 construction season it is anticipated that all of the old lines that were identified as beyond their service life will have been replaced.

C. Water Treatment and Storage

New wells and chlorination facilities were constructed in 1993, and at this time, chlorination is the only treatment necessary. A 3.5 million gallon concrete reservoir was also built in 1993. It is located underground in the foothills on the southwest side of Anaconda near the Smelter City Estates subdivision. It is of adequate size and elevation to provide sufficient operational water storage and fire protection.

D. Water Supply

The water supply for Anaconda consists of six wells generating a peak volume of approximately 6.6 million gallons per day (mgd). The well field is located on the west side of Anaconda along Warm Springs Creek, and is the sole potable water supply source. The six wells were installed in 1994 with three wells replacing existing units and three new wells added to the system. The County has additional water rights of approximately 1.3 mgd over and above the current 6.6 mgd peak. However, during visioning sessions for the original Growth Policy which took place around 2009, and in hearings for a major subdivision proposed nearby, residents stated that water levels in some West Valley wells had gone down since the County well field began pumping. This has led to concerns that

extensive development in West Valley could impact the County's water supply wells, but there has been no comprehensive investigation of the portion of the Warm Springs aquifer in the West Valley area to determine its capacity, transmissivity, and recharge potential. Such a study should be undertaken to gain a better understanding of the long-term issues facing the County well field as well as West Valley and North Cable Road residents who continue to rely on well water.

Though groundwater is generally abundant in the other parts of the county, much of it is restricted because of the contamination from decades of mining operations. An alternative water supply is potentially available in the Hearst Lake and Fifer Gulch watersheds southwest of the City. This supply has not been developed but remains an option to the City for future use. ADLC has adopted a watershed protection plan for the area, and has water rights agreements of 3,425 gpm with Washington Corporation for Hearst Lake and R-Y Timber for Fifer Gulch. However, this water cannot be used at this time because the conveyance system is dilapidated and there is no treatment available.

E. Water Use and Demand

Average annual water demand, including extraneous losses, was quantified at 1.96 mgd in the 2011 Water PER Master Plan Update. Maximum daily demand in the summer is approximately twice the average daily amount. (Source: 2015 CIP, BETA LLC)

F. Water System Expansion

The 2015 Capital Improvements Plan by Beard Environmental & Technical Assistance LLC (BETA) makes the following statement regarding system expansions:

...Expansions of the water service area continue-including the recent addition of the David Gates gas generating facility at Mill Creek, the Old Works Golf Course, and periodic subdivision additions. Prospective demand could also include industrial developments at the East Yards and the Arbiter site, and central water supply to Opportunity, West Valley and the surrounding area including Cable Road properties (West Park Subdivision), Smelter City Estates, and/or Stump Town Road properties. It is important for the County to accommodate new development to maintain economic vitality, and the ability to provide adequate municipal water for future commercial, industrial, and residential uses is important.

With at the capability for system expansion, the County maintains a significant leverage for economic development. The ability to connect to a reliable central public water system can be a "deal maker" for attracting business and residential development. ADLC should always maintain a water supply and distribution system capable of expansion almost anywhere in the community.

Upgrades

The Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) recommends the following major improvements.

- As it has since 1994, ADLC will continue to replace leaking water mains. By the end of 2018, all old water lines that have been identified as beyond their service life will have been replaced. This will make (and has made) the water system more efficient by pumping and treating less raw water to meet domestic needs

- The continued installation of water meters will provide a consistent rate structure based on actual usage, and will encourage water conservation. This would allow the present system to serve **far** more customers than it currently does.
- The water system has been expanded to serve industrial developments in east Anaconda, and additional expansions are likely in the areas discussed in the preceding section.

