COMMERCE

State of Montana

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment

Public Comment Periods

January 26, 2024 – February 12, 2024

and

November 25, 2024 – December 11, 2024

Montana Department of Commerce

DOCConPlan@mt.gov

https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan

2020–2024 Montana Consolidated Plan

for Housing and Community Development

Plan Year 1 (2020)	April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021
Plan Year 2 (2021)	April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022
Plan Year 3 (2022)	April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023
Plan Year 4 (2023)	April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024
Plan Year 5 (2024)	April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

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State of Montana HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment

November 2024

The State of Montana Department of Commerce (Commerce) is eligible to receive $11.3 million in federal funding from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist individuals who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, fleeing or experiencing domestic violence, and in other similar situations with their housing needs. These funds can be used to develop affordable housing, provide supportive services, reduce homelessness, and increase housing stability across Montana. This document, the State of Montana HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment, summarizes how these funds will be allocated in Montana. Note the Cities of Billings, Great Falls and Missoula each received separate HOME-ARP allocations directly from HUD.

HUD Notice CPD-21-10 states that HOME-ARP funds are to benefit "qualifying populations", which are defined as:

- Homeless individuals and families;
- Individuals and families who are extremely low income and do not have sufficient resources or support networks (family, friends, faith-based organizations) to prevent them from becoming homelessness and are living in temporary housing situations;
- Those who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;
- Other residents who need resources to prevent homelessness and/or have the greatest risk of housing instability.
- Veterans are included in the qualifying populations among the above categories.

Summary of Substantial Amendment Changes

In April 2023, the Department of Commerce accepted applications for projects requesting HOME-ARP funds. Six applicants were awarded funds to complete a variety of projects, including new construction of rental housing units and rehabilitation of

existing non-congregate shelters. Of these six projects, two anticipate a preference that would prioritize one or more qualifying population over others. These preferences are described and justified in the Preferences section of the Allocation Plan, and the Referral Methods section has been updated to reflect how projects will accept referrals. In order to ensure compliance with the HOME-ARP program, the Department of Commerce is required to complete a substantial amendment to its HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, allow for public comment on the proposed changes, and seek HUD's approval of the amendment.

Consultation

Before developing its HOME-ARP allocation plan, states must consult with:

- Continuums of Care serving the state,
- homeless service providers,
- domestic violence service providers,
- veterans' groups,
- public housing agencies (PHAs),
- public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and
- public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.

States are not required to consult with every PHA or CoC.

Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation:

Consultation took place from Summer 2021 to Winter 2023 and was primarily conducted by virtual meetings with diverse organizations and agencies that represent and serve qualifying populations throughout the state.

Commerce staff presented an overview of the HOME-ARP program to state legislators on October 27, 2021 as part of the Economic Transformation and Stabilization and

Workforce Development Programs and Advisory Commission (EWAC) public hearing process and has continued to keep that Commission updated on progress toward the submission of this Plan to HUD. On September 20, 2022, Commerce presented the results of its survey, its consultation process, and data regarding qualifying populations in Montana. Those public meetings were held in person at the state capitol with the ability for interested parties to attend virtually.

Commerce staff also presented the HOME-ARP overview to the statewide Continuum of Care board members, to the statewide Human Resource Development Council Association, to the Interdepartmental Housing Integration Project (IHIP), to the Montana Housing Coordinating Team and to the group of Montana's seven most populous cities that are involved with Housing is Healthcare efforts to identify the Frequent Users Systems Engagement (FUSE) populations in their communities.

Commerce distributed a survey to its Listserv that reaches over 4,000 individuals and organizations requesting 1) information about the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations in their area and 2) what eligible activities should be supported with Montana's HOME-ARP allocation. Nearly two-thirds of respondents identified the need for development of rental housing as the top priority, followed by non-congregate shelter. Using HOME-ARP funds for supportive services was the amongst the top three choices for the majority of respondents.

Finally, Commerce staff met one-on-one with a dozen organization and agencies, as listed in the table below. In order to determine what the highest needs of qualifying populations are and how HOME-ARP funds could help address the gaps between available resources and needs, Commerce staff asked representatives to identify:

- which qualifying population(s) their agency or organization serves,
- what current resources they utilize to serve that population,
- the housing needs of the qualifying populations they serve, and
- the supportive service needs of the qualifying populations they serve.

Through consultation and needs assessment, Commerce staff developed its Allocation Plan in preparation for the public participation process.

List the organizations consulted:

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback
MT Continuum of Care	Continuum of Care Serving all qualifying populations, including veterans	Phone Conversation 9-23-22	Rural areas of the state are under served by the statewide CoC. Urban areas that have CoC funds for rental assistance have difficulty in finding suitable rental units.
MT Dept of Corrections	State Agency Serving those at risk of homelessness and who need services to prevent homelessness	Virtual meeting 1-14-2022	Those leaving the state penitentiary have difficulty finding landlords willing to rent to them. Dept of Corrections has rental assistance funds but needs more homes. The highest need is for additional rentals.
MT Dept of Public Health and Human Services – Human and Community Services	State Agency Serving all qualifying populations	Virtual meeting 9-19-22	Need additional affordable rentals that will accept ESG and Housing Choice Vouchers; longer term rental assistance; mental health funding for services so that case managers are able to make referrals more easily.

MT Dept of Public Health and Human Services – Behavioral Health and Devl Disabilities Division	State Agency Serving those who need services to prevent homelessness	Virtual meeting 9-22-22	Recovery homes are in need of repair; those in rural areas need supportive services.
MT Dept of Commerce - Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program	State Public Housing Authority	Virtual meeting 12-9-22	Need for more units where tenant-based vouchers are accepted and that meet property standards and rent standards. This will help improve utilization of all voucher types (Section 8, Section 811, VASH, MERA, etc).
State association of Human Resource Development Councils (HRDCs)	Community Action Agencies Serving all Qualifying Populations, including veterans	In person meeting 9-26-22	There is a lot of need across the state, but short supply of units that pass inspection and are willing to accept rent standards causes the most need.
Samaritan House	Homeless Services Providers	Virtual Meeting 9-27-22	Not enough housing of any sort – need more shelter, transitional and permanent homes. Case managers have very heavy loads and supportive services are a high need.

North Central Independent Living Services **Montana Independent Living Project** **Living Independently for Today and Tomorrow** **Summit Independent Living**	Disability Service Providers	Virtual meeting 9-21-22 Survey responses	Need permanent housing and shelter space with low-barrier entry for those with justice system history; space for personal service/tenant care providers; need for visitable homes and to make home modifications. Supportive services for activities of daily living, as well as mental health services, eviction prevention services, and legal services.
SAFE	Domestic Violence Service Providers	Virtual meeting 10-19-22	Need for more units for emergency shelter and for permanent housing, with and without supportive services; no need for additional TBRA.
Great Northern Development Corporation	Community Development Organization Serving all qualifying populations in rural counties	Virtual meeting 9-22-22	Need for rental units; keeping the existing housing stock maintained, especially properties with rental assistance; financing is difficult from commercial lenders in blighted areas. In the most rural areas of the state, mental health services and substance

			use treatment is a high need; child and elder care.
Veterans Affairs	Veterans Service Providers	Survey	No response.
Montana Fair Housing	Montana Fair Housing	Survey response	Need for supportive services and accessible housing.

Summarize feedback received and results of upfront consultation with these entities:

Most of the feedback received identified a high need for all types of housing – affordable and market rate, permanent and emergency shelter, newly constructed and rehabilitated – and for all types of supportive services – case management, legal advice and eviction prevention counselling, employment retention and transportation, counselling to address mental health and substance use. All those consulted identified 1) a strong need for increases in affordable housing, particularly for households with extremely low incomes, and 2) a continual gap in homes for unsheltered individuals and families. The survey results lend further support for using HOME-ARP funds for rental housing and then non-congregate shelter as the top two priorities.

After consultation with stakeholders, the Allocation Plan retains flexibility for use of some HOME-ARP funds for supportive services for qualified populations, dependent on eligible and competitive applications submitted.

Given other currently available rental assistance sources, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance is not recommended at this time. While some respondents indicated the need for rental assistance, they all recognized the difficulty in finding appropriate rentals for residents with vouchers through existing programs in Montana, such as ESG, Continuum of Care, Housing Choice Vouchers, Montana Emergency Rental Assistance, and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing.

Public Participation

Describe the public participation process, including information about and the dates of the public comment period and public hearing(s) held during the development of the plan:

- ***Date(s) of public notice:*** 1/17/2023
- ***Public comment period:*** *start date* - 1/17/2023 *end date* - 2/17/2023
- ***Date(s) of public hearing****:* 1/26/2023

Substantial Amendment

- ***Date(s) of public notice:*** 1/25/2024
- ***Public comment period:*** *start date – 1/26/24 end date – 2/12/24*
- ***Date(s) of public hearing****:* 1/31/2024

Second Substantial Amendment

- ***Date(s) of public notice:*** 11/22/2024
- ***Public comment period:*** *start date – 11/25/24 end date – 12/11/24*
- ***Date(s) of public hearing****:* 12/4/2024

Describe the public participation process:

All public participation efforts were done in accordance with Commerce's Citizen Participation Plan, which describes the steps that must be taken to ensure comprehensive feedback from stakeholders and community members. In addition to the consultation efforts described above, the State published its HOME-ARP Allocation Plan documents for public review on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG . Citizens or groups that have subscribed to Commerce's HOME-ARP listserv were notified by e-mail of the document's availability for comment. The State's mailing list includes social service organizations, local jurisdictions, low-income housing consumers, neighborhood groups, previous participants and commentators, businesses, developers, and other interested parties. Commerce placed legal advertisements in the eight major newspapers statewide announcing the availability of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, the date of the

public hearing, and the dates of the public comment period. Affidavits of publication for the following publications are attached to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan: the Billings Times, the Bozeman Daily Chronicle, the Great Falls Tribune, the Helena Independent Record, the Missoulian, the Ravalli Republic, the Butte Montana Standard, and the Daily Interlake.

A virtual public hearing was held on January 26, 2023 to inform stakeholders and the public about the HOME-ARP program, the results of State's survey and consultation efforts, and Commerce's plan for the use of funds. Anyone wishing to provide public comment was invited to do so during the public comment period, which ran from January 17 to February 17, 2023.

A second public meeting was held on January 31, 2024 to inform stakeholders and the public about a substantial amendment to the State's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Anyone wishing to provide public comment was invited to do so during the public comment period, which ran from January 26 to February 12, 2024.

A third public meeting was held on December 4, 2024 to inform stakeholders and the public about the substantial amendment to the State's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Anyone wishing to provide public comment was invited to do so during the public comment period, which ran from November 25 to December 11, 2024.

Describe efforts to broaden public participation:

Notice of the public meetings and comment periods were published in multiple newspapers around the state, via press release on Commerce's website, and through email blasts to partners and stakeholders on the State's mailing list. The initial public comment period was extended from 15 to 30 days.

Public hearings were held virtually to accommodate potential and actual beneficiaries, and those with disabilities around the state. To accommodate non-English speaking persons, alternative formats of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan were provided upon request.

In addition to the hundreds of hours spent consulting with stakeholders, as outlined in the previous Consultation section of this HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, Commerce staff also provided updates to the EWAC during its public meetings starting in October 2021, with an initial summary of the HOME-ARP requirements, and most recently in September 2022, with draft recommendations for use of HOME-ARP funds in Montana. These public meetings held by the Montana Legislature were additional forums where the public had the opportunity to receive information and updates on the HOME-ARP funding source, as well as provide comments to Commerce staff. Members of the public asked questions and provided input to the plan during these meetings and through the state of Montana's American Rescue Plan Act website: https://arpa.mt.gov.

Presentations and updates were provided throughout 2022 at the Montana Housing Coordinating Team meetings, at the Montana Continuum of Care board meetings, at the Human Resource Development Council board meetings, at Interdepartmental Housing Integration Project meetings, and at statewide Housing is Healthcare meetings.

Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:

Comments received during the public hearing were generally positive and confirmed that the highest priority use of the State's HOME-ARP funds is development of rental units in rural areas. Agencies that provided comment reiterated that the lack of affordable rental units makes it challenging to make use of existing rental assistance programs, and that services needed to keep qualifying populations housed are concentrated in urban areas and entitlement communities. It was suggested that Commerce consider allowing HOME-ARP funds to be used for the acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter, which Commerce has accepted and will accept applications for this activity. Additional comment received regarding the Substantial Amendment to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan encouraged greater accessibility in projects assisted with HOME-ARP funds.

Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:

Agencies asked about the process to request supportive services funding not associated with any other eligible activity. In order to maximize the production and preservation of housing for qualifying populations with this one-time funding source, supportive services will be an eligible HOME-ARP expense for projects financed with HOME-ARP funds.

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

States must evaluate the size and demographic composition of all four of the qualifying populations within its boundaries and assess the unmet needs of each of those populations. States must identify any gaps within current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system. States should use current data, including point in time count, housing inventory count, or other data available through CoCs, and consultations with service providers to quantify the individuals and families in the qualifying populations and their need for additional housing, shelter, or services.

Table 1: Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table			
Non-Homeless	***Current Inventory***	***Level of Need***	***Gap Analysis***
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	136,685		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	8,400		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	7,550		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		18,910	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		7,295	
Current Gaps			26,205

Data Sources: 1. American Community Survey (ACS); 2. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

Table 2: 2021 Point-in-Time Counts by Shelter Type				
Community	***Sheltered – Emergency Shelter***	***Sheltered – Transitional Housing***	***Unsheltered***	***Total Number of Homeless***
Great Falls	165	8	31	204
Billings	179	40	228	447
Helena	101	70	55	226
Bozeman	120	32	4	156
Kalispell	68	58	117	243
Missoula	206	45	114	365
Hamilton	6	15	50	71
Butte	55	0	34	89
Total	900	268	633	1,801

Data Source: 2021 Continuum of Care Point-in-Time Count

Table 4: 2021 Point-in-Time Counts by Household Type	
Household Type	***Number of Homeless***
Adult Individuals	1,270
Family Households	196
Veterans	110
Disabled	299
Total	1,801

Data Source: 2021 Continuum of Care Point-in-Time Count

Table 5: 2015-2019 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Survey Data		
Total Renter Households	137,320	31% of total population
Very Low-Income Renters	56,727	41% of renter households
Cost Burdened VLI Renters	38,007	67% of VLI renter households
Severely Cost Burdened VLI Renters	13,047	23% of VLI renter households
Extremely Low-Income Renters	33,598	24% of renter households
Cost Burdened ELI Renters	27,886	83% of ELI renter households
Severely Cost Burdened ELI Renters	21,502	64% of ELI renter households

Data Source: Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the PJ's boundaries:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

- 2021 Point-in-Time[1] (PIT) data indicates that there was a total of 1,801 homeless persons in 1,286 households around the state, with half of those (900) in emergency shelters. This is an 11% increase over the 2020 total, which reported 797 individuals and families in emergency shelters. Point-in-Time data also reports a 27% increase in unsheltered individuals and families between 2020 and 2021.
- 2022 PIT[2] data shows a slight decrease in the total number of homeless persons and families in Montana, but an increase in the number of those in emergency shelters. There were a reported 1,585 persons in 1,233 households facing homelessness in the state, with 1,072 of those in emergency shelters.
- Data for 2022 also shows a decrease in the number of individuals and families in transitional housing, which supports the need for more affordable units for qualifying populations around the state. In 2021 there were 268 persons in 184 households residing in transitional housing, but in 2022 that decreased to 220 persons in 137 households.
- The majority of sheltered individuals are reported to be non-Hispanic and over the age of 24. In 2022, there were 784 white individuals, 177 Native Americans, 25 Black/African Americans, four Asian, 13 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders, and 69 individuals reporting multiple races in emergency shelters.

