

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date of Notice: April 8, 2026

Name of Responsible Entity (RE): Town of Ennis

Address: 328 W. Main Street

City, State, Zip Code: Ennis, MT 59729

Telephone Number: (406) 682-4287

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Town of Ennis.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about April 28, 2026, the Town of Ennis will submit a request to the Montana Department of Commerce for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Public Facilities funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as Water System Improvements.

The proposed project aims to enhance the Town's water infrastructure through two critical initiatives: First, the improvement of the water supply by constructing up to two new wells (water supply), and second, the expansion of the water storage capacity by installing a new storage tank (water storage).

Water Supply

The project will involve the construction of a wellhouse to facilitate access and maintenance of the new well(s), along with the installation of a test well and up to two additional redundant water supply wells. These wells will be strategically located in the northwest section of the Town, adjacent to the rodeo grounds, to ensure optimal water access and distribution. This work also includes approximately 360 linear feet of 6" PVC piping to connect the new well(s) to the distribution system.

Water Storage

In compliance with the standards set by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ-1) and in response to the Town's current water storage deficiencies, the existing bolted steel storage tank, which has a capacity of 530,000 gallons, will be replaced. The new installation will be either a prestressed concrete tank or a glass-lined bolted steel tank with a capacity of 700,000 gallons. This upgrade will not only increase storage capacity but also improve the overall reliability and safety of the Town's water supply system, ensuring that it meets the growing demands of the community.

Estimated funding:

- HUD CDBG Funding: \$750,000
- Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds): \$4,007,784

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Town of Ennis has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Town of Ennis, 328 W. Main Street, Ennis, MT 59729, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. A copy of the ERR can also be reviewed and/or downloaded at www.ennismontana.org.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Town of Ennis, Attention: Lisa Roberts, Mayor, at ennismayor@ennismontana.org or at the address listed above. All comments received by April 27, 2026, will be considered by the Town of Ennis prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Town of Ennis certifies to the Montana Department of Commerce that Lisa Roberts, in his capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. Montana Department of Commerce's approval of the certification satisfies its

responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Town of Ennis to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

Montana Department of Commerce will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Ennis's certification for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following basis:

1. The certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Town of Ennis;
2. The Town of Ennis has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58;
3. The grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs, or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds; or
4. Another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Section 58.76) and shall be addressed to:

Montana Department of Commerce
Community Development Division
301 S. Park
P.O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620

Potential objectors should contact the Montana Department of Commerce to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Certifying Officer:

Lisa Roberts, Mayor

Town of Ennis