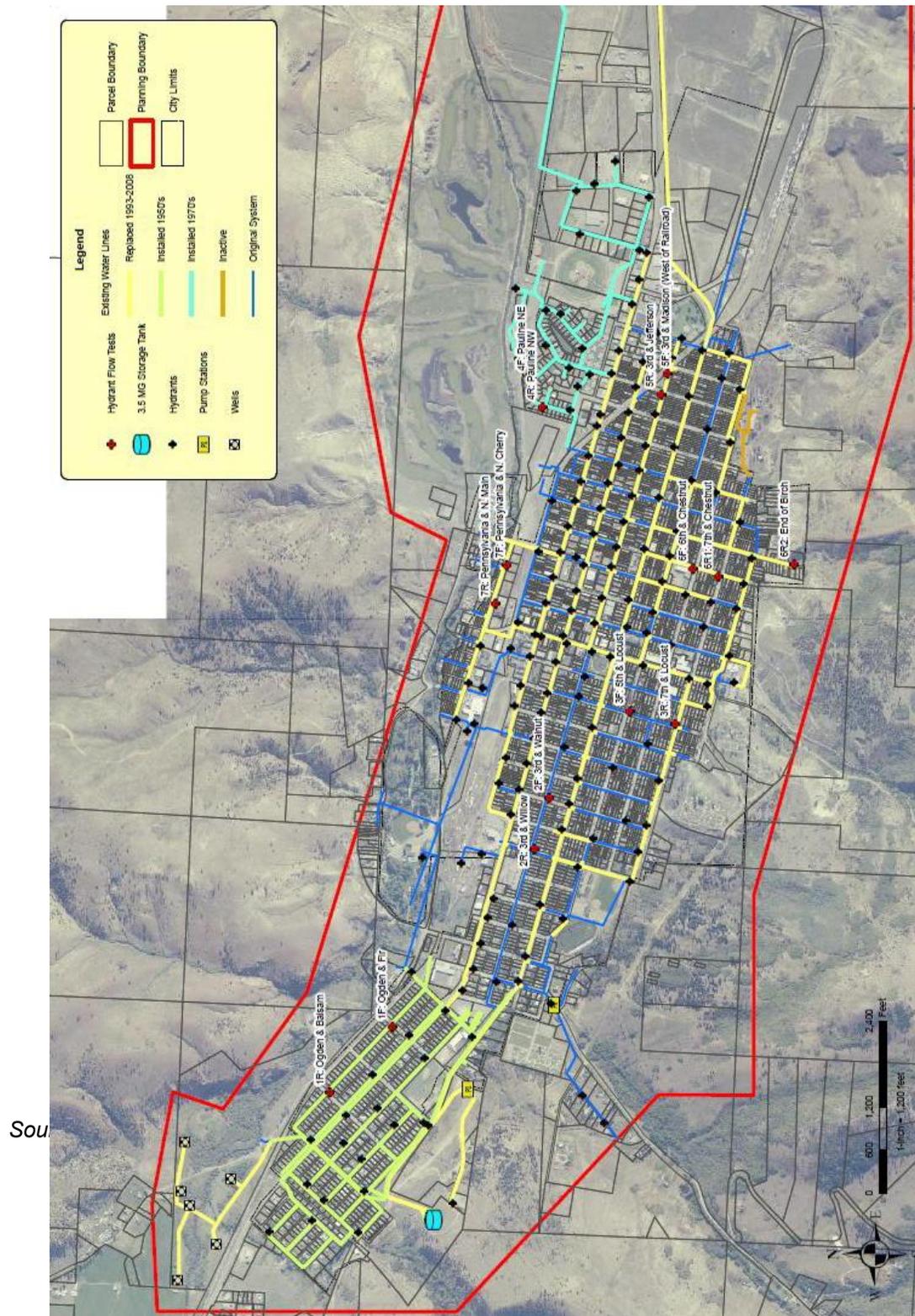
G. Water Service in Rural Areas

Warm Springs Hospital was added to the Anaconda water system in 1997. It is connected via an 8.3-mile water main from the east end of Anaconda following Highways 1 and 48, and consists of 12 and 14-inch pipe. The Warm Springs complex is metered. The Galen Campus is served by central water systems owned and operated by the State.

Residents of Opportunity are currently served by private wells. According to the “Opportunity Water and Sewer Feasibility Study (2000)”, the most economical alternative to provide an adequate water supply would be to connect Opportunity to the Anaconda system. The extension of water mains to the Mill Creek industrial area has brought the public water system closer to the Opportunity community.

Residents in the West Valley area also have private wells, and now that sanitary sewer has been extended to the area, there is less concern about potential water contamination from area septic systems. According to the “West Valley Water and Sewer Feasibility Study (2000)”, Anaconda’s water facilities could be expanded to serve this area.

Map 9-1: Water Study Service Area (Water distribution facilities now extend farther east---to the Mill Creek industrial area---than the map below depicts).



2. Wastewater Facilities

A. Overview

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County owns and operates a central wastewater collection and treatment system which serves primarily the Anaconda urbanized area. The collection system is operated and maintained by the ADLC Streets and Roads Department, and treatment, including seasonal land application, is the responsibility of the ADLC Wastewater Department. Connection to the wastewater collection system is required by ordinance for residents and businesses within the sewer service area. Capitalization and operation of the system is paid for through an approved user charge system. As of November, 2014, there were approximately 3,900 equivalent dwelling units (EDU) representing 2,883 customers, including 266 commercial/industrial/institutional or apartment building connections. At present, no tap fees or capitalization fees are required to connect to the system. Sewer customers are charged on a flat fee basis every six months in conjunction with property tax statements.

B. Collection

The collection system is comprised of conventional gravity sewers ranging from 8 to 18 inches in diameter. Sewer routes generally run west-to-east through both streets and alleys. Accessible manholes are generally provided at one-block intervals. Older portions of the sewer system date back to the early 1900s with subsequent periodic expansions as growth has occurred. Pipe materials are generally vitrified clay with more recent additions utilizing concrete and PVC. Many brick manholes exist in the system and many are in poor or deteriorating condition. The 2015 CIP estimates that 100 or more manholes were in need of repair, cured in place liners, or replacement. Flush boxes were also provided on the upstream ends of the sewer laterals, but they have been abandoned in place by removing the fresh water supply. Given the age of the core system, as-built information is incomplete. But recently a GIS data base of manhole locations and piping segments was developed. The collection system is reported to be in generally adequate condition, with regular cleaning and maintenance needed to control root intrusion and solids deposition.

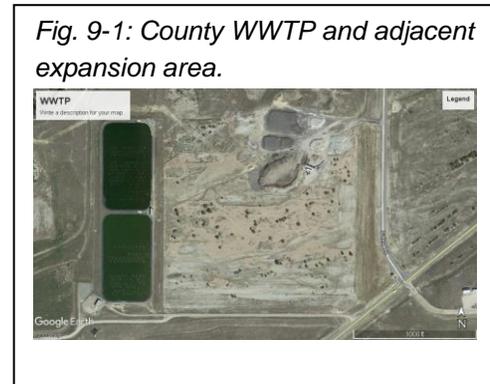
Recent master planning for the facility has been conducted in conjunction with extending central wastewater collection into the West Valley. First was the December 2012 *West Valley Sewer Extension Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)*, followed by a PER update in 2014. Both documents addressed treatment improvements and the existing aerated lagoon/infiltration system in order to account for increased flows to the treatment plan from the new West Valley connections. The Opportunity area remains on individual sewage disposal systems.

C. Treatment Facility

The wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) was constructed in 1984, and receives flow through a 24-inch gravity outfall at the east end of Anaconda. The treatment works include two aerated lagoon cells rated by the designers for an average flow of 2.5 mgd (winter) and 3.0 mgd (summer). Infiltration/percolation ponds are used for the non-irrigable winter months. The plant treats from .75 to 1.4 million gallons per day, produced by a current population of approximately 5,500, and has the capacity to treat nearly double the existing flow.

