

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR TREASURE STATE ENDOWMENT FUNDS
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING GRANT

RESOLUTION NO. 9-2013

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, analyze, operate and maintain a bridge system, and authorize the update of a bridge inventory and preliminary engineering report regarding that system;

That Fergus County agrees to comply with all State laws and regulations and the requirements described in the TSEP Application Guidelines and those that will be described in the TSEP Project Administration Manual;

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

That Ken Ronish, 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: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Attested: _____


Ken Ronish
Presiding Officer
4-10-13


TSEP PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information:

1. Name of Applicant: Fergus County

2. Type of Governmental Entity: County County
 (Incorporated Municipality, County, Tribal Government, County Water/Sewer District, Solid Waste District, Etc.)

3. Federal Tax Identification Number: 81-6001358

4. Contact Person: Name: Ken Ronish
 Title: Commission Chair
 Name of Firm: (if applicable) _____
 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
Engineering Services	\$15,000	\$19,309.80		\$34,309.80

Proposed Implementation Schedule:

Estimated Start Date of Infrastructure Planning: July 1, 2013

Estimated Completion Date of Infrastructure Planning: April 15, 2014

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 Description:

The Fergus County planning grant will be used to write a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the replacement of the Roundhouse Bridge over Big Spring Creek, 2 miles south of Lewistown, Montana. The bridge is located just off Highway 238 on Roundhouse Road.

Fergus County is responsible for 95 bridges over 20-ft in length, with 13% of these structures having a sufficiency rating (SR) less than 50. In addition, Fergus County is also responsible for 23 bridges under 20-ft in length, with 30% of these structures having a SR less than 50. The bridge system was last inventoried in 2010. A new comprehensive bridge inventory will be performed as part of this PER.

The Roundhouse Bridge currently has a SR of 35.8, and structure rating of 3. Looking at the TSEP ranking criteria, the structure would rate at a Level 4 under Statutory Priority #1, which pertains to public health and safety problems.

The likely superstructure alternatives for this project include:

1. A precast, prestressed concrete superstructure
2. A prefabricated steel superstructure.

The substructure alternatives for this project include:

1. A concrete spread footing
2. Driven steel piles with a cast in place concrete cap

The stream crossing at this location appears to be too large to be accommodated by a culvert.

Fergus County has already procured an engineer for this PER and construction project. The additional activities that will take place are as follows:

1. Review current NBI reports provided by Montana Department of Transportation (MDT).
2. Review Fergus County bridge inventory completed in 2010.
3. Physical inspection of all bridges under 20-ft in length, and of the bridges inspected by MDT with a SR less than 50.

4. Prepare a new Fergus County Bridge Inventory Report.
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. Prepare the grant application for funding to TSEP.
11. 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. I further declare that if a TSEP grant is awarded, the grant will be used to prepare:

- 1) a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) that follows the format and meets the requirements of the *Uniform Preliminary Engineering Analysis for Montana Public Facility Projects* outline and
- 2) a completed Uniform Environmental Checklist, which will become an attachment to the PER.

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 MDOC will not certify the quality of the PER. I further understand that the review and approval of the content of the PER by MDOC, 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.



Signature

5-10-13
Date

Commissioner
Title

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