

Glenda Wiles

From: Wherley, Michael <mwherley@mt.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 3:33 PM
To: Becky Vujovich - Town of Ennis (beckyv@ennismontana.org); Breanna Polacik - City of Livingston; Chad Fincher - City of Kalispell; Craig Woolard - City of Bozeman; Dave Reinhardt - Valley County; David Selvage - City of Missoula; Deanne Smith - Arlee Schools; Debi Meling - City of Billings; Doug Harby - City of Missoula; Frances Pretty Paint - Crow Nation; Galen Amy - City of Great Falls; Glenda Wiles; Holly Phelps - City of Lewistown; Jim Hammons - City of Libby; Sesso, Jon; Kevin Barre - Bozeman SD#7; Kevin Myhre - City of Lewistown; Larry Bonderud - City of Shelby; Linda Reksten - Polson SD# 23; Lisa Simmer - City of Kalispell; Lori Benner - Nittany Grantworks; Phillips County Commissioners; Robert Pasha - Chouteau County; Ron Long - Highwood Community; Leland, Ryan; Tim Read; Wm Michael Inman - Park County
Cc: Dahlke, Ryan
Subject: Transportation Alternatives (TA) Project Update

Hello again - This e-mail is sent to communities that were awarded MDT TA projects. I sent an e-mail to all of you a couple of months ago, and thought it best to give you another update.

We are still in the preliminary programming and approval process, but the timeline is shrinking! All of the selected TA projects are on the May 29th Transportation Commission meeting agenda for official approval. Upon Commission approval we can start the project development phases. The first order of business will be project agreements. These agreements will be entered into between MDT and the local sponsoring agency, and will spell out the roles and responsibilities for both parties. The agreements will cover such things as long-term maintenance provisions (which will generally be the responsibility of the local sponsor or its designee), and, for projects having local matching funds requirements, the terms for paying the matching funds to MDT.

When agreements are in place, we will begin the project design phase. Project design will be done either by our MDT design teams, or by engineering consultants hired by MDT. MDT has a consultant selection process that will be followed. The local sponsoring agency will have an opportunity to participate in the consultant selection process, but the final selection will be MDT's decision. Local agencies will be informed about the selection process, and how they may participate, prior to selection of consultants.

At the outset of project design, the design team (either MDT or consultant) will meet with the local sponsor to discuss the project concept, goals, and design features per the project application. This will be an opportunity for local input – but the expectation is that the project will proceed very much along the lines of the application as submitted by the local sponsor.

You will be hearing from us in June to get things going!

Once again, thanks for your patience. We look forward to working with all of you.

Mike Wherley
MDT CTEP/TA Programs