



**PHILLIPS COUNTY
IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC LAND
SURVEY SYSTEM (PLSS)**

**MONTANA GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION ACT
GRANT APPLICATION**

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025: JULY 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2025

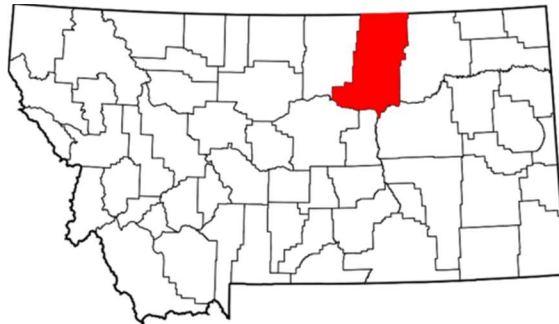


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Proposal Information	
Identified Grant Priority:	<i>Tier 1-B-1-a Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure Improvement to Cadastral & Administrative Boundaries Themes – Cadastral – Collecting new survey control data</i>
Annual or Multi-Year Proposal:	<i>Annual – FY2025</i>
Proposal Prepared By:	
Short Title of Proposal:	<i>Improvements to Public Land Survey System (PLSS) – Phillips County area</i>
Executive Summary:	
<p>Montana’s cadastral framework layer was originally based on the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Geographic Coordinate Database (GCDB). This database is known to be spatially inaccurate in many areas of Phillips County, particularly near the Town of Loring, the Town of Saco and the City of Malta as well as the east side of the Fort Belknap Indian reservation, due to the lack of Survey Control Points.</p> <p>These inaccuracies are problematic when GIS data is combined with the cadastral framework, resulting in mistrust and/or misuse of the data. It is the goal of Phillips County to address these inaccuracies.</p> <p>The proposed solution is to acquire better survey control using a hired engineering firm, to improve the accuracy of the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) in Phillips County. Enhancing the PLSS, in areas shown to be problematic will allow for the adjustment of the cadastral and administrative boundaries to show on-the-ground conditions more accurately. These adjustments will improve spatial data used by our taxpayers and local government employees alike.</p> <p>As mapping control data is collected by a licensed surveyor, reviewed by Phillips County, and submitted to the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) theme stewards – the proposed project will improve the MSDI and PLSS standardized data to increase spatial accuracy for the areas in Phillips County and improve trust in the data.</p>	

SECTION 1 – ORGANIZATION, PARTNER, & PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Primary Applicant Contact Information <i>(Please fill this section out in its entirety)</i>	
Name of Agency/Entity:	Phillips County
Department:	Clerk & Recorder
Division/Section:	
Street:	314 S 2 nd Ave W
City:	Malta
County:	Phillips
State:	Montana
Zip Code:	59538
Project Manager Contact Information:	
Name:	Lynnel LaBrie
Title:	Clerk & Recorder
Email Address:	clerkrecorder@phillipscounty.mt.gov
Phone Number:	406-654-2423
Fax Number:	406-654-1650
Secondary Project Manager Contact Information:	
Name:	
Title:	
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Fax Number:	
MGIA Grant Funding Request & Match:	
Total Requested MGIA Funds:	\$48,000
Total Matched Funds:	\$4,000

Funding Partners:	
Name of Contact:	Bruce Christofferson
Name of Agency:	Phillips County
Street:	314 S 2 nd Ave W
City:	Malta
County:	Phillips
State:	Montana
Zip Code:	59538
Contact Email Address:	
Contact Phone Number:	406-654-2423

SECTION 2 – RELEVANCE

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC BENEFIT

SECTION 4 – PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITY

SECTION 5 – SCOPE OF WORK

Scope of Work:

- Goal 1. Improve the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) in Phillips County
- Objective 1.1. Establish Survey Control Points
 - Task 1.1.1. Prioritize and Map Locations for Data Collection w/State Library procedures
 - Completion Date: July 10, 2023
 - Objective 1.2. Update 47 Control points in Phillips County
 - Task 1.2.1. Hire Consultant - The County will follow established County procedures for recruiting and hiring a qualified licensed surveyor and Engineering Firm.
 - Completion Date: July 15, 2024
 - Task 1.2.2. Preparation for field work with Engineering Firm – Review of prioritized survey locations

- Task 1.2.3. -Completion Date: August 31, 2024
Generate Field Maps, Corner research w/Engineering Firm
- Task 1.2.4. -Completion Date: September 30, 2024
Obtain Authorization from Landowners w/Engineering Firm
- Objective 1.3. Finalize Grant and Deliverables
 - Task 1.3.1. File Corner Records
-Completion Date: June 15, 2025
 - Task 1.3.2. Submit collected survey data to the State Library
-Completion Date: June 28, 2025

SECTION 6 – BUDGET JUSTIFICATION & BUDGET TABLE

Phillips County Clerk and Recorder's Office and Planning Department along with The State Library have identified 45 control points throughout the county.