[1] HUD 2021 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless Populations and Subpopulations
[2] HUD 2022 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless Populations and Subpopulations

- Of the 1,072 individuals reported in emergency shelters in 2022, 638 are male and 428 are female. Individuals in transitional housing are evenly distributed with 101 male and 117 females.
- PIT data for 2022 also reports that 293 persons in 243 households are unsheltered. This data has been unknown in previous years due to challenges in locating unsheltered populations around the state.
- The accuracy of Montana's data can vary between sources due to the challenges in locating homeless individuals and families. Shelters that participate in the State's Continuum of Care program and Coordinated Entry System are primarily located in metro areas around the state, but anecdotal data through consultation suggests that a significant portion of the homeless population is unreported due to their location in rural areas with limited access to shelters and services.

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

- According to the 2019 American Community Survey[3] (ACS), Montana has 136,400 renter-occupied housing units. 40% of those households, or 54,844, are in rental units considered to be unaffordable and pay more than 30% of their income in rent.
- 2019 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data shows that 33,290 renter households are at or below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI). CHAS data also reports that 60% of all renter households are cost burdened and paying 30% or more of their income in rent. Of those cost burdened renter households, 24,385 have incomes at or below 30% of AMI. This means that 73% of renter households at or below 30% AMI are cost burdened and at increased risk of homelessness.
- CHAS data shows that regardless of income, 57,125 renter households are facing at least one housing problem, with 32,195 of those facing a severe housing problem. This equates to nearly 42% of renter households across the

[3] Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy "CHAS" Data 2015-2019

state are cost burdened, face overcrowding, or have inadequate kitchen or plumbing facilities. Of those renter households facing at least one housing problem, more than half (25,200) have incomes at or below 30% AMI.

- Of the renter households facing at least one severe housing problem, 82% are white, 9% are Native American, and the remaining 9% are Black/African American, Asian, or Hispanic.
- The Joint Center for Housing Studies[4] (JCHS) reports that 11.3% of renters are behind on their rent payments at the time of the survey in 2021.

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

- According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) Fact Sheet[5] for Montana, 37.2% of Montana women and 34.6% of Montana men experience intimate partner violence, intimate partner sexual violence and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetime.
- On September 9, 2021, the National Network to End Domestic Violence[6] (NNEDV) completed a survey with seven out of 20 programs identified throughout the state. In a single day, 197 victims were served with four unmet requests for services due to lack of resources. The annual survey conducted on September 10, 2020[7], reported 457 victims served in a single day.
- While it appears that the number of requests for services has decreased from 2020 to 2021, and more of those requests were met, only 35% of domestic violence programs across the state participated in the NNEDV 2021 annual survey. The same survey conducted in 2020 had a 70% participation rate with 14 out of 20 agencies involved. The most recent data on domestic violence in

[4] Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University – The Financial Pressures on Households Vary Considerably by State
[5] National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2020). *Domestic Violence in Montana*
[6] National Network to End Domestic Violence 16th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report - Montana Summary
[7] National Network to End Domestic Violence 15th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report - Montana Summary

Montana may not be an accurate reflection of the true numbers due to the lack of participation in things such as the NNEDV annual survey.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice

- Individuals returning to their communities after incarceration often have acute needs relating to but not limited to health, employment, and education in order to prevent homelessness. Gaps in services between the needs of this population and the available resources often result in recidivism, re-incarceration, and even death, putting this population at greater risk of housing instability.
- The Montana Emergency Rental Assistance (MERA) program supports Montanans who have experienced financial hardships directly, indirectly, or during the COVID-19 pandemic and are at risk of housing instability. Eligible households can receive assistance for past due and future rent, utility bills, and internet service, as well as late fees, unpaid security deposits, and rental application fees. The MERA program is making policy adjustments to extend this temporary program.
- The MERA program prioritizes assistance for households with incomes less than 50% of Area Median Income (AMI). Of the 13,064 households that have received this benefit to date, 11,508 were households earning less than 30% AMI, 3,767 earned between 30% and 50% AMI, and 2,302 earned between 50% and 80% AMI.
- Of the households assisted through the MERA program, more than 66% were white and 15% were Native American or Alaska Native. Nearly 5% were Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or Mixed Race. The remaining 13% declined to provide race information.

Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

- The 2021 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Housing Inventory Count[8] (HIC) reports 1,262 year-round emergency shelter beds in Montana. 609 are family beds, and 653 are adult-only beds. The same inventory count reports a total of 248 seasonal shelter beds. At most, this totals 1,510 emergency shelter beds available for a homeless population estimated to be 1,801 in the same year.
- The homeless population in Montana is estimated to be 1,585 in 2022. While this is less than the PIT count for 2021, the number of households and individuals in emergency shelters still exceeds the number of available beds around the state.
- Between 2021 and 2022, the number of households in emergency shelter increased from 687 to 853. During the same period, the number of households in transitional housing decreased from 184 to 137. While this suggests that Montana faces a shortage of emergency shelter beds, information gathered from homeless shelters and service providers during consultation shows that the lack of affordable rental units plays a large role in the changing number of households experiencing homelessness.
- The number of chronically homeless individuals in Montana jumped from 59 in 2021 to 238 in 2022. There were also a reported 293 unsheltered persons in Montana in 2022, but there is no information on the same population for 2021. This suggests a significant need for supportive services and permanent supportive housing for these individuals.

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

- 75% of the responses to Commerce's survey on the use of HOME-ARP funds identified Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) as an area of need around the state. Existing programs that provide rental assistance are short-term and do not provide assistance long enough for individuals and families to get to the top

[8] HUD 2021 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Housing Inventory Count Report

of a voucher waitlist, which can take as much as five years in some parts of Montana. However, 65% of the survey responses selected the development of affordable housing as the number one priority use of HOME-ARP funds because of the extreme lack of rentals available to households assisted with TBRA.

- Of the 4,269 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) available through the State, less than 3,000 are currently in use due to the lack of qualified rentals that meet property standards and accept HCV rent standards. 3,495 households are on waitlists around the state, and 1,170 are under eligibility review. This further supports the need to direct HOME-ARP funds toward development of affordable rental housing to put more vouchers to use, move households off waitlists, and reduce the vulnerability of qualifying populations.

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

- The NNEDV fact sheet reports that on a single day in September 2019, programs around the state served 400 adults and children but 21 requests for service went unanswered due to lack of resources. The same fact sheet for 2020 reports that 75% of the unmet requests for services were for housing or emergency shelter.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice

- Multiple agencies noted that those who are justice involved are particularly vulnerable to housing challenges. Consultation provided anecdotal evidence that individuals end up staying in hotels or couch surfing while they wait for assistance with permanent housing, but due to the lack of affordable rentals and willing landlords this intermediary time can be quite long. This puts those individuals at high risk of recidivism and increases their need for supportive services.
- Consultation also identified recovery residences as a need around the state. Current recovery homes serve an average of 75 individuals transitioning out of

residential treatment and correctional facilities each year. However, the program has not yet been standardized which creates challenges with funding the agencies that provide on-site services and case management for a very high need population.

- Households earning less than 50% of AMI that were eligible for assistance through the MERA Program no longer have access to this assistance due to diminished funding and the end of the program. To date, there are 3,458 applications that have been submitted for assistance and are being reviewed. Through consultation, it is clear that there is still a significant need for this assistance even after funding for the program ends.

Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:

- The lack of affordable housing around the state is the largest gap in the current shelter and housing inventory. A shortage of landlords and property owners who are willing to rent to voucher holders further limits the housing opportunities for qualifying populations. Of the 4,269 Housing Choice Vouchers available through the State, less than 3,000 are currently in use due to the lack of affordable rentals. 3,495 households are on waitlists around the state, and 1,170 are under eligibility review. Multiple agencies that were consulted reported that this makes it extremely difficult for individuals and families to attain permanent affordable housing.
- Those experiencing homelessness face a higher risk of substance use, addiction, and behavioral and mental health challenges, and therefore have a higher need for services. The range of service needs covers everything from permanent supportive housing for the highest need individuals and families, to housing navigation and eviction prevention for those at risk of homelessness or facing homelessness for the first time. Existing service providers are concentrated in urban areas, leaving the majority of Montana, a rural state, underserved at every service level.

- The current shelter system provides 1,262 beds across the state, but the total population of individuals and families experiencing homelessness is estimated at 1,801. The level of need varies across homeless subpopulations, but additional shelter beds are required to support the current population.

States may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of "other populations" that are "At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability," as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:

Commerce does not intend to further define 'other populations' beyond what is established in the HOME-ARP Notice.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

Through consultation and public comments, three main needs have been identified as priorities for qualifying populations – non-congregate shelter, supportive services and rental housing units. State funding for supportive services has not kept up with the increasing need, making it difficult for case managers to make referrals. Existing service providers are centralized in larger communities where the need is highest, but that leaves rural communities underserved. Since much of Montana is rural, vulnerable populations must travel to access services which may not be feasible and puts additional strain on existing providers. While the homeless population in rural areas is unknown due to gaps in the annual Point-in-Time survey, it's clear that the homeless population across the state exceeds the capacity of existing shelters. There are extensive waitlists for Housing Choice Vouchers and transitional housing programs are seeing an increase in the average length of stay. With few landlords willing to accept vouchers and fewer housing options available, the other priority need for qualifying populations is rental housing units. Developing more units that accept vouchers, including VASH vouchers, and provide permanent housing for vulnerable populations would relieve the pressure on transitional housing and work to move people from waitlists and into housing opportunities.

Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in the PJ's shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:

Quantitative data sources include the 2015-2019 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS), 2019 and 2020 American Community Survey (ACS), 2021 and 2022 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program. Additionally, Commerce used data from NCADV and NNEDV. Point-in-Time data for both 2021 and 2022 was used since only statewide detail was available for the most recent survey. PIT data for both years is incomplete due to lack of capacity for the Statewide Continuum of Care to conduct a survey of the balance of state. Therefore, Commerce relied heavily on the consultation process to fill in gaps in the quantitative data and better understand the need around the state. The number of chronically homeless individuals in Montana jumped from 59 in 2021 to 238 in 2022. There were also a reported 293 unsheltered persons in Montana in 2022, but there is no information on the same population for 2021. This suggests a significant need for supportive services and permanent supportive housing for these individuals. All of this information points toward an extreme need for more affordable rental housing inventory around the state, primarily in the underserved rural communities.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method(s)that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:

Commerce will accept HOME-ARP applications on a competitive basis and prioritize proposals from eligible entities through a ranking process. Applications will be ranked to determine how closely a project aligns with the HOME-ARP program goals and objectives, and Commerce's criteria. HOME-ARP Program requirements, grant application and guidelines, and other relevant information and resources are available on the Commerce website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG.

Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

The State of Montana will not administer eligible activities directly. Instead, Commerce will oversee the administration of HOME-ARP funds and accept applications for eligible projects on a competitive basis.

If any portion of HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the HOME-ARP program:

Not applicable.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	$ 1,300,000		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	$ 2,000,000		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	$ 0		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	$ 7,013,792		
Non-Profit Operating	$ 0	0 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	$ 0	0 %	5%
Administration and Planning	$ 1,145,976	10 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	$ 11,459,768		

REVISED: Use of HOME-ARP Funding	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	$1,300,000		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	$ 2,000,000		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	$ 0		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	$ 7,013,792		
Non-Profit Operating	$ 0	0 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	$ 0	0 %	5%

Administration and Planning	$ 995,419	8 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	$ 11,309,211		

Describe how the PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:

The above funding amounts are estimates based on feedback during consultation and may be adjusted depending on the number and types of applications received. The majority of funding will be allocated to development of new rental housing units as the highest priority need in the State, followed by development of non-congregate shelter and supportive services.

After the original allocation plan was approved, the State of Montana was notified by HUD that the amount of funds allocated to the state was to be reduced by $150,557, for a total of $11,309,211. The State has chosen to absorb this reduction as a decrease to our administration and planning budget in order to maximize funds available for the development of affordable rental housing.

Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:

- The majority of the existing shelter and housing inventory is in the larger urban communities around the state, leaving rural areas underserved. The same can be said of the service delivery system, where agencies that provide necessary services to qualifying populations are in urban areas making it difficult to access for those in rural areas. While there is still a need in these urban areas, most are entitlement communities and receive a direct allocation of funds from HUD to provide housing and services in their jurisdiction. Therefore, Commerce intends to open the competitive HOME-ARP application process to non-entitlement communities first, and if all funds are not distributed to eligible projects a second competitive application process will be opened to all communities regardless of entitlement status.

- All agencies consulted with identified additional affordable housing units as a high need, which if combined with existing rental assistance programs, may help alleviate the housing needs for qualifying populations. Tenant based rental assistance is a lower priority because of low utilization rate of existing HCV and Continuum of Care voucher programs.
- The consultation agencies agreed that homes for qualifying populations in either non-congregate shelter or permanent supportive housing require supportive services. The existing shelter space across the state is inadequate for the number of people experiencing homelessness, indicating a need for more shelter beds. However, these agencies also noted that if there were more affordable rental units available, people could transition out of shelter faster which would increase the efficiency of the current shelter system. Commerce intends to accept applications for eligible non-congregate shelter projects to address this need.

HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the PJ will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:

The State of Montana estimates that 35 rental units will be produced with HOME-ARP funds. This is based on an estimated average $200,000 per unit development cost. While there is no per unit subsidy limit under HOME-ARP, this estimate aligns with HUD's HOME Program per unit subsidy limits for efficiency, one- and two-bedroom units. However, Commerce expects these funds will be leveraged with other private and public funds to develop additional homes for qualifying populations.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the PJ hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the PJ's priority needs:

Commerce anticipates that 25 new units of rental housing will be constructed, and as many as 10 units will be rehabilitated. This will increase the number of housing options

available to qualifying populations, which is the highest priority need identified in Montana. While eligible projects may be financed solely through HOME-ARP, it is expected that projects will leverage other funding sources to further increase the affordable housing stock around the state.

Preferences

A preference provides a priority for the selection of applicants who fall into a specific QP or category (e.g., elderly or persons with disabilities) within a QP (i.e., subpopulation) to receive assistance. A *method of prioritization* is the process by which a state determines how two or more eligible applicants qualifying for the same or different preferences are selected for HOME-ARP assistance. States must describe the planned use of any preferences in its HOME-ARP allocation plan.

Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project:

Based on the applications received for HOME-ARP projects, Commerce will allow the FUSE Supportive Housing project in Butte to have a preference for the chronically homeless as a subpopulation of QP1, as defined in 24 CFR 91.5. Chronically homeless QPs will then be prioritized when they meet the local FUSE (Frequent Users Systems Engagement) criteria which are: 1. literally homeless; 2. at least 6 visits to the hospital ER in the last year; and 3. at least 2 stays in jail or emergency shelter in the last year. In addition to this preference, Commerce will also establish a preference for the Skalkaho Place project, for QP3 and another for veterans as a subpopulation of QP1. All other projects funded with the State's allocation of HOME-ARP funds will serve all four QPs with no preferences in place.

If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services

received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

FUSE Supportive Housing - Butte-Silver Bow has identified chronically homeless individuals who meet the local Frequent User Systems Engagement (FUSE) definition, with historical data that shows the number ranging between 13 and 20 individuals at any given time. These are individuals who would continue to remain homeless due to the lack of housing opportunities in the community. The 2021 PIT count indicates that there were 89 homeless individuals in Butte, with none in transitional housing. 34 of the 89 were unsheltered, and the remaining 55 were utilizing emergency shelters. By implementing a preference for chronically homeless as a subpopulation of QP1, Commerce will allow the FUSE project to address a dramatic need for additional housing units dedicated to providing the homeless with supportive services.

Skalkaho Place - Of the 374 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers available statewide, 173 remain unused due to the lack of available rental units. While the 2021 PIT only identified one homeless veteran in Hamilton, there were 14 identified within Ravalli County. Supporters of Abuse Free Environments (SAFE), a rapid rehousing service provider in Hamilton, reports that none of the 14 voucher holders in their service area were able to find housing in the last year. This reinforces the need for additional supportive housing units in rural areas where service providers are available. Without the services provided through VASH and Rapid Rehousing vouchers, qualifying populations would have to travel at least an hour to receive the support needed to maintain stable housing. By implementing a preference for QP3 and veterans as a subpopulation of QP1, households served by this project will have the greatest chance at success in stable supportive housing with resources that are locally available.

