

**MONTANA GEOSPATIAL
INFORMATION ACT
GRANT APPLICATION
STATE FISCAL
YEARS 2027-2028
JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2028**

***MEAGHER COUNTY NG911 DATA
VALIDATION***



APPLICATION FOR FY2027 MGIA GRANT FUNDING

SECTION 1 – ORGANIZATION, PARTNER, AND PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Provide basic information about your organization, the total MGIA grant request and any match, and a short executive summary of your project (up to 400 words). Identify the FY2027 MGIA grant program priority, whether the project is one or multiple years, and list all funding partners.

Primary Applicant Contact Information <i>(Please fill this section out in its entirety)</i>	
Name of Agency/Entity:	Meagher County
Department:	Sheriff's Office
Division/Section:	911
Street:	15 West Main Street
City:	White Sulphur Springs
County:	Meagher County
State:	Montana
Zip Code:	59645
Project Manager Contact Information:	
Name:	Jon Lopp
Title:	Sheriff/Coroner/DES
Email Address:	jlopp@meagherco.net
Phone Number:	(406) 547-3397
Secondary Project Manager Contact Information	
Name:	Liv West
Title:	Clerk and Recorder
Email Address	lwest@meagherco.net
Phone Number:	(406) 547-3021
Authorized Signer Contact Information	
Name	Jon Lopp
Title	Sheriff/Coroner/DES
Email Address	jlopp@meagherco.net
Phone Number	(406) 547-3397

Funding Partners <i>(required for each partner, add rows as needed)</i>	
Name of Contact:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Name of Agency:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Street:	Click or tap here to enter text.
City:	Click or tap here to enter text.
County:	Click or tap here to enter text.
State:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Zip Code:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Contact Email Address:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Contact Phone Number:	Click or tap here to enter text.

NOTE: Each identified Funding Partner MUST also submit a letter of support.

Proposal Information	
Date Submitted:	February 25, 2026
Identified Grant Priority: <i>*See the Montana Geospatial Info Plan for information on priorities.</i>	Data Enhancement - Support Addressing MSDI Data Layers (NG911 & GEE) (Contracting)
Proposal Prepared By:	Meagher County
Short Title of Proposal:	Meagher County NG911 Data Validation
Executive Summary	
<p>Meagher County has greatly improved their level of compliance and readiness for the Next Generation 9-1-1 transition and is nearly 80 percent complete in validations performed in the State Validation Portal. However, there are still serious discrepancies with their current addressing and E-911 system. As a rural county with low population density, having concise addressing data that is reliable and current is integral to first response. This phase of the project will aim at continuing to build a reliable database that is ready for NENA assessment, including road centerline data, address structures, PSAP Boundary, Emergency Service Boundaries, etc. Meagher County Sheriff's Office has contracted with Great West Engineering for this work previously and has completed many of the required validations and data aggregation steps and aims to build on that success. Great West's GIS team has the capabilities to continue to build a GIS framework to support the next steps of the NG-9-1-1 transition. Great West will provide services to both build and respond to post assessments, after running assessment scripts to identify remaining discrepancies in the current E-911 tables. The statewide validation system will be used to identify and improve 911 data as necessary.</p>	

MGIA Grant Funding Request and Match	
Total Requested MGIA Funds:	\$12,780
Total Matched Funds:	\$650

SECTION 2 – PUBLIC BENEFIT

- 1) This project aims to benefit the Montana State Library's addressing data (structure) by building upon a dataset that is compliant with NENA standards as well as laying a foundational template for the county to continue maintenance and updates to the data down the road. Another theme that will be derived from the deliverable data is a road centerline dataset that will be NENA compliant that can be utilized with the transition of MSDI transportation themes.
- 2) This project will not only be of benefit to the Montana State Library by providing NENA compliant data, but also across agencies within the county including providing the county with their own road network, a reliable structure dataset, and the means to build out their GIS capacity to public works and make data that can be shared county and agency wide. While the goal is to provide a better framework for emergency response to county residents, the existing GIS system will be improved and expanded to benefit several agency sectors within Meagher County.
- 3) Public benefits include continuing an in-depth quality assessment of existing structures and a phased approach to bringing their emergency response system to NG9-1-1. This project will also lend in providing publicly available data in the form of webmap and webmap-applications. This project would not only benefit the county and state, but also the wellbeing of all Meagher County residents. This phase of the project will build upon previous work and goal to create a safer and more resilient community.

