

EXHIBIT 2-M

MONTANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM CONSOLIDATED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

INTRODUCTION

The following form is for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) recipients who must prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) as required by HUD Environmental Review procedures for the CDBG program (24 CFR 58.36). Satisfactory completion of this form will meet the requirements of the federal Housing and Community Development Act as well as the national Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

CDBG recipients must also demonstrate compliance with the environmental requirements of the other related federal environmental laws and regulations listed in the HUD Statutory Checklist (24 CFR 58.5). For this reason, the Statutory Checklist requirements have been combined into this single consolidated form. An index of the applicable federal statutes and regulations is found at the end of this form. Where noted, the numbers that appear to the right of the environmental subject areas listed in the checklist correspond to the listing of statutes found in the index.

The requirements of the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and the uniform State administrative rules adopted pursuant to the Act have also been integrated into the consolidated form.

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Recipient: City of Thompson Falls

Chief Elected Official: Mayor Jerry Lacy

Environmental Certifying Officer: Mayor Jerry Lacy

CDBG Contract #: #MT-CDBG-17PF-13

Project Name: Ainsworth Community Park

Person Preparing this
Environmental Assessment: Mike Brodie, PE (WGM Group)

Phone Number: (406) 756-4848

Instructions for Completing this Form

The following instructions should be presented and evaluated in a level of detail which is appropriate to the following considerations:

- (a) the complexity of the proposed action;
- (b) the environmental sensitivity of the area affected by the proposed action;
- (c) the degree of uncertainty that the proposed action will have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment;
- (d) the need for and complexity of mitigation required to avoid significant environmental impacts.

In all cases, the CDBG grant recipient should reference and attach additional narrative providing the specific information requested or documentation supporting the evaluation of the impact of the proposed project or activity as it relates to each environmental subject area. The narrative should also note, where applicable, the source of the evaluation, including date of contact, page reference to pertinent source documents, and the name and title or persons contacted, along with the name of the specific organization or agency.

Environmental information and assistance in preparing an environmental assessment can be obtained from a wide variety of sources. Possible sources of information include existing plans and studies, knowledgeable local residents and officials such as the county sanitarian, city or county planning board or department, local officials with the U.S. Soil and Conservation Service (SCS) or local conservation district, as well as local representatives of the State Fish, Wildlife & Parks Department, to list just a few examples. Grant recipients may also contact the State and federal agencies listed in **Exhibit 2-O** for information and assistance.

The Department of Commerce Community Development Bureau maintains copies of environmental assessments prepared on previous projects that may be useful to grant recipients, as well as full copies of applicable federal and State environmental statutes and related information. Copies of the HUD publication, *Environmental Review Guide for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Programs*, can be requested from the CDBG program specialist assigned to your project.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Provide the information requested below and attach additional narrative as appropriate.

1. Describe the proposed action or activity, including construction and end-product (attach maps and graphics as necessary).
The proposed Ainsworth Community Park is currently a vacant lot. It has historically been utilized for recreation and was formerly the home of a baseball diamond with dugout, bleachers, concession stand and restrooms. The proposed park will entail construction of a landscaped area with a pavilion, restrooms, and an amphitheater. The pavilion structure will require connection to the City of Thompson Falls water and sewer system. The preliminary layout of the proposed park was included in the Ainsworth Field Park Project Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) previously submitted to the Montana Department of Commerce dated November 10, 2017 by WGM Group.

2. Describe the project site and surrounding area(s), including existing site use and environmental conditions (attach map as applicable).

The park property was originally an agricultural property until 1910 when it was subdivided for residential lots. The land remained undeveloped until 1932 when ownership was transferred to the Thompson Falls School. The field was used by the school as an athletic field until 1965 when the property was transferred to the City of Thompson Falls and was later developed as a baseball diamond with dugouts and concession stands that included restrooms. The Thompson Falls High School installed their own baseball fields in the early 1990s and the fields were no longer used as the primary location for baseball events. In 2012, all improvements were removed from the property as they were deemed structurally unsound and as such would be dangerous to remain on the property. The removal included the abandonment of the sewer service that previously served the concession stand. Several improvements have been made to the site in the past several years, including installation of a lawn irrigation system, split-rail fencing, and more recently a veteran's memorial.

3. Describe the benefits and purpose of the proposed action.

A comprehensive downtown master plan was completed for the City in October 2015. This plan outlined a variety of topics and projects that the City continues to move forward on. Since the time of the plan adoption, the City has continued to support and encourage its implementation. In this plan it was identified that Thompson Falls lacked a community center for gatherings and community events.

