



JOHN ENGEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

435 RYMAN MISSOULA, MONTANA 59802-4297

May 12, 2009

Anthony Preite, Director  
Montana Department of Commerce  
301 S Park  
P.O. Box 200501  
Helena, MT 59620-0501

**RE: Pledge of support from the Missoula City Council for the Montana Exposition Feasibility Study's request for matching funds from the Big Sky Trust Fund.**

Dear Mr. Preite,

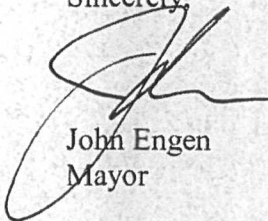
The City Council unanimously endorsed this letter of support at their meeting last evening.

Please accept this as an endorsement by the Missoula City Council for the allocation of Big Sky Trust funds to the Montana Exposition Feasibility Study.

The Missoula City Council believes this study could result in expanded opportunities for Missoulians seeking employment, schools wanting to host sporting events, groups wanting to host industry conferences, local businesses through increased non-resident retail shoppers and our city coffers through increased tax revenues.

We are committed to working with community members, organizations and area businesses to allow for a positive outcome to this study. Please support our request for matching funds for the Montana Exposition Center Feasibility Study submitted by Missoula Area Economic Development Corporation.

Sincerely,



John Engen  
Mayor