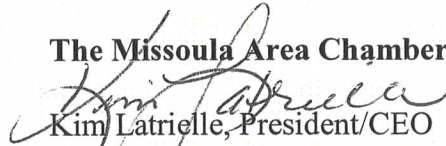


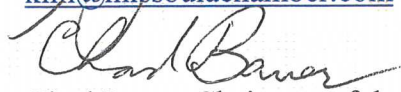


February 19, 2009

TO: Missoula County Commissioners

FROM: **The Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce**

  
Kim Latrielle, President/CEO  
[kim@missoulachamber.com](mailto:kim@missoulachamber.com)

  
Chad Bauer, Chairman of the Board  
[Chad.Bauer@awin.com](mailto:Chad.Bauer@awin.com)

On behalf of the Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce, we request that you, as our County Commissioners **support the effort and information provided us by a feasibility study for a Multi-Purpose Exposition facility for Missoula.**

The Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors approved our organization to take the lead in forming a community coalition to research an Exposition Facility for Missoula. It is this organizations belief that Missoula is missing too many opportunities to bring in larger events and larger conventions to our community. It is also our belief that our economy needs to diversify; we need to find ways to expand the lucrative months to twelve months per year. These extra months would allow us to generate new revenue into our community and make a positive difference in Missoula.

Due to our lack of available large venue space; this community has lost the opportunity to bid on sporting events! Sporting events that bring citizens from all across Montana and surrounding states into our great city. These events bring spectators that turn into retail shoppers, recruits for our University; spend new dollars that support our local service sector. The Chamber has turned away many conference requests over the years all wishing to visit our community for their meeting or event. The Chamber would like to be able to say "yes" and book that business into Missoula.

The Missoula Chamber believes that the County would be a perfect partner working with the private sector to accomplish such a wonderful opportunity for Missoula. Please support our request to work together supporting the data and information a feasibility study would provide Missoula citizens as we plan together for Missoula future.

The Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce  
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