

# Jon Tester United States Senator for Montana

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## Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

These projects will invest in Montana's infrastructure. Transportation projects put hardworking folks back on the job building roads, bridges, and railroad and transmission lines. Good infrastructure lays the foundation for broad-based economic growth and prosperity that's shared by all who put in their fair share of hard work. Economic development projects will expand and improve services to communities across the state.

Information about each project was provided by the requesting entity. Amounts requested are not guaranteed; funds secured are likely to differ from the requested amount. Senator Tester's appropriation requests to the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee for Fiscal Year 2010 are listed below.

[United States Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies](#)

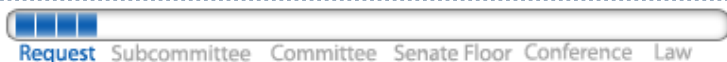
## Affordable Housing and Community Development Initiative



Amount: \$487,000  
*homeWORD (Missoula, MT)*

In its continuing efforts to provide affordable housing that spurs local economic development and provides opportunities for Montana's working families, homeWORD will develop a model project for the region that will incorporate a high performance design (green building) with a comprehensive plan for community development in the city of Missoula.

## Alkali Creek Road Stabilization



Amount: \$4,800,000  
*City of Billings (Billings, MT)*

Alkali Creek Road is a major arterial roadway in the Billings Heights. Due to creek erosion, the roadway embankment has been undermined and is failing. This is a heavily used road and the failed section needs repair in a timely manner.

## Belgrade East Interchange



Amount: \$1,461,000

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### Latest News

8/31/12 [Tester statement on next step to expand Billings VA Clinic](#)

[Press Release Archive...](#)

### Schedule

#### August 30, 2012

7:45 a.m.  
 Press Interview

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### Montana Department of Transportation (Belgrade, MT)

The proposed I-90 east Belgrade Interchange will be Located on Interstate 90 east of the City of Belgrade, south of Gallatin Field Airport, in central Gallatin County, Montana. The interchange will be approximately 1.15 miles east of the existing Belgrade Interchange (Crossroad Jackrabbit Lane N-85/U-606). The project includes construction of a connector road to the Frontage Road (U-605/S-205), intersecting at Gallatin Field road (U-610) to the North, and a connector road to the existing Alaska Road to the South in partnership with the local government.

## Billings Water Treatment Plant Backup Power



Amount: \$974,000

### City of Billings (Billings, MT)

This critical public safety project will provide emergency power to water producing facilities in the City's Public Works Department located on the Yellowstone River. The long extended years of drought and the sometimes interrupted local power grid have led to shortages in the supply of water to the 100,000+ people in the City of Billings and the surrounding area.

## Black Eagle Road Infrastructure



Amount: \$500,000

### Great Falls Development Authority (Black Eagle, MT)

The Black Eagle Road Infrastructure Project will spur additional industry sector growth by assisting community partners with public infrastructure investment necessary to attract private investment.

## Center of Excellence for General Rural Aviation



Amount: \$1,000,000

### Montana State University (Bozeman, MT)

This program will foster better cooperation and integration of College of Engineering and University Transportation Center efforts, both of which integrate research, education, and technology transfer activities. Civil aviation has enabled small community and rural populations to enter the mainstream of global commerce by linking them with worldwide population, manufacturing, and cultural centers. The proposed FAA Center for Excellence for General Rural Aviation at the Western Transportation Institute (WTI) would identify problems and research solutions for safe and efficient operation and management of rural airports, expand the current WTI education program of support for undergraduate and graduate students to include aviation in an effort to provide rural communities with well-rounded employees, and expand the current technology transfer activities at WTI to ensure aviation research is disseminated and implemented.

## Custer Avenue Interchange



Amount: \$2,922,000

*Montana Department of Transportation (Helena, MT)*

This project will accelerate and complete the development and construction of the Custer Avenue Interchange and Overpass Structures - a recommended improvement in the Helena I-15 Corridor Environmental Impact Statement. The interchange will be a full movement interchange with the Interstate highway located under a four-lane cross-over structure. The structure will include bicycle and pedestrian features.

## Dawson Community College Public Road



Amount: \$1,750,000

*Dawson Community College (Glendive, MT)*

This project will improve and upgrade approximately one mile of public road beginning at the new Senior Citizen Center and ending at the southern property line of Dawson Community College. Improvements will include: changing the width, grade, slope and elevation of the roadway to adhere to current standards; upgrading the road base and repaving the asphalt road; adding shoulders to the road with less dangerous slope; building a concrete walking path on the west side of the road; adding guard rails where necessary; removing and relocating existing street lights with more energy efficient street lights; landscaping exposed ground with bioengineered and drought resistant foliage; removing trees that are located too close to the road; and adding turn-out lanes at the college housing complex and at the entrance to the college campus.

