

**Press Release  
For immediate release  
August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

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**Park County Commissioners to host public meeting to discuss condition of Silver Gate and Cooke City bridges.**

Park County Commissioners will host a meeting in Silvergate on August 16, 2019 to discuss with the public the next phase of the County's Bridge Replacement Program. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Range Rider Lodge, 101 US-212, Silver Gate, Montana. The Commissioners will be hearing replacement recommendations from Stahly Engineering for the three bridges selected for a Preliminary Engineering Report and Grant Application to be submitted to the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP). Anyone interested in the County's bridge system is encouraged to attend the meeting, ask questions, and offer their comments. The information gathered during the hearing will be included in the preliminary engineering report (PER) being prepared for the County by Stahly Engineering & Associates of Bozeman.

The PER will provide the County with a document used in a grant application to the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) that is subject to approval for funding by the Montana Legislature and the Governor. The application deadline is May 2020. In 2017, Park County received a TSEP grant for \$107,957 to replace the Mission Creek Bridge, which was completed earlier this month.

Each TSEP application will be ranked by the Department of Commerce during the fall of 2020 and presented to the Legislature in January 2021 for its consideration. The grant process is extremely competitive. To be successful, applicants must demonstrate that their project will solve urgent and serious health or safety problems, is vital to their economy, is financially feasible, and enjoys strong public support. When Park County residents take an active role in selecting and planning the replacement of vital infrastructure that they rely on for their safety and the safety of their families, friends, and neighbors, the likelihood of success goes up significantly. People that are unable to attend the meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup> are encouraged to send their written comments to the Park County Commissioners at 414 East Callender Street, Livingston, MT 59047 or to [commissioners@parkcounty.org](mailto:commissioners@parkcounty.org).

For more information please contact the Park County Public Works at 222-4114 or Kathy Thompson, Project Engineer for Stahly Engineering at (406) 522-8594.