



**City of Missoula, Montana
Item to be Referred to City Council Committee**

Committee: Administration and Finance

Item: NIH Grant Administration Agreements Referral – Year 3

Date: August 10, 2021

Sponsor(s): Karen Gasvoda

Prepared by: Zoe Walters

Ward(s) Affected:

<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Action Required:

Approve the grant administration agreements for services provided August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022.

- Truitt Consulting for a total payment of \$43,808
- SciDESIGNS Consulting for a total payment of \$25,269
- University of Montana for a total payment of \$34,989

Recommended Motion(s):

I move the City Council: The committee recommends that the Missoula City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign these grant administration agreements with Truitt Consulting, SciDESIGNS, and the University of Montana for the National Institutes of Health grant-funded project called The Link: A Collective-Impact, Place-Based Approach to Inspiring Montana’s Next Generation Healthcare Work Force.

Timeline:

Referral to committee:	August 16, 2021
Committee discussion:	August 18, 2021
Council action (or sets hearing):	August 16, 2021
Public Hearing:	N/A
Deadline:	N/A

Background and Alternatives Explored: The City of Missoula in 2019 was the first city in the nation to receive a Science Education Partnership Award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The award funds a project, led by Principle Investigator Holly Truitt (Truitt Consulting) and Co-Investigator Dr. Rachel Severson (University of Montana), to position The Link, Missoula’s new library-museum complex, as a vibrant Third Place and a hub for health-science learning, healthy living, and STEM role-model engagement. The project aims in particular to reach traditionally underrepresented and underserved groups, including Native Americans, potential first-generation college students, and children from low-income backgrounds.

The Community Development Division, as the awardee of the grant, manages several subcontractors working on the project. Holly Truitt, of Truitt Consulting, is our principle

investigator. These grant administrative agreements are compensation for that work, per the original grant application and agreements.

Financial Implications: The entire project is funded by the NIH. These grant administration agreements have no financial implications for the City budget and do not affect City funds. The grant administration agreements, which run from August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022, are above the \$25,000 contract limit stipulated in City of Missoula Administrative Rule #3, and so require City Council approval.

Links to external websites:

[The Link project page on the City of Missoula website](#)