

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT P.O. Box 35024 Billings, MT 59107-5024



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## MCEP Grant Committee - Bridge Replacement

RE: Yellowstone County MCEP Bridge Project - Over the BBWA near 56<sup>™</sup> Street West

Dear Committee Chair & Committee Members,

This grant will assist Yellowstone County in replacing the bridge that crosses the BBWA (near 56<sup>th</sup> Street West which is also near I-90). Below are the 3 major benefits this grant will bring to Yellowstone County.

## 1. FINANCIAL BENIFIT

a. Yellowstone County is responsible for approximately 200 bridges. Due to this volume of bridges the county expends a sizeable amount of funding to maintain its bridges to the benefit of the traveling public, businesses, and residents.

## 2. IMPORTANCE OF THIS BRIDGE

- a. This bridge is on a designated truck route and has indirect access to I-90. Yellowstone County has made temporary repairs to keep this bridge in service.
- b. These temporary repairs have removed the load limit and allowed the county to keep this bridge open. Therefore, it must be replaced. Replacement will also address safety, as this bridge is skewed.

## 3. SAFETY IMPROVEMT

- a. This project will enable improved site distance across this bridge when traveling in both directions.
- b. The current bridge abutment is near the north bound edge of the pavement. The new bridge will be designed to accommodate more space between the edge of pavement and the edge of the bridge.
- c. The bridge alignment currently requires the intersection to be offset. This will be corrected with the new design.

This bridge serves many residents and commercial businesses. It also serves as a designated truck route, along with being both a mail route and a school bus route. Additionally, this area is a major portion of agricultural operations in western Yellowstone County.

Sincerely,

Tim Miller, Yellowstone County Public Works Director