By implementing a preference for those meeting the definitions of QP1, QP3 and veterans as a subpopulation of all QPs, Montana will be better able to serve specific populations unable to access supportive services and maintain stable housing. All other

HOME-ARP projects will be open to any household meeting the definition of one or more QPs.

Referral Methods

A state is not required to describe referral methods in the plan. However, if a state intends to use a coordinated entry (CE) process for referrals to a HOME-ARP project or activity, the state must ensure compliance with HUD requirements.

Identify the referral methods that the PJ intends to use for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. PJ's may use multiple referral methods in its HOME-ARP program. (Optional):

Commerce will oversee the administration of HOME-ARP funds and accept applications on a competitive basis for eligible projects. Applicants for HOME-ARP funding will utilize different referral methods for their programs as appropriate.

If the PJ intends to use the coordinated entry (CE) process established by the CoC, describe whether all qualifying populations eligible for a project or activity will be included in the CE process, or the method by which all qualifying populations eligible for the project or activity will be covered. (Optional):

The State of Montana does not intend to use CE as a sole referral source, as the State will not administer any program activities directly. The CE system does not currently meet the requirements of the HOME-ARP program and is not robust enough to be modified. Projects funded with HOME-ARP will utilize a project specific waitlist and fill units in chronological order of application or CE plus other referral sources. Referrals systems will vary by project and ensure that all QPs have equal access to HOME-ARP activities and projects.

FUSE will give preference for the chronically homeless as a subpopulation of QP1, as defined in 24 CFR 91.5. Chronically homeless QPs will then be prioritized when they meet the local FUSE (Frequent Users Systems Engagement) criteria which are: 1.

literally homeless; 2. at least 6 visits to the hospital ER in the last year; and 3. at least 2 stays in jail or emergency shelter in the last year. The FUSE Supportive Housing project in Butte will receive referrals from CE plus other sources, including Action, Inc., the Western Montana Mental Health Center, Butte Affordable Housing Inc., and the Southwest Montana Community Health Center, to ensure all QPs have access.

Limitations in a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project

Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:

The State of Montana will not further restrict the use of HOME-ARP funds or allow projects to further restrict eligibility for HOME-ARP projects by implementing a limitation.

If a PJ intends to implement a limitation, explain why the use of a limitation is necessary to address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

Not applicable as the State does not intend to implement or allow any limitations.

If a limitation was identified, describe how the PJ will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the limitation through the use of HOME-ARP funds (i.e., through another of the PJ's HOME-ARP projects or activities):

Not applicable as the State does not intend to implement or allow any limitations.

HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

The State of Montana will not allow HOME-ARP funds to be used to refinance existing debt. Through consultation, the highest and best use of funds is development and construction of affordable rental units and non-congregate shelter.

- ***Establish a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing to demonstrate that rehabilitation of HOME-ARP rental housing is the primary eligible activity.***

  Not applicable as Montana's HOME-ARP funds will not be used to refinance existing debt.

- ***Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestment in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving qualified populations for the minimum compliance period can be demonstrated.***

  Not applicable as Montana's HOME-ARP funds will not be used to refinance existing debt.

- ***State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.***

  Not applicable as Montana's HOME-ARP funds will not be used to refinance existing debt.

- ***Specify the required compliance period, whether it is the minimum of 15 years or longer.***

  Not applicable as Montana's HOME-ARP funds will not be used to refinance existing debt.

- ***State that HOME-ARP funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG***.

  Not applicable as Montana's HOME-ARP funds will not be used to refinance existing debt.

- ***Other requirements in the PJ's guidelines, if applicable:***

  Not applicable.

Appendix A: Comments and Responses

WRITTEN COMMENT RECEIVED VIA EMAIL ON DECEMBER 11, 2024:

Shyla Patera Comment

My name is Shyla Patera. I am employed by and representing North Central Independent Living Services, Inc. in Black Eagle, Montana. The mission of a center for independent living is to assist people with disabilities as they navigate services which will allow them to live work and play in our communities or without supports. NCILS thanks Montana Commerce and Montana Housing for submitting this substantial amendment regarding the usage of HOME ARP funds. As a long-time housing advocate and supporter of accessible affordable housing in Montana, NCILS advocates for the building of more universally designed accessible affordable housing stock. NCILS congratulates the current and proposed projects that are utilizing HOME-ARP funds to maintain projects which are offering opportunities to help Montana's with disabilities who are currently assisting Montanans.

MBOH must ensure that all development used for housing and appropriate rental properties must incorporate universal design to the highest degree. NCILS supports both the codification of language and allocation of funding which would hopefully allow the State of Montana to advance the incorporation of visitable universally designed housing stock in Montana. We, at NCILS know that tiny houses as well as accessory dwelling unit construction will play a vital part in advancing Montana's construction and design portfolio.

Regarding affirmative fair housing policies, MBOH and Montana Housing officials should encourage use of all housing tools in our toolbox available to us as a community. We need to maximize use of

Section 8 vouchers, McKinney Vento Funding, HUD VASH vouchers, Mainstream 811 vouchers and more. I thank Montana Housing for partnering with DPHHS to implement the Housing Stability fund. We must as a state serve all with various disabilities and make

sure if there is a medical emergency where someone needs to be hospitalized in a medical setting that they can return to a housing option that offers accessible features and potential services if needed, wanted, and requested by citizens with disabilities. For those that that may have criminal history as well as mental health barriers, NCILS encourages the state of Montana to codify in laws policies, procedures, and practices that will benefit those with disabilities who may have experienced criminal issues and so that all Montanans may benefit.

Montana Housing must prioritize and implement partnerships in our communities to ensure that shelter accessibility is prioritized in our ESG programs. Those who work in and administer community shelter systems should be exploring and undertaking partnerships with both statewide and our DPHHS home and community-based waiver (HCBS) teams so that people with disabilities can also receive home health and PCA services residing in Montana shelters. We, as a state need to assist those who have homelessness needs to ensure that income can be found, and we as a state, ensure that all HRDC's as well those organization offering homeless supports can offer Maximize how much assistance offered. For those communities utilizing ESG grants, the medical needs and data gathered by local organizations who are in the homeless advocacy system are very appreciated, however, evidence of medical need is often ignored because our state has not built enough accessible and affordable housing stock. NCILS also believes that we should be tracking homeless diversion activities too. Although FUSE collects medical data about how often an individual enters a medical facility, NCILS believes it doesn't capture the full picture of how someone could possibly be confronting homelessness. NCILS also encourages partnerships with justice, courts, and legal development organizations so that tenants can also have opportunity to make their legal case and that evidence is heard in Montana. The State of Montana should be working on getting housing with the best supports built and housing services coordinated. The Fuse groups have done amazing work, however, most individuals that may need the services offered by permanent supportive housing, Continuums of Care and FUSE groups may not understand what could be offered to them and or afforded to them when leasing up because many people do not wish to disclose disabilities whether they be co-occurring physical, mental, or sensory. Montana needs to develop statewide policies in regards to

encampments as well as homeless camps and if possible, to offer support to rural and small urban areas throughout the state. Montana Housing should be working with DPHHS as well as FUSE groups and local Continuums of Care to ensure that the state of Montana and communities do not discharge to nowhere if medical emergencies occur. We also need to be focused on rehabbing and accessible home modifications if they are also needed. The state of Montana should be a leader in implementing tenant supports. The State of Montana should be partnering with HUD to both reduce rental barriers and enhance community living supports in both rental and homeownership programs.

Montana Housing should be encouraging HUD to study and implement policies regarding fair housing and disparate impacts based upon Source of Income policies, particularly if someone lives on a fixed income and that person finds a need to appeal an HUD bill or a landlord action in a unit. Just as State of Montana prorates for income eligibility in HUD programs based on medical expenses as well as family and custodial needs, the State of Montana should be prorating HUD fines and adjust appeal time frames and opportunities to better match the Montana Human Rights Act.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on Montana's Home ARP Substantial Amendment.

Shyla Patera IL Specialist
North Central Independent Living Services, Inc.
1120 25th Avenue North East Black Eagle, Montana 59414
406-452-9834
spatera@ncils.org

Response

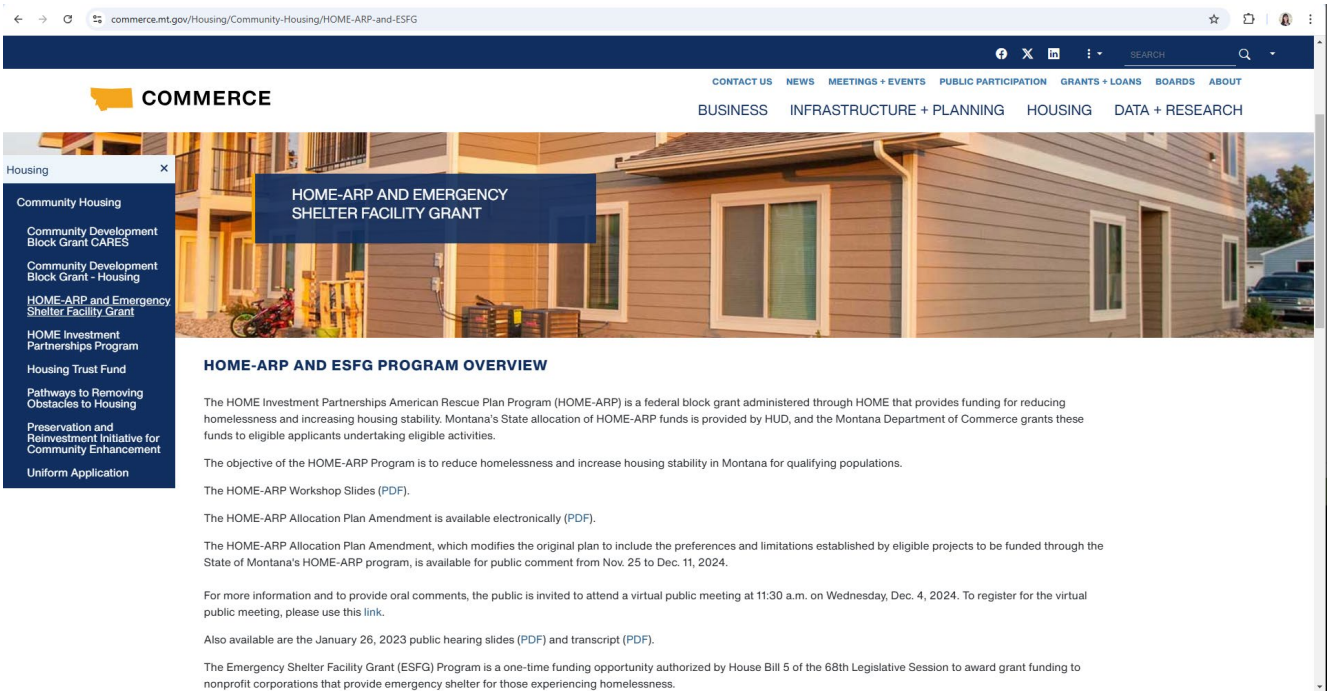
Thank you for your feedback on the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment. As with all HUD-funded programs, five percent of all units constructed or rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds are required to meet accessibility and visitability requirements. In addition, newly constructed projects must meet visitability requirements. The nature of the HOME-ARP program specifically targets qualifying populations, including those with

disabilities. Federal rental assistance programs administered by Commerce are currently underutilized due to the lack of available rental units at or below HUD-required Voucher Payment Standards that meet Housing Quality Standards, and the willingness of landlords to participate in these programs. By focusing use of HOME-ARP funds to develop affordable rental homes, the State aims to increase utilization of existing federal rental assistance programs.

COMMERCE

Appendix B: Proof of Publication

WEB PUBLICATION:



COMMERCE

GOVDELIVERY NOTICE:

COMMERCE

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment



Fort Benton, Montana. Photo by the Montana Department of Commerce.

The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment, which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and referral methods established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program, is available for **public comment from Nov. 25 to Dec. 11, 2024**. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a **virtual public hearing at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024**.

All documents are available electronically on Commerce's website and as a hardcopy by request. **All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 11, 2024.**

Montana Department of Commerce
Montana Housing Division
Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
housing@mt.gov

COMMERCE

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and proposed uses of funds in the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing.

REGISTER FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of presentation materials or translation services. If you require an accommodation, please contact Commerce at housing@mt.gov no later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 11, 2024.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníques con El Departamento de Comercio en Housing@mt.gov antes de las 5 p.m. del 11 de diciembre de 2024.

***Questions?** Email housing@mt.gov.*

Montana Department of Commerce
301 S Park Ave, Helena, MT 59620
Contact Us 406-841-2700
commerce.mt.gov

View as a webpage Unsubscribe

GOVDELIVERY REPORT:

Montana Department of Commerce - Bulletin Detail Rep... GOVDELIVERY

Subject:	Public Comment: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Substantial Amendment
Sent:	11/21/2024 09:01 AM MST
Sent By:	toddjackson@mt.gov
Sent To:	Subscribers of Housing, Housing - Multifamily, or Housing Partners

3,254 Recipients

- ✓ Email
- ✗ SMS
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93% Delivered

0% Pending
7% Bounced
28% Open Rate
6% Click Rate

Email Delivery Stats

Minutes	Cumulative Attempted
3	91%
5	92%
10	95%
30	95%
60	95%
120	95%

Delivery Metrics - Details

3,254	Total Sent
3,016 (93%)	Delivered
0 (0%)	Pending
238 (7%)	Bounced
0 (0%)	Unsubscribed

Bulletin Analytics

1,355	Total Opens
835 (28%)	Unique Opens
261	Total Clicks
187 (6%)	Unique Clicks
11	# of Links

Delivery and performance

These figures represent all data since the bulletin was first sent to present time.

	Progress	% Delivered	Recipients	# Delivered	Opened Unique	Bounced/Failed	Unsubscribes
Email Bulletin	Delivered	92.7%	3,254	3,016	835 / 27.7%	238	0
Digest	n/a	n/a	0	0	0 / 0.0%	0	0
SMS Message	Delivered	0.0%	0	0	n/a	0	n/a

Link URL	Unique Clicks	Total Clicks
https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-...	75	144
https://mt-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Wwwx9eZtSn6...	66	69
https://commerce.mt.gov	14	15
https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MTDOC/bulletins/3...	11	11
https://subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com/	8	8
https://commerce.mt.gov/Contact/Social-Media	7	7
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MTDOC/subscriber/t...	5	5
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MTDOC/subscriber/n...	2	3
https://subscriberhelp.granicus.com/	2	2
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MTDOC/subscriber/o...	0	0

Appendix A: Public Engagement Record

The State of Montana solicited public comment by announcing a public comment period and holding a public hearing for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Every comment received in writing and provided verbally at the hearing was considered. All comments received and the State's responses are outlined below. An official transcript of the public hearing as well as documentation showing outreach completed (affidavits of publication for print advertisements and proof of electronic announcement) are also attached.

Comments Received and Responses Thereto

Jim Morton, Executive Director, District XI Human Resources Council

Comment #1:

Overall, I want to compliment the staff on the document and especially comment on the recognition in the document of non-entitlement communities. And I'll have questions I'll submit in writing. My further comment would be that once the plan is approved, that I would stress the need for the staff to hold a working session with potential applicants so that we can have a time to answer -- to ask questions and have them answered. Thank you.

Response to Comment #1:

Thank you for your comments during the public meeting. When the HOME-ARP Application Guidelines are complete and a deadline for applications is established, Commerce will hold a workshop to assist eligible entities with the development of their applications and answer any remaining questions about the program.

Heather Grenier, Chief Executive Officer, Human Resources Council District IX

Comment #2:

I'm speaking to the HOME-ARP Plan and I would just encourage consideration for allocating dollars to development of non-congregate shelter. That was one of the initial HOME-ARP priorities identified as a high-priority-need area, but not allocated any funding. I think there are solutions on the ground that people deployed as COVID response in anticipation of those dollars across the State, and it feels like that's a slight diversion from the initial plan. But I also want to thank the staff for all their work on this and appreciate the opportunity today. Thank you.

