



Grant Details

108656 - FY22 Region/CVB Marketing Plan

113973 - FY 22 Red Lodge Marketing Plan

DOC Office of Tourism

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Community & Brand Support

Describe your destination (who you are, who you wish to attract and why would they come) addressing your strengths, opportunities, and potential challenges. How does your destination align with Montana's brand pillars?

Nestled in Montana's magnificent BeartoothMountains and surrounded by the Custer Gallatin National Forest, Red Lodge delivers world-class outdoor recreation and access to YellowstoneNational Park via the world-renowned Beartooth Highway. In our historic downtown, you'll enjoy locally owned shops, quality restaurants and plenty of first-class accommodation and entertainment. No matter what the season, Red Lodge is your Base Camp to the Beartooths.

The Red Lodge visitor arrives here looking forward to its natural beauty and quaint charm. What they discover is its magic. And for that, they return again and again, over a lifetime. Like so much of Montana, Red Lodge is surrounded by natural splendor -- Montana's highest peaks frame our back yards, its crystal-clear waterways tumble down our valleys, and that unique combination of pine and aspen scents invigorate our air. But as the Red Lodge visitor knows, we have something special going on here; we're just far enough off the beaten path that local truly appreciate visitors, we want to say "Hello" when we see someone new in town, and we do not just throw out the welcome mat for you, we show you why we love living here.

Today's travelers are looking for that one of a kind of experience, and it's one Red Lodge excels at delivering.

A year-round population of just over 2,000 and an historic Main Street business district with great restaurants, shopping, entertainment, and accommodations means a stay in Red Lodge is an opportunity to make friends with locals.

Red Lodge, Montana, 2016 Gateway Community of the Year, anchors the most scenic route into YellowstoneNational Park: the 68-mile alpine and structural wonder of the Beartooth Highway, an "All-American Road". Open late May-October, visitors come from around the world to experience its summer snowfields, high-mountain vistas, and legendary curves.

Sitting on the edge of a National Forest, Red Lodge lays claim to more than 3.6 million acres of uninterrupted and unspoiled wild country as our "backyard." Much of that is easily accessible with well-marked trails for hikers, horseback riders, and many near town are even open to bicyclists. Whatever the day's adventures entail, Red Lodge is the perfect Base Camp to the Beartooths.

Red Lodge is easily accessed from Interstate I-90 via State Hwy 212 from Laurel and Hwy 78 from Columbus. It is a one hour drive from Logan International Airport in Billings which is served by four major Airlines, United, Delta, Alaska and American Airlines, and by Cody's airport which is served by United and Delta.

OUR STRENGTHS:

Gateway to Yellowstone National Park

The Most Scenic Route to Yellowstone Park, over the Beartooth Highway

The Beartooth Highway

Dubbed "the most beautiful roadway in America" by On the Road correspondent Charles Kuralt, the Beartooth Highway climbs to an astounding 10,947 feet above sea level. As it winds its way from Red Lodge to Yellowstone National Park, the Highway traverses an impressive range of ecosystems and geological wonders. At the highway's summit, travelers find themselves in a sky-high world of glacial cirques, clear alpine lakes, and snow that lingers through the summer months.

Gateway to the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness

Our back yard consists of millions of acres of high-country wilderness. As early as 1897, trails began snaking their way up the West Fork canyon, cleared by hand with saws and pickaxes. Today those same trails can take you to pristine country where visitors can enjoy a variety of outdoor activities.

Great Shops, Restaurants and Music Entertainment

Charming historic downtown hosts a variety of locally owned stores run by helpful, knowledgeable staff. Pop into one of the many restaurants for a quick burger and a locally brewed beer, or experience fine dining featuring wild game and other local fare. In 2018, eight of our local restaurants were selected to participate in Taste Our Place which is a program launched by the State of Montana. The Taste Our Place logo is a declaration of authentic Montana Quality. Relax and listen to some great music from our many local musicians or attend a first run movie at the historic Roman Theater.

Year-round Skiing

During the winter months enjoy bountiful snow, shimmering blue skies and terrain for all abilities that make for great fun on the slopes. Open from mid-November through mid-April.

During the summer months, the Beartooth Highway is your chair lift to acres of open terrain for skiing and snowboarding. For those that are not much interested in hiking there is Beartooth Basin with two permanent poma lifts for skier access to the Twin Lakes headwall.

Arts and Culture

Catch the spirit of today at one of the many art and photography galleries in town or experience various styles of art at the Carbon County Arts Guild & Depot Gallery and the Red Lodge Clay Center. For history enthusiasts, Red Lodge is home to the Carbon County Historical Society and Museum where visitors can learn about the colorful history of Red Lodge and the surrounding areas.

Events and Attractions

Red Lodge is home to many events and year-round attractions. Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary - Home of Champions Rodeo - Beartooth Rally - Winter Fest - National Finals Ski-Joring - Christmas Stroll - Fun Run - Iron Horse Motorcycle Rodeo - Red Lodge Songwriter Festival - Bearcreek Downs Pig Races - Beartooth Run - Shredfest, Cruisen' Red Lodge and many more.

Proximity to Billings

Billings is the largest city in Montana with a population of over 160,000 and a major transportation hub for South Central Montana. Travelers can reach Billings by air, bus or car on two east and west and north and south Interstates highways. Billings Logan International Airport is served by four major airlines United, Delta, Alaska, and American.

Amenities

Red Lodge may seem like a remote destination to some visitors, but they will be pleased to find we have the same amenities and comforts as they have at home, and more than adequate cell phone coverage and broadband internet in most areas.

Safe Harbor

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Red Lodge offered a "getaway" from the more populated urban areas. Red Lodge provided an escape to a scenic area with plenty of space to "distance" from others while also allowing many to work remotely. Lower density with higher space was exactly what people were looking for and Red Lodge became a safe harbor.

OPPORTUNITIES:

Motorcycle/Auto Groups

The Beartooth Highway was recently voted the *Number 1 Motorcycling Road in America* by the American Motorcyclist Association. It is a "bucket list" item for many motorcycle enthusiasts.

Small Groups

Red Lodge is the perfect destination for small groups. RV clubs, executive retreats, conventions of 200 people or less, craft clubs, all find the comfortable meeting spaces and hospitality of Red Lodge a great place to spur creativity, make new friendships and renew old relationships.

Weddings/Reunions

Picturesque venues, quality lodging options and numerous recreational opportunities in the surrounding area make Red Lodge the perfect setting to gather family and friends for your wedding or reunion.

Tournaments/Community Events

The newly revamped Roosevelt Center, our modern high school auditorium, and other historic venues, provide the opportunity to house tournaments as well as larger community events.