## East Billings Urban Renewal District



Amount: \$1,500,000

*Big Sky Economic Development Authority (Billings, MT)*

The Redevelopment Project in the East Billings Urban Renewal District is needed to capitalize on the momentum and success of the revitalization of Billings' Downtown. Although the East Downtown Tax Increment Finance District has been created, the burden of upgrading substandard infrastructure systems continues to be a deterrent to private investment into the area.

## Elderly Care Facilities Revolving Loan Fund



Amount: \$750,000

*Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (Colstrip, MT)*

As a regional non-profit economic development organization, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation serves Rosebud, Treasure, Custer, and Powder River counties. At present, each of those counties has indicated the need for additional elderly care facilities ranging from independent living units to skilled nursing facilities. A revolving loan fund can be administered to assist in the feasibility of projects by offering a lower than market interest rate.

## Helena Community Veterans Center



[Request](#) [Subcommittee](#) [Committee](#) [Senate Floor](#) [Conference](#) [Law](#)

Amount: \$400,000

*Rocky Mountain Development Council (Helena, MT)*

Montana's frontier landscape creates a bind for the fourteen outpatient veteran's clinics scattered throughout the state. Clinics find themselves providing medical and, when possible, mental health services to homeless veterans - men and women - who are simply unable to regain their footing using the patchwork of outpatient services stretched between Montana's small towns. This community center in Helena would enable access to Montana's only Veteran's Hospital situated on the outskirts of Helena at Fort Harrison for veterans awaiting or being discharged from services.

## Hyalite Canyon Road Safety Improvements



[Request](#) [Subcommittee](#) [Committee](#) [Senate Floor](#) [Conference](#) [Law](#)

Amount: \$500,000

*City of Bozeman (Bozeman, MT)*

Vehicle accidents resulting in vehicles entering the creek and creek bank area could be prevented if guardrails were installed at key locations on Hyalite Canyon Road. The road had not been plowed for many years, but the recently adopted U.S. Forest Service Travel Plan mandates the winter plowing of this road. Thus, Gallatin County began plowing the road last winter to accommodate recreational events in this 34,000 acre area of the Gallatin National Forest. The U.S. Forest Service has contracted for the design of the guardrails, but funding for the installation has not been made available.

## Liberty County Senior Center and Bus Garage



[Request](#) [Subcommittee](#) [Committee](#) [Senate Floor](#) [Conference](#) [Law](#)

Amount: \$494,350

*Liberty County Council on Aging (Chester, MT)*

The current Liberty County Senior Citizens Center is located in a small building on Main Street in Downtown Chester. For the past several years, the Center has struggled with the challenge of providing vital services in a confined space to a growing number of elderly residents. The Center's service area not only includes Liberty County, but also extends east to Hill County and west to Toole County. The project involves the construction of a larger senior citizens center and garage. The project will also include the purchase of commercial kitchen equipment and furnishings for the center and garage.

## Morningstar Learning Center



[Request](#) [Subcommittee](#) [Committee](#) [Senate Floor](#) [Conference](#) [Law](#)

Amount: \$2,110,000

*Morningstar Learning Center (Big Sky, MT)*

The project is imperative for Morningstar's ability to provide its services to the community at affordable rates. Morningstar currently operates out of a small leased location that is extremely expensive and too small for infant care. The current facility has no adjacent outdoor space and an expiring lease. This project will construct a

10,000 sq. ft. early education childcare facility in Big Sky that will be licensed to enroll approx. 125 children and include an early education wing.

## Ninth Street Island Bridge Project



Amount: \$608,750

*Park County Commissioners (Livingston, MT)*

Ninth Street Island Bridge was damaged during a high water event in June 2008 and needs critical repairs. The bridge spans the Yellowstone River and connects the city of Livingston with Ninth Street Island.

## Powell County Bridges



Amount: \$700,000

*Powell County (Deer Lodge, MT)*

The county has made significant progress on a flood control project on Cottonwood Creek in the City of Deer Lodge. The most significant obstacle to completing the project is the rebuilding of the Main Street Bridge. This bridge will not accommodate the flood flow that the rest of the project is designed for. While the bridge is rated as structurally adequate, its flood capacity is inadequate and therefore negates much of the \$2.6 million flood control project.

## Sanders County High Bridge Renovation



Amount: \$292,200

*Sanders County (Thompson Falls, MT)*

Improvements include installing new deck and railing, a new stringer system, three new spans, rehabilitating certain truss members, cleaning structure components, and applying corrosion inhibitor. When reopened, the High Bridge will be dedicated to non-motorized use. It will reconnect to an existing trails system, providing a safe and direct route for pedestrians and cyclists separated from vehicular traffic. The bridge will also be used for emergency response access (type 3 vehicles) and evacuation under controlled conditions.

