Meeting Date: May 27, 2021
Agenda Item: Parks Capital Program
Action Needed: Final
Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 30 Min

Background: Each Legislative Session proposed line-item Capital Program projects are included in House Bill 5 (HB 5) for the next biennium. For the 2021 Legislative Session, the projects below are those approved, which will advance through the implementation process:

- Parks Major Maintenance – numerous projects statewide. $2,500,000
- Yellow Bay SP – site upgrades. $1,200,000
- L&C Caverns SP – septic system upgrade (comfort station in campground). $600,000
- Smith River SP – Eden site improvement. $600,000
- Parks Diversified Lodging – several parks statewide. $500,000
- Parks Interpretive and Exhibit Upgrades – statewide. $500,000
- Fort Owen SP – park improvements; parking site/interpretation. $390,000
- Milltown SP Safety Improvements – access upgrades. $250,000
- Smith River SP – site enhancements; recreation improvements. $200,000
- Flathead Lake Islands – three islands; site infrastructure upgrades. $200,000
- Flathead Lake Recreational Access/Somers site – initial development. $100,000

Note: Additional detail is provided for the proposed projects of the Parks Major Maintenance line-items.

Public Involvement Process & Results: Alternatives and Analysis:
Several of the projects will involve the Environmental Assessment (EA) and public involvement processes. Those that may not include Major Maintenance projects, such as hazard tree removal, sign replacements, reroofing nonhistoric building, picnic table replacements, and similar efforts statewide.

The public involvement process typically occurs at the Regional level.

Agency Recommendation and Rationale:
Approve implementation of the line-item Parks Capital projects in the amounts noted above. These projects will provide needed upgrades and improvements at existing park sites, as well as improve public access opportunities in other areas.

Proposed Motion:
I move to approve the 11 proposed Parks Capital projects outlined above, totaling $7,040,000, for implementation statewide in the Montana State Parks system.