



March 31st, 2023

Dr. Elizabeth Ciemins
Bike Net DBA Billings TrailNet
March 31st, 2023
1971 Pryor Ln
Billings, MT 59102

Re: 2023 Recreational Trails Program Grant Application
Notice of Conditional Funding – Follow-up REQUIRED

Dear Dr. Elizabeth:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has completed its review of all 2023 RTP grant applications. **I am pleased to inform you that your RTP application has been selected for full funding in the amount of \$ 10000 for the 2023 grant cycle. This funding is conditional upon satisfactory environmental review and public comment processes that FWP will conduct in the next month. Once these processes have been completed, Montana FWP will issue a Decision Notice to finalize all awards.**

This year, the Recreational Trails Program received forty-eight applications requesting over \$2.1 million. With only \$1.5 million to award, your application outcompeted many others. The review committee believed your project aligned closely with the program's criteria and that your organization will be a responsible and effective steward of these RTP funds.

Conditions of Funding

1) File and receive an approved amendment to the Billings-Yellowstone County Metropolitan Planning Organization's TIP, and submit this approved amendment via email prior to incurring any expenses

If there are additional conditions listed above, you must satisfy them. Please consult the RTP Manager if you are unsure how to meet a Funding Condition.

Funding Strategy Narrative and Budget Update in WebGrants

We may require more detail in your Funding Strategy Narrative in WebGrants before you sign your Contract Agreement. If this is the case, it is listed as a condition of funding, above. These forms will be unlocked for you in WebGrants for editing; please edit and resubmit them within the next month. You will be notified when this feature is unlocked in WebGrants and provided with additional instructions

Build America, Buy America (BABA)

RTP grantees are required to comply with BABA. Foreign-made materials may not exceed \$2,500 in value across the total project budget, if your project (RTP requested funds OR match) include the purchase of any construction materials (including but not limited to Non-ferrous metals, polymer-based products, lumber, glass, etc.) or manufactured items that include steel or iron and may be valued at over \$2,500 (across the full scope of the project), you must obtain and provide a letter from the manufacture

certifying that the item(s) are American-made and that any foreign sourced materials are valued at less than \$2,500. If any portion of your budget indicated that BABA may be required for your project, it is listed as a condition of funding, above. Please reach out to the RTP Manager to for further clarification or questions.

Additional Resources for Build America, Buy America under the Federal Highways Administration:

- [Question & Answers by FHWA](#)
- [Additional February 1st, 2023 Question & Answers by FHWA](#)

Contract Agreement and Project Start

You may not expend any project funds or matching funds until your RTP Contract Agreement is prepared and signed. We expect to release Contract Agreements to subrecipients for signature in July and August. **Please decide whether you would like to sign your RTP Contract Agreement in July or August, as the month that you choose to sign your Agreement determines when your first reimbursement request is due. For example, if the agreement is signed in July, your first request will be due in March of 2023. If it is signed in August, then your first request will be due by April of 2023.**

Required Follow Up (Due within 2 weeks of this dated letter)

Please respond to this letter via email with the following information:

- Confirmation of your acceptance of the RTP award as outlined.
- Confirmation of your commitment to meet specified Funding Condition(s), if applicable.
- Indication of when you would like to sign your contract (July or August).
- Confirmation that you are the correct contact person for your organization. If not, identify the correct contact person.

We appreciate the time and effort you put into your grant application. We look forward to working with you as a 2023 RTP Subrecipient and supporting you in implementing a successful project.

Sincerely,



Adam Brooks, Chief
Financial Assistance and Compliance Bureau
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

For any questions and for all follow-up on the Conditional Funding Notice, Contact the RTP Manager:

Stephanie Clemen: Stephanie.adamscllemen@mt.gov / (406) 444-5898