

**MONTANA LAND
INFORMATION GRANT
APPLICATION**

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2019

**CEIC CENSUS 2020 VOTING
DISTRICT PROJECT**

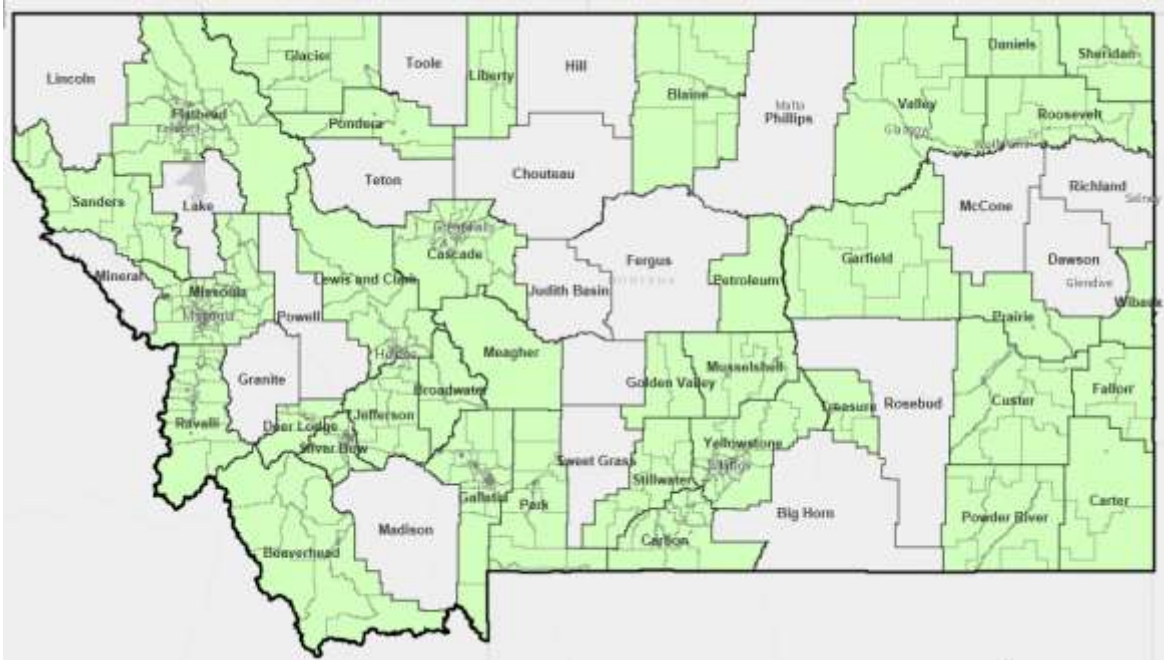
APPLICATION FOR MLIA GRANT FUNDING

SECTION 1 – APPLICANT, PARTNER, AND PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Primary Applicant Contact Information <i>(Please fill this section out in it entirety)</i>	
Name of Agency/Entity:	Montana Department of Commerce
Department:	Office of Tourism and Business Development
Division/Section:	Census & Economic Information Center
Street:	301 S. Park Ave.
City:	Helena
County:	Lewis and Clark
State:	Montana
Zip Code:	59620
<i>Project Manager Contact Information:</i>	
Name:	Leslie Zolman
Title:	GIS Coordinator / State Data Center Lead
Email Address:	lzolman@mt.gov
Phone Number:	406-841-2742
Fax Number:	
<i>Secondary Contact Information:</i>	
Name:	Tom Kaiserski
Title:	Bureau Chief
Email Address:	tkaiserski@mt.gov
Phone Number:	406-841-2034
MLIA Grant Funding Request & Match:	
Total Requested MLIA Funds:	\$9,660.00
Total Matched Funds:	\$3,972.82