Response to Comment #2:

Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter is an eligible activity under the HOME-ARP program and Commerce will accept applications for projects to develop non-congregate shelter. We understand that by not specifying a funding amount for this activity in the draft Allocation Plan, it appeared that Commerce would not allow HOME-ARP funds for this activity. The Allocation Plan has been adjusted to clarify that applications for non-congregate shelters will be accepted and ranked according to the criteria in Commerce's application guidelines.

Ruth Burke, Executive Director, District XI Human Resources Council

Comment #3:

26 January 2023

Montana Dept of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attn: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPLan@mt.gov

RE: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Dear MDOC:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan (Plan). The Plan is well written and a thorough consideration of housing issues facing our most vulnerable community members in Montana. Our comments are as follows:

I. Support.

District XI HRC supports the following elements in the Plan:

1. Focus on Rural Development.
   The focus on rural development is an essential component of the Plan. The rural areas (non-entitlement communities) face grievous shortages of affordable housing. Homelessness is widespread but often hidden; the lack of urban style emergency shelters does not readily illustrate the need. We support the opportunity for rural areas that do not separately receive HOME-ARP funds to access these funds without pressure from the entitlement cities.

2. Focus on Those Most Vulnerable.
   We support the Plan's focus on those most in need- the houseless and those at-risk of houselessness. The Plan well illustrates the shortage of affordable housing for those who qualify for rental assistance, which are typically the same populations identified the Plan. The construction of new housing will aid in this dilemma.

Incapacity Assessment Services
Low Income Advocacy
Workforce Development
Energy Assistance
Owner Occupied Home Rehabilitation Loan Program
Affordable Housing Development
First Time Homebuyer Assistance
2-1-1 Information & Referral
Residential Energy Conservation
Rental Assistance
Summer Food Service

HUMAN RESOURCE COUNCIL

A LEADER IN COMMUNITY ACTION SINCE 1965
1801 South Higgins Avenue, Missoula, Montana 59801 (406) 728-3710 FAX (406) 728-7680
Offices in Missoula, Mineral and Ravalli Counties — Equal Opportunity in Service and Employment

II. Suggestions.

District XI HRC suggests the following priorities for scoring the application, providing additional points for:

1. Creation of New Units.
   The creation of new units is essential, whether through new construction, adaptive re-use of a currently non-housing structure, or repair to those units that do not meet HQS standards. New unit proposals should receive a higher score.

2. Readiness to Proceed.
   These funds need to hit the ground and create new units ASAP. Shovel ready projects, i.e. land in hand, zoning and environmental review complete, plans ready for permitting, should receive a higher score.

III. Questions.

HRDCXI seeks guidance on the following:

1. What is the per unit subsidy?
   a. Specifically, for new construction, does this include land cost, infrastructure costs and/or professional fees if also paid for with HOME-ARP funds?
2. Are furnishings an eligible expense for permanent housing for the homeless?
3. Can supportive services be requested in the same application as one for construction?

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Burke
Executive Director

Incapacity Assessment Services
Low Income Advocacy
Employment & Training
Job Skills Development
Energy Assistance
Owner Occupied Home Rehabilitation Loan Program
Affordable Housing Development
First Time Homebuyer Assistance
2-1-1 Information & Referral
Energy Conservation
Rental Assistance
Summer Food Service

HUMAN RESOURCE COUNCIL

Response to Comment #3:

The application guidelines for the HOME-ARP program will award points based on readiness to proceed. While rehabilitation of existing units is an eligible use of HOME-ARP funds and an eligible activity in the State's Allocation Plan, creation of new units is a priority that is reflected in Commerce's ranking criteria.

Responses to the questions posed are as follows:

1. What is the per unit subsidy?
    a. Specifically, for new construction, does this include land cost, infrastructure costs and/or professional fees if also paid for with HOME-ARP funds?
    - There is no per unit subsidy limit for the HOME-ARP program. In the comment made during the public hearing, Ms. Burke referenced a $200,000 per unit development cost. This was not a subsidy limit, but was the baseline used to estimate and present a production goal that HUD required.
2. Are furnishings an eligible expense for permanent housing for the homeless?
    - Furnishings not associated with the development of new or rehabilitation of existing housing units are not an eligible expense through the HOME-ARP program.
3. Can supportive services be requested in the same application as one for construction?
    - Yes. Funding for supportive services can be included in an application to develop or rehabilitate affordable housing units. Applications for supportive services not associated with the development or rehabilitation of affordable housing units will not be accepted. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Application Guidelines have been updated accordingly.

Shyla Patera, Independent Living Specialist, North Central Independent Living Services, Inc.

Comment #4:

February 17, 2023

My name is Shyla Patera. I am an Independent Living Specialist employed by and representing North Central Independent Living Services, Inc. In Black Eagle, Montana. I wish to comment on the both the Annual Action Plan and ARPA request for both Montana Housing and CDBG activities. North Central Independent Living Services, Inc. advocates not only for accessible affordable universal designed housing stock but also policies that would allow [persons] with disabilities and those State of Montana residents who need or are eligible for income supports throughout our state to access and afford housing. The State of Montana must encourage our development community to invest in accessible, affordable home building and rental stock. MBOH, Montana Housing, as well as community developers must ensure that accessibility and universal designed features are available in many individual units and community development projects.

MBOH must ensure that all development used for housing and appropriate rental properties must incorporate universal design to the highest degree. NCILS supports both the codification of language and allocation of funding which would hopefully allow the State of Montana to advance the incorporation of Visitable universally designed housing stock in Montana. We, at NCILS know that tiny dwelling unit construction will play a vital part in advancing Montana's construction and design portfolio.

Regarding affirmative fair housing policies, MBOH and Montana Housing officials should encourage use of all housing tools in our toolbox available to us as a community. We need to maximize use of Section 8 vouchers, McKinney Vento Funding, HUD VASH vouchers, Mainstream 811 vouchers and more. I thank

Montana Housing for partnering with DPHHS to implement the Housing Stability fund. We must as a state serve all with various disabilities and make sure if there is a medical emergency where someone needs to be hospitalized in a medical setting that they can return to a housing option that offers accessible features and potential services if needed, wanted, and requested by citizens with disabilities.

The State of Montana may benefit from bringing back or assisting communities in utilizing and implementing small community ADA housing development grants that were once housed and I believe, still are, in the Community Development Division. Montana should encourage emergency shelters to maximize disability accessibility of all types.

Montana Housing should be working with DPHHS as well as local continuum of care to ensure that Montana homeless communities do not discharge to nowhere if medical emergencies occur. Our State should be a leader in implementing tenant supports. The State of Montana should be partnering with HUD to both reduce rental barriers and enhance community living supports in both rental and homeownership supports.

Montana Housing should be encouraging HUD to study and implement policies regarding fair housing and disparate impacts based upon Source of Income policies particularly if someone lives on a fixed income and that person finds a need to appeal an HUD bill or a landlord action in a unit. Just as we prorate for income eligibility in HUD programs based on medical expenses as well as family and custodial needs, should to also prorate HUD fines and adjust appeal time frames and opportunities to better match the Montana Human Rights Act.

The State of Montana and its partners must include broadband and affordable internet in any community development opportunities.

On CDBG funding, the State of Montana and the Community Development division should be encouraging all Montana communities to adopt, implement, and enforce ADA transition plans for accessible sidewalks, alleys, and pathways. The Community Development Division should assist homeowners, community members, and businesses where sidewalks are in need of repair to help develop and enforce policies which both encourage and promote accessibility in our neighborhoods rather than just leaving it up to the individual property owner or a business to ensure maximum disability accessibility in our sidewalk repair. I also advocates for accessible transportation options and policies throughout both local and state wide community development opportunities through the potential use of discretionary grants and other opportunities. The states of Montana, as well as our business, military, employment, and our nonprofit sectors, need to explore innovative ways to grow our accessible transportation and housing infrastructure networks.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on Montana's Annual Action Plan and Home ARPA comment period.

Shyla Patera IL Specialist
North Central Independent Living Services, Inc.
1120 25th Avenue Northeast
Black Eagle, Montana 59414
406-452-9834
spatera@ncils.org

Response to Comment #4:

Thank you for your feedback on the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. As with all HUD-funded programs, five percent of all units constructed or rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds are required to meet accessibility and visitability requirements. In addition, newly constructed projects must meet visitability requirements. The nature of the HOME-ARP program specifically targets qualifying populations, including those with disabilities. By focusing use of funds to develop affordable rental homes, the State aims to increase utilization of existing federal rental assistance programs. Federal rental assistance programs administered by Commerce are currently underutilized due to the lack of available rental units at or below HUD-required Voucher Payment Standards that meet Housing Quality Standards, and the willingness of landlords to participate in these programs. While we recognize the needs across the State exceed currently available resources, projects completed with the assistance of HOME-ARP funds will increase the housing opportunities available to qualifying populations.

Comments continue on next page.

Carrie Krepps, Executive Director, Florence Crittenton Family Services

Comment #5:

florencecrittenton
FAMILY SERVICES

Montana Department of Commerce - Montana Housing
Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and clients served by Florence Crittenton I write today to supply comment to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan put forth by the Montana Department of Commerce. I first would like to extend our gratitude to the DOC staff for their diligence in working through this process to make the very best decisions for this once-in-a-lifetime funding for our state to address the housing crisis.

We are in support of the Department's allocation towards affordable rental housing. We do feel that there was very little survey/interviewing of youth client-based organizations in the process so would like to comment on that particular sub-population. To that end we would like to supply information regarding the need for flexible and affordable housing options for youth.

While on the surface it can seem that we do not have a homeless challenge with youth, as we do not as often see them on the streets in Montana. However, it is a massive problem that is only continuing to get worse with the rise in substance use and the mental health challenges that were escalated during the pandemic. When we talk about affordable rental housing, we do not often think of youth as they are typically under the age of 18 and often are not able to be housed on their own. These youth very much should still be considered when discussing affordable rental housing with the understanding that the housing avenues for this population may look different than traditional affordable rental housing systems and structures. Youth, particularly homeless youth and those transitioning out of the foster care system, are at particular risk and most often benefit from living in some type of group setting where they can receive care and supervision from adults, and can rely on their peers to for building a support system and family network. These youth also need the time to gain and maintain employment so they can begin saving for rent.

We must recognize that while these housing structures for youth are going to look different than those traditional units we think of when we think affordable rent housing, they are critical to the wellbeing of our youth and therefore the wellbeing of our communities. Our youth are the foundation of our communities and without significant support for this population we risk continued and increasing homeless populations into the next generation. We must think of our youth housing as our prevention plan while we address the current housing crisis.

Thank you again for your thorough and thoughtful assessment of the current housing market in Montana and the use of these transformational funds. We are so grateful for the staff at DOC and their dedication to this very important topic in our state.

Sincerely,

Carrie Krepps, Executive Director
carriek@florencecrittenton.org

Response to Comment #5:

Thank you for your response to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, specifically regarding youth facing homelessness in Montana. We recognize that youth experiencing homelessness in Montana face unique challenges, and that data regarding this population paints an incomplete picture. The definitions of each qualifying population include the requirements for an unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 to qualify for a HOME-ARP eligible project. Any youth that meets the definitions of one or more qualifying populations is eligible for a HOME-ARP assisted project. Commerce will accept applications for eligible projects that target homeless youth provided the youth meet the definition of one or more qualifying populations and the project is in compliance with all other HOME-ARP program requirements.

Tam Rodier, Community Development Program Coordinator, City of Billings

Comment #6:

I read MDOC's draft HOME-ARP allocation plan and wish to comment on the following:

- Pages 7-8 show 202***1*** PIT data, but then on pages 8-9 in the summary section they reference 202***2*** PIT data. Confusing.
- Page 9, 2nd to the last bullet, last sentence says, "…and the remaining 9% are Black/African American, Asian, or Hispanic." "Hispanic" should not be included in this list as it is an ethnicity, not a race. An individual can be any race AND Hispanic.
- Page 14, 1st paragraph says, "…Applications will be ranked to determine how closely a project aligns with the HOME-ARP program goals and objectives and Commerce's criteria." I don't see program goals and objectives. Or, at least I hadn't read them by the time I got to this page. Perhaps this should be revised to say, "…which may be found on page 15."
- The https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP link does not yet bring up the application. Perhaps they should say, "which will go live on DATE," or "applications will be opened after HUD approval of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan," or other text that makes it clear when applications will be accepted.
- Page 15, 1st bullet, says, "…most are entitlement communities and receive a direct allocation of funds from HUD to provide housing and services in their jurisdiction." Page 1 states there are only three entitlement communities in Montana (Billings, Great Falls and Missoula). Perhaps this could be reworded to more directly state that applications from within those specific entitlement communities will not be accepted during the first round of applications.
- Page 16, Preferences. Without preferences, will MDOC and their subrecipients be required to provide services in chronological order regardless of the situation? In any case, I am surprised no preferences are listed. For example, an individual higher on a housing waiting list would be served before a family of four. Or, a disabled veteran might be served after an individual simply because the individual applied first. Or, if a grantee only serves those fleeing from domestic violence, and there is another person on the CoC waiting list that is not fleeing, the non-fleeing person would get served first. I'm not sure this makes sense.

Sincerely,
Tam Rodier

Response to Comment #6:

Thank you for your feedback on Commerce's draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Please see our responses below:

- The level of detail in PIT data varied considerably between 2021 and 2022. Commerce will adjust the tables to provide the most recent data available.
- Commerce has copied the demographic breakdown provided by the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) in order to accurately reflect the source data.
- The HOME-ARP program goals and objectives can be found in the CPD Notice issued by HUD. Commerce's HOME-ARP application, which includes ranking criteria, is not available for public review at this time.
- Commerce's HOME-ARP application is not available for public review at this time. We will clarify this timeline.
- The first bullet on page 15 is referring specifically to existing emergency shelters, which are primarily found in urban areas that are also entitlement communities. We will clarify who is eligible to apply for HOME-ARP funds.
- The State is not implementing any preferences or limitations in order to allow individual projects to serve qualifying populations as needed in their local area. The State is also not specifying any referral methods beyond what is required by the HOME-ARP program to allow flexibility at the local level. Individual projects may choose preferences and referral methods based on what will best meet the needs of qualifying populations in their jurisdiction. These must meet the requirements of the program and be described in the application for HOME-ARP funds. Commerce realizes there are varying needs across the State and is providing flexibility within the program requirements for individual communities to address the needs specific to their jurisdiction.

Brenda Beckett, Community Services Manager, City of Billings

Comment #7:

PS – I still cannot find the HOME-ARP drafted allocation plan on the website. Can you send me a PDF?

Also, you might want to check the qualifying populations definitions posted on your website, as they are identified in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, rather than definitions provided by HUD via Consolidated Planning in 24 CFR 91.5.

HOME-ARP Overview - HUD Exchange [hudexchange.info]

HOME-ARP funds must be used to primarily benefit individuals or families from the following qualifying populations:

- *Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a) [uscode.house.gov]);*
- *At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(1) [uscode.house.gov]);*
- *Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary;*

- *In other populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act (**42 U.S.C. 12742(a)** [uscode.house.gov]) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;*
- *Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the preceding criteria.*

Response to Comment #7:

Due to technical difficulties, this comment was received prior to the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan being uploaded to Commerce's website. The definitions were corrected, and a copy of the Plan was sent to Ms. Beckett.