SECTION 3 – PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITY

Meagher County has extensive experience of applying and managing grant-awarded projects. Jon Lopp will be responsible for working with Montana State Library to provide project reporting, invoicing, and forthcoming data deliverables. Jon Lopp will be the primary point of contact with the hired consultants (Great West Engineering), managing the project scheduling, meeting coordination, etc.

The Secondary Project Manager, Liv West, Clerk & Recorder.

The consultant, Great West Engineering GIS staff (Hannah Nishek and Matt Blassic), will be responsible for execution of items listed in the Scope of Work. This will include execution of all GIS related items in the provided Scope of Work. Hannah's qualifications include a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a focus on Management Information Systems and additional coursework in GIS and cartography from the University of Montana. Matt's qualifications include a Bachelor of Science in Geography with a focus on GIS and Cartography from the University of Montana.

Hannah and Matt both serve as on-call GIS/Addressing Coordinators for Meagher County, Wheatland & Golden Valley counties and continue to work with Meagher County on all GIS related matters. Matt and Hannah also have extensive experience providing management assistance to MGIA awarded communities. Contractual services to complete the work scoped for this project amounts to a total of 103 hours and \$13,430.

See attached PDF Invoice

SECTION 4 – SCOPE OF WORK

- Goal 1. Analyze Existing Site Structure Address Points and Road Centerlines against legacy data
- Objective 1.1. Project Startup & Kickoff Meeting
 - Task 1.1.1. Kickoff Meeting – Contractor will host meeting. Meeting invitees will be comprised of Meagher County Sheriff’s Office, Great West Engineering, the Agency, and relevant county agencies to review project.
 - Completion Date: July 30, 2026
 - Objective 1.2. Single Layer Validations - Validate and Compile NENA Compliant Site Structure Address Points (SSAPs)
 - Task 1.2.1. Use the Montana State Library Data Validation & Aggregation Tool to complete all single layer validations for SSAP points. Currently, 66.66% of validations have been passed.
 - Completion Date: August 31, 2026
- Goal 2. Compile, Review, and Analyze All Existing Boundary Datasets for PSAP
- Objective 2.1. Finalize and align all Emergency Services Boundaries to current administrative PSAP boundaries
 - Task 2.1.1. Review and adjust boundary geometry to current administrative boundaries
 - Completion Date: October 31, 2026
 - Task 2.1.2. Collaborate with neighboring PSAPs to finalize boundaries
 - Completion Date: October 31, 2026
- Goal 3. Complete Multiple Layer Validations
- Objective 3.1. Use the Montana State Library Data Validation & Aggregation Tool to validate and correct all layer-to-layer validations necessary as outlined by Montana State Library
 - Task 3.1.1. Use the Montana State Library Data Validation & Aggregation Tool to validate all multi-layer validations required by the State Validation Portal
 - Completion Date: November 30, 2026
- Goal 4. Legacy Data Validations
- Objective 4.1. Complete all necessary legacy data validations
 - Task 4.1.1. Review, compile, and validate MSAG legacy data from E911 system.
 - Completion Date: January 31, 2027
 - Task 4.1.2. Use the Montana State Library Data Validation & Aggregation Tool to validate Meagher County Road Centerlines and Structures Datasets against the state standards and 9-1-1 Master Street Address Guide (MSAG), Automatic Location Identifier (ALI) datasets.
 - Completion Date: January 31, 2027
- Goal 5. Prepare Existing Data from Goals 1 through 4 for State Assessment
- Objective 5.1. Compile geodatabase and spatial data for assessment
 - Task 5.1.1. Run Topology on datasets developed in previous and goals
 - Completion Date: February 28, 2027

SECTION 5 – BUDGET JUSTIFICATION AND BUDGET TABLE

Task 1.2.1. – Validate NENA Compliant Site Structure Address Points MGIA funds will be used to facilitate GIS related database services to transpose all existing data to updated data schemas that are compliant with NENA standards and begin single layer validations. This will include the visual QA of all structures within the PSAP.

