

Legislative Report Narrative

1. TREASURE STATE ENDOWMENT PROGRAM: 2021 Biennium Project Funding Recommendations and 2019 Biennium Emergency, Planning, and Project Grants Report
2. QUALITY SCHOOLS GRANT PROGRAM: Repeal of program rules

Summary

1. TSEP grant applications for infrastructure projects to be funded with 2021 biennium funding are currently being ranked and scored by the Department. Once this process is complete, the Department will recommend infrastructure projects to be funded, including the amount of grant assistance for each project, and submit these recommendations to the Governor. The Governor will then review the recommendations and submit the recommendations to the Legislature. The Legislature will make the final decisions and necessary appropriations. The Department must also provide a summary of those 2019 biennium grant awards that have not met start-up conditions by September 30, 2018.

2. TSEP grant applications for infrastructure planning, that were funded with 2019 biennium funds, have been received, ranked and awarded by the Department all funding has been obligated with eligible applicants for planning grants. The Department will provide a report to the governor and legislature regarding these awards with the other 2019 Legislative reports.

3. TSEP grant applications for emergency grants, that were funded with 2019 biennium funds, have been received, ranked and awarded by the Department. Funds still remain available for award and the Department will continue to review emergency grant applications to determine if funding is awarded. The Department will provide a report to the governor and legislative fiscal analyst regarding these awards with the other 2019 Legislative reports.

4. Reports are expected to be available electronically on the Department website at <http://comdev.mt.gov> in November or December 2018.

5. The Department recommends that paper copies of the report be printed and distributed to the members of the Long-Range Planning Joint Appropriations Subcommittee (approximately 10 of each).

6. The Department no longer has statutory responsibility for reporting responsibilities regarding the Quality Schools Program. The MCA's affiliated with this program have been repealed which effectively eliminated the program during the 2017 Legislative session.