Patti Webster, Executive Director, HAB Development

Comment #8:

Form Name:	ARPA Public Comment
Submission Time:	March 11, 2022 1:23 pm
Browser:	Chrome 99.0.4844.51 / Windows
IP Address:	174.45.213.42
Unique ID:	940126107
Location:	

Name	Patti Webster
Email	pattiw@homefrontpartners.org
Phone	(406) 861-2764
Organization	HomeFront
Program	Housing and Rental Assistance
Subject	HOME AARP Funds Distribution
Comment	Greetings, I respectfully ask the committee to consider priority funding, to all locations in Montana, that purchased buildings for non-congregate sheltering as a direct response to the emergency pandemic. Communities and agencies that gave selflessly should be prioritized in being made whole before new projects are funded. For example, HAB Development purchased a hotel in Billings to provide non-congregate shelter and to act as the community's Quarantine & Isolation site. The agency put up $1,600,000.00 to ensure that those being asked to leave shelters and those who needed a place to quarantine and isolate were provided for during this time. The Yellowstone County Continuum of Care energized all efforts for the operation of the shelter and ESG funds from CARES act paid for operations, but this is the only pot of funding available to agencies to recover the costs of the acquisition. From 10/16/2020 - December 31, 2021 over 150 unique individuals were provided 917 nights of shelter for the Quarantine and isolation site. In this same time period, over 400 unique individuals were provided shelter on the Low Barrier Shelter side of the hotel for over 16,000 shelter nights. None of the unique individuals are duplicated. Your careful consideration to make agencies and programs whole before providing funding to new projects is greatly appreciated.

Response to Comment #8:

Development of non-congregate shelter is an eligible activity in Commerce's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. The Plan does not prioritize one eligible activity over others.

Appendix B: Affidavits of Publication

IN THE MATTER OF

NOTICE

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Substantial Amendments to the 2020 and 2021 Annual Action Plans (AAP).

The following documents are available for public comment from January 17, 2023, to February 17, 2023.

- The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan summarizes the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program . The US Department of Housing and Urban Development allocated $11 million to Commerce to address housing needs for Qualifying Populations through the production of permanent homes, non-congregate shelter and/or supportive services.

- The substantial amendment to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan Year 1 AAP to redistribute Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from economic development activities to public and community facilities; and

- The substantial amendment to the 2021-2022 AAP to redistribute CDBG funds from economic development activities to public and community facilities.

All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP, https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2023.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 20, 2023.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communiques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 20 de enero de 2023.

Have questions?
Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov
(January 19, 2023)

AFFIDAVIT of PUBLICATION

STATE OF MONTANA)
: ss
County of Yellowstone)

Scott R. Turner, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that the:

Notice - Public Comment Period for HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Amendments to 2020 and 2021 Annual Action Plans

a copy of which is hereto attached, was published in the regular and entire issue of The Billings Times, a weekly newspaper of general circulation published every Thursday in the City of Billings, County of Yellowstone, State of Montana, for 1 issue, the 19th day of January, 2023.

Scott R Turner

STATE OF MONTANA)
: ss
County of Yellowstone)

On this 19th day of January, 2023, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Scott R. Turner, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same and after being first duly sworn, deposed and stated that the matters and things contained therein are true of his own knowledge.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.

BARBARA H. TURNER NOTARIAL SEAL STATE OF MONTANA
BARBARA H. TURNER
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at St. Xavier, Montana
My Commission Expires
January 19, 2025

Barbara H Turner

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
STATE OF MONTANA,
COUNTY OF GALLATIN

I, Ann Harms, Legal Specialist being first duly sworn, depose and say that I am the principal clerk of the publisher of the Bozeman Daily Chronicle a newspaper in general circulation, Bozeman, Gallatin County, Montana; that I know from my personal knowledge that the Legal # 106615 The Montana Department of Commerce A
a printed copy of which is hereto annexed, was published in the entire issue of said newspaper for: 1

Insertion(s) in the following issues: 01/17/23

Total Cost: $44.00

Ann Harms

Subscribed and sworn by Ann Harms before me on:
On 19th day of January, in the year of 2023

Leonard Brown

Notary Public for the State of Montana Residing at
Bozeman, Montana

LEONARD BROWN
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at
Bozeman, Montana
My Commission Expires
July 22, 2024

AD# 323166

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Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
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301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

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Have questions?
Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

MNAXLP

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

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MT NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
825 GREAT NORTHERN BLVD STE
HELENA, MT 59601

FAL-6COL Legal

REFERENCE: FAL-002958 **CASE NO:** 0005558759

I, being first duly sworn deposes and says that GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE COMPANY is a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, that the said GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE COMPANY is the printer and publisher of the GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE, a daily newspaper of general circulation of the County of Cascade, State of Montana, and that the deponent is the principal clerk of said GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE COMPANY, printer of the GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE, and that the advertisement here to annexed...

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Substantial

Has been correctly published 1 times in the regular and entire issue of said paper on the following issues dated:

01/17/2023

D. Roberts
LEGAL CLERK

1-17-2023
DATE

known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal of the day and year first above written.

Kathleen Allen
State of Wisconsin, County of Brown Notary Public

1-7-26
Notary Expires

# of Affidavits: 1

This is not an invoice

KATHLEEN ALLEN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Substantial Amendments to the 2020 and 2021 Annual Action Plans (AAP).

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Community MT Division

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Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

MNAXLP

*** Proof of Publication ***

HELENA INDEPENDENT RECORD
2222 Washington St
Helena, MT 59602
Ph: (406) 447-4000

BUT/HEL - MONTANA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

825 GREAT NORTHERN BLD
HELENA MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 140097

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Helena Independent Record, a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Helena, in the County of Lewis & Clark, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

Connie Kay

STATE OF MONTANA
County of Lewis & Clark

On this day of Jan-18, 2023 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Connie Kay known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal

Category: 0701 Legals Helena

PUBLISHED ON: 01/18/2023

TOTAL AD COST: 246.80

FILED ON: 1/18/2023

Teresa A Cox

NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

TERESA A COX NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana Residing at Billings, Montana My Commission Expires August 31, 2025

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El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníques con El Departamento de Comercio en ***DOCConPlan@mt.gov*** antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 20 de enero de 2023

Have questions? Email **DOCConPlan@mt.gov**
January 18, 2023 140097 **MNAXLP**

*** Proof of Publication ***

THE MISSOULIAN
2291 W Broadway, Suite 5A
Missoula, MT 59801
Phone: (406) 523-5236

MIS - MONTANA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

825 GREAT NORTHERN BLVD
HELENA MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 140104

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Missoulian, a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Missoula, in the County of Missoula, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____ I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____ is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

_____
STATE OF MONTANA
County of Missoula

On this day of Jan. 18, 2023 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared _____
known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal

Category: 0704 Legals Missoula MNAXLP

PUBLISHED ON: 01/18/2023

TOTAL AD COST: 242.60

FILED ON: 1/18/2023

_____
NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Substantial Amendments to the 2020 and 2021 Annual Action Plans (AAP).

The following documents are available for **public comment from January 17, 2023, to February 17, 2023.**

- The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan summarizes the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development allocated $11 million to Commerce to address housing needs for Qualifying Populations through the production of permanent homes, non-congregate shelter and/or supportive services.
- The substantial amendment to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan Year 1 AAP to redistribute Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from economic development activities to public and community facilities; and
- The substantial amendment to the 2021-2022 AAP to redistribute CDBG funds from economic development activities to public and community facilities.

All documents are available electronically at **https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP, https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents**, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2023.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at **https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents** prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at **https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents.**

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Have questions? Email **DOCConPlan@mt.gov**

January 18, 2023 140104

TERESA A COX NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana Residing at Billings, Montana My Commission Expires August 31, 2025

*** Proof of Publication ***

RAVALLI REPUBLIC
232 W. Main St.
Hamilton, MT 59840

MT Standard/MNA Statewide Buy

25 W GRANITE
BUTTE MT 59701

MIS - Montana Newspaper Association
825 Great Northern Blvd
Helena MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 140137

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Ravalli Republic, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Lewis & Clark County, Montana, and published in the City of Hamilton, in the County of Ravalli, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

Connie Lax

STATE OF MONTANA
County of Ravalli

On this day of Jan. 17, 2023 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Connie Lax known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal
Category: 0706 Legals Ravalli
PUBLISHED ON: 01/15/2023

TOTAL AD COST: 82.90
FILED ON: 1/17/2023

Teresa A Cox
NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

TERESA A COX NOTARIAL SEAL STATE OF MONTANA
TERESA A COX
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My Commission Expires
August 31, 2025

*** Proof of Publication ***

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Substantial Amendments to the 2020 and 2021 Annual Action Plans (AAP).

The following documents are available for **public comment from January 17, 2023, to February 17, 2023.**

- The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan summarizes the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development allocated $11 million to Commerce to address housing needs for Qualifying Populations through the production of permanent homes, non-congregate shelter andr supportive services.
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- The substantial amendment to the 2021-2022 AAP to redistribute CDBG funds from economic development activities to public and community facilities.

All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP, https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2023.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov ommunity-Housing /HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov /Consolidated-Plan/Documents.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons

*** Proof of Publication ***

with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 20, 2023.

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Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

RR

*** Proof of Publication ***

THE BUTTE MONTANA STANDARD
25 W Granite St
Butte, MT 59701
Ph: 406-496-5500

BUT/HEL - MONTANA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

825 GREAT NORTHERN BLD
HELENA MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 140094

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Montana Standard, a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Butte, in the County of Silver Bow, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

Connie Kay

STATE OF MONTANA
County of Silver Bow

On this day of Jan. 18, 2023 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Connie Kay known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal

Category: 0702 Legals Butte

PUBLISHED ON: 01/18/2023

TOTAL AD COST: 201.00

FILED ON: 1/18/2023

Teresa A Cox

NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Substantial Amendments to the 2020 and 2021 Annual Action Plans (AAP).

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Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

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Have questions? Email **DOCConPlan@mt.gov**
January 18, 2023 140094 **MNAXLP**

TERESA A COX NOTARY SEAL STATE OF MONTANA

TERESA A COX
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My Commission Expires
August 31, 2025

PETS



AKC REGISTERED LABRADOR PUPPIES!
EXCELLENT bloodlines! Great family/hunting dogs. Chocolate & Yellow. 1 remains $1,000 / Males $1,100. Hip guarantee. Home raised. Vet checked & first shots. Ready mid-February. Call/Text 406-560-1705



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Ready to go home Feb 13th! Vet checked and up to date on shots. Allison 760-845-3994



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AI CA registered, excellent temperament, easily trained, non-shedding, allergen friendly. Expected adult weight 20-22lb. $3,200 Visit Gomldoodles.com 406-461-5220

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TRANSPORTATION

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2005 GMC Canyon 4x4 Auto Trans, P/W, P/l , new tires, 57,100 miles. $8,800, finn 406-250-9110

SNOWMOBILES

LIKE NEW
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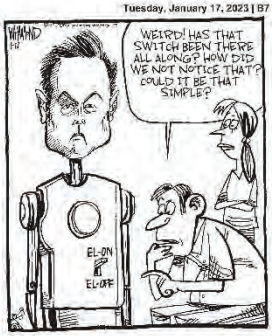
PICKUPS



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1997 Chevy Silverado 2500 151K miles. Auto, 2WD, good all-seasons, chains, sandbags, metal bed-cover. $900OBO!

Stop in to place your classified ad today!
727 E. Idaho, Kalispell

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Call 758-4488







Legals

Your Right To Know: Be an informed citizen: Read the Legals for information important to you

No. 29104

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PROPOSED FY23 BUDGET AMENDMENT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners of Flathead County, Montana intends to amend the budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year and that said budget amendment affects the following functions: general government; public safety; public works; public health; social and economic services; culture and recreation and solid waste. Details are open to public inspection in the Office of the Flathead County Clerk & Recorder, 800 South Main, Kalispell, Montana and also available on the County website at https://flathead.mt.gov/finance/downloads.php.
The Board will meet on the 24th day of January, 2023 at 9:45 a.m. for the purpose of holding a hearing and consideration of the amendment to the original budget. Said meeting is to be held in the Commissioners' Chambers, Third Floor, 800 South Main, Kalispell, Montana.
Any taxpayer or resident may appear at the hearing and will be heard for or against any part of the proposed budget amendment.
For further information, please contact Amy Dexter, Finance Director, 800 South Main, Room 214, Kalispell, Montana 59901, Telephone (406) 758-5536. Written comments are encouraged and will be reviewed by the Commissioners if received by the Flathead County Commissioners' Office prior to the hearing.
DATED this 19th day of December, 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Flathead County, Montana

By: /s/Pamela J. Holmquist
Pamela J. Holmquist, Chairman

January 10, 17, 2023
MNAXLP

No. 29128

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PETITION FOR ANNEXATION TO MARION FIRE DISTRICT
The Board of Commissioners of Flathead County, Montana, hereby gives notice, pursuant to Section 7-33-2125(1)(b), M.C.A., that it will hold a public hearing to consider a petition to annex territory into the Marion Fire District.
The area proposed to be annexed into the Marion Fire District includes one parcel and approximately 156 (k) acres currently in the Flathead Fire Service Area, and located adjacent to the current boundaries of the Marion Fire District that can legally be described as:
Tract 1:
A TRACT OF LAND, SITUATED, LYING AND BEING IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 26 WEST, P.M. M., FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS TO WIT:
BEGINNING at the northwest corner of Section 25, being a found aluminum cap; Thence along the south boundary of the NW¼ of said Section 25, N89degrees 54'39"W 2259.74 feet to a found iron pin; Thence N11degrees 50'33"E 94.26 feet to a found iron pin being a Point of Curvature of an 812.39 foot radius curve, concave to the southwest (radial bearing of N78degrees 06'27"W); Thence along a curve to the left, through a central angle of 72degrees 46'00", for an arc length of 1031.95 feet to the point of beginning, containing 154.866 ACRES; Subject to and together with a 100 foot U.S.F.S. road know as Griffin Creek Road as shown here on; Subject to and together with all appurtenant easements shown and of record.
The Board of Commissioners has received a petition in writing by the owners representing 100% of the land in the area asking that said area be annexed into the Marion Fire District, thereby altering the boundaries of the Flathead County Fire Service Area by transferring the property as described above into the Marion Fire District.
The public hearing will be held on the 24th day of January, 2023 at 10:15 AM in the Commissioners' Chambers, Third Floor, Old Courthouse, 820 South Main Street, Kalispell, MT. At the public hearing, the Board of Commissioners will give the public an opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed annexation.
Written comments are encouraged and will be reviewed by the Commissioners if received at least three business days prior to the hearing.
Dated this 3rd day of January, 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA

By: /s/Brad W. Abell
Brad W. Abell, Chairman

January 10, 17, 2023.
MNAXLP

No. 29134

Lori B. Miller
Lori B. Miller, P.C.
P.O. Box 4955
Whitefish, MT 59937
Telephone (406) 730-7752
Attorney for Personal Representative
MONTANA EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
FLATHEAD COUNTY
In the Matter of the Estate of
KEVIN PAUL COLLOM a.k.a.
KEVIN P. COLLOM,
Deceased.
Case No. DP-22-346
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jamoo Cole has been appointed as personal representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
Claims must either be mailed to Lori B. Miller, P.C., attorney for the personal representative, return receipt requested, at P.O. Box 4955, Whitefish, Montana, 59937, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.
Dated this 5th day of January 2023.

LORI B. MILLER, P.C.

By: Lori B. Miller
Lori B. Miller, Attorney at Law

January 10, 17, 24, 2023
MNAXLP

No. 29141

NOTICE OF SALE
Department of Natural Resources & Conservation Timber Sale
The Central Martin 3 Timber Sale is located within Sections 19, 20, 29, & 30, T32N-R23W on the State's Stillwater Unit. Approximately 3,988 tons, consisting of mixed conifer sawlogs, are offered for sale.
Sealed bids will be opened at the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana on February 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. Bids may be hand delivered or mailed and will be accepted any time prior to the bid opening. DNRC recommends that bidders contact the Trust Land Management Division (406-542-4300) prior to the bid opening to ensure that your bid has been received.
Bids must be accompanied by a deposit of $4,671.00 in cashier's check, certified check, bank money order or bank draft to be applied to the first sale invoice for the successful bidder. Bid bonds will be accepted and, for the successful bidder, will be closed upon execution of the Timber Sale Contract and Timber Sale Road.
The sale will be awarded to the highest responsible bidder, if the successful bidder is unable to execute the contract within 30 calendar days from the date the sale is awarded, the bid deposit will be retained by the Department as liquidated damages. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.
Prospective bidders can obtain the sale prospectus, sale contract and bid forms from the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, Trust Land Management Division, in Missoula (406-542-4300).
Visit our website at https://dnrc.mt.gov/Forestry/Forest-Products/timber-sales for upcoming sales and bid results.