Proposal Information	
Date Submitted:	February 13, 2018
Identified Grant Priority:	II. Build Geographic Information Systems to Improve Local & Tribal Government Workflows, Business Processes, and Operations d. GIS data development to support the U.S. Census Bureau's Geographical and Statistical Boundary Programs
Annual or Multi-Year Proposal:	Annual Proposal
Proposal Prepared By:	Leslie Zolman
Short Title of Proposal:	Voting District Project - Census 2020
<p>Executive Summary (<i>required – 250 maximum word count</i>):</p> <p>Under the provisions of Title 13, Section 141(c) of the United States Code, the Secretary of Commerce is required to provide states the opportunity to specify geographic areas such as Blocks that they wish to receive decennial census population counts for redistricting. Every ten years the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program provides states the opportunity to delineate voting districts and to suggest census block boundaries for use in the 2020 Census redistricting data tabulations (Public Law 94-171 Redistricting Data File).</p> <p>Phase 1: Block Boundary Suggestion Project - In 2017 CEIC completed the first phase of the Redistricting Data Program called the Block Boundary Suggestion Project. During this phase CEIC worked with stakeholders across the state to provide the US Census Bureau with suggestions for the 2020 blocks.</p> <p>Phase 2: Voting District Project (VDP) - In 2018-2019 the second phase of the Redistricting Data Program called the Voting District Project will provide states with the opportunity to submit their voting districts, wards and precincts that will be included in the 2020 Census Redistricting Data tabulations. This program will allow Montana to construct small area geography needed to generate state legislative districts and Congressional districts</p> <p>In 2009 CEIC submitted voting districts for 36 counties through VDP. This grant will enable CEIC will collect, digitize, and submit voting districts for all 56 counties. The U.S. Census Bureau will then provide 2020 Census population and race data at the precinct level that can be used in redistricting the entire State of Montana.</p>	
List All Past Awarded MLIA Grants:	
FY2017 CEIC Census Designated Places Update	

Voting districts submitted in 2009 during the Voting District Project. The 36 counties symbolized in green had voting district boundaries submitted to the U.S. Census Bureau. <http://mtdoc.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=422b9c7c2c2f40e3a8a8f0172c1542e6>



Funding Partners: <i>(funding recipient)</i>	
Name of Contact:	Leslie Zolman
Name of Agency:	Montana Department of Commerce Census & Economic Information Center
Street:	301 S Park Ave
City:	Helena
County:	Lewis and Clark
State:	Montana
Zip Code:	59620
Contact Email Address:	lzolman@mt.gov
Contact Phone Number:	406-841-2742

SECTION 2 – RELEVANCE

The Voting District Project - Census 2020 project directly relates to FY2019 Land Plan Priority (II.) Build Geographic Information Systems to Improve Local & Tribal Government Workflows, Business Processes, and Operations (d.) GIS data development to support the U.S. Census Bureau's Geographical and Statistical Boundary Programs.

The Montana Department of Commerce, Census and Economic Information Center (CEIC) serves as the U.S. Census State Data Center for Montana. Leslie Zolman is the GIS Coordinator and State Data Center Lead for CEIC and has been appointed by Governor Steve Bullock to serve as the U.S. Census non-partisan redistricting liaison.

The redistricting Data Program is one of many geographical programs the U.S. Census Bureau will be running in preparation of Census 2020. Phase 2: Voting District Project provides Montana with the opportunity to submit voting districts that will be included in the 2020 Census Redistricting Data tabulations. This program will allow Montana to construct small area geographies needed to generate state legislative districts and Congressional districts.

The Voting District Project is a U.S. Census Bureau Geographical program and this project directly furthers the land plan objectives by developing GIS data to support a U.S. Census Bureau's Geographical program.

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC BENEFIT

Redistricting is the act of drawing new political boundaries. In Montana, a five-member Districting and Apportionment Commission has authority under the Montana Constitution ([Article V, Section 14](#)) to draw the boundaries of congressional and legislative districts every 10 years. Using Census Redistricting Data tabulations from the most recent U.S. Census, the commission must draw districts with approximately the same number of people.

The Voting District Project will allow Montana to submit current voting districts that will be included in the 2020 Census Redistricting Data tabulations. These small area geographies will be used by the Districting and Apportionment Commission to generate state legislative and Congressional districts as authorized under the Montana Constitution.

During redistricting the Voting District Project will directly provide a public benefit to the state, counties, communities and all Montana citizens by providing the required small area geography population tabulations to the Districting and Apportionment Commission that will allow them to draw the boundaries of congressional and legislative districts across Montana.