Outdoor Competitions

Challenging, yet stunningly beautiful terrain attracts competitors from around the country to a multitude of outdoor events. Included among these events are the Beartooth Run, Nitty Gritty Road Race, Collegiate Ski Races, National Ski Joring Championships and the summer Shredfest which is the only summer qualifier in North America for the Freeride World Tour.

Media Partnership Opportunities

Billings has a wide reach with television, radio and print media that we can better utilize with positive and timely press releases and promotional partnering. Quarterly, the Billings Gazette features what is going on in Red Lodge in its Explore editorial section. More can be done with KTVQ, KULR, YPR, and the print media options in Billings, Yellowstone Valley Women, and Magic Magazine, among others.

Annual Events

Red Lodge has a growing number of competitive, recreational and cultural events. Many of these events take place during the summer months but winter events such as the Alpine Ski Races, National Ski Joring Championships, and Winter Fest also attract visitors from in state and out of state locations. In the Summertime we have Red Lodge Music Festival, Red Lodge Songwriter Festival, Fourth of July Rodeos and Parades, Beartooth Basin Summer Ski Area, Beartooth Bike Rally, Cruisen' Red Lodge Vintage Car Show, and Labor Day Fun Run just to name a few.

Location and Way Finding Signage

Red Lodge is miles from a major highway. Montana Highway signs point Yellowstone Park travelers past Red Lodge exits or towards the Chief Joseph Highway in Wyoming. Location and Way Finding Signage has finally come to fruition and will be implemented in time for this year tourist season.

OUR CHALLENGES:

COVID 19

In addition to our normal challenges, Red Lodge will have the added, significant challenge of adjusting to changes brought forth by the continuing COVID 19 Pandemic. One challenge will be making businesses and travelers alike feel safe enjoying what our community has to offer. We will be using Recreate Responsibly as our foundation for this messaging (along with any other restrictions the CDC may recommend) as we find our way forward. Our biggest challenge is housing and finding employees to fill open positions. As Red Lodge has become more popular as a destination for visitors, we have also become a very popular place to reside. Many long term rental homes have sold and the buyers have chosen to no longer rent their home. This has also increased the market value for homes in Red Lodge. There is little to no available long term rentals for front line workers who could typically find rentals. This in turn has created a shortage of employees to fill those positions. This is not only a Red Lodge challenge, but a challenge in much of the nation.

Making Red Lodge a Destination

Red Lodge is used as a 'Pass Through' for the Beartooth Highway and Yellowstone Park in the summer. If we can influence a small percentage of summer travelers to stay one additional night in Red Lodge and enjoy all the offerings of our town and surrounding area, it will make a significant impact on our local economy. In the winter months we need to reinforce Red Lodge as a winter destination to skiers and non-skiers alike. First class restaurants, comfortable accommodations, great shopping, restful relaxation, ice-skating, Nordic skiing, wildlife viewing and hiking are a few of the winter time activities available in Red Lodge. Red Lodge Mountain is a fabulous, family-oriented alpine ski area.

Location and Way Finding Signage

Red Lodge is miles from a major highway. Montana Highway signs point Yellowstone Park travelers past Red Lodge exits or towards the Chief Joseph Highway in Wyoming.

Montana is perceived as challenging to access. In addition to the states' destination attribute weaknesses, both the Montana and Red Lodge brand brings with it this perceived access challenge.

Beartooth Highway is Seasonal

Weather and snow plow funding often delay the opening of the Beartooth Highway in the spring. Snowstorms will temporarily close the road. Timely communication of the road status is challenging with reports of closures carrying a higher priority than reports of the Highway re-opening. The portion of the Highway located in Wyoming is a secondary priority for snowplows.

Make Winter Success Less Dependent on the Snow Conditions at Red Lodge Mountain

Red Lodge Mountain is the major draw for Red Lodge in the winter season. The town's commerce follows the quality of the snow conditions on the mountain. We can reduce the dips when snow conditions are not at their best by promoting all of the other amenities, events and winter time activities going on in Red Lodge. Red Lodge is within easy reach of public access to BLM lands, Forest Service lands, and national parks. Hiking, cross country skiing, wildlife viewing, scenic drives, shopping, fine dining, and relaxing in one of our great accommodations to name a few.

Online Mapping Services

Google Maps and others report inaccurate information for routes and business addresses.

Lack of City Marketing Support

While the City of Red Lodge collects a Resort Tax, the governing body offers no marketing or promotional funds for Red Lodge.

Perceived lack of comforts/technologies

Montana is perceived to be somewhat remote and lacking many of the amenities and technologies those travelers who may be less outdoor minded are looking for.

Perceived costs and time requirements inhibit visitation to Montana.

Research shows focus group and in-depth participants expressed serious concerns about the cost of a trip to Montana. Beyond the cost of traveling to Montana, many generally felt that a trip to Montana would require a significant investment of time.

COMPETITOR ANALYSIS:

Jackson Hole, WY

Popular tourism destination because of its proximity to Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks. Website, mobile, social media, and internet advertising resources.

Livingston, MT/Gardiner, MT

Way finding signage on I-90. Year-round entrance to Yellowstone Park.

Bozeman, MT / Big Sky, MT

Greater variety in lodging, dining and shopping opportunities, including groups, conventions and conferences. Proximity to Yellowstone Park. Four-season activities. Popular ski area. Cultural, historic, and educational activities, events, and attractions. Significantly greater marketing dollars.

West Yellowstone, MT

West entrance to Yellowstone Park. The name West Yellowstone. More lodging and dining options. Significantly greater marketing dollars.

Cody, WY

Eastern gateway to Yellowstone Park, access to five scenic byways including Chief Joseph Highway is a second route to Beartooth Highway and Northeast entrance. Lodging options, Buffalo Bill Center of the West, regional airport. By partnering with Wyoming Tourism, Cody has successfully marketed itself as "Yellowstone Country" and its airport "Yellowstone Airport." Significantly more funding for promotion is directed to Cody by local, county and state monies.

Colorado

Travelers' perceptions make Colorado Montana's top competitor. In addition to awareness, demand, excitement for and visitation at significantly higher rates than Montana, research illuminated the directly competitive relationship Colorado represents. In discussing where to go in the West and Montana specifically, it was clear that most research participants viewed Colorado as the destination they would be heavily weighing Montana against, and a more persuasive one at that. These travelers felt Colorado had similar offerings on a basic level—spectacular natural beauty, abundance of outdoor recreation, outdoor culture, winter sports. Very importantly, Colorado's cities, infrastructure and mature tourism product were seen as providing more of a "safety net," something that was keenly on the minds of those who were less on the outdoor spectrum and/or less familiar with traveling in this region of the U.S.

MONTANA'S BRAND PILLARS:

The Montana Brand Pillars were seemingly written for Red Lodge.

Nestled in the Beartooth Mountains, with Yellowstone Park just up the road, and the Beartooth All American Highway at our doorstep, we truly offer more spectacular unspoiled nature than anywhere else in the lower 48.