January 17, 24, 31, & February 7, 2023
MNAXLP

No. 29145

The Montana Department of Commerce Announces the Public Comment Period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Substantial Amendments to the 2020 and 2021 Annual Action Plans (AAP).
The following documents are available for public comment from January 17, 2023, to February 17, 2023.
- The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan summarizes the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development allocated $11 million to Commerce to address housing needs for Qualifying Populations through the production of permanent homes, non-congregate shelter and/or supportive services.
- The substantial amendment to the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan Year 1 AAP to redistribute Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from economic development activities to public and community facilities; and
- The substantial amendment to the 2021-2022 AAP to redistribute CDBG funds from economic development activities to public and community facilities.
All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP, https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2023.
Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents prior to the public hearing. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP and https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Documents.
The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 20, 2023.
El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con dominio limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accesible alternativo o materiales de presentación o traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníquese con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 20 de enero de 2023.
Have questions? E-mail DOCConPlan@mt.gov.

January 17, 2023
MNAXLP

Appendix A: Public Engagement Record

The State of Montana solicited public comment by announcing a public comment period and holding a public hearing for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. No comments were received as part of public engagement process.

Appendix B: Affidavits of Publication

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
STATE OF MONTANA,
COUNTY OF GALLATIN

I, Ann Harms, Legal Specialist being first duly sworn, depose and say that I am the principal clerk of the publisher of the Bozeman Daily Chronicle a newspaper in general circulation, Bozeman, Gallatin County, Montana; that I know from my personal knowledge that the Legal # 107086 MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE The M a printed copy of which is hereto annexed, was published in the entire issue of said newspaper for: 1

Insertion(s) in the following issues: 06/30/23

Total Cost: $44.00

Ann Harms

Subscribed and sworn by Ann Harms before me on:
On 29th day of June, in the year of 2023

Leonard Brown

Notary Public for the State of Montana Residing at
Bozeman, Montana

LEONARD BROWN
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at
Bozeman, Montana
My Commission Expires
July 22, 2024

LEONARD BROWN
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at
Bozeman, Montana
My Commission Expires
July 22, 2024

AD# 390291

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Montana Departments of Commerce and Public Health and Human Services announce the public comment period for the 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan (AAP).

The 2023-2024 AAP – which summarizes the actions, activities, and resources available for the State of Montana's CDBG, HOME, HTF, and ESG programs – is available for public comment from June 30, 2023, to July 31, 2023. The 2023-2024 AAP covers the period from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 25, 2023.

All documents are available electronically at https://commerce.mt.gov/ConsolidatedPlan/Documents, as a hardcopy by request, or at select locations across the state (https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/List-of-Repositories). All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2023.

Montana Department of Commerce
Community MT Division
Attention: Con Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
DOCConPlan@mt.gov

The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and takeaways from the 2023-2024 AAP. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://commerce.mt.gov/Consolidated-Plan/Updates.

The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at DOCConPlan@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 18, 2023.

El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en DOCConPlan@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 18 de julio de 2023 Have questions? Email DOCConPlan@mt.gov

MNAXLP

PUBLIC NOTICES

You have the right to know what's going on in your community. Read notices below and online at dailyinterlake.com and montanapublicnotices.com.

NO. 30015

Connor C. Walker
FRAMPTON PURDY LAW FIRM
530 West 16th Street #301
Whitefish, MT 59937
Telephone: (406) 862-9600
Facsimile: (406) 862-9611
E-mail: connor@framptonpurdy.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, FLATHEAD COUNTY

NUMERICA CREDIT UNION,
Plaintiff,
-vs-
GERALD RAYMOND OLSON,
Defendant.

Cause No. DV 23-1183
Judge Dan Wilson

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MONTANA sends greetings to the Defendant GERALD RAYMOND OLSON:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action, which is filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you in the County where you reside, and to file your answer and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's Attorney, pursuant to Rule 12, M.R.Civ.P., within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you, by default, for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT THIS 13th day of OCTOBER, 2023.

Clerk of Court

By: /s/ Jennifer L. McMullen
Deputy Clerk

Jan. 18, 25 and Feb. 1, 2024
MNAXLP

NO. 30028

Public Notice for Operating Assistance

This is to notify all interested parties that the Flathead County Public Transportation Mountain Climber is applying for $967,858 under the Montana Department of Transportation's 5311 Rural Transit Operating Grant Program, and $145,306 from the Montana TransADE Program. Funding will be used for operating expenses associated with providing transportation services to the general public, elderly and persons with disabilities within Flathead County.

The application is on file at 1333 Willow Glen Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, if requested, a public hearing will be held and public notice indicating the location, date and time of the hearing will be provided. For more information or for those who require accommodation for disabilities, call Elizabeth Wood, Flathead County Public Transportation Director, at 406-758-2407, MUT in Helena at 406-444-8200 (voice) or TTY 800.335.7592, or call the Montana Relay at 711.

Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, 2024
MNAXLP

NO. 30029

The Montana Department of Commerce announces the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment – which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and limitations established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program – is available for public comment from January 26, 2024, to February 12, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFC, and, as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address of email below no later than 5:00p.m. on February 12, 2024. Montana Department of Commerce Montana Housing Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 Housing@mt.gov The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFC prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and proposed use of funds in the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFC. The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at Housing@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con dominio limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesitan un formato accesible alternativo de material de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníquese con El Departamento de Comercio en Housing@mt.gov antes de las no:00 p.m. del 29 de enero de 2024. Have questions? Email Housing@mt.gov

Jan. 25, 2024
MNAXLP

NO. 30030

Makenzi Mansfield
Montana Elder Law, Inc.
2687 Palmer Street, Ste. D
Missoula, MT 59808
Phone: (406) 549.0306
Fax: (406) 206-2205
makenzi@montanaelderlaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative

MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FLATHEAD COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
JOSEPH GALE FEDOR,
DECEASED

Cause No. DP 24 008

Dept. No. Robert B. Allison

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to Joseph Fedor, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 2687 Palmer Street, Ste. D, Missoula, MT 59808, or filed with the Clerk of this above Court.
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.
DATED: January 16, 2024

Bridgett Fedor Personal Representative

MONTANA ELDER LAW, INC.

Makenzi Mansfield
Attorney for Personal Representative

Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, 8, 2024
MNAXLP

NO. 30034

Green Acres Cooperative Wastewater Improvement Project
Request for Qualifications for Engineering and/or Grant & Loan Administration Services

Issue Date: January 24 2024
Reply Due Date: February 21, 2024

Introduction:
Green Acres Cooperative on the behalf of the City of Kalispell (City,) is requesting qualifications for engineering and/or grant and loan administration services for the Green Acres Cooperative wastewater improvement project in accordance with MCA 18-8-204. Respondents may propose providing either engineering or grant/loan administration services, or both together.

This project is located in Kalispell, Montana just east of US Highway 93 South at 1721 South Woodland Drive. The City has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funding grant through HUD. In addition, the City may get a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) and or any other state or federal funding, if necessary. The project is intended to connect the Green Acres Cooperative to the City of Kalispell's public sewer systems.

Location & Site Status:
The project is situated within the City of Kalispell at 1721 South Woodland Drive. The 4.24-acre Green Acres Cooperative property is recorded with Flathead County as Lot 21 of the Amended Plat of Lots 21 and 22 Block 1, Greenacres, in Section 20, Township 28 North, Range 21 West, Flathead County, Montana. The subject property is also identified with Tax Assessor #0809800. The property is within the sewer and water service areas of the 2018 City of Kalispell Water Facility Plan Update and the 2019 City of Kalispell Wastewater Facility Plan Update.

The Green Acres Cooperative is a small, affordable-housing mobile home community that is at least 50 years old with 32 manufactured homes. In 2010, the residents, with assistance from NeighborWorks Montana, formed a cooperative and collectively purchased the property. With the purchase, the cooperative acquired the failing private wastewater systems that serve the community.

A Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) was prepared in 2023 to identify preferred alternatives for wastewater improvements and a project budget. The wastewater project will extend a city sewer main from the existing main in South Woodland Drive through the community along the main access drive aisle. Gravity mains will extend from this central sewer main throughout the property and sewer services will be connected to each home. The existing septic tanks will either be pumped and removed or abandoned in place with flowable fill.

To support the cost of these improvements, the City of Kalispell applied for and was awarded funds from the CDBG program, and may obtain other State or Federal grant sources and/or SRF funding if necessary to complete the project. The selected consultant must be familiar with these funding programs and their requirements, as well as their associated agencies. If an SRF loan is necessary Copies of the property conditions report, PER, and CDBG applications are available upon request.

Scope of Services – Engineering:
The selected engineering consultant's scope of services will generally include:
• Complete final designs for water and wastewater systems, including project specifications, bid package, draft contract, addenda (if necessary), and bid forms.
• Conduct construction procurement per CDBG and SRF regulations and requirements, including but not limited to an open bid, bid advertisement, pre-bid meeting and site walkthrough (if necessary), bid opening, and review and summary of bids, assistance with contractor selection, conducting the pre-construction conference, and issuance of the final contract.
• Ensure compliance with procurement requirements related to Minority Business Enterprise, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Davis-Bacon Labor Standards, and state prevailing wages per funding requirements.
• Provide construction administration services, including but not limited to site visits and correspondence required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), along with processing of RFIs, review of submittals, review and recommendation of change orders, review and approval of contractor's pay applications, site field reports, etc.
• Complete on-site observation of construction work and prepare reports.
• Coordinate permitting with AHJ and MDEQ, as necessary.
• Monitor construction activities to ensure work is being completed in accordance with the project specifications.
• Ensure compliance with CDBG and SRF regulations and requirements.
• Act as liaison throughout the project with the MDEQ and other regulatory agencies.
• Conduct final inspection and testing.
• Prepare final completion reports for MDEQ and funding agencies.
• Provide reproducible plan drawings to the City of Kalispell and appropriate agencies upon project completion.
• Prepare operation and maintenance manuals.

Scope of Services – Grant/SRF Loan/SID Administration:
The selected grant/loan administration consultant's scope of services will generally include the following items for multiple funding sources:
• Preparing management plans and start-up documentation
• Maintaining project files
• Reviewing proposed project expenditures
• Preparing progress reports and reimbursement requests
• Preparing closeout documentation
• Assisting with the audit process
• Serving as primary liaison between the City of Kalispell and the funding agencies
• Completing other tasks generally associated with the administration of public infrastructure grants and loans
• Provided an SRF Loan is necessary, support the development and management of a State Revolving Loan.
• Provided an SRF Loan is necessary, support the development and administration of Green Acres Special Improvement District (SID).

Schedule:
• February 2024: City to provide response to funding agencies with engineer and grant/loan administrator selections and proposed timeline.
• November 1, 2025: Completion of construction.
• January 1, 2026: Project final inspection, funding closeout.

Deliverables Schedule:
Engineering respondents should provide a proposed schedule for the following deliverables:
• Final design and specifications
• Bid package, including construction contract (draft for review)
• Bid advertisement
• Construction contractor selection
• Completion of construction
• Completion of project closeout, including all necessary MDEQ communication

Statements of Qualifications should include:
1. The firm's legal name, address, and telephone number.
2. Which services you are proposing on – engineering, grant/loan administration, or both
3. The principal(s) of the firm and their experience and qualifications
4. The experience and qualifications of the staff to be assigned to project.
5. A description of the firm's prior experience, including any similar projects (particularly those funded by CDBG and SRF), size of community, location, total construction cost, and name of a local official knowledgeable regarding the firm's performance
6. Discussion of the firm's ability to meet time and budget requirements as well as present and projected workloads
7. Ability to meet milestone dates and timeline of deliverables
8. Contact information for at least three professional references
9. The proposed work plan and schedule for activities to be proposed
10. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises are encouraged to respond

Respondents will be evaluated according to the following factors:
A. Overall quality of the response (5%)
B. Qualifications of the professional personnel to be assigned to the project, including reference checks (30%)
C. The consultant's capability to meet time and project budget requirements, including present and projected workloads (20%)
D. Location (5%)
E. Related experience on similar projects, including but not limited to knowledge and experience with planning, oversight, and projects funded by federal or state grant funds; preference for experience with CDBG and SRF. (30%)
F. Recent and current work for the entity issuing the RFP (10%)

Contact Information:
PLEASE DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS TO:
Danielle Malden, Cooperative Housing Director
NeighborWorks Montana
PO Box 1029
Great Falls, MT 59403
Ph: 406.457.6444
dmalden@mwmt.org

PLEASE SEND WRITTEN RESPONSES BY EMAIL OR MAIL TO:
Attn: Green Acres Cooperative Sewer Improvements
Danielle Malden, dmalden@mwmt.org
Or
PO Box 1029, Great Falls, MT 59403

RESPONSE DUE DATE: February 21, 2024

Respondents should clearly label as "CONFIDENTIAL" any materials which they deem to contain proprietary information. NeighborWorks Montana agrees to treat these materials as confidential but will not return them at the completion of the selection process.

A selection committee comprised of City of Kalispell, NeighborWorks Montana, and Green Acres Cooperative members will review all responses, check references, and choose the most qualified respondent. Review of submitted qualifications will be completed by March 1, 2024. A contract will be negotiated based on demonstrated qualifications and fair and reasonable prices.

This solicitation is being offered in accordance with federal and state statutes governing procurement of professional services. Accordingly, NeighborWorks reserves the right to negotiate an agreement based on fair and reasonable compensation for the scope of work and services proposed, as well as the right to reject any and all responses deemed unqualified, unsatisfactory or inappropriate.

Green Acres Cooperative is an equal opportunity employer. Women and minority businesses are encouraged to apply.

Green Acres Cooperative makes reasonable accommodation for any known disability that may interfere with an applicant's ability to compete in the recruitment and selection process or the consultant's ability to perform the essential duties of the job. For the City to make such accommodation, the applicant must make known any needed accommodation. Persons using a TDD may call the Montana Relay Service 711.

Jan. 25, 2024
MNAXLP

NO. 30037

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In re NorthWestern Energy's Petition for Rulemaking to Amend Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1909

Docket 2024.01.011

January 23, 2024

Notice and Opportunity for Comment

1. On January 4, 2024, the Montana Public Service Commission ("Commission") received a petition from NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern") asking the Commission to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to address how an existing qualifying facility ("QF") creates a legally enforceable obligation ("LEO") under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 ("PURPA").
2. PURPA defines the relationship between utilities and QFs. 16 U.S.C § 824a-3. Under PURPA, utilities must purchase energy and capacity from a QF at a rate not exceeding the utility's avoided cost. Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1902(2), 1905(2); 18 C.F.R. § 292.304. For purchases subject to an LEO, the avoided cost of capacity is calculated at the time the LEO is formed. Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1905(2)(b). To create an LEO, the Commission requires that a QF demonstrate a financial commitment and commercial viability. Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1909(1), accord 18 C.F.R. § 292.304(d)(3).
3. In its petition for rulemaking ("Petition"), NorthWestern asserts neither federal regulations nor Commission rules concerning the formation of an LEO set standards to establish an LEO for a resource that is already constructed. NorthWestern requests the Commission amend Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1909 to include standards for an existing resource to establish an LEO.
4. Within 60 days of the filing of the Petition, the Commission must either deny the Petition in writing or initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with Mont. Code Ann. §§ 2-4-302 through 305. Mont. Code Ann. § 2-4-315.
5. A copy of the Petition is publicly available at the Commission's business office, 1701 Prospect Avenue, PO box 202601, Helena, MT, and online at the Commission's website (http://psc.mt.gov) under Docket No. 2024.01.011. A copy of the Petition may also be available at the office of the Montana Consumer Counsel, which represents consumer interests before the Commission, 111 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, Helena, MT 59601, (406) 444-2771. Interested parties can register on the Commission's website to receive notice of filings in this docket. Instructions for subscribing to notices of filings are available at psc.mt.gov/reddi-help.
6. The Commission invites any interested party to file comments no later than February 13, 2024. Written public comments on this matter may be submitted to the Commission at 1701 Prospect Ave., PO box 202601, Helena, MT 59620, or by email to pschelp@mt.gov. Public comments may also be submitted online in REDDI. Instructions for submitting public comments in REDDI are available at psc.mt.gov/reddi-help.
7. The Commission's jurisdiction over this matter is provided in Title 69 and Title 2, Chapter 4 of the Montana Code Annotated. Title 38, Chapters 2 and 5 of the Montana Administrative Rules, and any prior order of the Commission relevant to the issues presented.