Once effluent is treated in the aerated lagoons, it is conveyed through a gravity main to the holding/infiltration percolation pond complex two miles north of the aeration lagoons. These ponds serve as seasonal wastewater storage for summer-time irrigation and provide infiltration during the winter months. Seasonal irrigation is conducted on adjacent agricultural land north of the ponds. Built in 1991, this complex includes two holding ponds and five percolation ponds. Space is provided for up to ten additional ponds.

The WWTP does not have assigned effluent limits for BOD₅ and total suspended solids (TSS), but monthly monitoring indicates that effluent generally meets secondary treatment standards. The WWTP was recently assigned a Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS) Permit that requires compliance reporting for nitrogen loading. "Effluent" flow metering was added at the effluent holding ponds and I/P ponds in 2014.



D. Rural Areas

Warm Springs and Galen State Hospitals each have their own wastewater system. Wastewater management in other rural portions of Anaconda - Deer Lodge County (ADLC) is generally accomplished with individual on-site septic systems. The Tri-County Environmental Health Department has jurisdiction over individual wastewater systems in ADLC.

Reported serviceability of individual septic systems in Opportunity has improved since Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) replaced the piped subdrains to relieve shallow groundwater in the area. Hydraulic limitations for septic drainfields are known to exist due to marginal soils and shallow groundwater. At present, no moratorium now exists for new individual septic systems in Opportunity, but new development has been limited by the inability of most areas in the community to meet state regulations for separation between groundwater and septic system drainfields.

E. Upgrades and Expansions

Major upgrades and expansions to the ADLC wastewater system include the following:

- Continue to replace deteriorating brick manholes in the collection system.
- Construct central wastewater system for Opportunity. Alternatives to a central wastewater system are discussed in the "Opportunity Water & Sewer Feasibility Study" (2000).
- Complete installation of collection trunk lines to serve industrial development in Mill Creek, East Yards, and Opportunity Triangle.

3. Stormwater

Central storm drainage system is generally confined to the Anaconda urban area, and is not a separate utility within the County governmental structure. The Streets and Road Department maintains the storm water system with funding from the General Fund. The central piped system is a combination of newer HDPE and old clay and concrete lines, some of which date to the early 1900s and were installed by the Anaconda Company. There was no comprehensive mapping of the piped system until the 2010 *ADLC Storm Water Monitoring & Assessment* conducted by Morrison-Maierle and WET.

Storm water runoff may carry high levels of sediment and pollutants such as nutrients, oxygen demanding substances, road salts, heavy metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, pesticides, pathogenic bacteria, and viruses. The type and concentration of pollutants in storm water is highly variable. The frequency and intensity of rain affects the amount of pollutants collected in overland flow, the distance pollutants are transported, and the level of sediment deposition and suspension. Impervious surfaces (streets, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks, roofs, etc.) act as collectors and conduits for pollutants from concentrated human activities. Storm water runoff picks up these pollutants and discharges them untreated to waterways via storm sewer systems. Vehicles release pollutants such as oil and grease, particulate matter, and heavy metals (i.e. brake pad asbestos) that can be picked up by storm water runoff and delivered to state waters. When left uncontrolled, these discharges can threaten public health, kill fish, destroy spawning and aquatic habitat, and contaminate drinking water supplies.

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) oversees regulations regarding storm water management and issues storm water discharge permits for large urban systems. The 2010 Morrison-Maierle/WET study documented conditions, modeled performance, and monitored pollution transport into and through the drainage system, particularly from Superfund Remedial Design Unit 3. They also proposed preliminary designs and costs for improvements alternatives. Many existing drainage system components were found to be undersized, deteriorated, or otherwise functioning poorly, and \$16.2 million in central trunk line improvements were noted. Extending storm drains west of Larch St. was estimated at \$4.9 million, and drainage work on Ogden and Tammany streets was completed in 2017 and 2018 respectively. More recently complete projects include East 3rd St. from Main east to the railroad tracks. Also, The Montana Department of Transportation repaved Cedar St. from 7th north to Front St., and reset drop inlets to match the new road surface and new ADA compliant corners. A \$1.5 million agreement with Atlantic Richfield Company has assisted the County with improvements and operation of drainage facilities for Sheep Gulch and the AFFCO property to the east. Generally, the system continues to improve as repairs and replacements are made and maintenance improves. However, a much-needed system wide Storm Drain Master Plan, that would address lingering drainage issues all over the urbanized area, has not yet been initiated. Of particular concern is the Red Sands industrial area, which continues to develop without a piped system.

Figure 9-2: Storm Drain



nd visitors alike. They are often the first landmarks that make an impression on a newcomer to the community, and are quite often the places that residents choose to take visitors that typifies the community. As pointed out below, different sizes or parks and facilities in parks serve different community functions. Some provide passive areas like open spaces, gardens, and wildlife viewing. Others provide active sports in both structured and unstructured programs. Still others provide variety and relief to the urban environment, and can help achieve environmental objectives such as clean water (by preserving streamside vegetation) and protecting fish and wildlife habitat.

The parks and recreation inventory in Table 1 summarizes the facilities that are available for general public use in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County. Park classifications based on National Recreation and Park Association criteria are assigned to each inventoried facility:

- **Pocket Parks** - Small, single-purpose play lots generally less than two acres in size and located within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of a residential area. Park features usually include a small open grass area and may include a children's playground or a picnic area. The county has a number of undeveloped pocket parks. Homeowners associations typically maintain these types of parks in new subdivisions.
- **Neighborhood Parks** - Neighborhood parks generally have a service area of one-half mile to one mile. They should be accessible by a safe route or trail and typically contain a turf area for informal play, a playground, and picnic facilities. Recommended size is from 3-10 acres so as to be fully developable for park uses. Neighborhood parks may be combined with a school, and may have programmed recreational activities in addition to passive recreational opportunities.
- **Community Park** – This is a larger park that serves multiple neighborhoods, but will often attract residents from a much larger area for programmed activities. Community parks are typically 10-100 acres in size, at least 50% of the land is developable for park uses, and they may contain environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, streams, floodplains, wooded areas, or steep terrain. Safe, non-motorized routes often link the park to other parks and to the neighborhoods they serve. Vehicle parking is available, either off-street or on-street adjacent to the park so that crossing a road is not required. Generally, community parks include ample active recreational opportunities for passive

use. Facilities for group activities and events are also generally available. Washoe Park is an example of a well-developed community park.