Phillips county has received three proposals from local surveyors for this project. Based on these proposals the approximate cost will be \$1,000 per point and includes all travel expenses. Phillips County will work to choose the appropriate Engineering firm, and then work with the engineer and State Library to finalize the list of control points to be surveyed. All services should not exceed \$52,000, with the county contributing \$1,000 as cash match and in-kind funds of \$3,000 through staffing costs for the team.

Section 7 – Project Sustainability

Phillips County is working to establish a consistent team of GIS professionals, to continue to enhance GIS data within Phillips County. Over the last three years we have worked with the Montana State Library and a consultant to develop and submit our Geo-enabled Election layers.

The Clerk & Recorder's office is continuing to work with our consultant to develop a Plat Book for the County and has hired an individual with GIS background, purchased an ArcGIS license, and is working to develop a county road map.

Alyson Burke, the Deputy Clerk & Recorder, administers our address improvement program, which is responsible for naming roads, as well as handling any new addressing. Alyson also assists with enhancing our 911 system response, by coordinating with Phillips County Sheriff's Office and Ambulance Service. By coordinating with the county Land Planner, DES Coordinator, Road Department, and Sheriff's Office, the Clerk & Recorders office will continue to develop and enhance the GIS capabilities in our County.

SECTION 8 - RENEWABLE GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY

Phillips County's MLIA grant project for FY2021 was the Geo-Enabled Elections Pilot Project. Phillips County partnered with Foxtail Solutions LLC and the State Library as well as other stakeholders, in order to conduct a pilot project aimed at implementing a best practice and workflow for Geo-Enabled Elections. Phillips County successfully completed this project in a timely manner and within budget.

PHILLIPS COUNTY

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BRUCE CHRISTOFFERSON
RICHARD DUNBAR
JOHN F. CARNAHAN

Clerk & Recorder/Election Admin
LYNNEL LABRIE

Treasurer/Assessor/Supt of School
ANN M REMELY

Sheriff/Coroner
JERRY LYTLE



Clerk of Court
TAMI CHRISTOFFERSON

County Attorney
DAN O'BRIEN

Justice of Peace
GAYLE STAHL

District Judge
YVONNE LAIRD

PO BOX 360, MALTA, MONTANA 59538

February 12, 2024

Grant Review Subcommittee
Montana Land Information Advisory Council
PO Box 201800
Helena MT 59620-1800

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter serves as our authorization of the FY2025 Montana Geospatial Information Act Grant application submitted by the Clerk & Recorder's Office on behalf of Phillips County. I certify that Phillips County is committed to its share of the project as pledged in-kind staff hours and a cash match \$1,000.00 toward the surveyor contract.

These grant funds will help Phillips County continue to improve the PLSS system in our State and Local databases and for our emergency personnel and constituents.

Thank you for your consideration of Phillips County's application.

Sincerely,

PHILLIPS COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bruce Christofferson, Chairman

FY2025 MGIA Grant Application - Proposed Survey Control Point Collection*

Organization:

Phillips County

Project Name:

FY25 PLSS Grant - Phillips County

Identified Project Manager:

Lynnel LaBrie, Clerk & Recorder

Number	GCD# ID	Township	Range	Section	Quarter	Corner	Priority (Priority Corner vs. Alternate Corner) Grantee /MSL Action	Comment
		(This is where the grantee will identify the corners for collection)						
201	MT200350N0290E0_400100	35N	29E	34	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
202	MT200350N0300E0_300500	35N	30E	9	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
203	MT200350N0300E0_100440	35N	30E	18	W	Quarter	Priority Corner / Draft	
204	MT200350N0300E0_100400	35N	30E	18	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
205	MT200350N0300E0_100100	35N	30E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
206	MT200350N0300E0_400100	35N	30E	34	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
207	MT200350N0310E0_100100	35N	31E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
208	MT200350N0310E0_600500	35N	31E	12	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
209	MT200350N0310E0_540300	35N	31E	23	S	Quarter	Priority Corner / Draft	
210	MT200350N0310E0_600240	35N	31E	25	W	Quarter	Priority Corner / Draft	
213	MT200350N0320E0_500500	35N	32E	11	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
214	MT200350N0320E0_200100	35N	32E	32	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
215	MT200350N0320E0_500100	35N	32E	35	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
216	MT200320N0330E0_100100	32N	33E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
217	MT200320N0330E0_100340	32N	33E	19	W	Quarter	Priority Corner / Draft	
218	MT200320N0340E0_100400	32N	34E	18	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
220	MT200320N0340E0_400100	32N	34E	34	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
221	MT200320N0350E0_100400	32N	35E	18	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
223	MT200310N0340E0_240540	31N	34E	8	Center	1/16	Priority Corner / Draft	
225	MT200310N0340E0_400500	31N	34E	10	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
227	MT200310N0340E0_400300	31N	34E	22	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
228	MT200310N0290E0_100100	31N	29E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
229	MT200310N0300E0_100100	31N	30E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
230	MT200310N0300E0_400100	31N	30E	34	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
231	MT200300N0300E0_500600	30N	30E	2	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
232	MT200300N0290E0_100400	30N	29E	18	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
233	MT200300N0290E0_100200	30N	29E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
235	MT200300N0300E0_500400	30N	30E	14	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
236	MT200300N0300E0_200300	30N	30E	20	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
237	MT200300N0300E0_100200	30N	30E	30	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
238	MT200300N0300E0_200100	30N	30E	32	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
239	MT200300N0310E0_100100	30N	31E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
240	MT200290N0300E0_100400	29N	30E	18	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
241	MT200290N0300E0_400400	29N	30E	15	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
242	MT200290N0300E0_100100	29N	30E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
243	MT200290N0310E0_100100	29N	31E	31	SW	Township	Priority Corner / Draft	
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248	MT200310N0270E0_600100	31N	27E	36	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
249	MT200300N0270E0_300540	30N	27E	9	W	Quarter	Priority Corner / Draft	
250	MT200300N0280E0_400400	30N	28E	15	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
251	MT200300N0280E0_100400	30N	28E	18	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	
252	MT200310N0340E0_200300	31N	34E	20	SW	Section	Priority Corner / Draft	

