

Exhibit A Executive Summary

State of Montana

Filename: ExhibitAExecutiveSummaryMontana.pdf

The State of Montana experienced presidentially-declared disasters in 2011, 2012, and 2013 involving extensive flooding and wildfire throughout the state. Since 2011, 45 of Montana's 56 counties have experienced presidentially-declared disasters, and many of these communities have struggled to rebuild and repair in a resilient manner.

The State has identified eight sub-county areas that meet the Most Impacted and Distressed Criteria and have an eligible amount of Unmet Recovery Need (MID-URN). These sub-county areas are: Census Tracts 9405 & 9406, Big Horn County; Census Tracts 2, 9401, and 9402, Blaine County; Census Tract 301, Fergus County; Helena Valley West Central CDP, Lewis and Clark County; Census Tract 1, Musselshell County; Census Tract 2, Musselshell County; Census Tracts 1005 & 9406, Valley County, and Census Tracts 14.01, 19.01, and 19.02, Yellowstone County.

Montana seeks to use CDBG-NDR grant funds to develop an innovative approach to improve the state's capacity for resiliency shifting both public and private sector culture from disaster response to resilient thinking. In Montana, the most innovative projects will come out of a collaborative process where a team of state agencies, private sector, and non-profit organizations partner resources and expertise to help communities develop strategies for increasing resiliency, identify and prioritize projects to implement that vision, and complete those projects with an eye toward greater long-term impact across typically "siloes" sectors including public health, the economy, housing, infrastructure and the natural environment.

The State of Montana is working with several state agencies and numerous local partners to help facilitate this resilience initiative. Representatives from the Montana Department of Commerce, Military Affairs, Natural Resources and Conservation, and Department of Environmental Quality have been partners in this process and will continue to bring their

expertise to the table to provide technical guidance throughout the planning and implementation phase of the program. The State intends to streamline grant guidelines and criteria across agencies to more efficiently leverage resources with an eye to resilience. The State will also partner with a private or non-profit entity to develop and host an interactive, transparent web-based platform. This platform will provide a one-stop shop for information, identify funding sources, link users to technical assistance and volunteer resources, and provide a detailed review of model projects and resiliency best practices implemented within the MID-URN areas.

The State has begun outreach with MID-URN areas and identified partners to begin to frame resilient approaches that can be implemented at the local level. As a result of this initial outreach, several project categories have been identified: Residential and Commercial Acquisition and Relocation, Stormwater Management, Bank Stabilization, Flood Control, Trails & Improvements, Architectural Design Alternatives, and Critical Infrastructure. The State's \$80.4 million dollar request for CDBG-NDR funds would primarily support the development and implementation of projects in the MID-URN communities that generally fall into these project categories. Additionally, the State will leverage funds from existing grant pools and commitments to ongoing resilient projects within MID-URN communities to support these efforts. Through the development of a Benefit-Cost Analysis, the state has determined that the development and implementation of this program would yield a Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.64.

All supporting documents related to the Phase 2 application not included as attachments in this submittal can be found by visiting the following Dropbox link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/l/naL6WnmjnjSKTJcgZfG4pn>. Please reference Attachment H - Crosswalk Checklist for additional details.