

Montana Grant Funding Cycle



Small communities, Counties and Irrigation Districts can rarely finance large infrastructure improvements without assistance from the various grant programs available to them. Several of the grant programs available in Montana make awards on a biannual basis in conjunction with the State's legislative sessions. Communities need to be aware of the funding cycles and prepared to meet upcoming deadlines or risk delaying projects by two years. This is especially significant because it commonly takes

four to five years to take a project from planning through funding, design, and construction. The first task in the process is the compilation of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) satisfying the requirements of the Uniform Preliminary Engineering Report Outline for Montana Public Facilities as prepared by the Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Action Coordinating Team (WASACT). A PER prepared in accordance with the Uniform Outline is a required and very vital part of all grant applications.



Construction (March 2024)

- » Ensure conformance to plans, specifications and other requirements
- » Coordination among County/City, contractors, regulatory agencies, and funding agencies
- » As-Built drawings and Operation and Maintenance Manual

Bidding (January 2024)

- » Assist in bidding procedures such as bid advertisement, pre-bid meetings, bid opening, bid tabulations, and award recommendation
- » Prepare Notice of Award and Construction Contracts

Design (July - December 2023)

- » Design Report
- » Design Drawings and technical specifications
- » DEQ and/or DNRC Dam Safety Program submittal and approval

Planning Grants (July 2021)

- » Prepare and submit applications to funding agencies for planning grants

Preliminary Engineering (August 2021 - February 2022)

- » Evaluate existing infrastructure
- » Identify solutions and complete alternatives analysis
- » Develop public support of proposed project
- » Obtain DNRC Dam Safety Program review and concurrence

Funding (February - May 2022)

- » Finalize funding strategy
- » Finalize PER
- » Prepare and submit funding applications

Legislature Meets (January - April 2023)