Redistricting is the primary goal of the Voting District Project however the project will also allow counties to work with CEIC to update or create voting district boundaries in a GIS from legal descriptions, digital and printed maps and other documentation. County governments will have access to the digital voting district boundaries that can be used in future programs that will benefit their citizens.

Voting district boundaries are currently not available in a GIS format for all Montana counties. This is a dataset that CEIC and the State Library receive many requests for each year. Having this dataset available will benefit multiple agencies, jurisdictions and the citizens of Montana.

SECTION 4 – PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITY

Leslie Zolman, GISP is the Montana Department of Commerce CEIC GIS Coordinator and the Montana State Data Center Lead. Leslie has been appointed by Governor Steve Bullock to serve as the U.S. Census Bureau non-partisan redistricting liaison and the Census 2020 liaison for Montana. Leslie will be the project manager and oversee the project schedule, employees/contractors, budget and reporting.

Leslie holds a Master's of GIS from Penn State University and an undergraduate degree in microbiology. She holds a geographic information systems professional (GISP) certification and is a member of the GISP review committee. She has served on the Montana Association of Geographic Information Professionals board for the past 6 years and is a GISCorps Core Committee board member. Leslie has managed multiple large crowdsourcing and remote GIS projects during her time on the GISCorps Core Committee including working with the United Nations for six weeks during the Ebola response. During the Ebola response she was deployed to Ghana and managed three GISCorps volunteers deployed to the affected countries.

Leslie has been with CEIC for over 6 years and has provided leadership and project management in previous U.S. Census Bureau geographical and statistical boundary programs such as the Block Boundary Suggestion Project (BBSP), which was phase 1 of the Redistricting Data Program.

In FY2017 Leslie was awarded and successfully completed an MLIA grant for the CEIC Census Designated Places Update. CEIC identified the need to update Census Designated Places (CDPs) across the state because many of the populated places in Montana were not represented with census boundaries and therefore detailed economic and demographic data is not available for these areas. During this project Leslie collected 254 comments using a crowdsourced story map, phone calls, emails, GoToMeeting sessions and by attending conferences. A total of 43 counties were involved in the process; 311 new CDPs and updates to 14 current CDPs were suggestions to the U.S. Census Bureau. The project was such a success that the U.S. Census Bureau used the project scope to develop in-house training for staff.

The CEIC Census Designated Places Update FY2017 grant concluded on November 16, 2016 and the final report was submitted to MSL the following day. Leslie presented a brief overview of the successful project to MLIAC on November 18, 2016.

During the procurement process, we will hire a short term employee or contractor. The employee/contractor will be required to provide examples of similar projects they have completed that demonstrated they have the GIS skills, project management and community outreach experience required for this project. The preference is to hire an experienced short term employee but if needed we will follow the state procurement process to post an RFP and select a contractor. The employee/contractor will be required to meet the milestones in the scope of work and their performance will be evaluated at each milestone to insure the project stays on schedule and the deliverables meet quality standards.

SECTION 5 – SCOPE OF WORK

Goal 1 Analyze available voting district boundaries (First milestone to be completed by CEIC staff the first week of October 2018)

Objective 1.1 Acquire all available voting district boundaries

Task 1.1.1 Montana Secretary of State (SOS) precinct list - Acquire results by precinct data for the latest election. This data has county names and precinct names along with election results. The results can be disregarded and the data used to determine the correct precinct names and number of precincts per county. (Information on the designation of precincts can be found in [Montana Code Annotated 2017, 13-3--1](#))

Task 1.1.2 2010 boundaries submitted to Census - In 2009 CEIC participated in VDP and submitted boundaries for 46 counties. This data will be used as baseline data to identify areas that have experienced change and need to be submitted to Census. The 20 counties that did not have available data in 2009 will be focused on.

Task 1.1.3 County websites - Research and download any available voting districts boundaries from county websites. This data should be the most up to data and will be used to note areas of change.

Task 1.1.4 ArcGIS Online (AGO) - Research and download any available voting districts boundaries from county AGO sites. Many counties are using AGO to publish data and this data should be the most up to data and will be used to note areas of change.