Task 2.1.1 - Finalize Emergency Service Boundaries MGIA funds will be used to account for the validating and correcting PSAP, Fire, EMS, and Law Boundary datasets. This will include working internally as well as with neighbors to finalize the PSAP boundary.

Task 3.1.1 – Multi-layer Validations and Corrections

Consultant will use the Montana State Library *Data Validation & Aggregation Tool* to validate and correct all layer-to-layer validations necessary as outlined by Montana State Library.

Task 4.1.1 through 4.1.2 – Compile existing Legacy data including MSAG tables as well as ALI data and validate using State’s validation tool, as well as correcting and facilitating any necessary changes with neighboring PSAPs.

Contractor will work with legacy provider and county staff to finalize and enhance existing legacy data to reach validation.

Task 5.1.1. – Run Topology on Datasets Developed for State Assessment

Contractor will run necessary topology and resolve all topologic errors that exist using error inspector.

SECTION 6 – PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

The end goal of this project is to provide Meagher County residents with a sustainable dataset that is NENA compliant and ready for the roll out of NG-911 statewide. The data will continue to be developed in a manner that will be easily transferable and shared by the contractor (Great West Engineering) and can be managed by Meagher County Sheriff's Office. While the main component of the outcome of this project is a safer, more efficient system for emergency response, another primary goal is to continue to provide compliant data to the Montana State Library and its MSDI Framework.

Meagher County Sheriff's Office will utilize support from both Great West Engineering, Bob Cochrane and Michael Fashoway, among other resources, to provide the most sustainable GIS and data management system possible. Data will be shared by the contractor and visualized using ArcGIS Pro and ArcGIS Online (AGOL) in future phases of this project so that Meagher County can begin training and staffing for a position to assist in managing the county's addressing dataset, the end goal also to have Meagher County Sheriff's Office provide additional GIS outputs to county residents including public works information and other additional frameworks to benefit the county. Meagher County's roads department and public works will be able to share spatial information with its residents, as well as other public offices will be able to make their data publicly viewable with real world locations and viewable interfaces.

SECTION 7 - RENEWABLE GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY

Meagher County was previously awarded funding in FY2023 and was successful in increasing their readiness for the Next Generation 9-1-1 transition and is nearly 80 percent complete in validations performed in the State Validation Portal due to that effort.

Having extensive experience with the State Validation Portal and familiarity with the data will ensure future success.



Meagher County Sheriff/Coroner

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Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express strong support for Meagher County's grant application to advance its Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) readiness and enhance the accuracy, reliability, and completeness of its public safety GIS data. As a rural county with low population density, Meagher County relies heavily on precise and up-to-date addressing information to ensure that emergency services can be delivered quickly and effectively. Continued investment in this effort is critical for public safety and operational efficiency.

Meagher County has already demonstrated significant progress, having completed nearly 80 percent of the required validations in the State Validation Portal. This progress reflects a serious commitment to preparing for NG9-1-1 implementation. However, important discrepancies remain within the county's addressing, road centerline, emergency service boundaries, and other E-911 datasets. These gaps must be resolved to meet NENA standards and to fully support modern 911 operations.

Great West Engineering has been an essential partner in this work. Their GIS team has previously assisted the county in data aggregation, validation, and the development of foundational GIS layers. They have the proven capability to continue building out the data framework needed for NG9-1-1 transition and to address post-assessment findings using statewide validation tools. Their continued involvement will ensure that Meagher County's datasets meet statewide and national requirements.

The proposed project will allow Meagher County to complete the remaining validations, correct outstanding discrepancies, and finalize a reliable GIS database that supports timely and accurate emergency response. This investment will meaningfully improve public safety infrastructure in a rural community that depends on clear, accurate, and current information during emergencies.

For these reasons, I fully support Meagher County's grant application and encourage its approval. Please feel free to contact me at jlopp@meagherco.net if additional information is needed.

Sincerely

Jon Lopp
Meagher County Sheriff/Coroner

