

COMMUNITY
BROADBAND
INITIATIVE



WELCOME

Montana West Economic Development

Northwest Montana Association of Realtors

AGENDA

- 8:00 am Welcome – Introductions
- 8:15 pm Workshop Overview
- 8:30 am Broadband Basics
- 9:00 am Broadband Planning
- 9:30 am State of Broadband in Montana & Flathead County
- 10:15 am Stakeholder Panel
- 11:15 pm Provider Presentations
- 12:00 pm Box Lunch & Small Group Discussions
- 1:00 pm Small Group Reports
- 1:45 pm Broadband Toolbox - Planning & Funding Resources
- 2:10 pm Broadband Survey & Next Steps
- 2:20 pm Wrap-up

2
0
1
7

Flathead County, Montana
Comprehensive Economic
Development Strategy (CEDS)



FLATHEAD VALLEY / GLACIER PARK REGION

June 4, 2018

Objective 2.7:

Support the growth of the internet-based home business as well as telecommuter jobs.

Objective 3.3:

Support improvements and availability of affordable and reliable high-speed broadband to enhance education, public safety, health care, business and government services.

Facilitate

Facilitate community conversations about options for addressing broadband needs.

Learn

Learn about public/private partnerships, funding resources and other tools for communities to undertake broadband initiatives.

Identify

Identify next steps for cutting-edge problem solving.

WORKSHOP OUTCOMES



STAKEHOLDER PANEL

- ▶ Ahyoung Huff, KRH (Health Information Exchange MT)
- ▶ Mike Hausler, Flathead County IT
- ▶ Rich Lawrence, School District #5
- ▶ Kim Crowley, ImagineIF Libraries



- ▶ Teresa Holman, CenturyLink
- ▶ Mary Roehr, Charter Communications
- ▶ Tyler Ament, Velocity LTE
- ▶ Richard Dasen, MontanaSky
- ▶ Scott Richardson, Bullitt Communications

PROVIDER PRESENTATIONS

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

- ▶ Broadband issues in your area
- ▶ Existing initiatives – success stories – resources
- ▶ Interest in task force or work group



Technical Assistance

Toolkits

Funding

Grant Writing

RESOURCES

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, located in the lower right quadrant of the slide.

Technical Resources:

<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/>

<http://www.bbpmag.com/>

www.fiberbroadband.org/

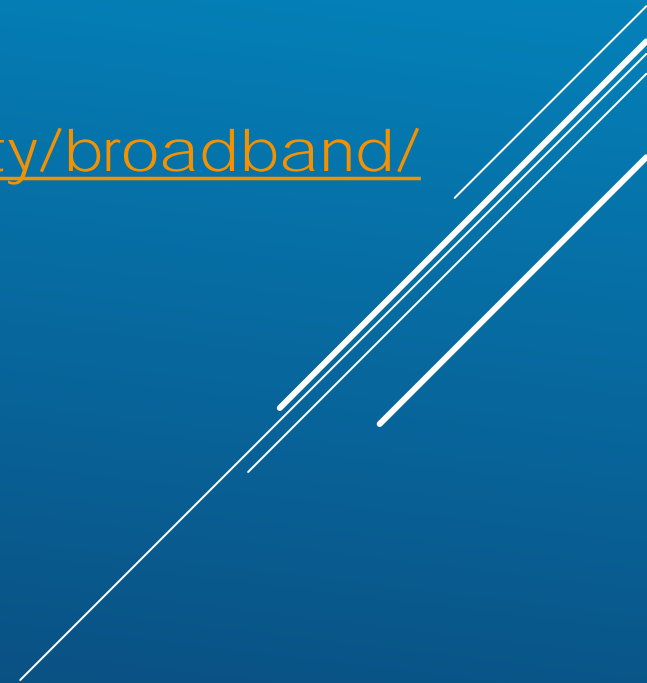
www.gig-u.org/

<https://blandinfoundation.org/programs/expanding-opportunity/broadband/>

<https://connectednation.org/>

<http://www.muninetworks.org/>

<https://www.baller.com/category/community-broadband/>



FUNDING RESOURCES

- Federal - USDA (RBEG, RUS, Community Connect Grant), EDA, CDBG
- Existing expenditures for telecommunication services
- Revenue bonds, TIF, taxing districts, CIP, Bank loan
- Public- Private partnerships
- Local Contributions

https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/ntia_guidetofedfunding_062317.pdf

Timeframe	Task
Summer	MWED to conduct broadband survey
Summer	Communities organize working groups
Fall	Community broadband conversations
To be Determined	Community broadband projects

NEXT STEPS

SURVEY



- ▶ Respondent Profile
- ▶ Broadband Use
- ▶ Customer Satisfaction
- ▶ Priorities
- ▶ Resources