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Comments: The sale of the 14th and Catlin property is one of the more poorly organized endeavors I have ever been associated with. As a regional employee that regularly uses said facilities, there has been nearly no communication on a relocation or interim plan to meet the needs of affected staff.

Whatever efforts were undertaken to analyze the use patterns of the site were either horribly inaccurate or disregarded. As I write this, there are roughly fifty vehicles parked at the site, either FS-owned or staff vehicles that are away on field assignments. The remaining facilities at Fort Missoula are unable to meet the simple need of parking. Not to mention the additional traffic at the Fort, which has roads that see little to no maintenance. There is little room for the transfer of operations (or even modest future growth) at Fort Missoula; the FS footprint there is quite small, with many buildings unfit for current needs due to their age. The projected maintenance costs at the Fort likely far exceed the Catlin property, which is comprised largely of warehouse type buildings that are all considerably newer.

The sale of this property is short-sighted. With Missoula's designation as an Operations Service Center (whatever that ends up meaning) in the new state office model, it seems unwise to shed property at a time when near-term changes are imminent, needs are unclear, and the necessity to sell is not there.