Figure 9-3: Washoe Park



- **Sports Complexes** – Sports complexes consolidate heavily programmed athletic fields **and** associated facilities into larger sites that are located primarily in urbanized areas. Sports Complexes typically are 20 to 100 acres in size, depending on the activities for which they are intended. Designed solely for active recreation use, these parks should accommodate the specific needs of the County athletic programs, athletic associations, and other user groups. There are several small sports complexes in the County. At present, the County partners with the local school district to conduct youth sports programs such as volleyball, soccer, and football that is conducted at both County-owned facilities and school sports facilities.
- **Cultural/Heritage Sites** - Cultural and heritage facilities include interpretive signage areas along trails and historically significant sites that may or may not contain remnants of historical significance. Such areas may or may not be incorporated into larger park types where appropriate. Anaconda Stack State Park is an example of this type of park.

Figure 9-4: Anaconda Stack State Park



- **Natural Park/Open Space** - This type of park may include environmentally sensitive areas such as steep terrain, forested areas, water bodies, flood plains, wetlands, and other natural areas that are only minimally developed. Specific features within a natural park may serve as conservation areas, interpretive sites, and wildlife watching opportunities. The size range of this park type varies but they should be linked to other open spaces and parkland to maintain park system connectivity. Trails, wildlife viewing areas, and other amenities can be integrated to provide passive recreation opportunities. Lost Creek State Park is an example of this type of park.
- **Linear Parks and Trails** – These open spaces provide non-motorized transportation and recreation opportunities and connect parks, open spaces, and other areas with greenways to form a cohesive park system. Linear Parks may be in a healthy, natural state or may be developed landscapes that follow corridors such as active or abandoned rights-of-way, creeks, canals, power lines and other linear features. These parks may comprise portions of a system of green infrastructure and serve as links from one park to another.
- **Special Use Park** - Covers a broad range of parks & recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose uses, such as a nature center, historic site, plaza, urban square, aquatic center, campgrounds, or golf course. Often these parks include fee-based activities and may or may not be public parks. The Jack Nicklaus-designed Old Works Golf Course and the Old Works Historic Trail are a good example of a special use park.
- **Recreation Center** – Mainly indoor facilities for a wide variety of recreation programs, including non-sports recreation such as arts and crafts, dance, yoga. Anaconda has been utilizing school district gyms for recreational programs such as youth basketball and volleyball, and passive recreation such as walking. The Daly Gym was closed in 2009 due to structural problems, and the loss of this space has created a need for additional gym facilities. Development concepts for the East Yards include a community recreation center to be clustered with sports fields and educational facilities, but the entire East Anaconda Reuse Plan appears to be taking a different direction. With the notable exception of the AWARE Center for Excellence, these facilities may never come to fruition in the East Yards.

Table 9-1: Park and Recreation Inventory and Classification – ADLC Parks (Map # in far left column refers to Map 9-2 on page 9-17.)

Map #	Name	Size (Acres)	Location	Type	Facilities	Comments
1	Charlotte Yeoman - Martin Sports Complex	5.8	Montana Dr.	Sports Complex	Field House Softball/Baseball fields	Upgrades needed to irrigation system
2	Washoe Park	51.5	Pennsylvania & Washoe Park Rd.	Community	Swimming Pool Legion Field Glover Cabin Tennis Courts Duck Pond Playground Horseshoes Community Bldg. Trail	Washoe Park Foundation helps with fundraising. Swimming pool building needs new roof. Historic structures in park.
3	Kennedy Common	2	Main btwn. 3 rd & 4 th	Neighborhood	Historic Features Ice Rink	Downtown, community events.
4	Benny Goodman	7.3	Park & Monroe	Neighborhood	Skate Park Pavilion Playground	
5	Regina Sanders Park	2.59	West Valley	Neighborhood	Paved parking & walking path; new playground: irrigation system	New vault toilet recently installed
6	Durston Park	0.23	Park & Main	Pocket	Public Art, Gazebo	
7	Teresa Ann Terrace Subdivision	1.4	Jefferson Way	Pocket	Open Space	
8	Haggin St. Park	1	Haggin St.	Pocket	Playground	
9	Jaycee Park	3	Tammany & Juniper	Pocket	Unimproved	Softball fields, play area
10	Unnamed	0.5	Pauline Dr.	Pocket	Unimproved	
12	Unnamed	0.5	Evergreen & Washoe	Pocket	Unimproved	
13	Unnamed	0.72	MT Hwy 1 & Hemlock	Pocket	Unimproved	
14	Beaver Dam Park	9.5	Opportunity	Neighborhood	Trail, picnic shelter, basketball courts.	Old Beaver Dam School Site

Map #	Name	Size	Location	Type	Ownership/Maint.	Facilities
15	Sonny Gorr Sports Complex	8.8	Willow St. & W. 5 th St.	Sports Complex	School District Owns Park Dept. Maintains	Soccer Fields Softball field Football Field Track Mitchell Stadium
16	Marty May Little League	3	Juniper St.	Sports Complex	Little League Assoc.	Baseball Field
17	Archery Range		North Cable Rd.	Special Use	Archery Club leases	Archery Range
18	Anaconda Country Club	105	Opportunity	Golf Course	Privately owned, but open to the public	Golf Course
19	Old Works	300	Pennsylvania	Special Use	ADLC owns land Private leased to operate	18-hole Golf Course
20	Rotary Park	0.5	Heather Drive	Pocket	Playground	

