



MAY 2026

WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL PROGRAM & SERVICE CATALOG

PREPARED FOR THE JOINT MINERALS, BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



WYOMING

Wyoming Business Council

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Business Recruitment

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 1998	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

WBC’s Business Recruitment work helps bring new private investment and job opportunities to Wyoming by promoting the state as a competitive place to expand or relocate a company and by turning early-stage inquiries into real, de-risked location decisions. We work closely with businesses, site selectors, local communities, and regional partners to identify the right fit, coordinate site visits, and connect companies to the people, infrastructure insights, and resources they need to move forward with confidence. This is not just marketing—it’s hands-on project development and community readiness support that strengthens Wyoming’s competitiveness and helps communities capture the opportunities that fit them best.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-105	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary): companies considering expanding or relocating to Wyoming** (including projects coming through site consultants) that need a clear, speed-to-market, de-risked location decision and a coordinated path to execution.
- **Secondary customers/users: site selectors / site consultants** (because they are a valued source of pre-vetted projects and require relationship + responsiveness to keep Wyoming “in the consideration set”).
- **Beneficiaries:**
 - **Wyoming communities / local EDOs** that receive qualified projects plus support to increase readiness (infrastructure/site development guidance).
 - **Wyoming workers and families** via job creation and long-term economic diversification when projects land and grow.

- **State of Wyoming / WBC** via increased private investment and stronger statewide competitiveness narrative for legislators.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming often loses expansion/relocation opportunities because companies and site selectors face uncertainty about site readiness, infrastructure, timelines, and local coordination—so WBC Business Recruitment exists to proactively market Wyoming, generate and qualify leads, match companies to viable communities/sites, and coordinate the people/resources needed to turn ambiguous inquiries into de-risked location decisions and executable projects that fit a specific timeline.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC consistently shows up in the channels that drive quality projects (site selector relationships, trade shows, lead generation, missions, and Wyoming’s digital storefronts), captures leads into a clear pipeline, and quickly qualifies/matchmakes those companies to Wyoming communities with credible site + infrastructure information—while coordinating state/local partners to reduce risk and friction—**THEN** more prospects will progress from inquiry → site visit → viable project → location decision, resulting in more private investment and jobs in Wyoming and stronger community readiness over time.

Program Stories

From Constrained to Growing: Keltec Expands to Rock Springs

After meeting at SHOT Show in January 2022 and a follow-up virtual meeting the next month, the Wyoming Business Council helped the Kellgren family ([Keltec](#)) navigate the site selection process for a Wyoming expansion. Their facility in Cocoa, Florida was constrained by escalating land prices and limited room to grow, and they were increasingly concerned that political pressures in Florida could create future risk for their business. While they were aware of firearms industry momentum in northwest and southeast Wyoming, they were specifically interested in exploring options in southwest Wyoming. A site visit in Rock Springs proved decisive when they found a building that fit what they needed, and WBC supported the process through recruitment assistance, introductions to partners and stakeholders, and continued engagement.

Keltec’s approximately 30,000 square foot Rock Springs facility now houses the manufacturing process for their P-57 handgun, which is produced solely at this location. By their ribbon cutting in July 2025, the company employed 26 people and has indicated plans to expand additional models in Rock Springs in the future. The project was fully funded by Keltec, including the building purchase and upgrades, with WBC’s role focused on helping the company evaluate Wyoming options and move confidently from interest to action.

Built for Wyoming: Kifaru Relocates to Fremont County

In March 2022, Kifaru International relocated its operations from Colorado to Wyoming in search of a community that matched the company's values and identity: hunting, outdoor recreation, land stewardship, and a strong connection to the outdoors. Wyoming offered a culture aligned with the Kifaru brand, a workforce that already lives the lifestyle the company represents, and a business and tax climate that supported long-term growth. The Wyoming Business Council supported the relocation by assisting with site selection, connecting Kifaru with local economic development partners, and helping identify workforce resources to support hiring and expansion. No BRC funds were used.

Kifaru's move brought approximately 20 new jobs to the community and strengthened Fremont County's visibility in the outdoor recreation and manufacturing landscape. As demand continues to grow nationally for outdoor and textile-related products, Kifaru's relocation represents a practical match between company needs and Wyoming's strengths, reinforcing Wyoming's reputation as a home for innovative outdoor brands and skilled manufacturing talent.

Delivering Faster to Rural Wyoming: Amazon Selects Riverton for a Last-Mile Facility

In early 2023, Amazon began launching a last-mile initiative to improve delivery timelines for rural communities that large distribution centers across the West could not reliably serve in under 7–10 days. The early challenge was identifying a Wyoming location that could meet operational needs statewide and reach into southern Montana, creating a foothold for future expansion. The Wyoming Business Council supported Amazon's business development team with on-the-ground site selection assistance, including identifying potential communities, facilities, and available sites, and helping reduce reliance on data that is often incomplete or outdated.