Through the involvement of Sanders County Community Development Corporation (SCCDC), the City and County both participate in the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The Ainsworth Community Park project was identified in the regional CEDS as a specific project that could improve the overall community and economy of the City of Thompson Falls.

The addition of a park will serve as a valuable upgrade to an otherwise unused property located along the Main Street downtown corridor. By utilizing this location to create an aesthetically pleasing community gathering place, this project has the potential to increase the value of the surrounding homes and properties and add value to the community as a whole.

4. Describe all sources of project funding:

A community development block grant (CDBG) was received to fund this project in the amount of \$381,730. In addition to this grant, the Montana Office of Tourism recently awarded a grant of \$46,000, the City of Thompson Falls has budgeted \$49,000, the SCCDC has budgeted \$7,500, and Veterans have donated approximately \$25,000; this equates to a total of \$509,230.

5. Describe any project plans or studies which are relevant to the project.

A comprehensive downtown master plan was completed for the City in October 2015. This plan outlined a variety of topics and projects that the City continues to move forward on. Since the time of the plan adoption, the City has continued to support and encourage its implementation. In addition to the downtown masterplan, an ESA was completed in 2015 by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. In November 2017 a preliminary engineering report was completed by WGM Group to look at alternatives for the development of Ainsworth

Field as a community park as well as capital and operation and maintenance costs.

6. Proposed implementation schedule.

The project is anticipated to bid in February/March 2019 and be under construction from April through July with project closeout in August 2019.

7. Compliance with any applicable local plans, ordinances, or regulations.

The comprehensive downtown master plan was completed for the City in October 2015. This plan outlined a variety of topics and projects that the City continues to move forward on. Since the time of the plan adoption, the City has continued to support and encourage its implementation. Aside from this, Thompson Falls has no specific zoning regulations or growth plan.

Project is in Compliance

| | Yes | No | Not Applicable |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Local Comprehensive (Growth Management) Plans including housing, land use and public facilities elements | X | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Local zoning ordinances or land use regulations, such as permit systems or soil conservation district requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | X |

8. Evaluation of impact, including cumulative and secondary impacts, on the **Physical Environment:**

Please complete the following checklist. Attach narrative containing more detailed analysis of topics and impacts that are potentially significant.

Key Letter: **N** - No Impact/Not Applicable; **B** - Potentially Beneficial; **A** - Potentially Adverse;
P - Approval/ Permits Required; **M** - Mitigation Required

| KEY | Impact Categories-- PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT | Source of Documentation Note date of each contact or page reference. Attach additional material as applicable. Where appropriate, please fully explain in attached materials. |
|----------|--|---|
| N | Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints | <p><u>Soil Suitability:</u> The proposed improvements are located on an existing park property. According to the NRCS Web Soil Survey, soils within the property are characteristic of stream terraces. The site consists of Elkrock-Selon Complex (4-15% slopes) soils. The upper four inches consist of decomposed plant material and gravelly ashy silt loam. Soils transition to very gravelly ashy silt loam to a depth of 15 inches and become extremely cobbly loam at deeper depths.</p> <p><u>Topography:</u> Topography within the project area consists of steeper 3:1 slopes along the northern property boundary. The majority of the site is flat and topography is suitable to accommodate the proposed improvements.</p> <p><u>Geologic Constraints:</u> No geologic constraints are present.</p> <p><u>Seismicity:</u> According to the USGS seismic hazard maps there are no significant seismic or geological hazards in the immediate vicinity of the site.</p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service– Web Soil Survey; accessed at http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm (Nov. 2018) 2. Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology: http://www.mbmgs.mtech.edu/ (Nov. 2018) 3. United States Geologic Survey: http://www.usgs.gov/hazards (Nov. 2018) |
| | HUD Environmental Criteria--24 CFR Part 51: | |
| N | 51(b) Noise--Suitable Separation Between Housing & Other Noise Sensitive Activities & Major Noise Sources (Aircraft, Highways & Railroads) ^{8*} | Presently, the site is bordered on the north by US Highway 200. Additionally, there is a BNSF rail line on the northside of US Highway 200, approximately 200 feet north of the site. In its developed state, it is not anticipated that any hazardous noise would be generated |

*See index at end of form.