A little off the beaten path Red Lodge, a historic mining town, is a vibrant and charming community that serves as a gateway to many natural wonders.

From art walks to downhill mountain bike rides, from reading a good book by the fire to skiing fresh powder, Red Lodge is a friendly, welcoming town offering a wide range of activities every season. Enjoy breathtaking experiences by day and relaxing hospitality by night. Regardless of your choice of activities, our people work hard to make your visit an experience to remember.

Describe your destination.

THREE PHASES OF THE TRAVEL DECISION; INSPIRATION, ORIENTATION AND FACILITATION:

THE PROCESS IS DEFINED BY USE OF THE FOLLOWING TERMINOLOGY AND CORRESPONDING DEFINITIONS:

INSPIRATION - The process of being mentally stimulated to do or feel something, especially to do something creative.

ORIENTATION - The relative physical position or direction of something.

FACILITATION - The action of facilitating something to make it easy or easier.

THE INSPIRATION PHASE is where the traveler is made aware of the general product and develops a desire to visit the destination. The Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development (MOTBD) is responsible for the foundation of this marketing mindset via Montana's brand image, per the strategic plan. MOTBD markets Montana's key tourism pillars to inspire potential visitors to the state with inspirational imagery and copy. MOTBD focused strategies on Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks as well as adventures - which aligns with the outdoor recreation travelers will be increasingly seeking.

Red Lodge is the gateway to Yellowstone National Park via the Beartooth Highway which Charles Kuralt called "the most beautiful drive in America." As a destination, Red Lodge offers stunning mountain views and world class hiking in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. Potential visitors are inspired by all Red Lodge offers (breathtaking views, hiking, fishing, wildlife watching, and what some consider the most scenic drive in America, the Beartooth Highway.

THE ORIENTATION PHASE is where the traveler begins researching the details of his or her trip. This phase focuses on the route the traveler will take to arrive at the chosen destination and the mode of transportation used to get there. Per the strategic plan, Montana's visitors have multiple destinations to consider within the state and bordering states. Regions and CVB provide tools to help the visitor plan a route and encourage a longer stay.

Redlodge.com

Redlodge.com is one of the "go to" resources for visitors orienting themselves to Red Lodge. Once there, visitors can plan their trip, request a print copy of our Destination Red Lodge Travel Planner, or download a digital copy. They will also be able to see what events are happening during their visit and check out area attractions, as well as view shopping and dining options. Once in Red Lodge, visitors will find navigating town easier with our recently installed Wayfinding Signage directing them to different attractions, services, and parking.

THE FACILITATION PHASE is where the traveler seeks experiences en route to a destination and during a stay.

Tourism Regions, Convention and Visitors Bureaus (CVBs), communities and organizations must all work together to make visitors aware of the full array of experiences available to guests.

The Red Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce/VIC/CVB is well marked via our Wayfinding Signage. During our busy summer visitor season, we are open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday and 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday. The goal is for each visitor to have a positive experience and plan their return visit to Red Lodge. Visitors are always happy to see we offer public restrooms, current conditions of Beartooth Highway, and local hiking (trail conditions), as well as offer them our Destination Red Lodge Travel planner to take with them to help guide them once they leave the Visitors Center.

Our content will focus on the three core elements travelers are looking for when deciding on an outdoor destination such as Red Lodge:

1. unique natural encounters without giving up modern comforts
2. comfortable isolation that attracts free-spirited adventurers,
3. a place for entirely new experiences and a place for new ways of experiencing the familiar.

Optional: Include attachments here

a. Define your target markets (demographic, geographic and psychographic).

A OUR TARGET MARKETS DEFINED

The High Potential Visitor

This group is clearly a high-value audience; it is different from other travelers in important ways. Behaviorally and demographically, the survey shows that high potential Montana visitors have a remarkable and distinctive profile. This group of heavy travelers is not only attracted to Montana, they see the destination as more attractive and competitive when compared to the regional competition. In brief, high potential Montana visitors are:

- City dwellers (i.e., not rural and not suburban)
- Married with children
- Well-educated, Affluent
- Younger
- Frequent travelers
- Male-oriented (54.3% male and 45.7% female)
- Strongly attracted to Montana's tourism offering
- Familiar with Montana's tourism offering
- Likely repeat visitors
- Outdoor-oriented travelers

High potential Montana visitors are also heavy consumers of recreational activities. This group is interested in a diverse array of Montana activities, centered around day hiking and visits to the National Parks.

Family travelers are a natural fit with Montana's travel product, including that available in the Eastern portion of the state. They are a large and lucrative segment. In the Montana Brand Exploration Survey, approximately one-third, 32.0 percent, of travelers reported having children under the age of 18 in their homes. Like high potential visitors, family travelers index high on outdoor psychographics, have high incomes and would expect to spend more and stay longer in the state than other travelers. Family travelers are interested in a variety of Red Lodge experiences, but their ideal trips would appear to center around Yellowstone National Park, day hiking, horseback riding, and driving scenic byways. This niche market also expresses significant interest in child-friendly activities related to history, culture and geology.

Red Lodge offers affordable vacation opportunities to families visiting Montana for the first time or coming back on a repeat visit. 85% of visitors surveyed responded they will return to Montana within the next two years. These returning visitors are a significant target for our CVB.

Geo-tourism is defined as tourism that sustains or enhances the distinctive geographical character of a place—its environment, heritage, aesthetics, culture, and the well-being of its residents. **Geo-travelers** are high-value, low impact visitors who appreciate the unique characteristics, eccentricities and natural qualities of Red Lodge. They place high value on travel experiences that respect and support the local character of place and are less likely to become discouraged in their travel experiences by travel distances/difficulties and vagaries of weather.

History Buffs

History buffs score higher on the psychographic index, have proven to have higher incomes and would spend more and stay longer compared to non-history buffs.

Our Traveler at a Glance

- Healthy, Active, Outdoor Enthusiasts
- Arts, Crafts, Entertainment Enthusiasts
- Motorcyclists and Auto Enthusiasts
- RV Enthusiasts
- Empty Nesters/Active Retirees
- Income: AHI of \$50,000+
- Education: Bachelor's Degree
- Age: 35-65

Core Geographic Markets

Red Lodge is located in the South Central portion of Montana. We are the gateway to the Northeast Entrance to Yellowstone Park via the Beartooth Highway. Because of our geographic location, the majority of visitors come from east of us.

Summer

California, Florida, Texas, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado, Washington, and the Mid-Western States, particularly Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Winter

California, Florida, Wyoming, North Dakota, Minnesota and SK/MB Canada are key winter markets.

b. What are your emerging markets?

