



Strategic Planning Session

February 14, 2024, 1:00p – 5:00p

Wilderness Room of the Colonial Building in Helena, 2401 Colonial Drive

Zoom Option: <https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/89434696164?pwd=QTVFMURIZFI4anZPLzBWZVF5Vm1vZz09>

Remote Conference Captioning: <https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=HamiltonRelayRCC-0214-MT963>
[streamtext.net]

Our mission: To improve the quality of life for all Montanans through education, innovation, and technology by enhancing communications options.

Expected Outcomes:

- **Review** our mission, program purpose ([MCA 53-19-306](#))
- **Explore** options for future expenditures, changes to income definition, possible elimination of income requirements, providing vouchers for mobile phones/laptops versus equipment
- **Identify** our next steps
- **Connect** as colleagues and practitioners

Proposed Agenda

Time	Activity
Noon	Lunch
1:00p	Welcome & Overview <i>Introductions all around</i>
1:20p	Mission Review and Purpose <i>Why does our work matter to the state?</i> <i>A brief overview of MTAP purpose and summary/review of strategic planning objective and decisions to date.</i>
1:30p	Status update - MTAP name change to Montana Accessible Communications
1:40p	Options to Consider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pause collection of revenue once it reaches projected expenditure amount.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Would require statute update.</i> ➤ <i>Contact Montana Telecommunications Association lobbyist group</i> • <i>Expand client equipment options (offer mobile phones to more clients).</i> • <i>Eliminate the income requirement.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Anticipate increase in applications; may require additional MTAP staff due to increased number of clients and additional training time.</i> ➤ <i>Would require legislative approval (Montana Codes Annotated change).</i>
3:00p	***BREAK*** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Update definition of income – remove some of the financial sources considered when determining eligibility.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Consider Vocational Rehabilitation Services definition.</i>



Montana
Telecommunications Access Program

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Would require Administrative Rules of Montana update, but no Montana Codes annotated update is necessary.</i> • <i>Offer vouchers for clients to purchase mobile phones and tablets.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Review process state of Texas uses to distribute vouchers.</i> ➤ <i>Consider pros and cons.</i> • <i>Request additional spending authority (access to additional MTAP funds)</i>
4:00p	<p>Moving forward... <i>Will any of the options above be pursued? What will it take?</i></p> <p><i>Committee members will be invited to explore future directions and identify next steps.</i></p>
4:30p	<p>Next steps <i>Stages of the strategic plan, how many years?</i></p>
5:00p	Gathering concludes