



MEMO

To: Montana Geospatial Information Advisory Council
From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian & Erin Fashoway, GIS Coordinator
Subject: FY2025 Pre-Approve MGIA Grant Applications for the FY27–28 MGIA Grant Cycle
Date: January 15, 2026

The MGIA Council took action at its November 13, 2025, meeting to pre-approve the FY2025 MGIA Grant applications that met the criteria outlined in the Geospatial Information Plan for consideration in the FY27–28 grant cycle. The Council also recommended a budget that includes \$500,000 for grants for the FY27-28 biennium.

Additional context is provided in the November 13, 2025 Memo to the Council on the FY2027-2028 MGIA Grant Program Priorities: https://ftpaspen.msl.mt.gov/EventResources/20251106153844_28206.pdf.

Montana State Library staff have worked with each pre-approved applicant and compiled a summary of project interest and requested funding amounts in the table below. All four applicants have expressed interest in moving forward with their pre-approved applications.

We recommend that the Council prioritize these FY2025 MGIA Grant applications for funding in the FY27–28 MGIA Grant Program and that this recommendation be made to the State Library Commission for approval at their February 11, 2026, business meeting. Upon action, staff will initiate grant agreements to that applicants can commence work on July 1, 2026.

Applicant	<u>Approved Amount</u>	Requested Amount	Letter of Intent	Additional Travel Expenses	MGIA Grant Award Amount Recommendation
Blaine County	\$50,000	\$57,500	Link	\$1,000	\$58,500
Powder River County	\$28,000	\$8,800	Link	\$1,000	\$9,800
Wheatland County	\$19,750	\$19,750	Link	\$1,000	\$20,750
City of Glendive	\$39,930	\$39,930	Link	\$1,000	\$40,930

Recommendations for funding the Pre-Approved Grants:

- **Approved Amount** was established by the Council in 2024, [recommendations document](#).
- **Requested Amount** was determined by the applicant recipient based on increased costs and work completed to date.



- **Letter of Intent** was written and submitted by the applicant. *The City of Glendive gave verbal intent to proceed during a meeting on 12/2/2026*
- **Additional Travel Expenses** were added to include mandatory in-person grantee meeting for the FY27-28 grant cycle, as well as required reporting and presentation on grant outcomes.

Note, this recommendation leaves a balance of \$370,020 in grant funds to award to new grant applicants in the FY27-28 grant cycle.