

MAIN STREET MONTANA PROJECT

A BUSINESS PLAN *For Montana by Montanans*

Small Business and Downtown Key Industry Network Meeting

January 13, 2015

11:00 AM – 4 PM, Large Conference Room MT Board of Investments
2401 Colonial Drive, Helena, MT

Agenda

- 11:00 AM** **Welcome and Introductions**
Co-Chairs Sarah Calhoun and Scott Brown, and KIN members
- 11:15 AM** **Preliminary Comments By and Discussion With Governor Steve Bullock**
- 11:45 AM** **Setting the Context – Overview of the Montana Economy**
Joe Ramler, Senior Economist, Department of Commerce
- 12:05 PM** **If You Were Granted One (Realistic) Wish that Would Help Small Businesses in Montana Flourish, What Would It Be?**
- 12:35 PM** **LUNCH**
- 12:50 PM** **Overview of the Governor’s Main Street Montana Program**
Jim Molloy, Governor’s Office
- 1:05 PM** **Assessing Our Current State: SWOT**
Facilitated by Mary Craigle, Montana Dep’t of Commerce
- 2:00 PM** **Break**
- 2:15 PM** **Prioritizing Issue Areas and Actions Across 5 Pillars**
1. Train and educate tomorrow’s workforce today
 2. Create a climate that attracts, retains and grows business
 3. Build upon Montana’s economic foundation (responsible use of natural resources; reliable infrastructure; protect quality of life)
 4. Market Montana
 5. Nurture Emerging Industries and encourage innovation.
Facilitated by Mary Craigle, Montana Dep’t of Commerce
- 3:30 PM** **Where Do We Go From Here?**
- 4:00PM** **Adjourn To No-Host Gathering**