Objective 1.2 Analyze available voting district boundaries

Task 1.2.1 What boundaries show no changes - Using the 2010 VDP boundaries, the SOS precinct list and boundaries downloaded from the county website and AGO use GIS to identify which boundaries do not show any changes since the VDP 2009 submission.

Task 1.2.2 What boundaries show changes - Using the 2010 VDP boundaries, the SOS precinct list and boundaries downloaded from the county website and AGO use GIS to identify which boundaries show changes since the VDP 2009 submission.

Task 1.2.3 What new boundaries are available for the 20 counties that were not included in the 2009 VDP submission - Using the 2010 VDP boundaries, the SOS precinct list and boundaries downloaded from the county website and AGO identify if any boundaries are available for the 20 counties that were not included in the 2009 VDP submission.

Goal 2 Acquire current voting district boundaries from counties (Second milestone to be completed by employee/contractor by the end of November 2018. A month of lag time has

been added between the completion of Goal 1 and the start of dependent Goal 2 to hire employee/contractor.)

Objective 2.1 Contact and request voting district boundaries from each county using the Montana Secretary of State County Election Administrator Contact List, which includes a contact name, address, phone and email for each election administrator by county.

Task 2.1.1 Contact all counties by email and/or phone and request GIS boundaries for voting districts.

Task 2.1.2 Request legal descriptions from counties that do not have GIS boundaries for their voting districts.

Task 2.1.3 Request a printed or digital map from counties that do not have GIS or legal descriptions for their voting districts.

Task 2.1.4 If no GIS, legal descriptions or maps are available for a counties' voting district request any available documentation that could be used to define their voting districts.

Goal 3 Compile and create GIS boundaries for all available voting districts (Third milestone to be completed by employee/contractor by the end of December 2018. This is a dependent goal to Goal 2.)

Objective 3.1 Compile all available voting district boundaries into a GIS with a schema that follows the recommendations provided by the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program.

Task 3.1.1 Compile all GIS boundaries acquired in Goal 2 and create a schema that follows the recommendations provided by the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program.

Task 3.1.2 Digitize new voting district boundaries using legal descriptions, maps and other documentation provided by counties in Goal 2. Compile this into the GIS boundaries created in Task 3.1.1.

Task 3.1.3 Perform quality control/quality assurance procedures on data and align voting district boundaries to MSDI admin boundaries, PLSS, and parcels where possible.

Goal 4 Finalize voting district boundaries and work with counties to approve final boundaries before submitting to the U.S. Census Bureau. (Fourth milestone to be completed during the first week of February 2019 by the employee/contractor. This is a dependent goal to Goal 3.)

Objective 4.1 Provide boundaries compiled in Goal 3 to counties, request counties to review and provide feedback, make adjustments to boundaries based on county comments and request final approval of boundaries from counties.

Task 4.1.1 Create wall-sized PDF maps of each county that display the voting districts from Goal 3. Email or provide link for counties to download their map.

Task 4.1.2 Ask counties to review the PDF map for their county and provide feedback for needed changes or if no changes are needed to approve boundaries. This task will serve as an additional quality control/quality assurance review.

Task 4.1.3 Address any changes that need to be made to voting district boundaries based on feedback from task 4.1.2. Work closely with counties to resolve any boundary conflicts and provide counties additional PDF maps as needed.

Task 4.1.4 Provide counties with final PDF map that can be printed and displayed if desired. **Deliverable**

Goal 5 Provide all available voting district boundaries to the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program, which supports the Land Information Plan goal of “GIS data development to support the U.S. Census Bureau’s Geographical and Statistical Boundary Programs.” (Fifth milestone to be completed by CEIC staff by mid-February, 2019. This is a dependent goal to Goal 4.)

Objective 5.1 Process county approved voting district boundaries from Goal 4 and submit to the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program and achieve the Land Information Plan goal of developing GIS data to support the U.S. Census Bureau’s Geographical and Statistical Boundary Programs.