## Shelby Intermodal Hub



Amount: \$974,000

*City of Shelby (Shelby, MT)*

There currently is no Intermodal Hub in the State of Montana which causes inflated costs and slows the movement of goods to and from Montana. Construction of a rail spur line will give the Port of Northern Montana ample track to handle full shuttle and intermodal trains as well as full-length container trains, which will substantially increase the number of outbound freight carloads per year and diversify outbound freight commodity.

## Statewide Food Bank Network Expansion and Upgrades



Request Subcommittee Committee Senate Floor Conference Law

Amount: \$1,000,000

*Montana Food Bank Network (Missoula, MT)*

This project will provide funding to build the local and statewide capacity of food banks and pantries so they can handle the growing emergency food needs. The funds allocated would be used to provide grants to local food banks/pantries to build new facilities, increase refrigeration capabilities, improve distribution infrastructure, and otherwise allow for more storage, handling, and distribution of emergency food in Montana.

## Sunlight Business Park



Request Subcommittee Committee Senate Floor Conference Law

Amount: \$250,000

*Jefferson Local Development Corporation (Whitehall, MT)*

This project will complete construction of the infrastructure for the Sunlight Business Park. Sunlight Business Park infrastructure includes: roads; a community water system; lighting; site security system construction; site sign construction; storm water system construction; fire protection systems construction; electrical transmission, gas service, telephone and fiber optic connections; and a community water treatment system. The project also incorporates the development of wind energy at the site that will combine private and public resources.

## Transit Bus Replacements



Request Subcommittee Committee Senate Floor Conference Law

Amount: \$974,000

*Great Falls Transit District (Great Falls, MT)*

The Great Falls Transit District is in desperate need of bus replacements. They have a fixed route fleet of 19 buses (not counting the two buses in the "bone yard" used for spare parts). They operate a seven-route system with six of the routes having 30-minute headways at peak service. Therefore, it takes thirteen buses to operate peak service. With their expanding ridership they would like to plan for one additional route and extend the seventh route into a 30-minute headway. Of the nineteen buses available, fifteen have exceeded their life cycle.

## U.S. Hwy. 2 Two Medicine River Bridge



Request Subcommittee Committee Senate Floor Conference Law

Amount: \$15,000,000

*Montana Department of Transportation (East Glacier, MT)*

Funds will be used to reconstruct this structure to a modern design many years before the typical funding mechanisms will allow. This structure's footings are moving and they are being carefully monitored. This bridge is a critical link in the National Highway System and its replacement is needed to avoid a 300-mile detour of U.S. 2 traffic.

## U.S. Hwy. 93 Corridor



Amount: \$2,922,000

*Montana Department of Transportation (Western MT, MT)*

The U.S. 93 corridor carries a significant amount of intrastate, interstate, and international travel. It is the highest volume, non-interstate highway in Montana. Funding will help complete projects along the entire U.S. 93 Corridor in Montana between Idaho and the international border with Canada. In addition, the proposed projects will serve many of the most rapidly growing counties in the state with the highest levels of unemployment.

## Valley Center Road Reconstruction



Amount: \$15,000,000

*Gallatin County (Bozeman, MT)*

Gallatin County will partner with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) to develop improvements to this road that is close to construction. MDT completed the design for Valley Center improvements as well as acquiring the majority of the right-of-way for the project. Only ten parcels remain for right-of-way acquisition, and the proposed improvements will include a separated pedestrian/bike facility - a major piece in providing alternative transportation options for the public and reducing fuel consumption. This project is estimated to create 100-125 jobs during construction and will provide a critical component of the continued development of economic centers in the Gallatin Valley for years to come.

## West Fork Road Reconstruction Project



Amount: \$7,000,000

*Carbon County Commission (Red Lodge, MT)*

The West Fork Road is approximately 3.2 miles in length. This project will require removal of decaying pavement, drainage improvements, and improved shoulders. The road will be built to Federal Highway Administration standards. The road profile would go from a 24 foot wide road, to a 30 foot wide road with 11 foot driving lanes and 4 foot shoulders allowing for both vehicle and pedestrian and bike traffic.

## Western Montana Children's Safety Initiative

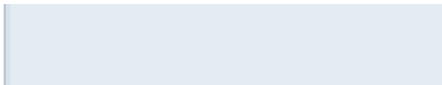


Amount: \$625,000

*Watson Children's Shelter (Missoula, MT)*

This funding will help Watson Children's Shelter (WCS) undertake its Western Montana Children's Safety Initiative by building a second facility which will double current capacity and provide shelter service for an estimated 150 children annually. WCS is currently experiencing demand for children's services that far exceed its current facility capabilities. As a result, children in need are being turned away,

despite having no other shelter alternative in western Montana.



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