

**Request for Proposals
Yellowstone Business Partnership
Seasonality Project, Billings Sub-region
April 18, 2008**

Regional Economic and Land Use Planning

The Yellowstone Business Partnership (YBP) intends to procure services to address the priority challenge of impacts on economic development of land use planning across the Carbon, Stillwater, Sweetgrass, and Yellowstone Counties, Montana, and Park County, Wyoming area. YBP has a total of \$10,000 available for these services. The successful proposer will enter into a contract with the Yellowstone Business Partnership.

Project Concept

The five-county sub-region is experiencing definite growth pressures as a regional entity. How those impacts are felt in individual counties are in some ways common and in others ways different. Successful regional land-use assessment and planning offer opportunities to accommodate both general growth and desired economic development outcomes. At the same time, land use planning can husband our special environmental and cultural resources and help maximize required investments in infrastructure.

We seek the development of a framework for various public agencies and private organizations to use when studying possible changes in land use and organizational patterns that can either support or challenge economic development. We also seek a set of criteria by which those public and private groups will be able to measure the potential economic value of alternative development proposals.

To accomplish such a land use / economic development framework, our contractor will need to a) develop a regional base map that indicates the character of extant development, including various kinds of land use and populations densities, current sorts of infrastructure and the like, b) inventory and assemble samples of current land use planning maps, proposals and other documents generated by various governmental and private sources and c) develop sets of criteria that could be used to measure the various values/obstacles that could arise from future development proposals.

Deliverables

- 1) A comprehensive regional map (or set of maps) documenting extant land use for the five-counties, locations and condition of basic infrastructure elements and densities of population; (estimated 20% of budget)

- 2) An inventory and copies of existing and on-going economic development and land use planning documents at all levels of government and within the private sector for the five counties (lists of plans, summary of intents of plans, reliable contacts, and copies); (estimated 30% of budget)
- 3) A listing of economic and infrastructure issues, and obstacles to economic development found in the plans; (estimated 10% of budget)
- 4) Sets of criteria that could be used to measure economic, cultural, and environmental outcomes viewed from an integrated regional, perspective (minimize degradation / maximize sustainable outcomes); (estimated 25% of budget)
- 5) Lists of opportunities for collaboration and coordination among the various agencies to support sustainable outcomes for both regional and local development proposals; (estimated 10% of budget)
- 6) Attend a two-hour meeting with the sub-regional project committee in Billings in July to provide a progress report. (estimated up to 5% of budget)

The final report will be due by September 19, 2008.

Submission requirements

- 1) Contact information of the principal investigator
- 2) Qualifications of the principal investigator and any other staff that will be working on the project
- 3) Project methodology, (indicate the electronic form the maps can be provided in)
- 4) Project timeline milestones
- 5) Project budget

How to submit a proposal

Proposals are not to exceed 3 pages in length, excluding resumes. Proposals are to be submitted electronically to barbbeck@cablemt.net as a Word file. Preference will be given to academic institutions in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming.

Deadline

The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. May 1, 2008. The committee will meet to make a selection in Cody on May 2, 2008. Proposers are encouraged to attend.

For questions or additional information please contact Barb Beck at 406 446-3628.