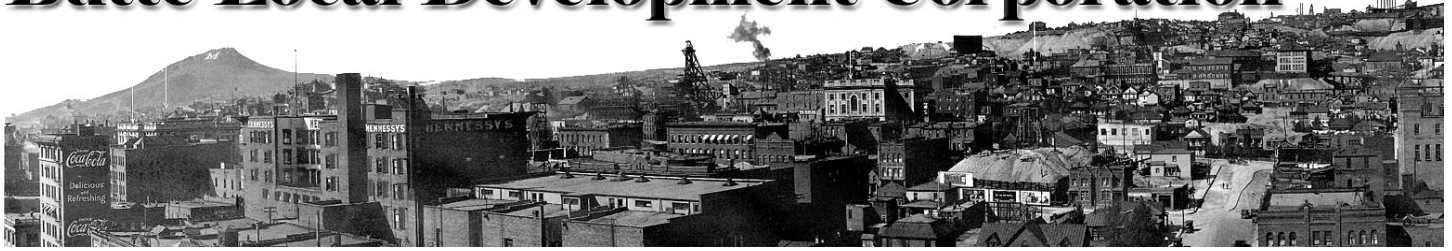


Butte Local Development Corporation



FALL 2008

Bert Mooney Airport Effort Continues

As you may have read, the Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee on which the BLDC participates, is spearheading an effort to collect funds from businesses and individuals to match a Small Community Air Service grant application. The main purpose of this grant was to offset the cost of Delta Airlines bringing a third flight into Butte.

Here's an update on the Bert Mooney airport project. On September 9th, we received notification that the grant application was not successful. This news was unfortunate but it has not deterred the Transportation Committee's efforts to improve the air service into our community.

As of September 24, 2008, there has been \$60,975 collected or pledged to support the Transportation Committee's project. At

a meeting on Sept. 24, the Transportation Committee mapped out its strategy to move forward to enhance Butte's air service. The following action items will take place:

1. An airfare analysis will be done to compare current ticket prices from Butte, Helena, Bozeman and Missoula to various destinations throughout the country. This information will give us valuable comparative data with which we can talk to Delta Airlines concerning fare parity.
2. A face-to-face meeting is being scheduled with Delta Airlines in Atlanta to discuss important issues like fare prices out of Butte, a third flight into Butte, coordination of schedules for connections in Salt Lake and a possible upgrade to a seventy

passenger aircraft.

3. The results of this meeting will give the Transportation Committee a clearer goal for further fund raising efforts needed to subsidize a third flight into Butte.
4. Launch a new series of media ads which stress the importance and convenience of flying out of Bert Mooney Airport. These ads were pre-paid using the funds from the previous Small Community Air Service grant.

We are fully aware of how important good commercial air service is to the survival and growth of our local businesses. We also realize that business and individual air travelers are sensitive to price differentials between Butte and other communities. Obtaining an

additional flight will provide more seats in lower price ranges, which will benefit our local travelers and increase the traffic through Bert Mooney.

The Transportation Committee is very grateful to those businesses and individuals who have contributed or pledged to support the air service expansion project. The committee would also like to encourage those who have not yet contributed to do so. A busy airport is the sign of a strong community.

**BLDC Annual
Dinner and
Meeting
October 9, 2008
6 pm
War Bonnet Inn**



480 East Park Street
Butte, Montana 59701

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BLDC, One of Four Organizations To Receive CDFI Funding in Montana

The BLDC will receive \$22,808 to assist with improving community economic development activities from the U.S. Treasury Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). BLDC was one of four community development organizations receiving CDFI funding in Montana

The funds will be used for training to become a Certified Economic Developer, training for website development to market the BLDC's services, purchase computers, related software, and projector to assist with the management of the BLDC Loan Portfolio, and purchase of fire-proof file cabinets for record protection.

The CDFI program is funded annually by Congress and consists of Financial Assistance and Technical Assistance awards. In fiscal year 2008, Congress allocated \$54.2 million in CDFI funding to 89 organizations from a pool of 225 applicants. CDFI funds promote opportunities for rural communities and low-income assistance organizations through private, for-profit and non-profit community based lending organizations.

Because this grant application, prepared by marketing director Andy Zdinak, was successful, BLDC plans to apply for CDFI funds in 2009.

BLDC Annual Dinner and Meeting

The BLDC Annual Dinner and Meeting will be held October 9, 2009 at the War Bonnet Inn. A no-host reception begins at 6 pm, followed by dinner at 7 pm. A presentation by REC Silicon will be given. Cost of the dinner is \$20 payable at the door.

Space will be available to display a booth for your business. For more information or to RSVP call Audrey Combo at 723-4349.