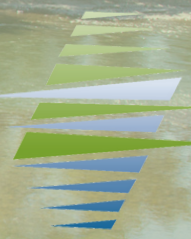




# THE BRIDGE

Connecting Missoula Businesses

JANUARY 2023



## CHAMBER DRIVEN ADVOCACY TOOL FOR BUSINESS LAUNCHED

**THE MISSOULA CHAMBER PARTNERS WITH ONE OF ITS MEMBERS TO CREATE A STATEWIDE ADVOCACY TOOL.**

The Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with one of its members, DemocracyLab (Mark Frischmuth), have created a FREE statewide advocacy tool for businesses, organizations and citizens of MT. The Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce CEO Kim Latrielle spearheaded the fundraising for the project via all Chambers in the State of MT. This new advocacy tool was financially supported by six Chambers who raised enough money to cover the hard costs to launch.

The new digital engagement tool (linked below) that will enhance all Montanan's "Right to Know" about the upcoming state legislative session. DemocracyLab, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a mission to empower people who use technology for public good, is deploying an instance of the Council Data Project for the Montana state legislative session through its Open Montana initiative. This tool will help our members and the general public understand and react quickly to developments in the legislative session by creating a searchable interface for the 9,000+ hours of video that are expected to be produced.

This tool was sponsored by the following Chambers (Missoula, Helena, Big Sky, MT Chamber, Kalispell, Great Falls) and provides every citizen, business, state agency, organization in Montana the following:

- scrape the state government's website daily for new videos from the MT legislative session
- transcribe these videos using Google's transcription services
- make these transcripts searchable
- provide users with search results ranked by relevance
- allow users to easily jump to the most relevant portions of videos
- allow users to share links to a specific moment in a video
- integrated with the Montana Free Press' Capitol Tracker

Our hope is that this tool will help our business members better advocate for their interests and result in better and more transparent government in Montana.

### FIND ANSWERS...

- How do I know what legislative bills are being pushed forward?
- How do I know the status of a bill?
- Where can I find committee hearings on a particular topic?

### FREE TOOL FOR BUSINESS

**MONTANA LEGISLATURE  
DATA PROJECT**

**CITY OF MISSOULA  
DATA PROJECT**

### READ THE PRESS RELEASE

### YOUR CHAMBER LEADERSHIP



Tim Winger, Chamber Board President  
Southgate Mall, General Manager

Executive Committee and Board





# THE BRIDGE

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### NEED HELP WITH AN ADVOCACY ISSUE?

### STEP 1 - DOWNLOAD AND SUBMIT THE FORM BELOW

**MISSOULA CHAMBER**  
MISSOULA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Engaging Business and Community

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**REQUEST FORM FOR MISSOULA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
ADVOCACY SUPPORT**

Date Submitted to Chamber: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject/Issue/Position/Action Requested of the Chamber:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Request Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**TIMELINE CLASSIFICATION:**

Submit for consideration during monthly GA meetings/board process

**Time sensitive** (24 hours or less)

**Other details:**

**SUBMIT REQUEST TO:**

Kim Latrielle, CEO/President  
Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce  
[kim@missoulachamber.com](mailto:kim@missoulachamber.com)

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**MISSOULA CHAMBER**  
MISSOULA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Engaging Business and Community

**APPLY for the Chamber Board**

**DOWNLOAD THE CHAMBER BOARD APPLICATION**

**The Chamber is counsel.**

We bring unparalleled experience and insight to everything we do. And we are a trusted guide for those working to make our communities stronger.

Give your business a voice at [missoulachamber.com/](http://missoulachamber.com/)

MISSOULA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Catalyst. Convener. Champion.

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Western Association of Chamber Executives

**Thank you for supporting our Government Affairs activity through your voluntary assessment**



# THE BRIDGE

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JANUARY 2023

## INITIATIVES

### WORKFORCE

Accelerated Training, Workforce Connections website, Affordable Housing, Business recruitment

### ADVOCACY

Voice for Business

### CHILDCARE

Associate Childcare Membership, Expand childcare in Missoula

### UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Rapid Training program, promote our University

### ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH

Connecting businesses with local & state resources

## GROWING THE CHAMBER

### Member Benefits

Provide leads to our Membership Director and receive additional benefits.

Email Sharon at the Chamber [sharonm@missoulachamber.com](mailto:sharonm@missoulachamber.com)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

A poster for the 2023 Agri-Business Banquet. The top text reads "Impacting Our Future Together" in a curved font. Below that, it says "2023 Agri-Business Banquet" and "Wednesday, February 8, 2023". A large, red, brush-stroke style "SOLD OUT" is overlaid across the center. At the bottom, there is a "THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS" section with logos for Farm Bureau Financial Services, Summit, Murdoch's, Lithia, CHS, Big Sky Kubota, LLC, Blackfoot Communications, and Daily's. The background features a stylized city skyline.

Email Debbie @ [debbie@missoulachamber.com](mailto:debbie@missoulachamber.com) to get on our RSVP List

## NETWORKING EVENTS





# THE BRIDGE

Connecting Missoula Businesses

JANUARY 2023

## State of Missoula 2023

SAVE THE DATE

### State of Missoula 2023

Tuesday, May 16th  
11:30 am - 2 pm

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel  
Edgewater

Outcomes & Opportunities  
Post 2023 Legislature

Thank you to our Visionary Members

SOUTHGATE  
MALL

NorthWestern  
Energy  
Delivering a Bright Future

First  
Security  
Bank

UNIVERSITY OF  
MONTANA

missoulian.com  
Missoulian  
Every minute. Every day.

## ADVOCACY RESOURCES

[Missoula City Council Meeting Schedule](#)

[Missoula County Commissioner's Meeting Schedule](#)

[Missoula County Data Council Project](#)

[Montana Legislature Data Council Project](#)

[Montana State Legislature Session, 2023](#)

[Business Days at the Capitol - MT Chamber](#)

[Montana Chamber - Legislative Advocacy](#)

For additional resources check out our  
[Advocacy page on the website](#)

## LOOKING FOR FUTURE WORKFORCE



**39**

**POSTINGS ON OUR  
JOB BOARD**

ARE YOU USING THIS MEMBER BENEFIT?

Posting your job openings is  
a member benefit