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## Study Commission Presents Final Report To Council

By Jim O'Day Of The Western Breeze

Voters in Cut Bank will decide in November whether or not to make a change in the way aldermen are elected to the city council.

In its final report to the council, the Cut Bank Local Government Study Commission recommended that local voters should decide in the November general election whether or not to retain the current ward/district election for aldermen, or change it to an "at-large" or "city-wide" vote.

The City of Cut Bank Local Government Study Commission was elected by the voters on Nov. 8, 1994, with some members being appointed by the city council. The purpose of the commission was to "study the existing form and powers of our city government and procedures for delivery of local government services and compare them with other forms available under the laws of the state." If a change was deemed necessary, the study commission had the authority to submit such a proposal to the electors of the city.

In conducting its review, the study commission sought advice from local government officials and received information from other officials, community leaders and residents of Cut Bank. All meetings were open to the public. The one area where the commission felt a change should be put to the voters involved the election of the aldermen.