Task 5.1.1 Using the U.S. Census Bureau's Geography Update Partnership Software (GUPS) process all county approved voting district boundaries from Goal 4. This will be done on a county by county bases as requested by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Task 5.1.2 Submit voting district boundaries processed using GUPS to the U.S. Census Bureau through their Secure Web Incoming Module (SWIM) on a county by county bases as requested by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Task 5.1.3 Meet the Land Information Plan goal – (II.) Build Geographic Information Systems to Improve Local & Tribal Government Workflows, Business Processes, and Operations (d.) GIS data development to support the U.S. Census Bureau’s Geographical and Statistical Boundary Programs. **Deliverable**

Goal 6 Make voting district boundaries public and submit reports to the Montana State Library. (Sixth and final milestone to be completed by CEIC staff by the end of March, 2019. This is a dependent goal to Goal 5.)

Objective 6.1 Make voting district boundaries public by publishing to AGO and registering in the Montana GIS Data List.

Task 6.1.1 The voting district boundaries created in Goal 4 that align with MSDI admin boundaries, PLSS, and parcels where possible will be published to the Montana

Department of Commerce AGO account, associated metadata will be added and the service will be made public. **Deliverable**

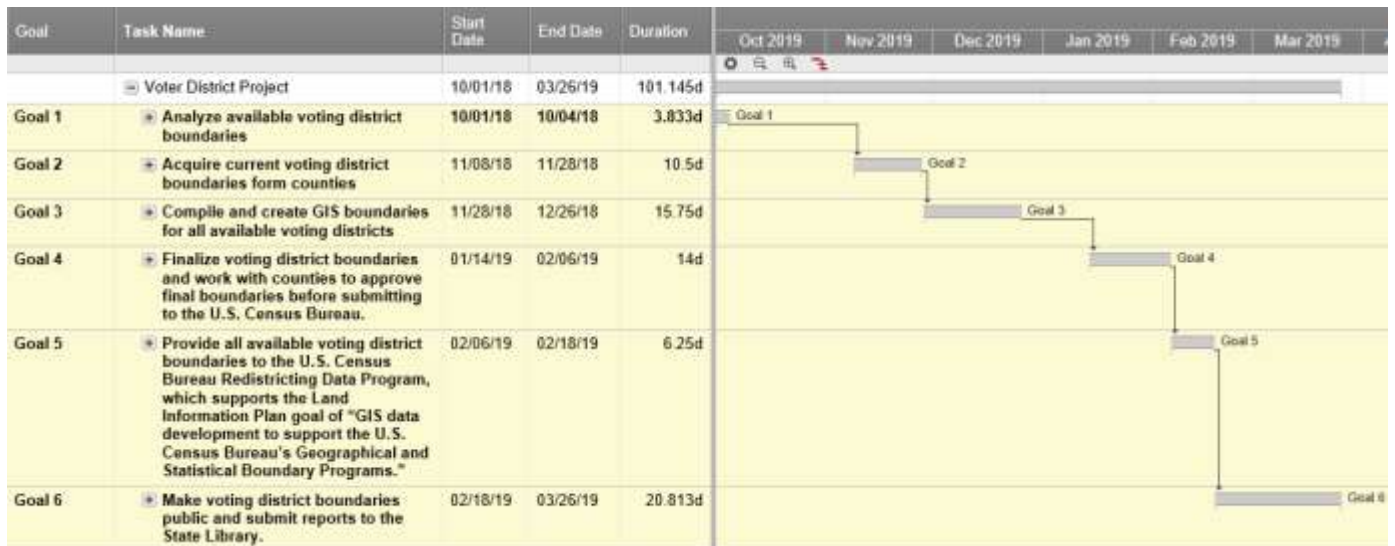
Task 6.1.2 The AGO data published in Task 6.1.1 will be registered in the Montana GIS Data List. **Deliverable**

Objective 6.2 Submit quarterly update reports and final report to the Montana State Library. (This objective will be completed by CEIC staff and is a time dependent task. Only the final report and possible MLIAC update are dependent on all other goals and task being complete.)

Task 6.2.1 Quarterly update reports will be submitted by the project manager to the Montana State Library according to the schedule set in the statement of work document. Each report will include an update on each deliverable, any deviations from the timeline and any budget issues encountered along with a financial report.

Task 6.2.2 A final report will be submitted within 30 days of the completion of the project, which will include a summary of Project, financial Status Report, description of Methods for data creation/collection, data and its associated metadata, proof data has been published to AGO and registered in the Montana Data List, and a map depicting the voting districts collected during the project.

