



MEMO

To: MSL Commission
From: Erin Fashoway, State GIS Coordinator
Subject: Anaconda-Deer Lodge Montana Land Information Act Grant presentation
Date: July 28, 2023

This informational presentation is offered to educate the State Library Commission and others about the impact of the Montana Land Information Act (MLIA) Grant Program for Anaconda-Deer Lodge.

MSL's authority to administer this grant program is found [90-1-400, Montana Code Annotated \(MCA\)](#), (note that the online version of the MCA is not updated to reflect legislative changes adopted by the 2023 Legislature). The revenue source for the grant program is through the Montana Land Information account and a \$2/page recordation fee which is collected by counties. \$1.50 of each dollar is deposited in the account and the remaining \$.50 remains with the county.

In FY 2022, Anaconda-Deer Lodge received a \$16,700 MLIA grant award. Grant funds are budgeted in the Land Information Plan which the Commission adopts each December. The typical amount budgeted annually for grants is \$250,000. Grants are reviewed and considered for funding by a subcommittee of the MLIA Council. The full Council makes final recommendations for prioritization of grant funding to the State Library Commission. The Commission makes grant awards each spring.

See the biennial report to the Legislature for more information about the MLIA, the Land Plan, budget, the grant program, and its impact. [The Montana Land Information Act - Legislative Report - 2023 Legislative Session \(arcgis.com\)](#)

Key takeaways are:

- The purpose of the MLIA Grant Program is to provide development and maintenance of services related to geographic information systems (GIS) and geographic information.
- The Land Information Plan establishes goals and priorities that guide the grant program.
- State agencies, local governments, and Indian tribal governments are eligible to apply for grant funding.
- All information or products created or updated through the MLIA Grant Program must be made publicly available.
- The MLIA Grant Program is one of the most significant sources of funding to create and maintain local GIS data in Montana. It is this local data that is required by the State Library to administer statewide GIS datasets.