DONE and DATED January 23, 2024 by the Montana Public Service Commission, through delegation to staff.

JAMES BROWN, President
JENNIFER FIELDER, Vice President
TONY O'DONNELL, Commissioner
RANDAL PINOCCI, Commissioner
DR. ANNIE BUKACEK, Commissioner

Jan. 25, 2024
MNAXLP



*** Proof of Publication ***

THE MISSOULIAN
2291 W Broadway, Suite 5A
Missoula, MT 59801
Phone: (406) 523-5236

Montana Newspaper Association - Legals

825 GREAT NORTHERN BLVD STE 202
HELENA MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 183122

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Missoulian, a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Missoula, in the County of Missoula, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

Mandy Schilling

STATE OF MONTANA
County of Missoula

On this day of Jan. 25, 2024 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Mandy Schilling known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal

Category: 0703 Legals Government MNAXLP

PUBLISHED ON: 01/25/2024

TOTAL AD COST: 52.00

FILED ON: 1/25/2024

Teresa A Cox

NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

Montana Department of Commerce

The Montana Department of Commerce announces the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment – which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and limitations established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program – is available for public comment from January 26, 2024, to February 12, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. All documents are available electronically at https:// housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing /HOME-ARP-andESFG, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 12, 2024. Montana Department of Commerce Montana Housing Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 Housing@mt.gov The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOMEARP-and-ESFG prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and proposed use of funds in the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov /CommunityHousing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG. The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at Housing@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníques con El Departamento de Comercio en Housing@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 29 de enero de 2024. Have questions? Email Housing@mt.gov
January 25, 2024 183122

TERESA A COX NOTARIAL SEAL STATE OF MONTANA
TERESA A COX
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My Commission Expires
August 31, 2025

*** Proof of Publication ***

THE BUTTE MONTANA STANDARD
25 W Granite St
Butte, MT 59701
Ph: 406-496-5500

Montana Newspaper Association - Legals

825 GREAT NORTHERN BLVD STE 202

HELENA MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 183118

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Montana Standard, a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Butte, in the County of Silver Bow, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

Mandy Schilling

STATE OF MONTANA
County of Silver Bow

On this day of Jan. 25, 2024 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Mandy Schilling known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal

Category: 0702 Legals Butte

PUBLISHED ON: 01/25/2024

TOTAL AD COST: 44.20

FILED ON: 1/25/2024

NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

TERESA A COX
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My Commission Expires
August 31, 2025

Montana Department of Commerce

The Montana Department of Commerce announces the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment – which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and limitations established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program – is available for public comment from January 26, 2024, to February 12, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 12, 2024. Montana Department of Commerce Montana Housing Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 Housing/@mt.gov The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOMEARP- and-ESFG prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and proposed use of funds in the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG. The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at Housing/@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en Housing@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 29 de enero de 2024. Have questions? Email Housing@mt.gov
January 25, 2024 183118 **MNAXLP**

SouthwestMontanaLegals.com
LEGALS
To Advertise Call: 406-582-2600 M-F 8 am to 4 pm
Email: Classifieds@DailyChronicle.com
Place Ad 24/7 at www.PlaceChronicleClassified.com



Legals

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In re NorthWestern Energy's Petition for Rulemaking to Amend Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1909

Docket 2024.01.011
January 23, 2024

Notice and Opportunity for Comment

1. On January 4, 2024, the Montana Public Service Commission ("Commission") received a petition from NorthWestern Energy ("NorthWestern") asking the Commission to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to address how an existing qualifying facility ("QF") creates a legally enforceable obligation ("LEO") under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 ("PURPA").

2. PURPA defines the relationship between utilities and QFs. 16 U.S.C. § 824a-3. Under PURPA, utilities must purchase energy and capacity from a QF at a rate not exceeding the utility's avoided cost." Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1903(2), .1905(2). 18 C.F.R. § 292.304. For purchases subject to an LEO, the avoided cost of capacity is calculated at the time the LEO is formed. Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1905(2)(b). To create an LEO, the Commission requires that a QF demonstrate a financial commitment and commercial viability. Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1909(1); accord 18 C.F.R. § 292.304(d)(3).

3. In its petition for rulemaking ("Petition"), NorthWestern asserts neither federal regulations nor Commission rules concerning the formation of an LEO set standards to establish an LEO for a resource that is already constructed. NorthWestern requests the Commission amend Mont. Admin. R. 38.5.1909 to include standards for an existing resource to establish an LEO.

4. Within 60 days of the filing of the Petition, the Commission must either deny the Petition in writing or initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with Mont. Code Ann. §§ 2-4-302 through -305, Mont. Code Ann. § 2-4-315.

5. A copy of the Petition is publicly available at the Commission's business office, 1701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 202601, Helena, MT, and online at the Commission's website (http://psc.mt.gov) under Docket No. 2024.01.011. A copy of the Petition may also be available at the office of the Montana Consumer Counsel, which represents consumer interests before the Commission, 111 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, Helena, MT 59601, (406) 444-2771. Interested parties can register on the Commission's website to receive notice of filings in this docket. Instructions for subscribing to notices of filings are available at psc.mt.gov/reddi-help.

6. The Commission invites any interested party to file comments no later than **February 13, 2024.** Written public comments on this matter may be submitted to the Commission at 1701 Prospect Ave., PO Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620, or by email to pschelp@mt.gov. Public comments may also be submitted online in REDDI. Instructions for submitting public comments in REDDI are available at psc.mt.gov/reddi-help.

7. The Commission's jurisdiction over this matter is provided in Title 69 and Title 2, Chapter 4 of the Montana Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapters 2 and 5 of the Montana Administrative Rules; and any prior order of the Commission relevant to the issues presented.

DONE and DATED January 23, 2024 by the Montana Public Service Commission, through delegation to staff.

JAMES BROWN,
President
JENNIFER FIELDER,
Vice President
TONY O'DONNELL,
Commissioner
RANDALL PINOCCI,
Commissioner
DR. ANNIE BUKACEK,
Commissioner

NOTICE

INVITATION TO SUBMIT REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFIT BROKERAGE & CONSULTING SERVICES

Stillwater County is seeking Sealed Proposals for a brokerage firm to provide the County brokerage services for employee benefit packages and consulting services. The qualification proposal may be mailed or delivered to Stillwater County Human Resources Department, PO Box 970, 431 Quarry Road, Columbus, MT, 59019. All qualification proposals must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. Proposals will be opened and read aloud at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, in the Boardroom of the Stillwater County West Annex at 431 Quarry Road, Columbus, MT. All sealed qualification proposals must be clearly marked "**Employee Benefit Brokerage & Consulting Services Proposal.**"

The proposal packet and a list of desired qualifications may be obtained at www.stillwatercountymt.gov or by contacting the Stillwater County Human Resources Manager at (406) 322-8004, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

No proposal may be withdrawn after the scheduled time for public opening of the Proposals. The County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all proposals received, to waive proposal irregularities, to postpone the awarding of a contract for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days, and to accept the bid which is in the best interest of Stillwater County.

LaMotte School District #43 Audit Publication Statement

An audit of the affairs of LaMotte School District #43 has been conducted by Glness & Associates, P.C. The audit covered the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

Section 2-7-521, MCA, requires the publication concerning the audit report include a statement that the audit report is on file in its entirety and open to public inspection at LaMotte School, 841 Bear Canyon Road, Bozeman, Montana, and that the LaMotte School District #43 will send a copy of the audit report to any interested person upon request.

Sincerely,

Sue Becker
District Clerk/Business Manager
LaMotte School District #43
(406) 586-2838

Resolution for Disposition of Abandoned, Obsolete and Undesirable Property

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT #43, BOZEMAN MONTANA TO DISPOSE OF ABANDONED, OBSOLETE AND UNDESIREABLE PROPERTY THROUGH THE SALES OR OTHER MEANS, AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 20-6-604, MCA. Whereas, it has been determined the following equipment has become abandoned, obsolete and undesirable:

- #1 Book Shelves - 6' tall tan # of items per unit
- #2 Book Shelves - 6 tall brown # of items per unit 4
- #3 Book Shelves - 5'x4' Purple, Green, & Brown # of items per unit 4
- #4 Desk, Student Desk Adjustable # of items per Unit 2
- #5 Desk, Adult Desk (1 Metal & 1 Wood) # of items per unit 2
- #6 Filing Cabinets, 2 drawer Tan, light tan, black # of items per unit 4
- #7 Filing Cabinets, 4 drawers (2 Black & 1 Grey) # of items per unit 3
- #8 Chairs, Adjustable Elementary Chairs # of items per unit 16
- #9 Shelves, 6'x4' Metal Cabinets with Doors # of items per unit 2
- #10 Entryway Setup, 3 pc entry way for school (Desk, Table, Stand) # of items per unit 1

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees will dispose of this property through the sale or other means commencing on February 17, 2024, which will be 14 days after notice of this resolution has been made in the manner required in Section 20-20-204, MCA. If a person would like to inspect this property please call LaMotte School at 406-586-2838 before February 1, 2024. PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT #43 THIS 17th DAY OF JANUARY 2024.

/s/ Chairperson
Mairz Torres
Date 1/17/24
/s/ Attest: Leah Nusse
Clerk
Date 1/17/24

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO PROTEST TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages with Catering Endorsement License

BUCK'S T4 LIQUOR LLC (J. Kevin Hinkle, Bayard Dominick, Owner(s)) has applied to transfer Montana All-Alcoholic Beverages with Catering Endorsement License No. 06-999-2949-002 to be operated at BLINDSIDE BURGER, 47 Town Center Ave, Big Sky, Gallatin County. The public may protest this license transfer in accordance with the law.

Who can protest this transfer? Protests will be accepted from residents of the county of the proposed location Gallatin County, residents of adjoining Montana counties, and residents of adjoining counties in another state if the criteria in 16-4-207(4)(d), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), are met.

What information must be included? Protest letters must be legible and contain (1) the protestor's full name, mailing address, and street address; (2) the license number 06-999-2949-002 and the applicant's name BUCK'S T4 LIQUOR LLC; (3) an indication that the letter is intended as a protest; (4) a description of the grounds for protesting; and (5) the protestor's signature. A letter with multiple signatures will be considered one protest letter.

What are valid protest grounds? The protest may be based on the applicant's qualifications listed in 16-4-401, MCA, or the grounds for denial of an application in 16-4-405, MCA. Examples of valid protest grounds include: (1) the applicant is unlikely to operate the establishment in compliance with the law; (2) the proposed location cannot be properly policed by local authorities; and (3) the welfare of the people in the vicinity of the proposed location will be adversely and seriously affected.

How are protests submitted? Protests must be postmarked to the Department of Revenue, Office of Dispute Resolution, P.O. Box 5805, Helena, Montana 59604-5805 on or before February 11, 2024.

What happens if the transfer is protested? Depending on the number of protests and the protest grounds, a public hearing will be held in Helena or Big Sky. All valid protestors will be notified of the hearing's time, date and location. Hearings typically are scheduled within 90 days. A protester's hearing testimony is limited to the grounds in the protester's letter. Following the hearing, the Department of Revenue will notify the public whether the license transfer is approved or denied.

How can additional information be obtained? The cited MCA statutes are online at leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/. Questions may be directed to Vickie Zindke, Compliance Specialist for the Department of Revenue's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, at 444-0713 or VZindke2@mt.gov.

The Montana Department of Commerce announces the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment – which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and limitations established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program – is available for public comment from January 26, 2024, to February 12, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 12, 2024. Montana Department of Commerce Montana Housing Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 Housing@mt.gov The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOMEARP-and-ESFG prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and proposed use of funds in the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG. The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at Housing@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con dominio limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accesible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníquese con El Departamento de Comercio en Housing@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 29 de enero de 2024. Have questions? Email Housing@mt.gov

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MONTANA EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT GALLATIN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAELA SHYNE KALSOW, DECEASED.

CAUSE NO. DP-23-45A NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to SUSAN A. SHYNE, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 929 Cottonwood, Bozeman, MT 59718, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 6th day of January, 2023.
Susan A. Shyne
Personal Representative

MONTANA EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GALLATIN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
DALE HOWARD TOLLIVER,
Deceased.

Probate No. DP-23-207
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that KYLE W. TOLLIVER has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or their claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at Prescott Civil Law, PLLC, PO Box 596, Bozeman, Montana 59771, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 3rd day of January, 2024.
KYLE W. TOLLIVER
Personal Representative
2709 Harris Street
Bozeman, MT 59718
PRESCOTT CIVIL LAW, PLLC
/S/ By: Barbara H. Prescott,
Attorney

NOTICE OF MEETING OF TRAIL CREEK PROPOSED ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT

The Trail Creek Land Use Alliance is a Montana non-profit organization that seeks to promote responsible and informed land use in the Trail Creek area, and preserve the rural residential and agricultural character of the neighborhoods.

We invite **everyone in the Trail Creek Zoning District to attend an informational meeting on January 29th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fort Ellis Fire Station**, located at 2041 Bozeman Trail Road, Bozeman, MT. There will be a short presentation on the proposed text amendments, followed by a community discussion about those issues.

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LEGAL NOTICES MNAXLP

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
BLM_MT_FRM_MOH&SN_75255
Notice of Proposed Withdrawal Extension and Public Meeting; Prior Mountain Horse Range, Wyoming
AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior
ACTION: Notice of proposed withdrawal extension.
SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior proposes to extend Public Land Order (PLO) No. 7625 for an additional 20-year term. PLO No. 7625 withdrew 51,190.07 acres of public lands in Big Horn County, Wyoming, from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, to protect the Prior Mountain Wild Horse Range. The withdrawal created by PLO No. 7625 will expire on March 7, 2025, unless extended. This notice announces to the public the opportunity to comment on the proposed withdrawal extension, date, time, and location of the public meeting to be held in connection with this withdrawal extension application.
DATE: Interested parties who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with this withdrawal extension application may submit their views, in writing to the Billings Field Office Manager by April 16, 2024 to the address below. Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will hold a public meeting in connection with this withdrawal extension application on February 29, 2024 at 1 p.m. at the Powell Community Center, 1020 US 310, Powell, WY 82435.
ADDRESS: Written comments may be mailed or hand delivered to: BLM, Billings Field Office Manager, Attn: Prior Mountain Proposed Withdrawal Extension, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martha Fetter, BLM Realty Specialist, Billings Field Office, (406) 896-5144, or via email at mfetter@blm.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The withdrawal established by PLO No. 7625 (70 FR 11574, March 9, 2005) and amended by WYW-107470 will expire on March 7, 2025, unless extended. At the request of the BLM, the Secretary is proposing to extend PLO No. 7625 for an additional 20-year term for the protection of wild horse and wildlife habitat, and watershed restoration, culture, and scenic values within the Prior Mountain Wild Horse Range.
The proposed withdrawal extension would encompass the same 51,190.07 acres withdrawn in 2005 by PLO No. 7625. The BLM has updated the legal description of the lands to conform to Specifications for Deposits of Land Status (2017), and described as follows:
Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming
T. 58 N., R. 94 W.,
sec. 19, lot 7 and lot 9 thru 12;
sec. 29, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4, and SE1/4;
sec. 31, A parcel of land being southwesterly of a diagonal line drawn from the 1/4 bac. of sec. 29 and 31, thru the 1/4 sec. of sec. 31 and 36.
sec. 33, NE1/4SW1/4;
sec. 35, SW1/4NW1/4 and W1/2SW1/4;
T. 57 N., R. 95 W.,
sec. 27, S1/2;
sec. 28, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NE1/4, and S1/2;
sec. 29, NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4, and NE1/4SE1/4;
sec. 33, NE1/4 and NE1/4NW1/4.
sec. 34, NW1/4.
The area described contains 1,600 to acres.
The use of a right of way would not pose a negative potential.
There are no suitable alternative sites available.
Water or irrigated land precluded pursuant to a Public Water Reserve No. 107, established pursuant to an Executive order dated April 17, 1926.
Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Billings Field Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101, during regular business hours.
Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask the BLM in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.
The withdrawal extension proposal will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2310.4 (Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1714).
Bonnie J. Gonzalez,
Montana State Director.
January 25, 2024 183173