State and Federal Recreation Facilities

Name	Size	Location	Type	Ownership/Maintenance	Facilities
Anaconda Stack State Park	2.2	Smelter Rd.	Special Use	Montana FWP	Historic-Interpretive
Lost Creek State Park	502	MT Hwy 263	Natural – Regional	Montana FWP	Hiking Camping Fishing Picnic Wildlife Viewing
Stuart Mill Bay	363	Georgetown Lake	Fishing Access	Montana FWP	Fishing Boat Ramp Camping
Wildlife Viewing Area	Approx. 1.0	Haefner's Dam area	Special use	ADLC owned	Parking, trail

B. Level of Service – Service Area & Per Capita Analysis

The service area spatial analysis is used to determine if park and recreational facilities are conveniently located to all residential areas of the city. Service Area is measured as the radius from a park location outward in to the community. Neighborhood Parks are ideally located within walking distance from most parts of the neighborhood they serve. Therefore, the service area defined for neighborhood parks is ½ mile uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers. Community parks serve a larger area and may be reached by car, by bike, or walking. The typical service area defined for community parks is two miles. It should be noted however, that service area criteria are general guidelines and that they will vary with population density, programmed activities at the specific parks, and other factors.

The service area analysis shows that the Anaconda urban area is well served by parks, but some rural areas of the County have no access to improved neighborhood parks. A per capita analysis provides an indication of the level of service that is being provided based on the amount of park land as compared to the population base. Just like the service area analysis, per capita figures must be considered along with other functional criteria as well as the unique community characteristics to determine the appropriate standard for each community. The per capita standards in the following table are compiled from a number of sources including the National Park and Recreation Association, American Planning Association, and community plans in Montana. The standards represent a range that can be used for comparison purposes.

Table 9-2: Park Facility Per Capita Analysis

Park Classification	Total Acres	Existing Acres Per 1000 Capita	Recommended Acres per 1000 Capita
Pocket	7.35	.80	0.5 – 1.0
Neighborhood	21.4	2.34	3.0 – 5.0
Community	51.5	6.3	4.0 – 5.0
Total Parks	80.25	8.77	10
Sports Complex	17.6	--	--
Special Use	405		Regional Service Area
State – Regional Parks	866		Regional Service Area

Source: Compiled by Applied Communications, 2017 & 2018. Assumes a county population of 9,150 persons for analysis purposes.

C. Washoe Park

At 51.5 acres in size, Washoe Park is the crown jewel of the local park system. The only “community park” in the County, it has a swimming pool, American Legion baseball field, duck pond, playground, trail system, and tennis courts. During reconstruction of the tennis courts, mine waste was discovered that subsequently had to be excavated and hauled away. The possibility of additional contamination must be evaluated in any subsequent development in the park.

Washoe Park today looks very different than it did in Anaconda’s industrial heyday. Over time, the park has been effectively redesigned each time a new facility was added or replaced, with no overall plan or vision. In 2010, the *Washoe Park & Haefner’s Dam Master Plan* was produced by Bruce Boody Landscape Architecture, Inc. that identified \$3.5 million in improvements to Haefner’s Dam area and \$11.8 million in upgrades to Washoe Park. However, over half of these combined improvements were later determined to be ineligible for NRDP funding. In

final funding determinations, NRDP authorized only \$1.5 million of the \$6.8 million requested. In addition, ADLC was able to obtain a Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Recreational Trails program grant for \$45,000 to use toward constructing the trail between the Dam area and Washoe Park.

In 2009, WWC Engineering completed the *ADLC Parks and Trails Master Plan*, which focused on a non-motorized, multi-use trails and parks system to supplant historic mining damage and Superfund cleanup activities. A \$5 million Congressional earmark (shared with Bonner, Montana) funded the reconstruction of Beaver Dam Park in Opportunity, including sodding, a perimeter trail, picnic shelter, and basketball courts, plus reroofing the old school building and installing chain link fencing. The \$1.3 million project was completed in 2012 and will ultimately be connected to the Greenway trail system. The County has approximately \$300,000 remaining of the earmark funds, and the Master Plan identifies additional Opportunity, Greenway, and Anaconda area trail segments for future construction. (2015 Capital Improvements Plan)

D. Haefner's Dam

Haefner's Dam is an 89-acre parcel owned by the County that lies west of Washoe Park. This area contains valuable wildlife habitat, and Warm Springs Creek flows through the site. As described in the previous section, a master plan has been completed for the Haefner's Dam property to address improvements in fish and wildlife habitat, resource-based recreational opportunities, protection for the County's well field, and to provide for long-term facility design, operations and maintenance. A trail, fishing access, and a kids fishing pond are envisioned for this key site, and a trail connecting Haefner's Dam and Washoe Park has been constructed. When completed, Haefner's Dam will be a natural park and open space amenity unique to the immediate Anaconda area.