Task 6.2.3 The project manager will provide a brief update at the next MLIAC meeting following the completion of the project if time is available on the agenda.



SECTION 6 – BUDGET JUSTIFICATION AND BUDGET TABLE

Goal 1 Analyze available voting district boundaries (42 CEIC in-kind hours)

Objective 1.1 Acquire all available voting district boundaries – CEIC in-kind 34 hours based on 0.5 hours per county

Objective 1.2 Analyze available voting district boundaries – CEIC in-kind 8 hours

Goal 2 Acquire current voting district boundaries form counties (84 employee/contractor hours)

Objective 2.1 Contact and request voting district boundaries from each county using the Montana Secretary of State County Election Administrator Contact List, which includes a contact name, address, phone and email for each election administrator by county – employee/contractor 84 hours based on 1.5 hours per county

Goal 3 Compile and create GIS boundaries for all available voting districts (126 employee/contractor hours)

Objective 3.1 Compile all available voting district boundaries into a GIS with a schema that follows the recommendations provided by the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program - employee/contractor 126 hours based on 0.5 hours per county with 2010 VDP boundaries, 2 hours per county with no 2010 VDP boundaries and 0.5 hours per county for QA/QC

Goal 4 Finalize voting district boundaries and work with counties to approve final boundaries before submitting to the U.S. Census Bureau (112 employee/contractor hours)

Objective 4.1 Provide boundaries compiled in goal 3 to counties, request counties to review and provide feedback, make adjustments to boundaries based on county comments and request final approval of boundaries form counties - employee/contractor 112 hours based on 2 hours per county

Goal 5 Provide all available voting district boundaries to the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program, which supports the Land Information Plan goal of “GIS data development to support the U.S. Census Bureau’s Geographical and Statistical Boundary Programs.” (42 CEIC in-kind hours)

Objective 5.1 Process county approved voting district boundaries from goal 4 and submit to the U.S. Census Bureau Redistricting Data Program and achieve the Land Information Plan goal of developing GIS data to support the U.S. Census Bureau's Geographical and Statistical Boundary Programs boundaries – CEIC in-kind 42 hours based on 0.75 hours per county

Goal 6 Make voting district boundaries public and submit reports to the State Library (11 CEIC in-kind hours)

Objective 6.1 Make voting district boundaries public by publishing to AGO and registering in the Montana GIS Data List – CEIC in-kind 5 hours

Objective 6.2 Submit quarterly update reports and final report to the State Library – CEIC in-kind 6 hours based on 1.5 hours per report

Project Budget Summary

The total project cost is \$13,632.82. The sponsor requests \$9,660.00 through the MLIA program and pledges \$3,972.82 as an in-kind match of staff time.

CEIC estimates approximately 93.5 hours of Leslie Zolman's time as an in-kind match of \$3,972.82, which includes fringe benefits. Leslie will serve as the project manager and GIS lead in the project.

An estimate of approximately 322 hours additional hours are needed to complete this project. During the procurement process, CEIC will hire a short term employee or contractor with demonstrated GIS skills, project management and community outreach experience to fulfill the additional 322 hours. The preference is to hire an experienced short term employee but if needed state procurement process will be followed to select a contractor.

Project Future Steps

The purpose of the Voting District Project, which is the second phase of the Redistricting Data Program is to submit voting districts, wards, and precincts that will be included in the 2020 Census Redistricting Data tabulations. This program will allow Montana to construct small area geography needed to generate state legislative districts and Congressional districts. This project occurs once every ten years therefore there are no planned long term maintenance.

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT (IF APPLICABLE)

No additional funding partners are part of this project.

MLIA GRANT BUDGET SUMMARY TABLE

MLIA GRANT BUDGET SUMMARY					
	MLIA Summary	Applicant Summary			Total: <i>MLIA Share, Applicant Subtotal, Partner Subtotal</i>
Category	MLIA Share	Applicant Cash	Applicant In-kind	Applicant Subtotal	
a. Personnel	\$ 9,660.00		\$ 3,972.82	\$ 3,972.82	
a. 1. Fringe Benefits					
b. Travel					
c. Equipment					
d. Supplies & Materials					
e. Contractual					
f. Other					
Total	\$ 9,660.00		\$ 3,972.82	\$ 3,972.82	\$ 13,632.82

SECTION 7 – RENEWABLE GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY

FY2017 CEIC Census Designated Places Update grant

Project goals and objectives achieved

Goal 1. Identify towns that meet CDP requirements

Objective A. Determining possible new Census Designated Places. (CDPs) – 300 communities were identified as possible new CDP location.

