

May 17-18, 2023

**ITEM 206-1015-R0523**

**Request for Authorization to Grant a Utility Easement to NorthWestern Energy; University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

The Board of Regents of the Montana University System authorizes the University of Montana to grant a utility easement to NorthWestern Energy below Madison Street bridge and across the Kim Williams Trail. This authorization also releases an existing NWE gas easement along Maurice Avenue going north across the Kim Williams Trail.

This item is consistent with the Board's authority to manage the Montana University System in accordance with Board of Regents Policy 1003.6.

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**EXPLANATION**

1. The University of Montana is requesting authorization to grant a utility easement with NorthWestern Energy for a new gas line that will be installed under the Clark Fork River.
  2. NorthWestern Energy needs a 20ft wide gas easement across Kim Williams Trail to upgrade their gas supply infrastructure to downtown Missoula. Attachment 1 - UM IP Main Easement Overview details the location of the new gas line in green while the yellow line shows the existing gas line that will be abandoned.
  3. NWE will vacate, or release, an existing gas easement for the gas line that runs along the Maurice Avenue corridor north to the Clark Fork River - Attachment 2 UM Release
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**ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment #1: UM IP Main Easement Overview
- Attachment #2: UM Gas Easement
- Attachment #3: UM Release