OUR EMERGING MARKETS

Two Wheel travelers

Motorcyclists and bicyclists are attracted to the Beartooth Highway for its beauty and challenge. This segment of the tourism market is growing and important as they view the Highway as destination and spend multiple nights in our area.

Foodies

Red Lodge has an array of excellent restaurants, an award winning craft beer brewery, gourmet food and wine shops, for those travelers that seek unique dining experiences. Adventure is food for the soul, and food is fuel for the adventure. After a long day in the great outdoors, there is nothing quite like a warm meal. But not just any warm meal...a really good warm meal with good company. Whether visiting the local burger joint or enjoying an elegant, farm-to-table meal, dining in Red Lodge is sure to please everyone. With a rich agricultural heritage, Red Lodge has a wonderful selection of locally grown products that translates to a thriving dining scene.

Entertainment/Music Seekers

On any given night there are a number of bars and restaurants that feature live music, both local artists and touring bands. During the course of the year, events such as The Red Lodge Music Festival and the Red Lodge Songwriter Festival bring world class musicians to Red Lodge to share their art.

Billings

Billings is 60 miles away and has a population base of approximately 160,000. The Billings Convention and Meeting market is growing and we will continue to develop our relationship with the Billings CVB, Visit Billings. The Billings market is the perfect target to strengthen our winter destination business, especially on non-holiday weekends.

Corporate Retreats

Red Lodge is the perfect place for executive retreats and small group gatherings for associations, social clubs and private companies located in Billings and Bozeman.

Areas to the East

Eastern Montana, North Dakota, and Minnesota continue to be strong markets and will be the focus for our Winter destination marketing.

Colorado & other Mountain States

We have listed Colorado previously as a competitor for non-resident visitors. However, state tourism data and our own information indicate a rising interest in visiting Montana and specifically Red Lodge from Coloradans. As their own tourism industry continues to grow and their population continues its rapid growth, the competition for outdoor space grows in equal proportion. Many Colorado residents especially those from major metropolitan areas are looking for less crowded, less expensive, simpler destinations, much the way Colorado used to be. Red Lodge is the perfect fit, an 8-9 hour drive or a one hour direct flight from Denver, their largest metropolitan area.

Optional: Include attachments here.

c. What research supports your target marketing?

Demographic Research

(ITRR 2017 Interactive Data Non-Resident Travel Survey Report) *

- Average Age - 57
- Age Groups -47% 55-64, 43% 65-74, 21% 45-54, 23% 35-44, 21% 25-34
- Gender - 53% Male, 47% Female
- Group Size - 52% Couple, 5% Self, 31% Immediate Family
- Average Group Size - 2.43
- Household Income - 23% Less than \$50k, 7% \$75-\$100k, 13% \$50-\$75k, 29% \$100-\$150k

**All percentages taken from online ITRR reports with 72 respondents*

Facebook Demographics - Top 4 Categories, 65%, are women

- 15% Women 35 to 44 Years
- 16% Women 45 to 54 Years
- 10% Women 25 to 34 Years
- 13% Women 55 to 64 Years
- 9% Women 65+ years

Geographic Research - Non Resident

ITRR - Non Resident

- ITRR 2014 - Texas, Minnesota, Missouri, Kentucky, Arizona
- ITRR 2015 - Wyoming, Minnesota, California, Colorado
- ITRR 2016 - Wyoming, Minnesota, Washington, Colorado
- ITRR 2017 - California, Wyoming, North Dakota, Idaho, Wisconsin

RedLodge.com Travel Planner Requests

For 2019, 1158 travel planner packets were requested. The Midwest accounted for 37% of all requests. Top states were Minnesota with 9% and Florida and Texas with 5%

Facebook - Top 5 Cities (Outside Montana)

- Cody, WY
- Bismarck, ND
- Powell, WY
- Denver, CO
- Gillette, WY

Facebook - Top 5 Cities (Within Montana)

- Billings
- Red Lodge
- Bozeman
- Laurel
- Missoula

ITTR 2017 non-resident study data showed the average length of stay for non-resident visitors to Montana was 7.31 nights with 78% of in Yellowstone Country. 57% of the Non-resident travelers stated their primary reason for coming is vacation/recreation/pleasure, which leads to the supposition that they want a broader experience than just visiting Yellowstone Park.

The following 2017 ITTR data outlines what visitors are doing while in our area.

- Scenic Driving - 70%
- Wildlife Watching - 60%
- Day Hiking - 57%
- Recreational Shopping - 33%
- Visit local brewery - 29%
- Nature Photography - 27%
- Visiting Museums - 22%
- Fly fishing - 20%
- Car/RV camping - 18%
- Visiting Historical Sites - 18%
- Attending Festivals and Events - 17%
- Followed by river rafting/floating, farmers markets, birding, skiing/snowboarding

Key Psychographic Markets for Red Lodge.

- Social Class - middle to upper class (in terms of disposable income)

- Lifestyle - active, outdoor recreational oriented, frequent travelers
- Opinions - interested, but primarily influenced by desire to experience things for themselves
- Attitudes & Interests - outdoor activities, history & culture, foodies
- Attitudes & Beliefs - environmentally conscious, has an adventurous spirit, likes nature
- Technology - savvy - using mobile devices in all stages of planning & travel

Beartooth Highway Economic Impact Research

During the winter season, Red Lodge, MT is not considered a gateway community because of road closures limiting access only to Cooke City/Colter Pass/Silver Gate, MT and Cody, WY (via the Chief Joseph Scenic Byway).

Nonresident visitor expenditures contributed to over \$41.1 million in economic activity to Carbon County in 2016, the vast majority being spent in Red Lodge. The economic impact for this region from nonresident travelers is substantial to local communities. Furthermore, results identified that nonresidents perceive the Beartooth Highway as a destination in itself, not simply a highway.

2015 average spending in Carbon County by nonresident visitors to Montana totaled \$63.4 million. This \$63.4 million in local spending directly supports \$40.2 million of economic activity in the region, and supports an additional \$16.1 million of economic activity, indirectly.

Source: http://scholarworks.umt.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1352&context=itrr_pubs

Continue to Build Marketing Infrastructure

This will include, but not be limited to:

Consistent and informed Visitor Information Center staffing to enhance the guest experience and educate them to all the Red Lodge and the area has to offer.

- Increase Travel Planner Mailers
- Increase public awareness of what is happening in the Red Lodge area with targeted and regular e-news
- Increase social media reach through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter
- Continue to promote local events.

Increase Winter Season Visits

The Red Lodge TBID and Red Lodge CVB have joined in efforts to increase non alpine skiing related travel to Red Lodge.

Develop Cooperative Relationships within our Market Area

- Red Lodge Tourism Business Improvement District
- Yellowstone Country Travel Region
- City of Red Lodge
- Red Lodge Business Alliance
- Billings

Increase Winter Season Visits

The Red Lodge TBID and Red Lodge CVB have joined in efforts to increase non alpine skiing related travel to Red Lodge.

