

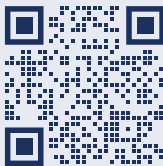


MONTANA MAIN STREET PROGRAM REVITALIZING DOWNTOWNS THROUGH GRASSROOTS EFFORTS

BACKGROUND

Montana Main Street communities are locally driven programs that implement the nationally recognized Main Street Approach. Each member community is responsible for developing a local framework focused on planning and downtown revitalization. MMS communities are limited in number and receive technical and financial assistance from the Montana Department of Commerce, as funded by the accommodations tax.

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PROGRAM IMPACT

- Over 745,000 community volunteer hours
- Four million dollars in grant funding
- Over 100 Main Street planning and implementation projects supported
- Twenty-eight million dollars in private and public investments
- Over 2,150 building improvement projects supported
- Over 1,300 downtown businesses established
- Over 4,000 full and part time jobs created

MEMBER COMMUNITIES

For a list of MMS member communities, visit commerce.mt.gov.

RESOURCES

The MMS Program, established in 2005, is administered by Commerce's Community MT Division. As a state coordinating program within the Main Street America network, the MMS Program awards competitive grant funding to communities focusing on planning and/or implementation projects directly related to downtown revitalization, development and historic preservation.

Using the Main Street Approach to downtown revitalization, the MMS Program also offers technical assistance to communities striving for economic vitality while maintaining local historic integrity, quality of life and a sense of place. Such goals are best met by uniting larger community ideas and efforts with program organization, coordination and resources.

PROGRAM APPLICATION

A local participating MMS community must meet certain requirements prior to application and while remaining in the network. Acceptance into the network is competitive and based on community preparedness, ability to complete annual program requirements and resources available from Commerce.

Images courtesy of Montana Department of Commerce.

