

2019 State Damage Prevention Program Grant Mid-Term Progress Report
CFDA Number: 20.720

Award Number: 693JK31940011PSDP
Project Title: State Damage Prevention (SDP) Program Grants - 2019
Date Submitted: April 15, 2020
Submitted by: David Chislea, Principal Investigator

Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement

Under this grant agreement, Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) will assist in compliance with Public Act 174 of 2013 (PA 174). Specifically, fund enforcement, education, training, communication, support, analysis, partnership, and mediation activities associated with its damage prevention program by creating a mobile unit to travel the state in order to educate families and children about the importance of contacting 811 before any excavation.

Workscope

- **Element 5 (Public Education):** A process for fostering and ensuring active participation by all stakeholders in public education for damage prevention activities.

Accomplishments for this period (Item 1 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report: “A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period.”)

Element 5 – Public Education

- The MPSC entered into a contractual agreement with MISS DIG System, Inc. (MISS DIG) to perform the work set forth in Element 5.
- MISS DIG purchased a 2020 Ford Transit van. After receiving multiple quotes for the customization of the Educational Mobile Unit (EMU), a customizer was chosen. The van is currently at the customizer’s location in Vassar, MI.
- MISS DIG continues working on details for the van’s customization. Once complete, MISS DIG’s education team will begin scheduling locations and days to visit locations and educate the public. The goal is to travel to areas of higher damage rates to educate, train, and provide awareness for school-age children, the general public, excavators, locators, and facility owners about the importance of 811 and calling before you dig.

Quantifiable Metrics/Measures of Effectiveness (Item 2 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report: “Where the output of the project can be quantified, a computation of the cost per unit of output.”)

Element 5

- 53% of the funds have been spent on the van or \$52,839 out of \$100,000.

**Issues, Problems or Challenges (Item 3 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report:
“The reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met.”)**

- Obtaining quotes from the different van customizers took longer than expected. Originally planned to have the van completed by the MISS DIG 811’s April safe-digging month kick-off. The van is now expected to be complete in May or June.
- The van and customization came in above the original amount requested. It was determined that All-Wheel drive was desirable as well as a higher ceiling in order to accommodate taller guests. With these increased costs, MISS DIG decided to forego the trailer until a later time outside of the grant. MISS DIG will also decrease the amounts of promotional items purchased.
- No issues, problems, or challenges have arisen with the grant objectives. The element is on target to be completed within the grant period.

Mid-Term Financial Status Report

- A report is not necessary as MISS DIG has not yet invoiced for the work.

Plans for Next Period (Remainder of Grant)

- MISS DIG continues working on details for the van’s customization. Once complete, MISS DIG’s education team will begin scheduling locations and days to visit locations and educate the public.

Requests of the AOR and/or PHMSA

- No actions requested at this time.