Expand Alliances With Area Towns

Red Lodge is fortunate to be located near Billings - Montana's largest city. With this alliance, we want to support their efforts in promoting the Beartooth Highway as "The most scenic route to Yellowstone Park." Billings is also a hub for groups, conventions and meetings. We will work to strengthen our relationship with the Billings CVB to attract these groups to our area.

Cooke City is the "other side" of the Beartooth Highway and the Northeast Entrance to Yellowstone Park. It is mutually beneficial to strengthen our relationship.

Cody, Wyoming has the potential to be a very strong ally. Although they are essentially after the same visitor, by working together, we will attract more visitors to our side of Yellowstone Park driving visitors to the East and Northeast Entrances.

We will work with area communities to strengthen our relationships and promote Red Lodge through their Chambers and CVBs. These communities include Columbus, Big Timber and Bozeman.

Red Lodge Branding

The Red Lodge brand, Base Camp to the Beartooths, is in place and is being used across all our marketing platforms and media placements.

Measurable Objectives

Increase Travel Planner distribution

Increase Facebook Friends, Followers, and Likes

Share in joint venture with one of our partners

a. In what types of co-ops with MTOT would you like to participate?

Yellowstone Country - Visit Billings

Yellowstone Country and Visit Billings brings in an assortment of people including conferencing and networking events, travel bloggers, online travel journalists, new media content creators, travel brands and industry professionals.

Billings CVB - Winter Marketing

Work with Visit Billings to help attract visitors to Red Lodge via Billings

Billings CVB - Meeting/Groups Marketing

Work with Visit Billings as a 'day trip' possibility for Meeting and Group planners. Our goal would be extended stays and return visits.

TBID and RLMLA

Create joint ventures with the Red Lodge TBID and Red Lodge Merchants and Lodging Association to promote events.

Optional: Include attachment here.

b. In what other types of co-ops would you like to participate? (Regions/CVBs, etc.)

Yellowstone Country - Visit Billings

Yellowstone Country and Visit Billings brings in an assortment of people including conferencing and networking events, travel bloggers, online travel journalists, new media content creators, travel brands and industry professionals.

Yellowstone Country - Opportunity Marketing

Yellowstone Country has opportunity funds available for cooperative marketing of new events

Billings CVB - Winter Marketing

Work with Visit Billings to help attract visitors to Red Lodge via Billings

Billings CVB - Meeting/Groups Marketing

Work with Visit Billings as a 'day trip' possibility for Meeting and Group planners. Our goal would be extended stays and return visits.

TBID and RLMLA

Create co-op opportunities with the Red Lodge TBID and Red Lodge Merchants and Lodging Association to promote events.

c. What types of co-ops have you done in the past? Were they successful - why or why not?

The Red Lodge Branding Project, led by the CVB Branding Leadership Team, was funded by the Red Lodge Tourism Business Improvement District TBID, Yellowstone Country Travel Region and the Red Lodge Merchants and Lodging Association. Because of their help, no CVB funds were required. Red Lodge won the 2016 Gateway Community of the Year Award for the branding effort. We worked closely with the TBID on all marketing efforts.

TBEX 2019 was the highlight of our partnering efforts. We worked with Yellowstone Country, Visit Billings, MOTBD, RLMA, TBID, and local businesses to bring attention to our area from travel bloggers, online travel journalists, new media content creators, travel brands and industry professionals. With so much support, we were able to arrange several tours for groups as well as host FAM trips for some of the TBEX participants.

Optional: Include attachments here.

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Optional: Include attachment here:

Marketing Segment, Method & Budget

Marketing Segment	Marketing Method	Describe your method.	Provide supporting research/statistics.	Describe the quantifiable measurements for success including Regulations requirements.	Estimated budget for method.	Marketing Method Evaluation	Add'l Atchm
Consumer	Travel Guide	<p>Visitor's interested in visiting the Red Lodge area can request a travel planner and activities guide packet, either online or by phone, making it easy to obtain a quality piece full of information that will help the potential visitor make their destination decision as well as providing reasons to extend their stay.</p>	<p>According to national travel statistics. 79% of requests are online or downloaded. Once the visitor's guide is in their hands, 70% actually travel to the destination. Once they are on the ground, 80% use it as a planning resource and 71% extend their stays as a result of the visitor's guide.</p> <p>Travel and Tourism Research Association https://ttra.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Value_of_Print_White_Paper_Final_June_01_2017_Chris_Adams.pdf</p> <p>Further, according to the Travel and Tourism Research Association, 53% of US travelers report using a printed resource in planning their travel in the previous 12 months; 896 million trips were taken in the last 12 months by this group of US travelers; 24% of US travelers indicated they used an official destination visitor guide in the past 12 months to plan a trip; 400 million leisure trips were taken by this group of US travelers in the past year - spending an estimated \$161 billion; 88% of readers who were undecided indicated that the official visitor guide influenced their decision to visit of visitors to make specific planning and booking. Official visitor guides are used by up 79% decisions on their trip. Visitors use the official visitor guides to make decisions on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 79% activities and attractions to enjoy o 54% places to eat or enjoy o 21% places to stay <p>In 2020, 1,749 Travel Planner Packets were requested online.</p>	<p>Comparing Visitor Information Center top 10 visitor counts and Destination Red Lodge Travel Planner Mailer statistics by origin of requests as well as by specific overall state number of requests will allow us to measure the Travel Planner distribution results. We will consider this method a success if we to increase the number of Travel Planners mailed out by 2% over FY 21.</p>	\$1,800.00	<p>Did you meet your objective - was your strategy successful - Yes/No Explain.</p> <p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <p>1. One final product shall be retained on file at the organization and a .pdf version shall be submitted with Evaluation Report (attach).</p> <p>2. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.2.15)</p>	TRAVEL PLANNEF REQUEST DEMOGRAPHICS.
Consumer	Joint Ventures	<p>In the coming year, Red Lodge has plans to partner with Yellowstone Country Travel Region and Visit Billings on various opportunities including print media, digital media, and fam tours.</p> <p>We will also continue to build our relationship with Billings and Southeast Montana, look for co-operative marketing opportunities.</p>	<p>Specific details of the Joint Venture(s) are not known at the time of the marketing plan development, however, past experience has shown that partnering with MOTBD and or other Regions and CVBS is a successful method.</p> <p>Once a Joint Venture is identified the supporting research and statistics section of the marketing plan will be updated with specifics.</p>	<p>Specific details of the Joint Venture(s) are not known at the time of the marketing plan development, however, past experience has shown that partnering with MOTBD and or other Regions and CVBS is a successful method.</p> <p>Once a Joint Venture is identified, update all fields in the Marketing Plan; adhere to the specific marketing method requirements.</p>	\$500.00	<p>Did you meet your objective - was your strategy successful - Yes/No Explain.</p> <p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <p>Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.1.3)</p>	
Consumer	Electronic Adv - Newsletter, E-blast	<p>We will be promoting Red Lodge as a</p>	<p>Our statistics show that 38% of this interested market resides in the Midwest but also proves that requests arrive from a world-wide base.</p>	<p>Success will be measured by the size of our email</p>	\$1,300.00	<p>Evaluation Requirements:</p>	

