

**Get the facts!
Read the Ravalli County
Growth Policy for yourself.**

Electronically: [http://
ravallicounty.mt.gov/planning/
GrowthPolicy.htm](http://ravallicounty.mt.gov/planning/GrowthPolicy.htm).

Paper Copy: Contact the Ravalli
County Planning Department.

For additional reading:
Montana State Law
The 2007 Montana Code Annotated is
located at [http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/
mca_toc/index.htm](http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/index.htm)

“The Ravalli County Growth Policy is designed to establish a comprehensive set of long-range goals and goal-related policies to guide future growth and development. It seeks to provide an increased level of predictability to land owners, neighbors and developers about where and how growth can be accommodated in ways that are compatible with fiscal and environmental concerns.” - pg. I, Ravalli County Growth Policy

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Facts about the Ravalli County Growth Policy





The Ravalli County Growth Policy is a set of community values and goals.

Between 2001 and 2002, citizens worked together to create community goals and values. This community vision was shaped into a Growth Policy, which was adopted by the County Commissioners in December 2002.



Ravalli County citizens voted to approve the Ravalli County Growth Policy in 2004.

In November 2004, citizens of the county, including incorporated cities and towns, voted 11,673 to 6,399 to approve the Growth Policy. In November 2006, the Growth Policy was amended to include a neighborhood plan for an area along Old Corvallis Road.



The Ravalli County Growth Policy can

help the community plan for the future.

The Growth Policy gives the County and its citizens direction in land use planning. County officials rely on this document when setting long-range planning priorities and planning infrastructure improvements.

The Growth Policy also affects other aspects of land use planning, including zoning implementation and subdivision review. In order for zoning regulations to be adopted, a Growth Policy must be in place and the zoning regulations must be made in accordance with the Growth Policy. (See 76-2-201 (1) and 76-2-203 (1) (a), MCA.)

“When a growth policy has been approved, the subdivision regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 3 of this title must be made in accordance with the growth policy “ (76-1-606, MCA).

The governing body may exempt proposed subdivisions from certain review criteria if a Growth Policy and zoning regulations have been adopted pursuant to State Law and contain provisions required by law (76-3-608 (6), MCA).

Ravalli County Growth Policy Countywide Goals

- 1A: Promote public open space, and recognizing agriculture and forestry as valued land resources.
- 1B: Promote private open land, farm land, ranch land, and recognition of agriculture and forestry as valued land resources.
- 2: Protect water quality and supply.
- 3: Protect air quality.
- 4: Provide necessary infrastructure and public services to accommodate population growth and new development without undue impacts on the quality, quantity, and cost of service to existing residents.
- 5: Protect and enhance natural resources and public open space.
- 6: Promote and encourage a vibrant, sustainable, healthy economic environment that recognizes existing businesses and attracts new entrepreneurs.
- 7: Plan for residential and commercial development.



The Ravalli County Growth Policy is not a regulation.

Montana law authorizes Ravalli County to adopt a Growth Policy. Section 76-1-605 2(a) MCA: “A growth policy is not a regulatory document and does not confer any authority to regulate that is not otherwise specifically authorized by law or regulations adopted pursuant to the law.”