

**From:** [Robin Crotty](#)  
**To:** [Robin Crotty](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Closure of 4th Street.  
**Date:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 9:45:06 AM

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**From:** Neil Bradshaw <[NBradshaw@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:NBradshaw@ketchumidaho.org)>  
**Date:** July 22, 2020 at 9:25:51 AM MDT  
**To:**  
**Cc:** Participate <[participate@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:participate@ketchumidaho.org)>, AllCouncil <[AllCouncil@Ketchumidaho.org](mailto:AllCouncil@Ketchumidaho.org)>  
**Subject: Re: Closure of 4th Street.**

Thanks Jerry  
I appreciate your email  
Cheers  
Neil

**NEIL BRADSHAW | CITY OF KETCHUM**

**Mayor**

P.O. Box 2315 | 480 East Ave. N. | Ketchum, ID 83340

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On Jul 22, 2020, at 9:06 AM,  
There may or may not have been a meeting yesterday, in case I missed it I am sharing my thoughts.

I know you have some vision that this closure is good for a vibrant downtown ( with no evidence at all that I know of) and some other rationalizations, but this was not a good idea.

1) We have lost parking that we could ill afford to lose in the downtown core. Since I do have to use my vehicle to do deliveries and pickups I often

use various 2 hour parking zones. The other day as I circled the block for the third time looking in vain for any spot within 2 to 3 blocks of my business, I realized this is what my customers face. Since I deal with art, and it is often large pieces of art, the people who come to see me need to be able to reasonably access my building. Since there wasn't enough parking before this I would often have them call me and I would meet them in the alley behind the building to facilitate loading or unloading of artwork. Now this involves them either having to drive past the back of city hall - you know where the emergency vehicles pull out- or negotiate a dangerous U turn in a very crowded parking lot to get back to Sun Valley Road.

2) Pushing traffic to other areas. Fifth Street was getting kind of dangerous before all this happened, now it is worse. People trying to get around the 4th Street closure are increasingly using 5th Street at higher speeds than ever. Now that there are people parking on both sides of that street nearly the entire way, it has become more dangerous than ever. Leadville has become more congested as people try to turn North from 4th and enter the gridlock of Atkinson's or shuffle over to 5th and it's issues.

3) The street tables are not being used. Oh yes occasionally there will be a few people who enjoy the smell of hot asphalt that venture out there. But I walk past these tables every two hours, all day long, and usage is minimal.

4) Is this really what you want Ketchum to be? A poorly planned and carried out experiment in putting people literally in one of the most unappealing parts of our town? It is a street, not a park. Not an area that calls to people to linger, to contemplate our lovely little spot in the world. Dining or socializing on pavement? Who does that?

5) Delivery of goods. You really should talk to the UPS, FedEx or small truck delivery lines to see what they think of this. Because I have and they all agree that this has made their job significantly more difficult and dangerous.

6) Lawsuits. I am not a litigious person, but since you didn't listen to anyone and proceeded with a myopic, dangerous and damaging to business closure, I fully support the ownership of Big Wood Bread in their lawsuit. But why would it have to come to that? Put into place without even having meeting of your own Traffic Authority board, based on a whim it would seem, instead of taking feedback and listening to the businesses that have to operate in this space is why you are being sued.

Unrelated to the 4th Street closure: This is in regards to the used goods store that is in the former River Run Auto Parts building on West Sun Valley Road (near the old Post Office). Three times now I have seen young couples with strollers take to the streets to navigate this area due to the sidewalk being completely inaccessible to a stroller or wheelchair. I only drive this road two or three times a week at most, so I would imagine it happens considerably more often than that. This is a huge liability issue for the city if anyone were ever to get hit or hurt by not being able to safely navigate the sidewalk.

On Jun 2, 2020, at 6:14 PM, Neil Bradshaw  
<[NBradshaw@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:NBradshaw@ketchumidaho.org)> wrote:

Thanks for your email Jerry

All data has shown that street closures are good for retail businesses.

Furthermore, making a town more walkable has been seen to add vibrancy and economic benefit to local businesses. Putting people ahead of cars has shown to have other environmental benefits too. This is a test and we shall see if this change has the same positive effect that has been the case for similar initiatives around the country.

With COVID-19 on everyone's mind, this is a perfect opportunity to test the idea.

Thanks again for your email and all the best for the summer

Cheers

Neil

**NEIL BRADSHAW | CITY OF KETCHUM**

**Mayor**

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On Jun 2, 2020, at 6:04 PM, Participate  
<[participate@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:participate@ketchumidaho.org)> wrote:

Please see public comment below.

**LISA ENOURATO | CITY OF KETCHUM**

**Assistant City Administrator**

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**From:** Jerry Hadam

<[jerry@saddletreegallery.com](mailto:jerry@saddletreegallery.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:11 PM

**To:** Participate

<[participate@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:participate@ketchumidaho.org)>

**Subject:** Closure of 4th Street.

I really can't believe that City of Ketchum is doing this.

For an oversize bike path? What restaurants are along here to take advantage of a closed street?

This will make a huge traffic jam behind The Gold Mine, which is already a mess without blocking 4th Street.

Do you know how many truck deliveries use the alley behind The Courtyard? A lot.

I am honestly just blown away that how this would affect the already heavily affected businesses in this downtown core.

You really need to reconsider this very business averse decision. This is not good for Ketchum.

It's really too bad I live in Bellevue, so I don't even have a voice in who gets to make these decisions.

Jerry Hadam

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