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|-----|--|--|
| | | <p>at or by uses of this site, and it is unlikely that noise levels would exceed that of the existing highway/rail corridor.</p> <p>Short-term noise sources are anticipated during the construction phase. In the long term, there will be the potential for community events hosted at the park utilizing its proposed pavilion and amphitheater; any large events will likely require City approval and permits and fall under any applicable City regulations.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. United States Department of Transportation - Bureau of Transportation Statistics: National Transportation Noise Map (https://maps.bts.dot.gov/arcgis/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a303ff5924c9474790464cc09d5c9fb) (Nov. 2018) 2. Google Earth 3. WGM Group |
| N | 51(c) Hazardous Facilities--Acceptable Separation Distance from Explosive and Flammable Hazards (Chemical/ Petrochemical Storage Tanks & Facilities--ex., Natural Gas Storage Facilities & Propane Storage Tanks) ⁷ * | <p>Hazards:</p> <p>There are no known hazardous facilities onsite. The site was previously developed as a baseball diamond.</p> <p>Based on the 2017 Phase 1 ESA performed on the subject property by ARTSI, there are no known hazardous waste sites or flammable hazards in the vicinity of the proposed improvements. There are above and below ground utilities in the vicinity of the project site. Across Lincoln street to the East, a Town Pump Fueling Station exists with both propane and underground gasoline storage tanks. None of these tanks will impact the proposed property or will be affected by any proposed construction. A leaking underground storage tank (LUST) issue at the Town Pump, Inc. (Station #3998), was resolved on July 23, 2012, and a total of seven monitoring wells were installed that same year. There are two gas stations in Thompson Falls located along HWY 200; these stations have underground fuel storage tanks registered with MDEQ.</p> |

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|---------------------|--|--|
| N <hr/> | 51(d) Airport Runway Clear Zones-- Avoidance of Incompatible Land Use in Airport Runway Clear Zones ⁷ | Not applicable. There are no airports or airstrips near the subject property. The Thompson Falls Airport is nearly 4 miles away. Source: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Google Earth |
| N <hr/> | EPA Hazardous Waste Sites, or Other Hazards or Nuisances Not Covered Above | There are no known hazardous facilities onsite. The site was previously developed as a baseball diamond. Source: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. |
| N <hr/> | Lead-based Paint ¹³ | Not applicable. There are no structures on site or stored materials. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. |
| N <hr/> | Asbestos ¹⁴ | Not applicable. There are no structures on site or stored materials. Source: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. |

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| <u>N, B</u> | Effects of Project on Surrounding Air Quality or Any Effects of Existing Air Quality on Project ¹ * | <p><u>Air Quality:</u> Thompson Falls is designated by the DEQ as a Non-Attainment Particulate Matter 10 area. The project itself will have no negative long-term impacts to air quality in the area. The added landscaping and trees should have positive impacts the area's air quality. In the short term, it is likely that there will be some construction-related air quality impacts from the use of heavy equipment, and the resulting dust from construction. Air quality impacts from running construction equipment will be unavoidable but will likely go unnoticed as the site is adjacent to a state highway (MT 200); whereas dust control during construction will be accomplished using a water spray truck.</p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Air Resources Management Bureau http://deq.mt.gov/Air/Standards/airnonattainment (Nov. 2018) 2. WGM Group |
| <u>N</u> | Groundwater Resources & Aquifer ^{a 10} * | <p><u>Groundwater:</u> Based on information presented in the August 2017 Phase 1 ESA performed on the subject property by ARTSI, existing well logs near the site indicate an average static water level between 36 to 40 ft. below ground surface in the area. Average yield is 40 gallons per minute. The groundwater flows in a south to southwesterly direction toward the Clark Fork River.</p> <p>Due to the gravelly nature of the area's soils, it is unlikely groundwater will be encountered or impacted by this project. The majority of the project will be completed above ground with only minor excavations to connect to existing City of Thompson Falls infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. 2. USGS Web Soil Survey (Nov. 2018) |

^aIncluding Sole Source Aquifer. Contact DOC for further information regarding Missoula-area projects.