Objective B. Finalize towns that meet CDP requirements and publish in web map – 293 community points were published to an AGO story map on September 17th.

Objective C: Notify communities on CDP review process and their requested role. – CEIC held meetings with MACo and MLCT directors and emailed over 800 community leaders across Montana announcing the project and asking for involvement.

Goal 2. Compile data layers for potential boundary mapping – US Census Bureau “Edge” file from the Block Boundary Suggestion Project was determined to be the most current Census line segment file and was used along with second division PLSS.

Goal 3. Map proposed CDP boundaries

Objective A. Draft boundary delineation.

- Draft model boundaries were produced and published to the story map on September 9th and began receiving comments on the draft model boundaries.
- The draft model boundaries were cleaned and adjusted and published to the story map on September 17th.
- CEIC received comments on the draft boundaries until October 7th.
- CEIC incorporated the comments into the proposed boundaries and final draft boundaries were published to the story map for final review on November 4th.
- The final review was open until November 15th.
- CEIC incorporated final comments into the boundaries, published the final version of potential CDP boundaries to the story map and submitted them to the US Census Bureau on November 16th.

Goal 4. Presentation and Reporting

Objective A. Compile recommendations, text, web maps, printed maps and exhibits for reporting and presentations.

- Leslie Zolman attended the Montana Association of Counties, MACo and Montana League of Cities and Towns Conferences.

- Created, updated and shared the project steps and progress using a story map.
- A printed map highlighting the locations of possible new CDP was created and shared at conferences.

Project Schedule

The CDP Update Project had a very hard deadline due to the US Census Bureau's timeline. The project was originally planned to conclude on November 7, 2016 but due to the number of comments and the high level of community involvement the project was extended until November 17th to allow comments to be collected, processed and incorporated into the boundaries. With this delay the boundaries were still submitted to the US Census Bureau within their timeline requirements.

Project Budget

The total project cost was estimated to be \$30,856.78. CEIC received \$14,275.00 through the MLIA grant and pledged \$16,581.78 as an in-kind match of staff time, travel expenses and software subscription usage. The actual project cost was \$48,021.90 with an in-kind match of \$33,746.90. This large increase was due to the labor intensive time required to clean model boundaries, collect and process over 250 suggestions and communicate with stakeholders.

SECTION 8 – AUTHORIZING STATEMENT

Authorizing Statement

I hereby certify that I have read the application 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.

Leslie Zolman

Name (print or type)

GIS Coordinator / State Data Center Lead

Title (print or type)



Signature and Title of Authorized Representative(s) of Public Entity Applicant

2-13-18

Date

SECTION 9 – CHECKLIST – SIGNATURES REQUIRED

Initial or mark n/a	Completed Required Task
n/a	Proposal Prepared by an outside party – I have read this document in its entirety. (if applicable)
	Section 1 – Applicant, Partner, and Proposal Information
lz	Primary Applicant Information
lz	Funding Partner <i>(if applicable)</i>
lz	Proposal Information
lz	List All Past Awarded MLIA Grants
lz	Section 2 – Relevance (300 max word limit)
lz	Section 3 – Public Benefit
lz	Section 4 – Project Management
lz	Section 5 – Scope of Work Narrative (4-page limit)
	Section 6 – Budget Justification Narrative and Table (3-page limit)
lz	Budget Justification Narrative
lz	Complete Budget Table
n/a	Section 7 – Funding Partner Statements of Support (if applicable)
	Section 8 – Renewable Grant Accountability Narrative (if applicable)
n/a	FY2018 Grantee Report <i>(if applicable)</i>
lz	Past MLIA Grant Project Narrative <i>(if applicable)</i>
lz	Section 9 – A Signed Authorizing Statement