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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rehabilitation project on Front Street to begin next year

FORSYTH, Mont: The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and its partner Riverside Contracting Inc. plan to make improvements along Front Street, in Forsyth, next year. The proposed *Forsyth – East & West* project will begin at the intersection of Front Street and US Highway 12 (US 12) and will extend east for about two miles, ending at 18th Avenue, near Heberle Ford.

The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate Front Street by resurfacing the roadway, improving stormwater drainage, upgrading existing features, and enhancing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access. Ultimately, this project will provide a smoother driving surface while reducing maintenance costs.

Specific improvements include:

- Applying a new surface to the existing roadway.
- Constructing new curb and gutter on the south side of Front Street.
- Installing a new stormwater drainage system.
- Making ADA upgrades to sidewalk and curb ramps and upgrading signage and pavement markings.
- Repairing the existing sidewalk.
- Widening the road on the west end of the project area to include four-foot shoulders.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2024 although the construction schedule is dependent on weather and other unforeseen factors.

More information can be found by visiting: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/forsyth>. Comments, questions, or concerns can be directed to forsyth@dowl.com or by calling the project hotline at 406-281-7603. Members of the public are also invited to sign up for project updates by emailing forsyth@dowl.com and requesting to be added to the email list.

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About MDT:

We are **B.U.I.L.D.E.R.S.** At MDT, our mission is to plan, build, operate, and maintain a safe and resilient transportation infrastructure to move Montana forward by setting the gold standard for a highly effective, innovative, and people-centric department of transportation. For more information about MDT and the work we do on behalf of Montana's traveling public, visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/>



Don't Crowd the Plow

While driving, be on the lookout for snowplows and give operators room to work. Many plows are hit by private vehicles each winter, with the potential to cause harm to all parties involved. The plow truck and operator are taken out of service immediately following an incident.

Drive safely this winter and keep these tips in mind:

- Don't pass a plow when the TowPlow is deployed. The operator will periodically rotate the TowPlow back in line with the truck to allow vehicles to pass.
- Be aware that, where there is one plow working, others may be nearby. The snow cloud created by one plow may obscure presence of additional plows in adjacent lanes.
- When approaching a snowplow from the rear, reduce speed immediately.
- When approaching an oncoming plow, don't crowd the centerline.
- Be patient. Plow operators know where they can pull over to let vehicles pass, but remember, the road in front of the plow is likely not as clear as the road behind it.

MDT has tools to help plan for conditions so you can reach your destination safely. Find more plow safety information and winter driving tips at <https://mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/people/winterdriving.aspx>. Current construction information, width restrictions, and road conditions throughout Montana can be found at: <https://511mt.net>.

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Office of Civil Rights, Montana Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone 406-444-5416 or Montana Relay Service at 711.