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|-----------------|--|--|
| <u>N</u> | Surface Water/Water Quality, Quantity & Distribution ^{10.*} | <p><u>Surface Water:</u> The Clark Fork River is located approximately 300 feet south of the project site. Due to the close proximity of the Clark Fork River and since the area of soil disturbance for this project would likely exceed 1.0 acre, best management practices, including temporary and long-term erosion control measures for controlling erosion and sediment transport, would be considered in the design of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for this project. Such practices may include silt fences, check dams, mulch, slope protection, and other commonly accepted erosion and sediment control measures (during construction). Landscaping will be implemented to stabilize the site and prevent any long-term sediment transport during high runoff events. Surface water runoff from the site is expected to either infiltrate within the site or leave at rates equivalent to historic conditions and enter into existing City of Thompson Falls storm water infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Source:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WGM Group 2. EPA Waterbody Quality Assessment Report: http://ofmpub.epa.gov/tmdl_waters10/attains_waterbody.control?p_list_id=&p_au_id=MT76D001_010&p_cycle=2014&p_state=MT (Nov. 2018) 3. As-Built Information from the City of Thompson Falls (Jerry Lacy, Director of Public Works) |

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|-----|--|---|
| N | Floodplains & Floodplain Management ^{5 *} | <p>The subject property is located adjacent to the Clark Fork River. The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) identifies the area immediately adjacent to the river in the 100-year flood plain, which is much lower than the park site. The proposed park project is outside of the floodplain. This information was obtained from Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) number 30089C1375D, Panel 1375 of 2200.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FEMA – Flood Map Service Center; accessed at https://msc.fema.gov/portal (Nov. 2018) 2. Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Floodplain Management http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/water/operations/floodplain-management (Nov. 2018) |
| N | Wetlands Protection ^{11 *} | <p><u>Wetlands:</u> In review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory “Wetlands Mapper” there were no wetlands shown within the immediate project area. Within a mile of the project, there are several areas along the Clark Fork River that are listed as wetlands. These include the following listed from the Natural Heritage Map Viewer: Riparian Forested, freshwater scrub-shrub, freshwater emergent, freshwater pond, river, and lake.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MT.GOV Natural Heritage Map Viewer – MTNHP Wetland and Riparian Mapping http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/?t=8 (Nov. 2018) 2. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/ (Nov. 2018) |
| N | Agricultural Lands, Production, & Farmland Protection ^{3 *} | <p>The Elkrock-Selon Complex is an alluvium type soil common in stream terraces. This soil is considered “farmland of local importance”, however, it has not been used for farming or agriculture since prior to 1910 and is surrounded by commercial and residential properties.</p> |

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|----------------------|--|--|
| N, B <hr/> | Vegetation & Wildlife Species & Habitats, Including Fish ^{4*} | <p>The site is presently sparsely vegetated lawn with some trees intermittently located around the perimeter. The site is a former athletic field/baseball diamond and is currently vacant. It may serve as a grazing area for deer and may provide some habitat for small mammals. The park addition would not have a negative impact on these habitats, in particular, the trees are meant to remain as they are. The sparsely vegetated area would be landscaped, which would improve the vegetation of the site.</p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> 1. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. 2. Montana Natural Heritage Program, Animals Species of Concern Report & Plant Species of Concern Report: http://mtnhp.org/ (Nov. 2018) 3. University of Montana – Missoula, Division of Biological Sciences, INVADERS Database System: http://invader.dbs.umt.edu/query4_2.asp (Nov. 2018) |

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|-------------|--|--|
| N, B | Unique, Endangered, Fragile, or Limited Environmental Resources, Including Endangered Species ² * | <p>The improvements are occurring in a developed area that has a long history of being utilized as a park, which is exactly what is being proposed for the site improvements. Based on the responses from the United States Fish and Wildlife office, there are no concerns with the development of a park within the project area. In the general area, not specific to the park location, the following species exist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grizzly Bear – listed as threatened • Bull trout – listed as threatened with designated critical habitat (note that the Clark Fork River adjacent to the project area is designated bull trout critical habitat) <p>Since the project area is within an existing park property, the project is not anticipated to affect these populations. Additional landscaping and trees may improve conditions for some of these species. To the best of our knowledge, no known adverse effect to unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources or endangered species are anticipated as a result of this project.</p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Montana Natural Heritage Program, Animals Species of Concern Report & Plant Species of Concern Report: http://mtnhp.org/http://mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern/?AorP=a (Nov. 2018) 2. Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks: http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/species/threatened/ (Nov. 2018) 3. http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/species/endangered/ (Nov. 2018) 4. United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Email Dated 10-26-2017 (Nov. 2018) |