		<p>destination through electronic newsletters minimum of once per month. Our email database includes over 15,000 emails.</p> <p>Chamber staff will produce and circulate this newsletter to continually put Red Lodge at the forefront of consumers' decision-making process, providing them the facilitation and navigation of Red Lodge at their fingertips. The newsletters will cover the shoulder season targets but also will strive to increase occupancy levels during the high traffic summer months when guests are more likely to travel to Red Lodge due to personal schedules, weather, accessibility to Red Lodge and the State of Montana. The requested money will be used to fund an online e news subscription service ONLY.</p>	<p>The Red Lodge E-newsletter performs with an Open Rate (OR) of 30-40%. We are well above the median average of 15% for the Travel & Leisure Industry. Our Click Through Rate (CTR) of 4.3 also exceeds the median average of 1.5%.</p> <p>Promoting Red Lodge through digital and electronic media has proven to be a consumer demand and requirement in today's economy.</p> <p>Destination Analysts https://www.destinationanalysts.com/insights-updates/</p> <p>66.4% of travelers rely on the opinions of in-person and/or through direct contact (email, text, etc.) for travel inspiration.</p>	<p>subscribe list, open rates and clickthrough rates while staying within our budget parameters. Quarterly review of e-news metrics with attention to OR and CTR; consistently be above the National Average for the Travel and Leisure Industry. . Success will be measured by increasing click through rates to 13% while staying within our budget parameters.</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A copy of the electronic newsletter that was that was sent as well as the number of people it was sent to. 2. All online digital advertising shall be evaluated by the means outlined in the marketing plan. 3. Online digital ads shall include print or digital copies of the digital advertisements, click-through rates and number of delivered impressions. 4. Description and examples of paid and organic search methods. 5. Number of active contacts in database. 6. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.2.2)
Consumer	Printed Material	<p>Our strategy is to make our Travel Planner and the Beartooth Highway brochure available to visitors at the Airports in proximity to Red Lodge. We have secured rack space at the Billings,</p>	<p>Air travel to Montana continues to grow with Bozeman accounting for a large percentage of the growth. Both Billings and Bozeman have been working to promote new flights. Yellowstone Country along with Bozeman, Big Sky and others have worked together to subsidize the new flights.</p> <p>Destination Analysts https://www.destinationanalysts.com/insights-updates/</p> <p>Print usage in travel planning has risen close to 50% of American leisure travelers and the use of DMO print visitor guides has risen to just over 20%. While this rise may not signal any longer term trend there is clearly no evidence of a long-term decline in print or DMO guide usage. According to the State of the American Traveler, an independent research report by Miles Partnership, print has consistently shown strength and even slow growth in print usage over the last five years. 24.4% of travelers rely on offline media including TV, printed newspapers, magazines, etc. for travel inspiration.</p>	<p>We track the number of travel planners and brochures supplied to various outlets. We also ask out of state visitors to our VIC how they got to Montana. We are seeing an increase of visitor's flying into Bozeman. Success will be determined by meeting the objective to</p>	\$3,980.00	<p>Did you meet your objective - was your strategy successful - Yes/No Explain.</p> <p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One final product shall be retained on file at the organization and a .pdf version shall be submitted with Evaluation Report (attach).

		<p>Bozeman, and Cody Airports and the Bozeman rest area.</p> <p>The Bozeman, MT and Cody, WY Airports charge for this service. The Billings Airport does not charge.</p>		<p>distribute printed materials to targeted audiences through specific distribution channels that compliment the overall marketing plan (i.e. regional airports, the Visitor Information Center, outbound direct mail campaigns, events, etc.)</p>		<p>2. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.2.15)</p>
Consumer	Print Advertising	<p>We will use this to promote our area in places such as the Visit Southeast Montana Travel Guide. We will also use this to promote weekend and mini-vacation travel. We will use collaborative efforts wherever possible to maximize our budget. We have found that printed materials are good for brand recognition and support for our other marketing campaigns, especially those surrounding events. This method includes ad production and placement for print advertising.</p>	<p>Print advertising remains relevant, especially for niche markets. Return on investment on print materials is difficult to track but is an essential part of a comprehensive marketing plan. We feel that it is important to have placement in our direct drive and flight markets to stay top of mind as a travel destination.</p> <p>Destination Analysts https://www.destinationanalysts.com/insights-updates/</p> <p>Print usage in travel planning has risen close to 50% of American leisure travelers and the use of DMO print visitor guides has risen to just over 20%. While this rise may not signal any longer term trend there is clearly no evidence of a long-term decline in print or DMO guide usage. According to the State of the American Traveler, an independent research report by Miles Partnership, print has consistently shown strength and even slow growth in print usage over the last five years. 24.4% of travelers rely on offline media including TV, printed newspapers, magazines, etc. for travel inspiration.</p>	<p>Return on investment on print materials is difficult to track but is an essential part of a comprehensive marketing plan. We feel that it is important to have placement in our direct drive and flight markets to stay top of mind as a travel destination. This method will be successful if the objective of distributing messaging through attractive, targeted distribution of printed publications is met. We will track publication distribution (audience) numbers and number of impressions of ads made available.</p>	\$6,000.00	<p>Did you meet your objective - was your strategy successful - Yes/No Explain.</p> <p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Copy of ad (attach). 2. All print ads shall be evaluated by the means outlined in the marketing plan. Include measured results/metrics. 3. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.2.15)
Consumer	Online/Digital Advertising	<p>The objective for national digital placements is to inspire potential travelers, and orient those that are researching and booking.</p>	<p>Digital advertising has the flexibility to be at the right location at the right time. A recent study by Deloitte found that Americans collectively check their smartphones nearly 8 BILLION times per day -- that provides ample opportunity for Red Lodge to be in front of the identified target throughout the entire travel-decision process, from inspiration on forward.</p> <p>According to <i>Digital Advertising</i>, 70% of website visitors who are re-targeted with ads are likely to visit your site.</p>	<p>The impressions purchased per campaign and month as well as the click through engagement rates to our website are promptly provided, evaluated and adjusted. Our goal will be to meet and exceed the industry standard for all digital tactics of both impressions and click-through</p>	\$3,000.00	<p>Did you meet your objective - was your strategy successful - Yes/No Explain.</p> <p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A copy of the electronic newsletter that was sent as well as the number of

