

**RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR TREASURE STATE ENDOWMENT FUNDS
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING GRANT**

RESOLUTION NO. 18

WHEREAS, Fergus County is applying to the Montana Department of Commerce for financial assistance from the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) for a preliminary engineering grant;

WHEREAS, Fergus County has the legal jurisdiction and authority to finance capital improvements, and authorize the creation of a Comprehensive Capital Improvements Plan;

WHEREAS, Fergus County agrees to comply with all State laws and regulations and the requirements described in the TSEP Application & Administration Guidelines for Infrastructure Planning Grants specifically, and those that will be described in the TSEP Project Administration Manual generally;

WHEREAS, Fergus County commits to provide the amount of matching funds as proposed in the TSEP application; and

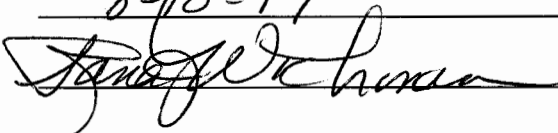
That Carl Seilstad, Chair of the Fergus County Commission, is authorized to submit this application to the Montana Department of Commerce, on behalf of Fergus County, to act on its behalf and to provide such additional information as may be required.

Signed: 

Name: Carl Seilstad

Title: Chairman of Commission

Date: 8-10-17

Attested: 

TSEP INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information:

1. Name of Applicant: Fergus County
2. Type of Governmental Entity: County
(Incorporated Municipality, County, Tribal Government, County Water/Sewer District, Solid Waste District, Etc.)
3. Federal Tax Identification Number: 81-6001358
4. Primary Contact Person: Carl Seilstad
- Title: Commission Chair
- Applicant: Fergus County
- Street/P.O. Box: 712 West Main Street
- City/State/Zip: Lewistown, MT 59457-2562
- Telephone/Fax Numbers: 406-535-5119 / 406-535-9023
- Email address: commissioners@co.fergus.mt.us

Type of Grant Applied For (check one):

- Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)
 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)
 Other (Documentation of Commerce approval required)

Proposed Budget:

	SOURCE: <i>TSEP Grant</i>	SOURCE: Local Funds	SOURCE:	TOTAL
Consulting Services	\$15,000	\$15,000		\$30,000

Proposed Implementation Schedule:

Estimated Start Date of Infrastructure Planning: September 1, 2017

Estimated Completion Date of Infrastructure Planning: April 15, 2018

Attach a proposed implementation schedule. This schedule should include the major milestones including field activities, draft report preparation and review, and final report preparation and submittal (see Attachment 1).

Proposed Project Narrative:

The Fergus County planning grant will be used to write a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the replacement of a prioritized bridge following a detailed review of the Fergus County bridge system.

The project is in Fergus County, which is located in central Montana.



Fergus County is responsible for 88 bridges over 20-ft in length, with 10% of these structures having a sufficiency rating (SR) less than 50. Fergus County is also responsible for approximately 23 bridges under 20-ft in length, with 30% of these having a SR less than 50. The bridge system was last inventoried in 2014.

A new Bridge Comprehensive Improvements Plan (CIP) will be completed as part of this process, based on the previous inventory results, public input, and any improvements to the bridge system completed since that time. Recommendations for bridge replacement candidates will be presented to the public and County. At that time, Fergus County will formally select bridge replacement(s) for inclusion in the TSEP grant application.

Activities that will take place are as follows:

1. Procurement of engineering services in compliance with MCA 18-8-201.
2. Review current NBI reports provided by Montana Department of Transportation (MDT).
3. Review Fergus County bridge inventory completed in 2016.
4. Prepare a new Fergus County Bridge CIP.
5. Prepare a detailed analysis of the potential bridge replacement alternatives.
6. Conduct public hearings to formally select bridge for replacement.
7. Prepare a PER for the selected bridge replacement project in accordance with the most current Uniform Preliminary Analysis for Montana Public Facilities Projects outline.
8. Prepare a Uniform Environmental Checklist and an Environmental Assessment for the selected bridge replacement project.
9. Prepare letters to and coordination with the permitting and regulatory agencies.
10. Conduct public hearing on environmental findings.
11. Prepare the grant application for funding to TSEP.
12. Respond to funding agency comments on the TSEP application.

Compliance Issues

All structures chosen for replacement/rehabilitation will meet regulatory, compliance and permit requirements for the new structures, including the SPA 124 Permit (Montana Stream Protection Act), the 404 Permit (Federal Clean Water Act), and the County Floodplain Permit.

Required Attachments

A proposed Preliminary Engineering Implementation Schedule is included as Attachment 1. The Authorizing Statement and a resolution by Fergus County Commissioners that shows commitment of matching funds is also attached.

Authorizing Statement:

I hereby declare that the information included in, and all attachments to, this application is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further declare that, on behalf of Fergus County (Applicant), I am legally authorized to enter into an agreement with the Montana Department of Commerce if a TSEP grant is awarded.

- 1) I further declare that if a TSEP grant is awarded, and if that grant is to be used to prepare a preliminary engineering report, then the PER will follow the format that meets the requirements of the *Uniform Preliminary Engineering Analysis for Montana Public Facility Projects* outline and will include a completed Environmental Checklist.
- 2) Or, if that grant is to be used to prepare a Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), then the CIP will be comprehensive and in accordance with criteria acceptable to Commerce.

I understand that MDOC will only review the final PER in an attempt to ensure that the information presented in the PER meets the basic requirements of the *Uniform Preliminary Engineering Analysis for Montana Public Facility Projects* outline, and that Commerce will not certify the quality of the PER. I further understand that the review and approval of the content of the PER by Commerce, does not guarantee that a subsequent application to TSEP for a construction project would result in the maximum number of points being assigned in the scoring of the engineering problem or design during the TSEP ranking process.

Carl Suckstab
Signature

8/10/17
Date

Presiding Officer
Title

ATTACHMENT 1

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

TASK	MONTH / YEAR
ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	
Submit RFP to MDOC for approval	
Publish RFP	Completed – see attached
Select engineering firm	Completed
Execute agreement with engineering firm	Completed – see attached
MAJOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING ACTIVITIES/MILESTONES	
Engineer's Site Visit	August 2017
Public Meeting	September 2017
Update Bridge CIP / Inventory	September 2017
Recommendations for Replacement	October 2017
Public Meeting	October 2017
Perform Hydraulic Analysis	November 2017
Complete Environmental Checklist	November 2017
Design Bridge Alternatives	January 2018
Establish Cost Estimates	January 2018
Draft PER	January 2018
Submit Draft PER for Review	February 2018
Public Meeting	February 2018
Final PER	March 2018
Write TSEP Grant	March 2018
Submit TSEP Grant Application	April 2018
TSEP DRAWDOWNS	
Submit draft report and request first drawdown of funds	January 2018
Submit final report and request final drawdown of funds	May 2018