ITEM 138-XXXX-R0308  Planning for Joint Community Library; Montana State University Billings

THAT:  FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

EXPLANATION:

1. MCA 20-25-302 empowers the regents of the Montana university system to; … (6) do all things necessary to plan for and propose financing, for (a) … library.

2. MSU Billings will provide $75,000 to match the City of Billings $75,000 in order to develop the preliminary plans for a Joint Community Library.

3. The Joint Community Library has been supported by the City for the past three years and is the Library Board’s #1 capital priority.

4. This project has been included in the City’s Capital Improvement Plan for 2010 at $7.4M and will necessitate a bond issue as well as a mill levy.

5. Similarly, this project is included in our 2010/2011 LRBP request at $7.4M.

6. This collaborative effort will share facilities, collections, expertise and expenses to meet the growing needs of the University as well as the community.