					rates (CTR), which is currently .06 - .15%.	people it was sent to (if applicable). 2. All electronic advertising shall be evaluated by the means outlined in the marketing plan. 3. Banner ads shall include printed copies of the banner advertisements (attach electronic copies of ad examples), click-through rates and number of impressions. 4. Report click through rates and number of impressions 5. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.2.4)	
Consumer	Social Media	<p>We utilize Social Media to enhance engagement with Red Lodge. While we have a relatively large social media following, primarily on Facebook, we have built the following organically.</p> <p>Our strategy is to 'boost' important posts to increase engagement and use promotional ads to increase followers. Social Media is an efficient and growing advertising medium. Our strategy is intended to increase our followers and their engagement.</p> <p>We will use the Hootsuite account provided by Yellowstone Country to track and respond to "Mentions" to grow our Instagram account.</p>	<p>Market Force https://www.marketforce.com/ A recent industry survey conducted by Market Force - a worldwide leader in customer intelligence solutions reports in querying more than 12,000 consumers in the US and UK, they wanted to see how consumers engaged with varying industries - retail, restaurant, travel, entertainment, and financial businesses to be specific, via the big dogs of social media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Google+. One finding which was not surprising was the fact that 81% of US respondents indicated posts from their friends directly influenced their purchase decision. This finding supports an early study done by the Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) Council and Lithium, a social media tech firm, which revealed 80% of respondents "tried new things based on friends' suggestions." 78% of respondents said the posts by companies they follow on social media impact their purchases decisions.</p> <p>The Beartooth Highway Facebook content was viewed over 750,000 times annually and over 2,000 times per day.</p> <p>Red Lodge Montana Facebook content was viewed over 2 million times annually and over 5,000 times per day.</p>		Success will be measured using metrics provided by the social media platform and related website traffic, if any. We will increase our followers by 2% from FY 21 to FY22.	\$500.00	
Marketing Support	VIC Funding/Staffing/Signage	6% of the CVB bed tax revenue will be used for VIC Staffing. Our strategy is to increase a paid	Every year 5,000 travelers enter the Visitor's Information Center requesting information about the Area. The revenue generated by the CVB positively impacts our scope of services. We receive grant from Yellowstone Country to help staff our visitor center during peak season. The CVB staffing dollars will help extend our staffing through the peak season and into the shoulder season.		Research conducted by the MOTBD has shown that VICs and their staff provide a vital service. It is imperative to have staff available with	\$1,700.00	Did you meet your objective - was your strategy successful - Yes/No Explain.

		<p>Staff person's time professionally serving the public by approximately 200 hours annually from which the CVB will supply 85 of those hours. This will have a significant impact on the service that we will be able to provide.</p>	<p>Destination Analysts https://www.destinationanalysts.com/insights-updates/ 66.4% of travelers rely on the opinions of in-person and/or through direct contact (email, text, etc.) for travel inspiration.</p>	<p>the tools and knowledge they need to provide a good experience to the visitor. Without support for staffing we would have to reduce our hours.</p> <p>The VIC will be responsible for an evaluation at the end of the staffing period if they wish to apply for funding in the future. Funding may be reduced or denied the following year based upon program evaluation with a full summary detailing the circumstances around the decision.</p> <p>In 2020 we had 4538 visitors in the VIC. We are expecting a 1% increase in this number for FY 22.</p>		<p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total number of visitors during the funding period. 2. Number of visitors from the top 10 states or points of origin. 3. Funding for VICs shall include a summary of total hours open and hours which are funded by lodging tax. 4. Postage reimbursements to unfunded chambers shall include post office receipts and breakdown of mailings -- bulk, first class, etc. This is to be used in response to travel inquiries, not other chamber business. 5. Additionally, the top five states requesting information should be documented. 6. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.2.19)
Marketing Support	Administration	<p>Red Lodge will use the 20% budget allowed for administration and will follow the Regulations and Procedures when using Lodging Tax Revenue in order to</p>	<p>Red Lodge remains within the 20% budget allowed for administration and will follow the Regulations and Procedures when using Lodging Tax Revenue.</p> <p>This is an operational method employed by the Red Lodge CVB in order to adhere to the governing rules and regulations. The Red Lodge CVB has used Administration funds every year since becoming a CVB. While it may not be directly supported by specific research, past experience has demonstrated that the Red Lodge CVB's operations and successful marketing relies on administrative funds. Often the Administration funds budget is added to or combined with other administrative funds provided by the joint operation of a CVB, Chamber of Commerce, TBID, or other. Without these funds it may not be economical or feasible to have permanent staff administering the CVB.</p>	<p>Red Lodge will remain within the 20% budget allowed for administration and will continue to follow Regulations and Procedures when using Lodging Tax Revenue.</p>	\$5,800.00	<p>Did you meet your objective to not exceed 20% maximum allowed for administrative expenses? Yes/No</p> <p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe types of expenses

		maintain our status.				administrative funds were used for. 2. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 7.5)
Marketing Support	TAC/Governor's Conference meetings	These meetings are informative and necessary for us to perform to our best ability in presenting a strong organization and staying informed of the rules and regulations in tourism.	This is an operational method employed by the Red Lodge CVB in order to adhere to the governing rules and regulations. While it may not be directly supported by specific research, past experience has demonstrated that the Red Lodge CVB's operations and successful marketing relies on participation of the executive director at quarterly Tourism Advisory Council Meetings whereby pertinent information is shared and action is taken. Past experience attending the Montana Governor's Conference on Tourism and Recreation has also shown to be beneficial as a networking, training and education event. The executive director, members of the board and staff have participated in meetings and conference every year the Red Lodge CVB has been a CVB.	We will consider this method successful if a representative from Red Lodge attends all four meetings.	\$1,500.00	
Marketing Support	Opportunity Marketing	Having money reserved for Opportunity Marketing prepares us to take advantage of prospects that will protect and promote Red Lodge to that which we cannot foresee at the given time. These funds will also be available for co-operative marketing opportunities. Our strategy is to be prepared for these opportunities.	Specific details of the Opportunity(ies) are not known at the time of the marketing plan development, however, past experience has shown that partnering with MOTBD and or other Regions and CVBS is a successful method. Once an Opportunity(ies) is identified the supporting research and statistics section of the marketing plan will be updated with specifics.	Once the opportunity is identified we will follow the Regulations to measure success.	\$500.00	
Marketing Support	Promotional Items	Red Lodge will produce promotional items & materials to be used in conjunction with hosted outreach/events.	Advertising Specialty Institute https://media.asicentral.com/resources/impressions-study-2016.pdf Create lasting awareness Research from the Promotional Products Association International (PPAI) in the USA shows that 62% of people remember the name and details associated with a specific promotional product. "A good promotional item should become an ongoing reminder of your brand, every day that it is used. Brand awareness & loyalty can result from the use of a promotional items, creating an immediate appreciation and gratitude that forges a positive link. By including your contact details on a product, new customers are also more likely to call you as you are at such easy reach. It's a great long-term business card!" Five bits of wisdom for tradeshow and/or event promotional items/giveaway: 1. "Make sure your giveaway makes sense to your brand and isn't overused as a giveaway."—Jennifer Seyler 2. "Give them something YOU-branded that they will use after the show is over."—Paula Ledbetter Sellergren 3. "Smart, engaging, creative choices that engage the audience's imagination, trigger a memory your brand promise, that are practical and useful within your industry are the best bets for effective giveaways." —Dave Poulos 4. "Choose something useful or practical that has the potential to be put into everyday use." —Jay Veltz	Success will be measured by tracking the number of promotional items produced and tracking the distribution of these promotional items as well as the event, group, and location they are made available.	\$1,000.00	