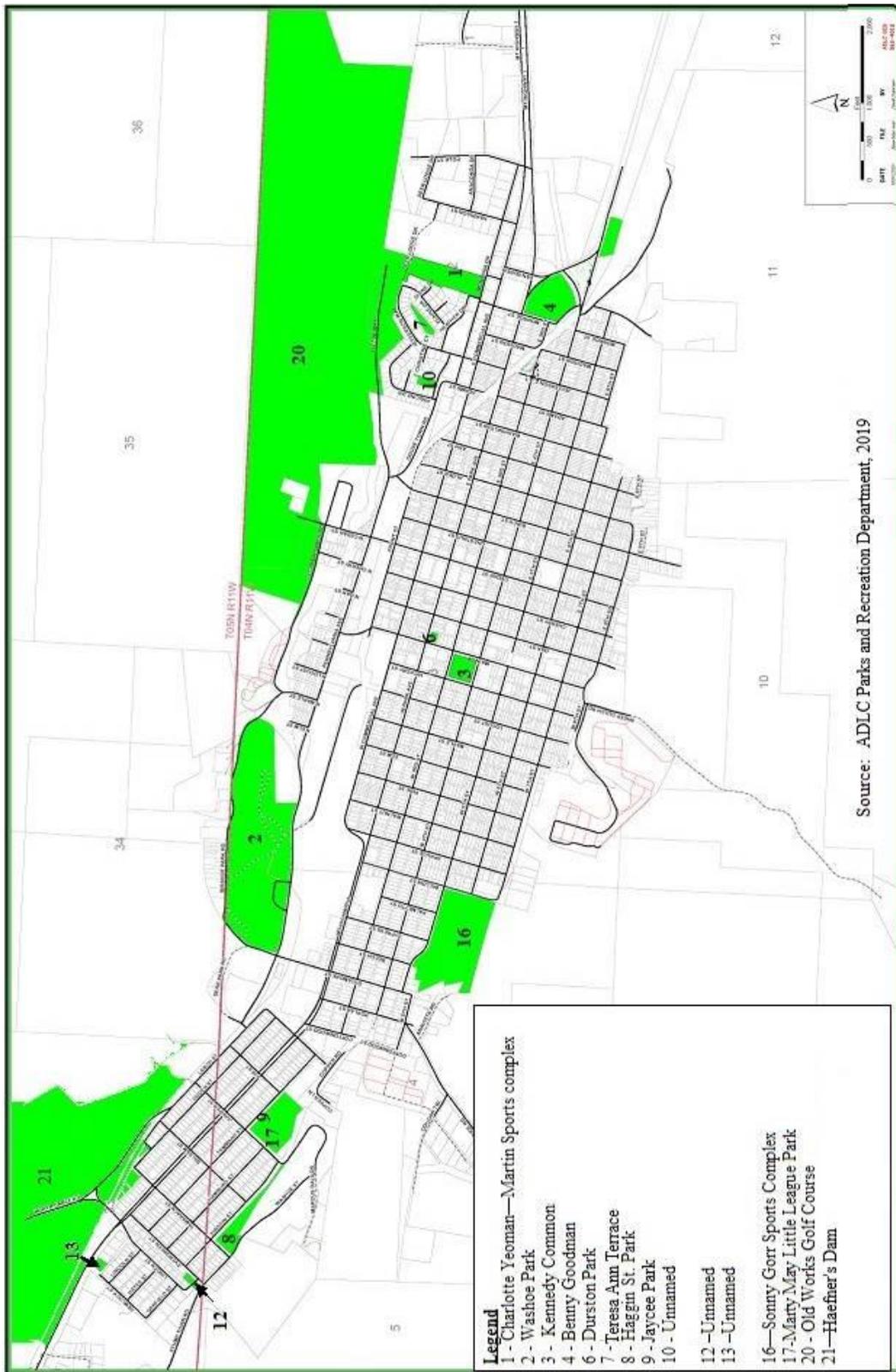
E. Conclusions

- Washoe Park provides adequate acreage, and facility needs have been re-examined through a community planning process that was recently completed. The maintenance and restoration of historic structures is an on-going need and priority for the park.
- When developed, Haefner's Dam will enhance fish and wildlife habitat, afford protection to the County's well field, and provide resource-based recreation that is unique to Anaconda.
- The amount of acreage for pocket parks is adequate, but many of these parks remain undeveloped.
- The amount of acreage for neighborhood parks remains below national standards, although Beaver Dam Park in Opportunity and future expansion of Benny Goodman Park add acreage toward meeting recommended standards. Funding for maintenance and modernizing facilities is a priority issue.
- The special use and State parks are amenities that draw from a regional area.
- There is a need for additional gym space for recreational programs. Such programs may include after school activities, youth sports, and adult sports. Youth basketball and adult volleyball have been popular activities in Anaconda in the past.

Figure 9-5: Washoe Park Playground



Map 9-2 – Parks in Anaconda



5. Utilities

A. Electric Power

- NorthWestern Energy

NorthWestern Energy is the electric power provider to most of Anaconda - Deer Lodge County (ADLC). NWE has approximately 359,000 customers in Montana and its electric transmission system consists of over 7,650 miles of transmission lines and associated terminal facilities. This expansive system, with an average daily load of 1,234 MV, serves approximately 73% of Montana's land area. NWE has interconnections to five major transmission systems located in the Western Systems Coordinating Council (WSCC) area, as well as one interconnection to a system connecting with the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPP) Region.

A major power corridor passes through ADLC affording the County an excellent opportunity to increase its supply and distribution capabilities to promote economic development. In addition, NorthWestern Energy has a major sub-station in the Mill Creek industrial area, and a new gas fired generating facility adjacent to the sub-station has recently been completed. ADLC's energy distribution resources are also expected to increase as a result of the Western Energy Corridor which identifies preferred corridors for power lines and pipelines across public lands in the western United States. Transmission lines are indicated on Map 3.

- Vigilante Electric Co-op (Bonneville Power Administration)

This rural co-op serves areas in the south part of the county such as Melrose, Glen, Divide, Wise River, Wisdom, and Jackson. Vigilante has over 9,700 services and maintains over 2,700 miles of transmission and distribution lines.

B. Natural Gas

Natural gas is also provided by NorthWestern Energy. Their service area covers 70,500 square miles and serves approximately 183,300 customers.

C. Telecommunications

CenturyLink provides land-line telephone service for most of the County. Wireless phone service is available from AT&T, Verizon, and RF Wave. Cable television service is available in the Anaconda area from Charter/Spectrum services.

In 2010, when the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted the National Broadband Plan, the definition of broadband was 4mbps download speed. In the FCC "2015 -Broadband Progress Report", the FCC adopted a new standard for broadband of 25mbps download speed. The FCC Broadband Plan calls for 100 mbps download speeds for homes and one gigabit speeds for anchor institutions by the year 2020. While download speeds are important for popular applications such as streaming video, businesses and telecommuters that are transferring large data files often have a need for higher upload speeds as well. Although mobile cell phone providers offer Internet services, they often have data limits that result in expensive charges for streaming video.