Fremont County emerged as the best fit due to its geography and workforce availability, with early discussions estimating 50–130 jobs depending on the final scope. Amazon ultimately chose to invest in a new purpose-built facility rather than relying on existing listings, adding new infrastructure at the site and bringing long-term logistics capacity to the Riverton area. The project is expected to be announced July 1, 2026, and it positions Fremont County as a logistics hub that can support faster service for existing businesses and residents, while also strengthening the region's appeal for other logistics and last-mile operations. The project required no state financial investment and was fully funded by Amazon; WBC's contribution was the recruiting and regional team's time, coordination, and site selection support.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: "BUSINESS RECRUITMENT" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**

Data Center Sales Tax Exemption Eligibility Certification

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2010	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Data Center Sales Tax Exemption Eligibility Certification is how the Wyoming Business Council helps administer the state’s data center sales tax exemption statute with clarity and accountability. We review data center projects against statutory requirements, coordinate with state partners, and issue eligibility certifications so qualifying investments can move forward predictably—while ensuring the exemption is applied consistently and in line with legislative intent. This work protects the integrity of the policy, supports responsible economic development, and gives legislators and the public a clear line of sight into how certification decisions are made and what outcomes (such as capital investment and jobs) are tied to qualifying projects.

Agency Recommendation

Work with the Department of Revenue to explore options to legislatively require company reporting by companies utilizing the exemption, to improve exemption impact.

Program Details

Funding Source: N/A (forgone taxes)	Statute: WS 39-15-105(S)(III)(4)	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** The **data center project owner/developer/company** seeking a sales tax exemption eligibility certification so they can proceed with qualifying investment under statute.
- **Secondary customers/users:**
 - **Wyoming Department of Revenue** and other state partners who rely on a clear certification signal to administer the exemption correctly.
 - **Wyoming legislators / public stakeholders** who need confidence the exemption is administered with clear standards and accountability.
- **Beneficiaries:** Wyoming communities and the state economy if qualifying projects land (capital investment, job impacts, local tax base impacts—depending on how the exemption is structured and what’s tracked).

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming needs a credible, consistent way to administer the data center sales tax exemption so only projects that meet statutory requirements receive the benefit, and so the state can support qualifying investment while maintaining legislative intent, oversight, and accountability through a clear certification process.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC runs a disciplined certification workflow that verifies statutory eligibility, coordinates with partners (including Dept. of Revenue), and maintains clear documentation and reporting for each data center project, **THEN** Wyoming can confidently grant the sales tax exemption only to qualifying projects—reducing compliance risk, increasing predictability for investors, and strengthening the state’s ability to attract/secure data center investment consistent with legislative intent.

Program Stories

N/A

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **Lunavi** – Located in Cheyenne, one of the original data centers in Wyoming. The co-location data center offers data services to outside clients, and was an original driver to the modifications of the Data Center Sales Tax Exemption laws that allow for clients within a qualified data center to automatically qualify for the exemption, in an umbrella fashion.
- **Echostar** – Located in Cheyenne, Echostar data center, and its satellite uplink facility serves as the initial anchor tenant of the Cheyenne Business Parkway. Echostar was first certified by the WBC in 2011, as a qualifying data center.
- **Microsoft** (1 for each campus) – Located in Cheyenne, Microsoft was the first data center brought to Wyoming through the joint business recruitment efforts of the WBC and Cheyenne LEADS. The WBC’s BRC fund was utilized to build the necessary infrastructure to the site chosen in Cheyenne’s newly (at the time) established North Range Business Park. Since the original project, Microsoft has not requested any additional BRC funding, and now has 3 campuses in Cheyenne, each certified by the WBC as qualifying for the Data Center Sales Tax Exemption, while still contributing millions of dollars in tax revenue to both Laramie County and Wyoming through sales tax paid on utilities and property tax alone.
- **Meta** – Located in Cheyenne, this data center project is currently under construction and was first certified as qualifying for the Data Center Sales Tax Exemption by the WBC in October of 2022. In its first phase, Meta plans to employ 60 people directly (non-construction) and spend approximately \$800 Million in CAPEX. The project has also begun its second phase in Cheyenne.