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|-------------|---|---|
| <u>N</u> | Unique Natural Features | <p>The improvements are occurring in a developed area that has a long history as being utilized as a park. To the best of our knowledge, no unique natural features were identified within the project vicinity.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. |
| <u>N, B</u> | Access to and Quality of Recreational & Wilderness Activities, and Public Lands, Including Federally Designated Wild & Scenic Rivers ^{12*} | <p>The property is located approximately 300 feet to the north of the Clark Fork River (not designated wild and scenic). The project will make access to the river and the Thompson Falls trails system easier and provide a central public open space for downtown Thompson Falls.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Google Earth 2. U.S. Government Recreation Site: http://www.recreation.gov/ (Nov. 2018) 3. Wild and Scenic Rivers Site: http://www.rivers.gov/montana.php (Nov. 2018) |

9. Evaluation of impact, including cumulative and secondary impacts, on the **Human Population** in the area to be affected by the proposed action:

Please complete the following checklist. Attach narrative containing more detailed analysis of topics and impacts that are potentially significant.

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| KEY | Impact Categories-- HUMAN POPULATION | Source of Documentation Note date of each contact or page reference. Attach additional material as applicable. Where appropriate, please fully explain in attached materials. |
|----------|--|--|
| <u>B</u> | Visual Quality--Coherence, Diversity, Compatible Use, and Scale Aesthetics | <p>The addition of a park to an otherwise underutilized vacant downtown property would be a significant visual/aesthetic improvement to the downtown Thompson Falls Corridor. The ability for this park to improve the aesthetics of the downtown corridor will likely have positive economic impacts to surrounding properties.</p> |

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|----------------------|--|--|
| N <hr/> | Historic Properties, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources ^{6 *} | All improvements are to occur in previously disturbed areas. There are some historic properties near the subject site. The subject property has been utilized as a park/athletic field since 1932. To the best of our knowledge no impacts to historic, cultural, or archeological resources are anticipated. <u>Sources:</u> 1. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. 2. Correspondence from the Montana Historical Society, October 2017. |
| N, B <hr/> | Changes in Demographic (Population) Characteristics | The proposed project is not anticipated to change the demographic characteristics of the neighborhood. Improvement of the currently underutilized park property will create an amenity for the community. <u>Source:</u> 1. WGM Group |
| N, B <hr/> | Environmental Justice ^{13 *} | This project is not anticipated to have any significant impact on the location, distribution, density or growth rate of the population of the City of Thompson Falls or Sanders County, nor is it anticipated to cause disproportionately high adverse human health or environmental effects on any minority and low-income populations. <u>Source:</u> 1. WGM Group |
| N, B <hr/> | General Housing Conditions--Quality & Quantity | The project is anticipated to have positive effects on surrounding residential and commercial properties and make the larger area more attractive to residents and businesses. |

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|-------------------------|---|---|
| N, B <hr/> | Displacement or Relocating of Businesses or Residents | Displacement or relocation of businesses or residents is not anticipated as a result of this project. This project may attract new businesses or residents by making downtown Thompson Falls a more desirable place to live and work. <hr/> Source: 1. WGM Group |
| N, B <hr/> | Human Health | Although there are no sanitation or immediate safety concerns, a park does promote public health. With more available outdoor recreation within walking distance for the community, the use of these amenities increases. This increased use translates into measurable health benefits such as the reduction of diabetes and heart disease. Additionally, research studies have shown correlations between social interactions and the health and well-being of individuals. This park will serve Thompson Falls with a central meeting place for community and cultural events, farmer's markets, craft fairs, and social gatherings. <hr/> Source: 1. National Institute on Aging https://www.nia.nih.gov/about/living-long-well-21st-century-strategic-directions-research-aging/research-suggests-positive (Nov. 2018) 2. WGM Group |
| N, B <hr/> | Local Employment & Income Patterns-- Quantity and Distribution of Employment | The proposed project is anticipated to enhance surrounding properties and make the area more attractive to potential businesses and residents by developing a park in an area of downtown that is presently underutilized. <hr/> Source: 1. WGM Group |
| N, B, A <hr/> | Local and State Tax Base & Revenues | The proposed project will require additional operation and maintenance (use of city tax dollars to maintain the park and facilities). The City may consider implementing a fee and permitting system to generate revenue from community and cultural events within the completed park. |