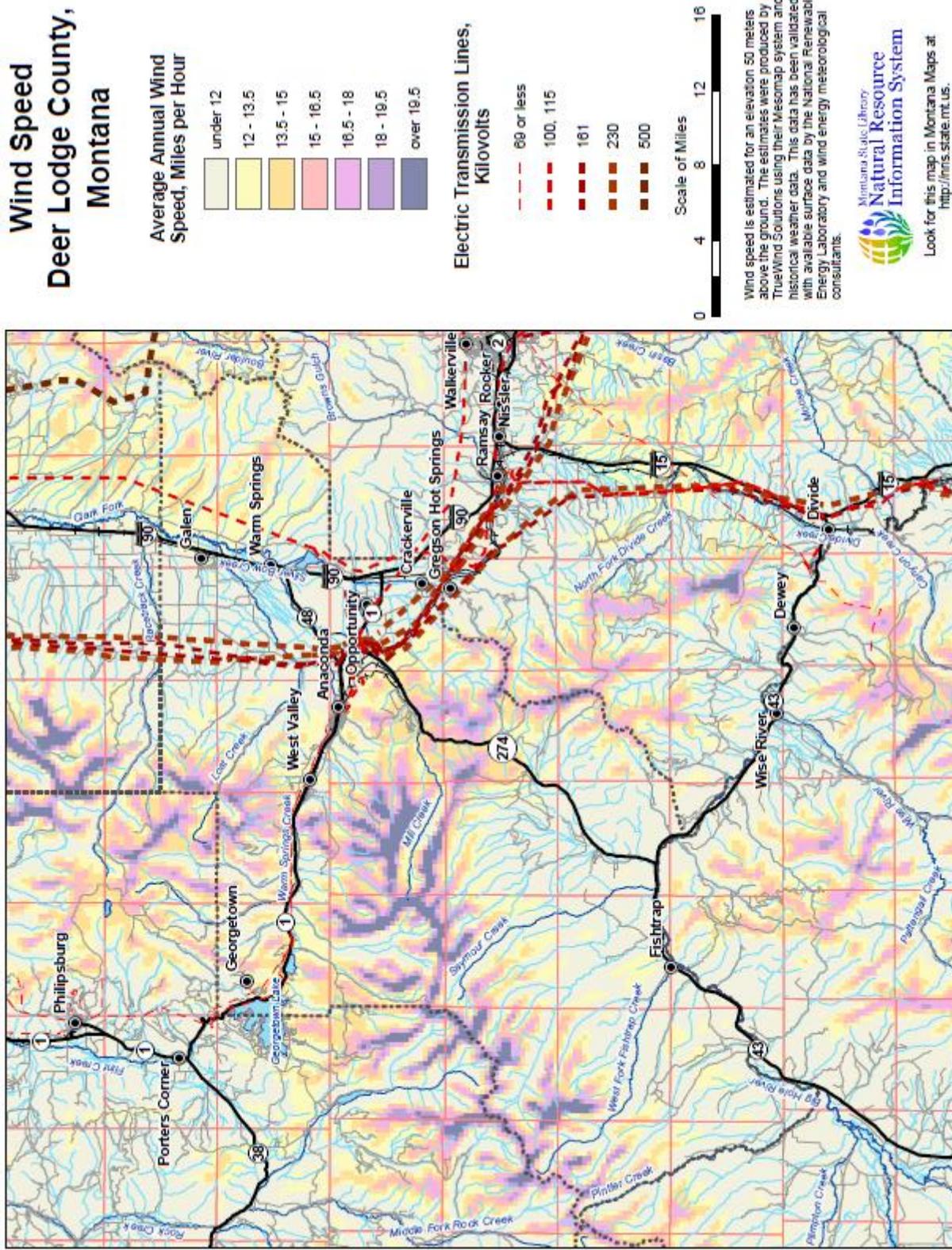
The following companies are the primary Internet broadband providers in the County. Since companies are continuously upgrading their networks, it is important to check websites for current service offerings.

- Century Link – DSL service In Anaconda and nearby surrounding area. Advertises up to 20 Mbps download speed. Business and residential.
- Charter - Spectrum – Cable service in Anaconda and nearby surrounding area. Advertises up to 100 Mbps download speed. Business and residential.
- Verizon – Mobile phone and wireless Internet. Advertises up to 10 Mbps where cell signal is available.
- AT&T – Mobile phone and wireless Internet. Advertises up to 3 Mbps where cell signal is available.
- Dunne Communications – Fixed Wireless in Anaconda and surrounding area, including Georgetown Lake. Advertises up to 25 Mbps.
- Fat Beam – Fiber network connecting schools. Services available to businesses.

D. Renewable Energy

The East Anaconda Reuse Plan notes that the county is uniquely located and has resources to develop solar, wind, geothermal and bio-mass energy in the county. Additionally, there are opportunities to transform waste into energy. Energy production was set forth as a key economic development strategy in the Reuse Plan, but thus far it has not been actively pursued.

Map 9-3: Wind Speed in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County



6. Solid Waste

A. Solid Waste Districts

Two solid waste districts exist within Anaconda-Deer Lodge County; one on each side of the Continental Divide. The Deer Lodge County Refuse Disposal District serves the area east of the divide. It assesses residents \$52 per year. The Big Hole Solid Waste District contracts with Beaverhead County for all landfill services. Deer Lodge County users are assessed an annual fee of \$88.00 which is collected by ADLC and paid to Beaverhead County. The assessments support operation of the landfill.

B. Landfills

- Class II

Anaconda's Class II solid waste (garbage) is transported to a landfill near Rocker under an annual contract with Butte-Silver Bow County. It is estimated that the landfill has capacity for approximately 30 years.

