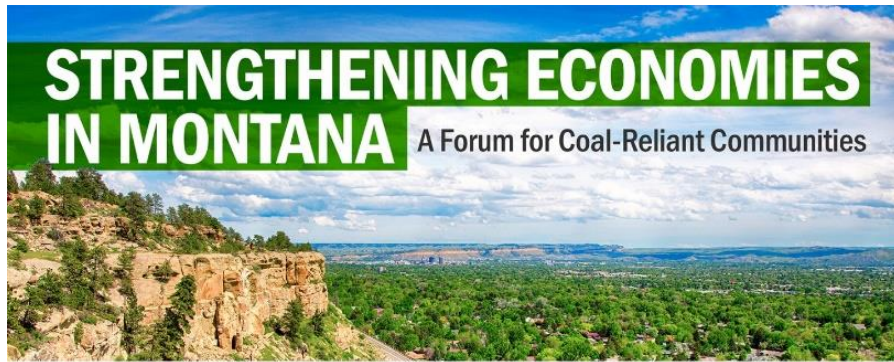


Working Agenda



BILLINGS, MONT.
APRIL 18-19, 2018



Event Location: Billings Food Bank | 2112 4th Ave N | Billings, MT 59101

Wednesday, April 18

- 10:00 - 10:30 am** **Registration / Check-in**
- 10:30 - 11:00 am** **Welcome, Introductions & Perspective**
- NACo, NADO, EDA-Denver Regional Office
 - Yellowstone County
 - Steve Arveschoug, Big Sky Economic Development
 - Margaret MacDonald, Montana State Senate
- 11:00 - 11:45 am** **Setting the Stage: An Overview of Economic Diversification**
- Dr. Erik Pages, Entrenworks Consulting
- 11:45 - 12:45 pm** **Keynote Luncheon: Lessons Learned from Appalachia**
- Kevin Loux, Shaping Our Appalachian Region(SOAR), Pikeville, Kentucky
- 12:45 - 1:15 pm** **“Fireside Chat”: Entrepreneurship & Technology in Rural Montana**
- Dr. Erik Pages, Entrenworks Consulting
 - Christina Quick Henderson, Montana High Tech Business Alliance
- 1:15 - 1:30 pm** **Networking Break**
- 1:30 - 2:30 pm** **Conversation Café – Part I**
Facilitated and interactive small-group discussion.
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm** **Afternoon Panel: Brownfields Redevelopment & Restoration Economy**
- Samantha Chagnon, Bear Paw Development Corporation
 - Emily Rhodes, Delta Institute
 - Western Organization of Resource Councils & Northern Plains Resource Council(*invited*)
- 3:00 - 3:10 pm** **Networking Break**

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- 3:10 - 4:00 pm** **Afternoon Panel: Strategic Resources and Funding**
- Cindy Winland, Just Transition Fund
 - Amity Rembold, Rural Community Assistance Corporation(RCAC)

- 4:00 - 5:00 pm** **Billings Food Bank Tour & Service-Learning Opportunity**
Details forthcoming

- 5:00 - 6:30 pm** **Networking Reception & Mobile Tour**
Last Chance Pub & Cider Mill

Thursday, April 19

- 8:30 - 9:00 am** **Breakfast Networking**

- 9:00 - 10:00 am** **Panel - Statewide Outlook & Opportunity**
- Mark Haggerty, Headwater Economics
 - Tash Wisemiller, Montana Department of Commerce
 - Montana Department of Labor & Industry
 - Montana Governor's Office of Economic Development (*invited*)

- 10:00 - 10:15 am** **Networking Break**

- 10:15 - 11:15 am** **Regional Plans in Action**
- U.S. EDA-Denver Regional Office
 - Coal Country Coalition: SE Montana, Snowy Mountain Development Corp., Beartooth RC&D, Big Sky ED

- 11:15 - 12:00 pm** **Lessons Learned from the Colstrip Economic Diversification Strategy**
- Jim Atchison, Southeast Montana Development Corp.
 - Becky Bey, KLJ Engineering
 - Molly Herrington, KLJ Engineering

- 12:00 - 1:00 pm** **Lunch**
Legislative Updates and Overview of Resources & Tools from NACo & NADO
- Daria Daniel, NACo Assoc. Legislative Director for Community, Economic & Workforce Development
 - Jack Morgan, NACo Program Manager for Community & Economic Development
 - Brett Schwartz, NADO Research Foundation Associate Director

- 1:30 - 3:00 pm** **Education & Workforce Development Mobile Tour**
Montana State University at Billings(MSUB) City College

- 3:00 - 4:00 pm** **Conversation Cafe Part II**
Facilitated and interactive small-group discussion

- 4:00 - 4:30 pm** **Final Thoughts, Next Steps and Adjourn**