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Montana Land Information Advisory Council
Helena, Montana 59901

Greetings:

As you recall, Flathead, Yellowstone & Missoula Counties & Montana ITSD have been working on the advancement of the addressing data model after having received a grant for this purpose in Fiscal Year 2008. At the time I last addressed the council in regard to this project, we had reached certain successes with the project and were preparing to send an RFP out to the Montana State's vendors lists to have an application developed that would populate the address data model.

Over the last few months, all of the involved partners have been devoted to the further development of this project. We have spent many hours revising the initial RFP to better define the objectives needed of the application. After having worked on this so intimately, our understanding of what is needed to advance the addressing goals pertinent to the state of Montana has evolved.

The greatest service for addressing in Montana is to develop a Master Address Repository (MAR) for the entire state, which would enable having a centralized storage location across the state, as well as one common format for addressing data. Both of these benefits will aid in sharing data, especially across jurisdictional boundaries & amongst different entities that currently maintain addressing data in any number of formats & schemas. When we began this grant, developing a MAR was intended to be a follow-up after having the application developed to maintain addressing data in the addressing data model format. Yet after closely assessing the different needs for an application to be useful to many different entities, we have come to a collaborative decision that the most realistic approach to achieving a MAR is through means other than *maintaining* data in the model. Since one of our successes thus far has been proving that the addressing data model can be populated through ETL tools (ESRI's data interoperability software), we have come to realize that this is the best way to enable a user the ability to maintain data with the processes applicable to them, while still achieving a MAR for the state of Montana.

Flathead, Yellowstone & Missoula counties have already populated the addressing data model. Stu Kirkpatrick has stated that ITSD would be willing to develop some ETL tools to help additional agencies populate the data model. While we are saddened by the realization that one application to populate the addressing data model will not work for multiple entities (depending on said entity's needs), we are pleased to have unveiled

through working on this grant project that developing a MAR can be accomplished without additional spending of the grant monies.

As such, I would like to formally request permission to vacate the remaining funds, terminate the grant contract & return the monies to the MLIA account. With ITSD, we will continue pursuit of the development of the Master Address Repository for further advancement of the addressing movement for the state of Montana outside of this grant contract. I would like to thank Yellowstone & Missoula County & ITSD for the many hours and hard work they have invested in this project, and also wish to express my gratitude to the council for the opportunity to have reached this juncture through the work invested in this grant project.

Sincerely,

Mindy Cochran
Flathead County GIS
Program Manager