			<p>5. "Be sure that what you select has a long shelf life and the quality is there, even if it means paying a little more." —Barbara Sanner</p> <p>https://blog.epromos.com/trade-show-event-attraction-promos/guide-to-custom-trade-show-giveaways/</p> <p>https://www.qualitylogoproducts.com/blog/21-promotional-products-posts/</p>			
Marketing Support	Wayfinding	<p>The Red Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce/CVB is moving forward with implementing Phase II of the Wayfinding Navigation System and Welcome Signs. Our focus for Phase II signage will be 4 Welcome Signs at the 4 entrances to Red Lodge (Hwy 78, Hwy 308, and 2 for U.S. 212 (North and South entrances). Successful wayfinding and signage guide the energy of travelers and tourists to create a sense of community that will provide regional benefits by assisting tourists and travelers in their local trips and treks.</p> <p>Yellowstone National Park is a sought-after vacation destination. Red Lodge is often used as a pass-through destination for travelers planning trips through Yellowstone Park. Our goal is to capture and redirect this pass-through audience, so these travelers see Red Lodge is a destination.</p> <p>Economic benefits of an effective tourism wayfinding and signage strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved visibility of key locations • increase in tourism related business • increase in overnight stays • improved reputation as a tourist destination • increased awareness of tourism experiences and opportunities during peak and off-peak times. <p>Wayfinding is important for visitors to make their way through unfamiliar areas which will improve accessibility to Red Lodge and decrease frustration by our guests by guiding them to their destination quickly and easily. Our hope is our visitors will have a positive experience getting to and around Red Lodge which will leave them wanting to return to our destination again and again. In addition to visitors to Red Lodge, we have</p>	https://www.travelwayfinding.com/team/	Success will be measured by keeping all the signs in good working order and making any necessary changes as quickly as possible.	\$11,402.00	

		<p>had an influx of new residents to the area and wayfinding signage is helpful to these new residents as they navigate destinations around Red Lodge.</p> <p>The Red Lodge Area Chamber/CVB will follow the RFP regulations outlined in the regulations and procedures manual.</p>				
Publicity	Fam Trips	<p>We will invite media, meeting planners, group organizers and social influencers to Red Lodge with the goal of extended visits and press. Networking opportunities will be seized at every opportunity to build solid relationships with journalists and social media influencers - targeting those that offer insight or leads including adventure, history, culture, recreation and food and beverage publications.</p>	<p>Ogilvy https://www.adweek.com/performance-marketing/study-earned-media-still-matters-a-lot/</p> <p>In fact, the survey reveals that earned media is still, by leaps and bounds, the most powerful resource for influencing purchasing decisions and business outcomes. According to the study, traditional media outlets are still the most trusted sources of news, followed by influencer-driven news. News generated by companies themselves, however, ranked as the least influential. Further, The majority of journalists surveyed (65%) agree that the more the (traditional) media covers a brand, the more credible the brand appears (within reason, of course; they also cautioned that too much coverage looks suspicious). Some other key takeaways from the study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44% of respondents feel that today's campaigns require a combination of traditional, social and paid media. • Almost half of respondents (47%) consider earned media the most influential medium of all when it comes to view earned media as most influential medium for driving purchasing decisions and business outcomes. 	<p>We will track the number of influencers, groups and meetings as well as all mentions in press, blogs, and social media.</p>	\$1,500.00	<p>Did you meet your objective - was your strategy successful - Yes/No Explain</p> <p>Evaluation Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of participants and affiliation. 2. Itinerary. 3. List of earned media generated by press trip. 4. One final product to be kept on file at Organization. When possible, include links to online stories, articles and social media posts. 5. Assess the results of this method and explain whether you will or will not continue using this marketing method and why. (Section 15.2.18)
					\$40,482.00	

Marketing Method Budget

Marketing Segment	Marketing Method	Bed tax funded budget
Consumer	Travel Guide	\$2,000.
Consumer	Joint Ventures	\$4,000.
Consumer	Electronic Adv - Newsletter, E-blast	\$1,300.
Consumer	Printed Material	\$3,980.

Consumer	Print Advertising	\$6,000.
Consumer	Online/Digital Advertising	\$3,000.
Consumer	Social Media	\$500.
		\$20,780.
Marketing Support	Opportunity Marketing	\$1,000.
Marketing Support	VIC Funding/Staffing/Signage	\$3,054.
Marketing Support	Administration	\$10,178.
Marketing Support	TAC/Governor's Conference meetings	\$1,500.
Marketing Support	Promotional Items	\$1,477.
Marketing Support	Wayfinding	\$11,402.
		\$28,611.
Publicity	Fam Trips	\$1,500.
		\$1,500.
		\$50,891.

Miscellaneous Attachments

Description	File Name	File Size
Beartooth Highway Economic Impact Study	BeartoothHighwayEconomicImpactStudy.pdf	4.4 MB
FY22RedLodgeMarketingPlan	FY22 Red Lodge CVB Marketing Plan.pdf	457 KB
BudgePieChartbySegment	FY22RedLodgeCVBProposedBudgetPieChartbySegment.pdf	72 KB
FY22 Red Lodge CVB Methods Pie Chart	Methods Budget Breakdown and Pie Chart.pdf	123 KB
Red Lodge FY22 Methods Budget and Pie Chart %	Methods Budget Breakdown and Pie Chart.pdf	131 KB
Red Lodge FY22 CVB Marketing Plan	RedLodgeCVBMarketingPlanFY22.pdf	656 KB
Travel Planner Results 2020	Travel Planner 2020.pdf	94 KB
2020 VIC Count	VIC Count 2020.pdf	78 KB

Reg/CVB Required Documents

Description	File Name	File Size
RedLodgeApplicationforTaxRevenue and CertificateofCompliance	RedLodgeApplicationforTaxRevenueFY22 and CertificateofCompliance.pdf	1.2 MB

