

What makes the places we love the places we love? How can we develop more of them?



Space2Place is a creative placemaking micro-grant competition open to residents of Yellowstone County. Big Sky Economic Development introduced this program in 2018 to promote smaller, incremental improvements to make the public spaces of our communities more beautiful, more engaging, more interesting, and more enjoyable.



Placemaking is the practice of creating or enhancing a community's assets to improve its overall attractiveness and livability. The four fundamental elements of placemaking are:

- Access & Linkages – Easy to get to
- Comfort & Image – Easy to be there
- Uses & Activities – Fun to be there
- Sociability – Easy to interact



Placemaking is more than just public art. It is creating welcoming and engaging places where people want to gather and connect – even to linger. It is about enhancing the walkability of our commercial areas, our neighborhoods, and our community in general. Placemaking can be large-scale like the development of a city park or streetscape, or it can be as small as a flower bed or a well-placed chair.



We have intentionally kept this application process simple and easy. There is no need to overcomplicate it. Simply think of a project that you or your group would like to create; provide renderings, images, diagrams, or photos of what it will look like; and explain what and where it will be, who will help you, what other resources you will use, and how it will activate and benefit the community.



Placemaking Resources:

If you have any questions about placemaking or need some ideas for a project, Google (or any other search engine) is an awesome tool. Here are some of the better websites:

<https://www.pps.org/category/placemaking> – Project for Public Spaces

<http://www.placemakingchicago.com/about/> - Placemaking Chicago

<https://www.shophouseandco.com/> - Shophouse & Co

https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/How-to-do-Creative-Placemaking_Jan2017.pdf - National Endowment for the Arts

YouTube is also a valuable resource. Here are several informative videos:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USmTQeKR4P4>
David Engwicht – TEDx Indianapolis “Add Some Magic to a Public Space Near You.” (17:07)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sfk1ZW9NRDY>
Cara Courage – TEDx Indianapolis “Placemaking and Community.” (9:29)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmoUgLK3JxE>
“State of Creativity: Creative Placemaking” (12:56)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yB7xkiR5ts>
Mara Holt Skov – TEDx Twin Falls “Activating Public Spaces” (20:09)

Questions?

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Space2Place

A **space** is a void. Nothing happens there. We pass it by without much thought. A **place** is a destination. We want to go there. We want to be there. **Placemaking** is about transforming ugly and underutilized spaces in our communities into vibrant, attractive, inviting, and memorable places.

Summary:

Big Sky Economic Development is sponsoring a micro-grant competition for creative placemaking. Groups, organizations, and individuals within Yellowstone County are encouraged to develop and submit their ideas for how they can transform a public space in Yellowstone County into a beautiful, lively, and welcoming place.

Eligibility for all Grant Applicants:

1. Open to all residents and organizations within Yellowstone County.
2. All completed projects must be visible and/or useable by the public within Yellowstone County.
3. One application per organization per year.
4. Must conform with all applicable city and/or county codes and ordinances.
5. Grant funds may be used for necessary project materials and contracted services. Recipients are expected to provide volunteer labor to bring their projects to fruition. Grant funds are not intended to be used for planning purposes.
6. Past awardees must have successfully completed all requirements of past awards to be eligible to apply for additional funding.

About the Grants:

1. Grant amounts will not exceed \$5,000.
2. Total project costs should not exceed \$10,000.
3. Projects must adhere to the principles of placemaking.
4. Submission deadline: **March 5, 2020**.
5. BSED will create a selection committee to review and score the applications.
6. Grant winners will be notified by **April 2, 2020**.
7. Awards will be presented publicly **April 16, 2020**, at BSED's Better Off in Billings event.
8. Grant funds will be released as expended with proper documentation.
9. Projects must be completed by **September 30, 2020**.

Evaluation Criteria:

- | | |
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| 1. Exhibit the concepts of Placemaking. | 20% |
| 2. Beautification and/or activation of a space. | 25% |
| 3. Community need. | 20% |
| 4. Innovation/Creativity. | 20% |
| 5. Ability to leverage grant funds with In-kind match of cash and/or "sweat-equity". | 5% |
| 6. Budget. | 5% |
| 7. Ability to complete work by project deadline of September 30, 2019. | 5% |

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Space2Place Grant Application

Presented by **Big Sky Economic Development's Community Development Department**

Organization/Group/Individual Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Nature of your project: _____

For example: picnic area, bench/seating area, mural, pocket park, etc.

Location of your project: _____

Have you contacted the appropriate agency(ies) about any possible permissions needed? Yes: ____ No: ____

Estimated cost of: Materials: _____

Contracted Services: _____

Other (Please describe in remarks): _____

Total Grant Amount Requested: _____

In-Kind Match: _____

Remarks: _____

All applications must be received in the offices of Big Sky Economic Development, 222 N 32nd St, Suite 200, Billings, MT 59101, by 4:00 pm, Thursday, March 5, 2020. You may email applications to thom@bigskyeda.org. Grant winners will be notified by April 2, 2020. Grant awards will be announced publicly at the Big Sky Economic Development Better Off in Billings event on April 16, 2020, at the Pub Station.

On **Page 2**, please provide a comprehensive description of your planned Creative Placemaking project. Limit your description to one page, but please address the following items:

- Nature and location of your planned project, and how it will improve a public space.
- How the public will access/use it.
- How you will use the grant funds.
- How you will leverage the grant funds with volunteer labor, donated materials or services, and/or other funds available to your group.
- How you plan to implement your project before September 30, 2020.

You may also include up to 3 pages of images, renderings, schematics, etc. to help define and describe your project.

Description of Project: