

“BUILDING  
REMARKABLE  
with Momentum”

## MISSION FOCUS

### › Business Growth Services

- › Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
- › Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR)
- › Procurement and Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)
- › Business Finance (Big Sky 504)
- › Billings Works
- › Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC)

### › New Business Recruitment and Outreach

- › Business Recruitment-Think Billings
- › Business Outreach
- › Economic Pulse and Jobs EQ

### › Community Development

- › Inter-Local Agreement
- › Redevelopment/Place-making Projects
- › Planning/Grant Funding/Administration

WANT TO KNOW HOW OUR VIBRANT  
HEALTHY ECONOMY IS DOING?

Visit our website and check out Big Sky Economic  
Development's

# ECONOMIC PULSE

[WWW.BIGSKYECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.ORG/ECONOMICPULSE](http://WWW.BIGSKYECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.ORG/ECONOMICPULSE)

You can also access the entire FY2017-2018 Strategic Plan  
online: [WWW.BIGSKYECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.ORG/STRATEGICPLAN](http://WWW.BIGSKYECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.ORG/STRATEGICPLAN)



GRANITE TOWER  
222 NORTH 32ND ST. SUITE 200  
BILLINGS, MT 59101-1948

P 406.256.6871  
F 406.256.6877

[BIGSKYECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.ORG](http://BIGSKYECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.ORG)



BIG SKY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



## OUR MISSION

Focused on sustaining and growing our region's vibrant economy and outstanding quality of life, Big Sky Economic Development provides leadership and resources for business creation, expansion, retention, new business recruitment and community development.

# STRATEGIC PLAN

BUILDING REMARKABLE  
WITH MOMENTUM

Strategic Priorities FY 2017 through FY 2018

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

FY 2017 through 2018



## 1 BUSINESS EXPANSION AND ECONOMIC DIVERSITY

*Strengthen business expansion and recruitment opportunities for Yellowstone County and seek to further diversify our economic/industry base (listed in order of priority).*

1. Strengthen our business recruitment program with focus on a proactive, targeted strategy that will support the enhancement of our economic diversity
2. Finalize near-term and long-term plan for job-retention, growth, and disposition of the GE Center of Excellence
3. Foster development of planned, ready-to-go industrial space with the Lockwood TEDD and the other options as outlined in the Industrial Park feasibility Analysis
4. Continue to build the Opportunity Fund as a means to fund infrastructure for key private-sector projects; Consistent with the Opportunity Fund Criteria, explore options for the acquisition of land/buildings that can serve as a tool for expansion and recruitment of business

## 2 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT / TALENT ATTRACTION

*Build and enhance our workforce development strategies/programs and further our talent attraction efforts to meet future workforce needs in support of our regional business community (listed in order of priority).*

1. Sustain BillingsWorks as the local/regional workforce council initiative that drives workforce development strategies and implementation of State of the Workforce Goals/Strategies
2. Dream Career is Here-Phase 2 of the BillingsWorks talent attraction efforts—work as outlined by the Workforce Council
3. Advocate for and help define strategic program and capital investment at MSU Billings and Rocky Mountain College, and Career and Technical Education/Career Center in order to strengthen the workforce pipeline for current and future needs Board—in partnership with Workforce Council, RMC, and MSUB, SD2
4. Foster regional partnerships to support workforce development and job retention needs throughout our region-Colstrip, Miles City, etc. through the Coal Country Coalition Economic/Workforce Analysis Project



## 3 BUILDING REMARKABLE COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

*Plan for and lead essential community infrastructure and quality of place investments as a key strategy for the attraction of talent and private investment (listed in order of priority).*

1. Lead/partner/support key redevelopment and enhancement projects (listed in order of priority):
  - Partner/lead continued EBURD and Trailhead Hospitality Corridor redevelopment
  - Lead/partner a Battin building redevelopment partnership approach with the Downtown Billings Partnership
  - Lead/partner in Trailhead Corridor (HWY 89 and Main), I-90 corridor and Yellowstone River Bridge, Lockwood Bypass
  - Support Corette site mixed-use development options
2. Support convention center development options with focus on the Trailhead Hospitality Corridor and other downtown options
3. Through partnership in the Billings Chamber Air Service Taskforce work to expand air-service and modernize the Billings airport
4. Identify and encourage key infrastructure investment for business/commercial expansion/recruitment

## ORGANIZATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FY 2017

*In an effort to enhance our capacity and resources to execute the BSED Mission with excellence, we will initiate and complete the following Organizational Opportunities.*

1. Strategically grow our Business Finance Program
2. Focus the talent and resources of BSED to achieve a sustainable impact
3. Build Community Awareness of BSED Resources and Our Community Impact
4. Strengthen Internal Collaboration/Partnership

## STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY INITIATIVES

1. Advocate for affordable, reliable energy to power current and future business and industry needs
2. Build our regional partnerships with central and eastern Montana communities to address regional economic sustainability
3. Support the development of policy that allows for a more diverse local-revenue base
4. Support Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC) and the eastern Montana communities in development of near-term and long-term funding mechanisms for local infrastructure investment
5. Advocate for key economic development tools, including the retention of TIF tools, that support our regional competitiveness