Montana Department of Commerce
The Montana Department of Commerce announces the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and limitations established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program is available for public comment from January 26, 2024, to February 12, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. All documents are available at commerce.mt.gov/housing/HOME-ARP. Written comments may be submitted to the Montana Department of Commerce, Housing Assistance Bureau, HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, 301 S. Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200545, Helena, MT 59620-0545. Hearing impaired persons may call 711 (TTY, TDD, or Tele-Braille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.
January 25, 2024 183173

Notice
Invitation to Submit Request for Qualifications for Employee Benefit Brokerage & Consulting Services
Stillwater County is seeking Sealed Proposals for a brokerage firm to provide the County brokerage services for employee benefit packages and consulting services. The qualification proposal must be delivered to Stillwater County Human Resources Department, PO Box 970, 631 Quarry Road, Columbus, MT, 59019. All qualification proposals must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. Proposals will be opened and read aloud at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, in the boardroom of the Stillwater County Road Annex at 631 Quarry Road, Columbus, MT. All sealed qualification proposals must be clearly marked "Employee Benefit Brokerage & Consulting Services RFQ". The proposal packet and a list of desired qualifications may be obtained at www.stillwatercountymt.gov or by contacting the Stillwater County Human Resources Manager at (406) 322-8064, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
No proposal may be withdrawn after the scheduled time for public opening of the Proposals. The County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all proposals received, to waive proposal irregularities, to postpone the awarding of a contract for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days, and to accept the bid which is in the best interest of Stillwater County.
January 18, 25, 2024 182844

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AKC Black Lab puppies, all registration, 3 male, 3 female. Will have first shots and deworming. Ready before Valentines Day. Pedigrees. Call text for more info or pics. 406-261-7012. $700 ea

AKC Cairn Terriers 2 Black Brindle Males. Microchipped. Vet checked, very social and outgoing. 14 weeks. Parents on site. Text or call 406-261-4931 $1500.00

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NOTICE OF FLOODPLAIN PERMIT APPLICATION CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

The Cascade County Floodplain Administrator is in receipt of a Floodplain Permit Application (FP 2023-021) submitted by WWC Engineering, on behalf of the City of Great Falls to provide bank stabilization to prevent erosion and damage to the Rivers Edge Trail system, within the Special Flood Hazard Area of the Missouri River. The project site is legally described as being located within Lot 7 of Section 1, Township 20 North, Range 03 East, P.M.M., within Zone AE of FEMA's designated floodplain as shown on FIRM Panel #30013C0345E.

Adjacent landowners and other interested parties have fifteen (15) days from the receipt, or the publishing of this notice, to submit comments concerning this proposal to the office of the Cascade County Floodplain Administrator located at 121 4th St N, Suite 2 W1, Great Falls, MT 59401, or by email at planninganmonth@cascadecountymt.gov. Additional information can be obtained at the office or by calling 406-454-6905.

This application is reviewed for conformance with floodplain regulations only and any other permits or approvals that may be required are the responsibility of the applicant and the appropriate agency.

CASCADE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
/s/Kevin Anstand, CFM
#9793113, 01/31/2024
MNAXLP

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Adjacent landowners and other interested parties have fifteen (15) days from the receipt, or the publishing of this notice, to submit comments concerning this proposal to the office of the Cascade County Floodplain Administrator located at 121 4th St N, Suite 2 W1, Great Falls, MT 59401, or by email at planninganmonth@cascadecountymt.gov. Additional information can be obtained at the office or by calling 406-454-6905.

This application is reviewed for conformance with floodplain regulations only and any other permits or approvals that may be required are the responsibility of the applicant and the appropriate agency.

CASCADE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
/s/Kevin Anstand, CFM
#9793113, 01/31/2024
MNAXLP

NOTICE OF FLOODPLAIN PERMIT APPLICATION CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

The Cascade County Floodplain Administrator is in receipt of a Floodplain Permit Application (FP 2023-022) submitted by John Walsh for removal of debris from the FEMA Regulated Floodway within the Special Flood Hazard Area of Sand Coulee Creek. The project site is legally described as being located within Lot 32A of the Dana-Van Park Subdivision located in Section 36, Township 20 North, Range 03 East, P.M.M., within Zone AE of FEMA's designated floodplain as shown on FIRM Panel #30013C0468E.

Adjacent landowners and other interested parties have fifteen (15) days from the receipt, or the publishing of this notice, to submit comments concerning this proposal to the office of the Cascade County Floodplain Administrator located at 121 4th St N, Suite 2 W1, Great Falls, MT 59401, or by email at planninganmonth@cascadecountymt.gov. Additional information can be obtained at the office or by calling 406-454-6905.

This application is reviewed for conformance with floodplain regulations only and any other permits or approvals that may be required are the responsibility of the applicant and the appropriate agency.

CASCADE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
/s/Kevin Anstand, CFM
#9793089, 01/31/2024
MNAXLP

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Careers Jobs new beginnings...

Public Notices

The Montana Department of Commerce announces the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment – which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and limitations established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program – is available for public comment from January 29, 2024, to February 12, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESCG, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 12, 2024.
Montana Department of Commerce
Montana Housing
Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan
301 S. Park Avenue
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
Housing@mt.gov
The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESCG prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and proposed use of funds in the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-and-ESCG.
The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at Housing@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024.
El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con dominio limitado del idioma inglés que deseen participar en este proceso o necesitan un formato accesible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, comuníquese con El Departamento de Comercio en Housing@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 29 de enero de 2024.
Have questions? Email Housing@mt.gov
19780738 Jan 31st, 2024
MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY
In the Matter of the Guardianship of
Brandon Lee Becker
Brenda Becker
Petitioner
Cause No.: BDG 2023-56
Notice of Hearing on Guardianship of Minor Child
THE STATE OF MONTANA SENDS GREETINGS TO: Christopher Herbert Via Great Falls Tribune
NOTICE IS GIVEN to the birth parents of the minor child(ren) above referenced and all other interested persons that Petitioner(s) has/have filed a petition with the Clerk of this Court to become the guardian(s) of the minor child (ren).
The hearing on the Petition will be held at 1st Judicial District Court, 228 Broadway, in Lewis & Clark County on the following date and time:
Date: 02 /01 /2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Public Notices

Your failure to attend the hearing may result in the relief requested by the Petitioner(s) being granted.
Date: 12/7/2023
By: /s/ Katy Fields
Deputy Clerk/Clerk of District Court
(SEAL)
1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31
MNAXLP

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

To be sold for cash at Trustee's Sale, on the 16th day of April, 2024, at 11:30 o'clock a.m., at the west door of the Cascade County Courthouse, Great Falls, Montana, is the following property:
Lot 35, Block 4, Corrected Plat of Twilite Terrace, an Addition to the City of Great Falls, Cascade County, Montana, according to the official map or plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of said County.
Anthony Paul Locke, as Grantor, conveyed the above-described property to Laura Lee Anderson, attorney at Law, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., (MERS), as Nominee for Opportunity Bank of Montana, as Beneficiary, by Trust Indenture, dated August 3, 2022, and recorded August 3, 2022, under Document No. 3043614, records of the Clerk and Recorder of Cascade County, Montana.
The beneficial interest in the Trust Indenture is currently held by Montana Board of Housing as a result of the most recent Assignment, recorded November 6, 2023, under Document No. 3465036, records of the Clerk and Recorder of Cascade County, Montana. The Trustee in the Trust Indenture was replaced by a Successor Trustee, namely, Jeff A. Turner, the undersigned.
The default in the obligation, the performance of which is secured by the aforementioned Trust Indenture, and for which default this foreclosure is made, is the failure by the Grantor, or other person owing an obligation, or by their successors-in-interest, to pay the monthly installments of $1,923.22, due thereunder on the 1st day of the months of November 1, 2022, through April 1, 2023, and the monthly installments of $1,863.37 due there under on the 1st day of the months of May 1, 2023 through November 1, 2023, which is applied to principal and interest and to an escrow account if established for other obligations under the Trust Indenture, late charges which are 4.00% of all principal, interest, taxes and insurance payments more than 15 days in arrears, and late charges and escrow shortages currently $1,253.90, attorney's fees and foreclosure costs, currently $2,284.00, advances for property protection and initial funds, currently none, for a current total default of $27,983.41; together with accruing late charges, advances, and expenses of foreclosure, including attorney's fees and costs.
There is presently owed on the obligation secured by the Trust Indenture the principal sum of $389,867.35, plus interest thereon at the rate of 8.250% per annum from the 1st day of October, 2022, until paid, or $41.6609 per day, currently a total of $17,524.08, late charges, advances for property protection, and escrow shortages, currently $4,182.62, attorney's fees and costs, currently $2,284.00, for a current total indebtedness of $313,478.06. Other expenses to be charged against the sale proceeds include accruing late charges, escrow shortages, if any, attorney's fees and costs, and expenses of foreclosure and sale.
The Beneficiary has elected to sell the above-described property to satisfy the aforementioned obligation and has instructed the undersigned Trustee to do so. The sale is a public sale and any person, including the Beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid in cash. The conveyance will be by a Trustee's Deed, made "as is," without representations or warranties, express or implied, including warranties of title, possession or encumbrances. The purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 15th day following the sale.
The sale may be postponed up to 15 days for any reason by public proclamation at the scheduled sale. If there is a stay by bankruptcy or court order, the sale may be postponed up to 30 days at a time by public proclamation, for a total of no more than 120 days. Any grantor, successor in interest to the grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, may pay to the beneficiary the entire amount then due under the Trust Indenture and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and thereby cure the default theretofore existing.
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT; ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
DATED this 28th day of November, 2023.

/s/ Jeff A. Turner
JEFF A. TURNER,
Trustee
P.O. Box 2328
208 North Broadway,
Suite 324
Billings, Montana 59103-2328
STATE OF MONTANA)
: ss.
County of Yellowstone)
On this 28th day of November, 2023, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Jeff A. Turner, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity as Trustee.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal the day and year first above written.
(Notarial Seal)
/s/ Amy J. Budge
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Laurel, Montana
My Commission Expires April 06, 2027
(VERBATIM) 1/31,2/7,2/14/2024
MNAXLP

Notice is hereby given that on 10th day of February, 2024 at 10:00 AM a Public Auction will be held to satisfy a Landlord's Lien on 3 storage units at All Enabled Storage, 1700 2nd St So, Great Falls, MT – 130 Crystal Martinich #26 Michelle Vye and 933 Kenneth Falcon.
#9789991 01/31/24

Notification of Vehicle in Police Custody:
Montana Code Annotated 61-12-401 Thru 61-12-404

The following described vehicle(s) have been impounded by the Great Falls Police Department:

1. **Vehicle:** Blue 1998 Chevrolet Cavalier
MT Plate: 19-3648
VIN: 1G1JF12T4V7236373
Sold To: Christopher and Jackie Carey

Unless the above vehicle(s) are reclaimed by the owner(s) within thirty (30) days after the date of the publication, the vehicle(s) will be considered abandoned and junked or sold at public auction and all rights that any person(s), firm or corporation may have had in such vehicle(s) will be irrevocably terminated by such sale. Any claimant must pay costs incurred for the removal and preservation of the vehicle(s).

To reclaim vehicle(s), contact Jessica Reardon at 406-455-8418.
1/31,
MNAXLP

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | EXTENSION

MSU Extension Agent positions.

Did you ever want to be an extension agent?

This is an exciting career with tons of opportunity. We have openings in several of our counties and reservations across Montana.

Bachelor's degree required.

Review all of our openings here:
https://montana.edu/extension/careers.

Equal Opportunity Employer, Veterans/Disabled.

SELL IT BUY IT FIND IT
cars tickets pets collectibles cameras coins instruments jewelry furniture computers and so much more...
Place your classified ad today.

*** Proof of Publication ***

HELENA INDEPENDENT RECORD
2222 Washington St
Helena, MT 59602
Ph: (406) 447-4000

Montana Newspaper Association - Legals

825 GREAT NORTHERN BLVD STE 202
HELENA MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 183128

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Helena Independent Record, a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Helena, in the County of Lewis & Clark, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

Mandy Schilling

STATE OF MONTANA
County of Lewis & Clark

On this day of Jan 25, 2024 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Mandy Schilling known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal

Category: 0701 Legals Helena

PUBLISHED ON: 01/25/2024

TOTAL AD COST: 52.00

FILED ON: 1/25/2024

Teresa A Cox

NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

TERESA A COX NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana Residing at Billings, Montana My Commission Expires August 31, 2025

Montana Department of Commerce

The Montana Department of Commerce announces the public comment period for the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment – which modifies the original plan to include the preferences and limitations established by eligible projects to be funded through the State of Montana's HOME-ARP program – is available for public comment from January 26, 2024, to February 12, 2024. For more information and to provide oral comments, the public is invited to attend a virtual public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. All documents are available electronically at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOME-ARP-andESFG, and as a hardcopy by request. All comments must be submitted to the address or email below no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 12, 2024. Montana Department of Commerce Montana Housing Attention: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan 301 S. Park Avenue P.O. Box 200523 Helena, MT 59620-0523 Housing@mt.gov The public hearing will be held on Zoom and presentation materials will be available on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/Community-Housing/HOMEARP-and-ESFG prior to the public hearing. The public hearing will provide an overview of applicable requirements and proposed use of funds in the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment. The State of Montana will consider any comments or views provided in writing during the specified comment periods or orally during the public hearing. To participate in the public hearing, please follow the information on Commerce's website at https://housing.mt.gov/CommunityHousing/HOME-ARP-and-ESFG. The Department of Commerce will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or persons with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in this process and need an alternative accessible format of the presentation materials or translation materials. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Department of Commerce at Housing@mt.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2024. El Departamento de Comercio hará adaptaciones razonables para las personas con discapacidades o personas con domino limitado del inglés que deseen participar en este proceso y necesiten un formato accessible alternativo de materiales de presentación o servicios de traducción. Si necesita una adaptación, communíques con El Departamento de Comercio en Housing@mt.gov antes de las 5:00 p.m. del 29 de enero de 2024. Have questions? Email Housing@mt.gov
January 25, 2024 183128 **MNAXLP**

*** Proof of Publication ***

RAVALLI REPUBLIC
232 W. Main St.
Hamilton, MT 59840

Montana Newspaper Association - Legals

825 GREAT NORTHERN BLVD STE 202
HELENA MT 59601

ORDER NUMBER 183127

The undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Ravalli Republic, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Lewis & Clark County, Montana, and published in the City of Hamilton, in the County of Ravalli, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

Mark below if certification for the State of Montana
_____I hereby certify that I have read sec. 18-7-204 and 18-7-205, MCA, and subsequent revisions, and declare that the price or rate charged the State of Montana for the publication for which claim is made in printed copy in the amount of $_____is not in excess of the minimum rate charged any other advertiser for publication of advertisement, set in the same size type and published for the same number of insertions, further certify that this claim is correct and just in all respects, and that payment or credit has not been received.

Mandy Schilling

STATE OF MONTANA
County of Ravalli

On this day of Jan 25, 2024 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Mandy Schilling known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.

Section: Legal

Category: 0706 Legals Ravalli

PUBLISHED ON: 01/25/2024

TOTAL AD COST: 44.20

FILED ON: 1/25/2024

NOTARY PUBLIC for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, MT

My commission expires: 8/31/2025

TERESA A COX
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My Commission Expires
August 31, 2025

Montana Department of Commerce

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January 25, 2024 183127