Residential properties are assessed an annual solid waste disposal fee, and tipping rates for commercial waste and special waste items are determined separately. The BSB landfill accepts the following:

- Garbage, rubbish, and trash produced through typical residential activity
- Refrigerators and freezers if freon has been removed
- Recyclables (newspapers, cardboard, aluminum cans, and metal-if separated)
- Yard waste
- Household hazardous waste (Note: There are no special collection events to keep these out of the waste stream.)

- Class III

The Deer Lodge County Refuse Disposal District Class III landfill is located east of the Arbiter Plant and is owned and operated by the County. It is estimated that the facility has a lifespan of approximately 50 years. The site includes a recycling container facility and a metals consolidator. Materials which are accepted at the Class III site include:

- Class III: Brick, dirt, concrete, rock, vehicle tires, and untreated lumber
- Compost: Grass, leaves, straw, stock manure, tree limbs, and cleaned Christmas trees
- Recyclable metals including, appliances with Freon removed, pip, car parts, wire, and auto batteries.

C. Collection

A private collection service, Anaconda Disposal, provides solid waste collection in the Anaconda urban area. Household and commercial refuse is then hauled in the collection packer to a landfill in Butte-Silver Bow County. In addition, there is a pilot transfer station that accepts household furniture, mattresses, carpet, doors, and similar items.

D. Recycling

While the county has a number of options for recycling, all sites are drop-off only. There is no curbside recycling service at the present time. Longtime Anaconda recycler, AWARE, recently closed its facility on Polk St.

- ADLC Class III Landfill – Yard waste (composting), recyclable metals, appliances with Freon removed, aluminum, and unpainted cardboard.
- Butte-Silver Bow Landfill – Newspapers, cardboard, aluminum cans, metals
- Headwaters Cooperative Recycling - HCRI, a 501(c) (3) non-profit entity, serves a geographical area covering nine counties, five cities, two solid waste districts and Yellowstone National Park. There is a drop-off site at Warm Springs State Hospital
- Electronic Waste –The following are available for recycling electronic waste:
 - Electronic Waste/Household Hazardous Waste – Special events. DEQ license required. Events listed at DEQ web site. (www.deq.mt.gov/Recycle/calendar.asp)
 - Rechargeable batteries and non-alkaline batteries can be safely disposed of through any Radio Shack or Home Depot. Radio Shack, Target, Best Buy, Sears and Home Depot are all part of the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation. These retailers accept rechargeable batteries and cell phones for recycling. www.call2recycle.com
 - Recycling Alkaline Batteries - There are no local or state programs for recycling alkaline batteries. However businesses, households or a local recycling center can participate in a fee-for-service program such as www.batteryrecycling.com or www.biggreenbox.com.
 - Compact Fluorescent Lights – Retailers such as Home Depot or some Ace Hardware store will CFLs for collect.
 - Printer Cartridges – Office supply stores will collect some used cartridges.
- Pacific Recycling and A&S Metals (Butte) - accepts aluminum foil, ferrous metals, and non-ferrous metals, and appliances.

E. Junk Vehicles

Montana was one of the leading states to enact junk vehicle legislation in order to control junk vehicles from being scattered across the countryside and to provide for vehicle recycling. Each Montana county operates a junk vehicle program. In ADLC, the County Sanitarian manages the removal and disposal of junk and abandoned vehicles. A junk vehicle is any vehicle that is discarded, ruined, wrecked, or dismantled and remains inoperable in its present state. The junk vehicle program is funded entirely by the fee assessed when a vehicle owner applies for a title or the title is transferred in the state of Montana.

7. Street Lights

The following street lighting districts are administered by Anaconda-Deer Lodge County.

- Opportunity Lighting District – This district is funded by a local tax levy to pay power costs. Fixtures are owned and maintained by NorthWestern Energy.
- Teresa Ann Terrace Lighting District (#140) – This district encompasses a 60-unit subdivision by the same name. Light fixtures are owned and maintained by NorthWestern Energy, and power costs are paid through an assessment on properties.
- Central Lighting District (#150) – Includes most of the Anaconda urbanized area and encompasses an historic lighting district with 1,320 period fixtures owned and operated by ADLC. The system is supported by a tax levy on properties within the district. The district also includes fixtures owned by NorthWestern Energy. ADLC pays all power costs, maintains the period fixtures, and has been retrofitting the period fixtures throughout the district. The local AFFCO foundry has the original casting patterns and provides replacement fixtures.

Figure 9-6: Historic Street Light



PART 3: GOALS, POLICIES, AND ACTIONS

GOALS:

Goal 1: Strategically extend and upgrade the County's central water and wastewater systems.

Goal 2: Maintain and manage the stormwater collection system with the dual objectives of removing stormwater from public streets and enhancing the quality of receiving water bodies.

Goal 3: Maintain County parks at a high level; expand recreational opportunities as needed for the County's changing demographics.

Goal 4: Develop and maintain excellent public facilities to support economic development and other community objectives.

POLICIES:

1. Continue to pursue grant assistance for major infrastructure upgrades and expansion.
2. Continue to expand water and sewer where appropriate to support economic development.
3. Enhance the water quality of local streams and protect drinking water supplies through improvements to the storm water system.
4. Maintenance and improvements of existing parks takes priority over new park acquisition and development.
5. Partner with developers, property owners, and other groups to expand the trail system.
6. Support energy production in ADLC, including alternative renewable energy.
7. Design public facilities for long-term sustainability and economy of operation and maintenance.

ACTIONS:

1. Conduct an investigation of the Warm Springs aquifer in the West Valley area in order to guide future development and infrastructure needs.
2. Perform reclamation and restoration of "C" Hill in order to reduce sediment and industrial contaminants entering the Anaconda storm water system.

3. Work cooperatively with service providers for optimal broadband capacity and redundancy in the East Anaconda industrial areas and in downtown Anaconda.
4. As expeditiously as possible, extend central wastewater service to Opportunity.
5. Explore programs that encourage developer financed infrastructure expansion, such as oversizing, arterial reimbursement, and late comers' agreements.
6. Continue to expand electronic recycling opportunities in ADLC

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