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|-------------------------|---|---|
| N <hr/> | Educational Facilities | No impacts to Educational Facilities are anticipated due to the implementation of the proposed improvements. <u>Source:</u> 1. WGM Group |
| N, B <hr/> | Commercial and Industrial Facilities, Production & Activity | The project would not add any commercial or industrial facilities as a part of its development. It is assumed that the addition of this park will benefit the community from an economic standpoint by attracting tourists and providing a community gathering place. It is anticipated that downtown enhancements like a park project will improve business development opportunities within the downtown area and surrounding community, but it is unclear to what extent this will affect commercial and industrial facilities. <u>Sources:</u> 1. Thompson Falls Downtown Masterplan (2015) 2. WGM Group |
| N <hr/> | Health Care | The addition of a park would have no immediate effect on medical services in the region. Presently there is a family medicine clinic just west of the project site, and a hospital in Plains, approximately 25 miles east. <u>Source:</u> 1. WGM Group 2. Google Maps (Nov. 2018) |
| N, B, A <hr/> | Social Services | No impacts to Social Services are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed improvements. Governmental services such as the City's Parks Department would be utilized to provide operation and maintenance of the proposed park facilities. This would require some additional City resources. <u>Source:</u> 1. WGM Group |

Key Letter: N - No Impact/Not Applicable; **B** - Potentially Beneficial; **A** - Potentially Adverse;
P - Approval/Permits Required; **M** - Mitigation Required

| KEY | Impact Categories-- HUMAN POPULATION | Source of Documentation Note date of each contact or page reference. Attach additional material as applicable. Where appropriate, please fully explain in attached materials. |
|-------------|--|---|
| <u>N</u> | Social Structures & Mores (Standards of Social Conduct/Social Conventions) | While the proposed park project will provide opportunities for increased social interaction, no changes to the existing social structures and mores are anticipated. Source: 1. WGM Group |
| <u>N, B</u> | Land Use Compatibility | The proposed project does not include a significant change of use to the land and will be similar to its past use. The adjacent properties are primarily residential in nature with an entrance to a trail system just to the southeast of the property. It is expected that this project is well suited to the area and adjacent land uses. To the best of our knowledge no impacts to Land Use Compatibility are anticipated. Source: 1. City of Thompson Falls Downtown Masterplan 2. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. |
| <u>N</u> | Energy Consumption | Energy consumption at the park will entail outdoor lighting, pavilion/restroom lighting, and occasional use of amplification equipment and lighting at the amphitheater. In general, energy consumption is anticipated to be minimal. Source: 1. WGM Group |
| <u>N</u> | Solid Waste Disposal ^{9*} | Trash receptacles will be provided/rented and managed by the Sanders County Solid Waste Refuse District. Source: 1. WGM Group (phone call Oct. 2017) 2. Sanders County Solid Waste Refuse District: http://co.sanders.mt.us/departments/solid-waste-refuse-district/ (Nov. 2018) |
| <u>N</u> | Waste Water--Sewage System | The City of Thompson Falls has a sanitary sewer system that collects and conveys wastewater to their wastewater lagoon treatment plant for treatment. Restroom facilities being proposed as a part of this project will be connected to the City of Thompson Falls sewer system. Based on |

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| <p>KEY</p> | <p>Impact Categories-- HUMAN POPULATION</p> | <p>Source of Documentation Note date of each contact or page reference. Attach additional material as applicable. Where appropriate, please fully explain in attached materials.</p> <p>discussions with the City, the sewer system and treatment facility have sufficient capacity.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WGM Group 2. Conversations with Thompson Falls Director of Public Works (Jerry Lacy). |
|-------------------|---|--|
| <p>N</p> | <p>Storm Water</p> | <p>Stormwater runoff from the site presently infiltrates on-site or drains to surrounding roadways and enters the Thompson Falls stormwater collection system. The nearest inlet is at the intersection of Maiden Lane and Lincoln Street at its northwest and southwest corners; the conveyance line is constructed with 10" PVC. It is anticipated that the improvements to the property will be similar to historic runoff rates and existing drainage patterns.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As-Built Information from the City of Thompson Falls (Jerry Lacy, Director of Public Works) 2. WGM Group |
| <p>N</p> | <p>Community Water Supply</p> | <p>Water is provided/supplied to the Ainsworth Park by the City of Thompson Falls public water system. An irrigation system for the property was installed in support of the park project in 2016. There is also an existing water spigot on the property. Currently the only infrastructure on site is the water supply which includes the sprinkler system and the spigot. An additional water service connection from the existing 2" water line is anticipated to serve the proposed restroom/pavilion. The City water supply is adequate to serve the proposed improvements.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment conducted by Aspen Ridge Technical Services, Inc. (ARTSI) on August 2017. 2. As-Built Information from the City of Thompson Falls (Jerry Lacy, Director of Public Works) 3. WGM Group |
| <p>N</p> | <p>Public Safety: Police</p> | <p>No long-term or short-term adverse impacts to public safety are anticipated. It is not anticipated that any additional police personnel would be needed as a direct</p> |

