



# BINGHAM COUNTY

## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

490 N. Maple, Suite A, Blackfoot, ID 83221 | 208-782-3177

March 16, 2026

### Subject: Important Notice Regarding Fraudulent Payment Requests

Dear Applicant,

As the Bingham County Planning and Development Services continues to process land use applications, we want to make you aware of a growing concern affecting government agencies across the country—**email spoofing and payment fraud schemes**.

In these scams, individuals may send emails that appear to come from Bingham County. These messages may include **official-looking letters, invoices, or payment requests** related to a land use application. The email may instruct the recipient to **wire funds or make an immediate electronic payment**.

Please be advised of the following:

**Bingham County will never request that fees or payments be sent by wire transfer.**

All legitimate payments to Bingham County are handled in one of the following ways:

- **In person** at the Bingham County Planning and Development Services
- **By mail** to an official Bingham County address.
- **By phone**, but only when you call a **known and verified Bingham County phone number** to process a payment with staff.

If you ever receive an email requesting payment that seems unusual, urgent, or asks for **wire transfers, gift cards, cryptocurrency, or payment through unfamiliar links**, it should be treated as suspicious.

#### To help identify potential fraud:

- Carefully review the sender's email address. Fraudulent emails often use addresses that **look similar but are not official county email accounts**.
- Be cautious of **unexpected invoices or payment instructions**, especially those requesting **wire transfers or immediate payment**.
- Watch for **spelling errors, unusual formatting, or changes in payment instructions** that differ from prior communications.

If you have **any doubt about the authenticity of a payment request**, please do not send payment until you have verified the request directly with Bingham County staff.

You can verify payment requests by:

- **Contacting our office in person**, or
- **Calling our office using the official phone number listed on the Bingham County website or on prior official correspondence.**

Your diligence helps protect both you and Bingham County from fraudulent activity. If you receive a suspicious email or invoice claiming to be from Bingham County, we encourage you to contact our office immediately so we can review the situation.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for working with Bingham County throughout your application process.