*Proposed PLSS Control - This form is only required for applicants proposing PLSS/survey control projects. Those applicants must complete this form with their proposed collection information and upload it into their respective grant applications in Amplifund.

Please do your best to fill this form out, MSL will work internally to research and review points upon award and prior to executing statement of work. It is best to have more points in the proposed list than what is requested for funding. Please insert as many lines as necessary into this excel worksheet. Please do not enter any information in the Approval Status category. MSL will work with the approved grant project Project Managers to approve points. This points are proposed and upon further research, alternative points may be required for collection.

**Phillips County Planning
Box 360
Malta, MT 59538**

February 13, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

The Phillips County Planning Department supports the Clerk and Recorder's FY2025 MGIA grant application. Receiving this grant and having a survey created to remedy specific problem areas in Phillips County would greatly improve the accuracy of these areas in the County shown on the Montana Cadastral database. The Cadastral database is a valuable resource for our local government and our local tax payers. Please consider our County for this grant.

Sincerely,
Casey Burke



Phillips County Planning Department
Box 360
Malta, MT 59538
406-270-1884
Casey38@Gmail.com

Authorizing Statement

I hereby certify that I have read the above application for the FY2025 MGIA Grant Program and the information and all statements in this application are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the project or activity complies with all applicable state, local and federal laws and regulations.

I further certify that this project will comply with applicable statutory and regulatory standards. I further certify that I am (by my signature) authorized to enter into a binding agreement with the Montana State Library to obtain a grant if this application receives approval.

Lynnel LaBrie

Applicant Authorized Signer Name

DocuSigned by:

186350EAF80F4FE...
Signature

Clerk & Recorder

Title


3/12/2024

Date

Complete Grant Application package Received by:

Erin Fashoway

Erin Fashoway, MSL

DocuSigned by:

898149F544564A6...
Signature

Montana GIS Coordinator

Title

3/12/2024

Date

Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: 2718A820DD63436A81AF8A841B856F72	Status: Completed
Subject: Complete with DocuSign: MGIА_FY25_Application_PhillipsCounty.pdf	
Source Envelope:	
Document Pages: 12	Signatures: 2
Certificate Pages: 2	Initials: 0
AutoNav: Enabled	Envelope Originator:
Enveloped Stamping: Enabled	Sean Anderson
Time Zone: (UTC-07:00) Mountain Time (US & Canada)	PO Box 201800
	Helena, MT 59620-1800
	sanderson@mt.gov
	IP Address: 161.7.39.7

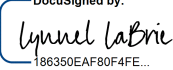
Record Tracking

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Security Appliance Status: Connected	Pool: StateLocal	
Storage Appliance Status: Connected	Pool: Montana State Library	Location: DocuSign

Signer Events

Lynnel LaBrie
 clerkrecorder@phillipscounty.mt.gov
 Clerk & Recorder
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature

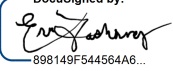
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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Not Offered via DocuSign

Erin Fashoway
 efashoway@mt.gov
 Montana GIS Coordinator
 State of Montana
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DocuSigned by:

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 Using IP Address: 161.7.39.7

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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Not Offered via DocuSign

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp

Lynnel LaBrie
 clerkrecorder@phillipscounty.mt.gov
 Clerk & Recorder
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

COPIED

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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Not Offered via DocuSign

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Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
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