Montana Land Information Advisory Council

Land Plan

"Proposed Revision"

Purpose: The purpose of this review is to explore advantages of defining the Land Plan and Granting Process so that they each have a separate purpose, clear distinction and specified funding that supports Montana's geospatial goals.

Background: Under the Montana Land Information Act the Department of Administration will annually develop a Land Information Plan that describes the priority needs to collect, maintain, and disseminate land information. The Plan must have as a component a proposed budget designed to accomplish the goals and objectives of the plan. The plan must be presented to the council for review and endorsement. The Department must also establish an application process and a granting process that must be used to distribute funds in the account.

Draft Land Plan and Granting Process:

Land Plan - the MLIA specifies that the Department must establish an application process and a granting process to be used to distribute funds in the MLIA account. The revised Land Plan format would tie annual tasks to responsible parties and assigned funding. New guidelines would require the assigned party to accept responsibility of a task by applying for that task. The Department would accept the application thus fulfilling the application process for the distribution of funds that support "specified tasks" within the Plan.

Grants – The Granting Process will remain basically the same. However it will be modified to facilitate the application, granting and funding of "grant category" projects specified in the Plan and not all of the goals and objectives identified in the plan.   This change simplifies the process providing for a true granting process for grant category projects identified in the plan and removes the unnecessary application for and granting of Land Plan specified tasks already prioritized in and funded under the Plan.

Proposed Land Plan Sections: write the land plan using the following sections.

1) Introduction and Overview

2) Application and Granting Process

3) Accomplishments

4) Current Challenges

5) Land Plan Priorities Proposed for Funding

      A.   Specified Tasks

      B.   Grant Categories

6) Action Plan and Budget

Example of Draft Plan *(all content described are examples)*

Introduction and Overview: The 2012 Land Plan is recommended to and approved by the Department as specified by the MLIA. The purpose of the annual Land Plan is to announce, describe, and fund priorities for the coming year.

Application and Granting Process: There will be an application process to support priority needs identified in the plan. Applications must be made for Specified Tasks and Grant Categories.   For Specified Tasks the application will consist of a letter to the Department applying for and accepting the task and associated funding as well as the responsibility to complete the task as approved by the Department. For Grant Categories the application process will consist of a proposal to the Department addressing the priority grant needs identified in the plan.

Accomplishments: In 2011 the Department successfully funded the production and maintenance of four MSDI layers (National Hydrography Dataset, Transportation, Structures and Administrative Boundaries) and partially funded the Landcover data theme. The GIS community proposed and developed the Montana Names Data Theme as the 14th MSDI Layer and the Department approved this layer in July, 2010. Successful grants that supported the goals and objectives of the council in 2011 included Lake County addressing, Ravalli County multipurpose cadastre, West Helena Valley Volunteer Fire Department and the Fort Peck Tribe GIS portal. In 2011 the county portion of the MLIA funding supported the following projects………..

Current Challenges:

1) Communication / Outreach – the Department and its supporters must find better ways to communicate our efforts and accomplishments. Target audience in 2012 is the State Legislature, other state and local agencies, and the Governor's Office………

2) MSDI Framework Maintenance – the state must continue to maintain the investment it has made in framework data layers………

Land Plan Priorities Proposed for Funding (A –Specified): In order to fulfill the purpose of the act the Department has identified the following specific Land Plan priorities (goals) for state FY 2012.

A1 – Carry out the Duties of the Department Related to MCA 90-1-404...

A2 – Geospatial Community Communication and Outreach…………..

A3 - Develop and Support MSDI Framework Layers…………..

A4 – Enhance and Support Data Search and Access…………..

A5 - Create State Mandated Data Use Policy...............

Land Plan Priorities Proposed for Funding (B – Grant Categories): In order to fulfill the purpose of the act the Department identifies the following grant categories for state FY 2012.

B1 – Support Local Government / Tribal GIS Infrastructure

B2 – Assist Local and Regional Planning

B3 – Support Data Geosync between local, state and federal data

<u>Action Plan and Budget:</u>

A1-1   Department Duties and Support

        a.   Department Duties as Described in MCA 90-1-404

        b.   Responsible Party is: Department of Administration – BMSC

        c.   Budget Line: $

A2-1   Communication and Outreach

        d.   Develop and publish best practices for all accepted MSDI Framework Themes

        e.   Responsible party is: Individual Data Theme Leads

        f.   Budget Line: N/A

A2-2   Communication and Outreach

        a.   Develop advocacy agenda and distribute to Governors Office, Legislators, State Budget Office, State Agency Directors, MACO, and the Montana League of Cities and Towns.

        b.   Responsible party is: Department w/ advice from Council

        c.   Budget Line: Department General Coordination Budget

A3-1   Support Priority MSDI Framework Theme – MSDI Specific Task

        a.   Support Framework Data – MSDI Specific

        b.   Responsible party is:

        c.   Budget Line: $

A4-1   Data Search and Access – Support Geospatial Data Access

   a.   Support Framework Data Search and Access – Specific Task

   b.   Responsible party is:

   c.   Budget Line: $

A5-1   Create Data Use Policy – Data use Working Group, Framework Leads, MAGIP

   a.   Create Data Use Policy

   b.   Responsible Party is: BMSC with assistance MAGIP Technical Committee

   c.   Budget Line: N/A

B1-1   Leverage Land Plan through Grants – Local / Tribal Infrastructure

   a.   Support Land Plan Grants – Local / Tribal Category

   b.   Responsible party is: Grant Recipients

   c.   Budget Line: $

B2-1   Leverage Land Plan through Grants – Local and Regional Planning

   a.   Support Land Plan Grants – Local and Regional Planning Category

   b.   Responsible party is: Grant Recipients

   c.   Budget Line: $

B3-1   Leverage Land Plan through Grants – Data Geosynchronization

   a.   Support land Plan Grants – Data Geosynchronization Category

   b.   Responsible party is: Grant Recipients

   c.   Budget Line: $