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| <p>KEY</p> <hr/> | <p>Impact Categories-- HUMAN POPULATION</p> | <p>Source of Documentation Note date of each contact or page reference. Attach additional material as applicable. Where appropriate, please fully explain in attached materials.</p> <hr/> <p>result of this project.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WGM Group |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| <p>N</p> <hr/> | <p>Fire</p> | <p>No long-term adverse impacts to Fire Protection are anticipated. There is currently a 10" water main located at the southern boundary of the lot. The proposed pavilion and amphitheater structures can be protected by adding fire hydrants along this main located in Maiden lane (should additional fire protection be needed). The City of Thompson Falls Fire Department is located three blocks to the east of the subject property.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As-Built Information from the City of Thompson Falls (Jerry Lacy, Director of Public Works) 2. WGM Group 3. Google Maps (Nov. 2018) |
| <p>N</p> <hr/> | <p>Emergency Medical</p> | <p>No effect on existing emergency medical services is anticipated as a result of this project. Presently there is a family medicine clinic just west of the project site, and a hospital in Plains, approximately 25 miles east.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WGM Group 2. Google Maps (Nov. 2018) |
| <p>B</p> <hr/> | <p>Parks, Playgrounds, & Open Space</p> | <p>The goal of this proposed park project is to maximize the use of the existing open space within downtown Thompson Falls as a resource for the community. This area has historically been a park, and the improvements being proposed will benefit this site locally and add to the greater Thompson falls area trail plan. The park will include a trail system, a large open field, a pavilion with restrooms, and an amphitheater, and can be used to host social gatherings, cultural and community events, craft fairs, and the like.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WGM Group 2. Thompson Falls Downtown Masterplan (2015) |

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|-------------|--|--|
| <u>B</u> | Cultural Facilities, Cultural Uniqueness, & Diversity | <p>This proposed project is expected to improve Cultural Facilities, Cultural Uniqueness & Diversity within the community. The proposed park open space area and amphitheater have the potential to host cultural events including but not limited to festivals, concerts, speakers, and craft fairs. Event use of the park is likely to be permitted by the City of Thompson Falls.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WGM Group 2. Thompson Falls Downtown Masterplan (2015) |
| <u>N, A</u> | Transportation--Air, Rail & Auto (Including Local Traffic) | <p>For a majority of the time, the proposed project will have little effect on existing traffic flow patterns within the downtown area. It is anticipated that traffic will increase during events and certain special activities at the park. Traffic generated will be of a temporary nature and the proposed parking lot within the site should accommodate most of the cars, but temporary on-street parking may occur for highly-attended events. A new parking lot in this location provides a central place to park and access to downtown and other trail facilities during non-event times.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WGM Group |
| <u>N, B</u> | Consistency with Other State Statutes or Local Ordinances, Resolutions, or Plans (<i>to be added by local community</i>) | <p>Implementation of the improvements is consistent with the goals of Thompson Falls and previous land uses for the area. The City of Thompson Falls Downtown Masterplan anticipates economic growth potential by adding this park to the community. The development of this park has been discussed for several years and has positive support from the community as well as City and County officials.</p> <p>Source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thompson Falls Downtown Masterplan (2015) 2. WGM Group |

10. Describe and analyze reasonable alternatives to the proposed activity whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider, and discuss how the alternatives could be implemented, if applicable.

Four alternatives were assessed/evaluated in the Ainsworth Field Park Project Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) submitted to the Montana Department of Commerce dated November 10, 2017 by WGM Group. The current option of fully developing Ainsworth Field Park was selected based on cost effectiveness and non-monetary attributes such as benefits to the community.

11. Where applicable, list and evaluate mitigation actions, stipulations, and other controls which will be enforced by the local government or another governmental agency.

The City of Thompson Falls will be required to issue any permits for events at the park, which could serve as a source of revenue for the City, but maintenance and operation of the park will be the responsibility of the City. Operation and Maintenance costs were assessed and included in the Ainsworth Field Park Project PER submitted to the Montana Department of Commerce dated November 10, 2017 by WGM Group. To mitigate any soil erosion from stormwater runoff during construction, the contractor will be required to obtain a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) from MDEQ and implement any necessary erosion control best management practices.

12. Is the proposed project in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations?

☒ Yes ☐ No

LEVEL OF CLEARANCE FINDING:

Based on the foregoing environmental review, it is concluded that:

[X] FINDING: A request to the Montana Department of Commerce for release of funds for the within project **is not** an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, and no EIS is required. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) can be made.

