Missoula County Trails Bond Program
Level I Application

Please respond to the questions below. Upon completion, arrange a time to deliver and review your application with Parks and Trails Program Staff. Call 406-258-3458 or email CountyParks@co.missoula.mt.us to schedule a meeting time. Staff will meet with each Level I applicant to review the project before inviting them to submit a Level II application.

Applicant Information

1. Organization Name: Friends of 2 Rivers
2. Primary Contact: Gary Matson
3. Title:
4. Address:
5. Email: gjmatson@montana.com
6. Phone Number:

Landowner Identification

(If different than applicant) Use additional space if there are multiple landowners.

7. Landowner Name: The project is primarily located in MDT highway right-of-way. Friends of 2 River is working with Morrison & Maierle on preliminary surveying and engineering for the project and the results of that work may result in the identification of additional landowners.

8. Title: NA

9. Landowner's Agent: Ed Tovas

10. Address: Should I include MDT contact info?

11. Email:

12. Phone Number:

13. Landowner Signature: _____
(Projects must be authorized by the landowner(s) before receiving Level I approval.)

Project Description

Parks, Trails & Open Lands
MISSOULA COUNTY

2014 PARKS & TRAILS BOND

Connectivity within and/or between communities:

The trail will provide a necessary connection within the Bonner, Milltown, West Riverside communities. The trail is in the vicinity of Bonner School and would improve the ability of students to bike and walk to school. While much of the east end of the school district already has access to safe routes to school, the project will also provide safe routes to school for the west end of the district that terminates along the border with East Missoula. Safe routes to school are especially important for Bonner School students because the district has a higher rate of families and students who are low-income. More than 61% of Bonner School students were eligible for free and reduced lunch in 2015 compared to an average of 44% across all schools in Missoula County.

Bonner to East Missoula Trail Project's status in obtaining land acquisition, permitting, easements, and environmental assessments as applicable:

On October 13th, 2016, Friends of 2 Rivers submitted a Missoula County Parks and Trails Board Action Item Referral to request funding from he Parks and Trails Case for use as a match to pro-bono consultation services from Morrison and Maierle, Inc. The Board approved the request and Friends of 2 Rivers has contracted with Morrison and Maierle to begin the preliminary engineering and design services.

The preliminary engineering will include surveying and will provide more information on land ownership and whether the project can be completely built within the Montana Department of Transportation Highway 200 right-of-way. That work is expected to be done by mid-November 2016. Friends of 2 Rivers will not know the extent of details around land acquisition, permitting, easements, or environmental assessments until that work is complete.

18. Identify all of the funding sources and the amount of funding for the project.

Friends of 2 Rivers has been working with Morrison and Maierle Inc. on how to move forward with a large trail project that requires preliminary engineering work in order to be competitive in future grant opportunities. On October 13, 2016, Friends of 2 River was awarded $5247 by the Missoula Parks and Trails Board and has entered in an agreement with Morrison and Maierle Inc. to provide preliminary engineering and design services for the project. The preliminary engineering and design will allow Friends of 2 Rivers, the Bonner Milltown Community Council, and community supporters to have the necessary information to apply for a Transportation Alternative (TA) Grant administered by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT). MDT expects to open up a TA grant cycle in the near future. TA grants are not scored on cost and it is expected that the upcoming TA funding cycle will include more than enough money to cover the cost of the project, if selected. While these partners will write the TA grant, Missoula County has also agreed to be the submitter of the grant as none of the other partners are eligible to apply.