OR

[] FINDING: A request to the Montana Department of Commerce for release of funds for the within project **is** an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, and an EIS is required.

Finding Executed by:

Name (Typewritten): Mayor Jerry Lacy

Title: Environmental Certifying Officer

Signature: 

Date: Jan. 7, 2019

INDEX OF APPLICABLE FEDERAL STATUTES AND REGULATIONS INCLUDED IN THE CHECKLIST

1. Air Quality

- a. Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) as amended; particularly section 17(c) and (d) (42 U.S.C. 7506(c) and (d)).
- b. Determining Conformity of Federal Actions to State or Federal Implementation Plans (Environmental Protection Agency-- 40 CFR parts 6, 51, and 93).

2. Endangered Species

- a. The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) as amended; particularly section 7 (16 U.S.C. 1536).

3. Farmlands

- a. Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.) particularly sections 1540(b) and 1541 (7 U.S.C. 4201(b) and 4202).
- b. Farmland Protection Policy (U.S. Department of Agriculture 7 CFR Part 658).

4. Fish and Wildlife

- a. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-666c).

5. Floodplain

- a. Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, May 24 1977 (42 FR 26951, 3 CFR, 1977 Comp., as interpreted in HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 55.
- b. Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4001-4128).
- c. National Flood Insurance Program (44 CFR 59-79).

6. Historic Properties

- a. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), particularly sections 106 and 110 (16 U.S.C. 470 and 470h-2), except as provided in ☐58.17 for Section 17 projects.
- b. Executive Order 11593 - Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment, May 13, 1971 (36 FR 8921), 3 CFR 1971-1975 Comp., particularly section 2(c).

- c. 36 CFR Part 800 with respect to HUD programs other than Urban Development Grants (UDAG)
- d. The Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960 as amended by the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 469 et seq.), particularly section 3 (16 U.S.C 469a-1).

7. Man-made Hazards

- a. Siting of HUD-Assisted Projects Near Hazardous Operations Handling Conventional Fuels or Chemicals of an Explosive or Flammable Nature, 24 CFR Part 51, Subpart C, (49 FR 5103, 2/10/84).
- b. HUD Notice 79-33, Policy Guidance to Address the Problems Posed by Toxic Chemicals and Radioactive Materials, 9/10/79.
- c. Siting of HUD Assisted Projects in Runway Clear Zones at Civil Airports and Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones at Military Airfields, 24 CFR Part 51, Subpart D (49 FR 880, 1/6/84)

8. Noise

- a. Noise Abatement and Control, 24 CFR Part 51, Subpart B, (44 FR 40861, 7/12/79, as amended at 61 FR 13333, 3/26/96).

9. Solid Waste Disposal

- a. Solid Waste Disposal Act as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6901-6987).
- b. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Implementing Regulations 40 CFR Parts 240-265.

10. Water Quality

- a. Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251-1376).
- b. The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. 69-01-6978, 300f-300j-10).
- c. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Implementing Regulations 40 CFR Parts 100-149.
- d. Missoula, Montana Sole Source Aquifer, in accordance with Section 1424 (e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 300h-3 (1982).

11. Wetlands

- a. Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26961), 3 CFR, 1977 Comp., particularly sections 2 and 5; and Applicable State Legislation or Regulations.

12. Wild and Scenic Rivers

- a. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. 1271 et. seq.) as amended, particularly section 7(b) and (c), (16 U.S.C. 1278 (b) and (c)).

Note: *In Montana, this act applies to the North Fork of the Flathead River from the Canadian border downstream to its confluence with the Middle Fork; the Middle Fork from its headwaters to its confluence with the South Fork; and the South Fork from its origin to Hungry Horse Reservoir; and, the Missouri River consisting of the segment from Fort Benton, one hundred and forty-nine miles downstream to Fred Robinson Bridge.*

13. Environmental Justice

- a. Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, February 11, 1994 (59 FR 7629), 3 CFR, 1994 Comp. P. 859. (24 CFR Part 58.5, April 30, 1996)

14. Lead-based Paint

HUD Lead-based Paint Standards (24 CFR Part 35) and Sections 1012 and 1013 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act that appear within Title X of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992.

15. Asbestos

OSHA's asbestos standard (29 CFR 1926.1101) and EPA asbestos sections of NESHAP (National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants), administered by Montana Department of Environmental Quality's Asbestos Control Program.