- **Prometheus Hyperscale** – Prospectively located in Natrona and Uinta Counties, Prometheus Hyperscale centers were certified by the WBC as Wyoming Hyperscale Whitebox in 2022, for the Data Center Sales Tax Exemption, based on their planned build-out.. In Evanston the company plans a 1.2 GW campus. The Casper operation is planned at 1.5 GW, featuring “Carbon-Negative” data halls fueled by natural gas.
- **Clean Spark** – Located in Cheyenne, Clean Spark was first certified as a qualifying data center in March of 2025. CleanSpark has planned data center operations at two Cheyenne locations. The combined investment includes approximately \$69.18 million for construction/infrastructure and \$141.18 million for server costs. The projects are estimated to incur \$44 million in total annual energy costs and will create 13 full-time positions, with average annual salaries of \$79,286 for the seven positions at the first site and \$81,667 for the six positions at the second site.
- **Related Digital** – Located in Cheyenne, Related Digital is currently under construction, and was certified by the WBC in 2025 as qualifying for the Data Center Sales Tax Exemption. Related Digital is developing a \$1.2 billion, 115-acre data center campus in the Cheyenne Business Parkway, delivering up to 302 megawatts (MW) of IT capacity. The first 184,000-square-foot facility is expected to be completed in late 2026, with AI cloud provider CoreWeave serving as the anchor tenant.
- **H6 Coin LLC** – Located in Newcastle, H6 Coin operates a Bitcoin mining facility, but reaches the threshold to qualify for the Data Center Sales Tax Exemption because they will employ people in Wyoming and spend CAPEX at a rate similar to a traditional data center in Wyoming, using averages from previous certifications.

Wyoming Sites

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2013	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

WyomingSites.com is Wyoming’s statewide business attraction and site selection platform, designed to help companies and site selectors quickly evaluate locations across the state. Powered by the [ZoomProspector platform by FT Locations](#), the platform showcases available industrial and commercial sites and buildings alongside the context that drives real location decisions—workforce and demographic data, infrastructure and utilities, transportation access, and community comparisons. By reducing the time and effort it takes to find credible site information, [WyomingSites.com](#) helps communities compete for expansion and relocation projects and supports faster, more responsive business recruitment statewide.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-105	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary “user”):** Companies and professional site selectors evaluating locations for expansion or relocation in Wyoming.
- **Customer (internal):** Wyoming Business Council recruitment and regional teams using a shared, credible platform to support business attraction conversations and respond to leads faster.
- **Customer/partners (data contributors):** Local economic development organizations, communities, industrial/business park owners, real estate professionals, and infrastructure partners who help keep site/building information current and “deal-ready.”
- **Beneficiaries (broader):** Wyoming communities and existing Wyoming businesses—through increased visibility for available properties and stronger positioning to compete for capital investment and job-creating projects.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming needs a modern, centralized, data-driven way to present available sites and buildings—and the infrastructure, workforce, and community context behind them—so that companies and site selectors can quickly evaluate Wyoming options and so communities can compete effectively for location-based projects.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming maintains a credible statewide site selection platform that makes it easy to find and compare available sites/buildings and understand workforce, infrastructure, and logistics context, **THEN** more projects will seriously consider Wyoming, more leads will convert into active recruitment conversations, and communities will be better positioned to win investment and jobs because the state can respond faster and reduce information friction during site selection.

Program Stories

N/A

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- WyomingSites.com

Agriculture Development & Promotion

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 1998	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Agriculture Development and Promotion is how the Wyoming Business Council helps Wyoming's producers and agribusinesses turn opportunity into growth, by strengthening market access, building relationships, and promoting Wyoming products to regional and global buyers.

We work alongside local stakeholders and partners to help businesses identify barriers and pursue the right-sized next step; whether expanding into new markets, moving into value-added processing, or recruiting new agribusiness investment. Beyond direct support, we leverage statewide resources and regional partnerships to represent Wyoming and capture recruitment opportunities.

Innovation through R&D clusters remains a key component for startups, business retention, and providing opportunities for youth interested in ag technologies. The result is a stronger agriculture economy that keeps existing operations competitive, supports job growth, and helps rural communities stay resilient and thrive.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: Support for the agriculture industry: W.S. 9-12-109	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming agribusinesses and producers (including food & beverage producers, ag tech, and production-related businesses) who need market access, partners, and growth pathways.
- **Secondary "customer/user":** industry stakeholders and partner orgs (associations, MAP-style partners, trade organizations, regional allies) that Agribusiness Manager, Jill Tregemba, works through to execute promotion/recruiting efforts.
- **Beneficiaries:** the broader Wyoming agriculture industry and rural communities whose economic vitality depends on ag health.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Because Wyoming's rural nature means the health of the agriculture industry directly impacts small-town viability—and because limited capacity and fragmented market access can slow diversification into value-added manufacturing, sales, and distribution—WBC's Agriculture Development & Promotion work exists to build relationships, promote Wyoming products, and recruit/enable agribusiness growth opportunities that strengthen the statewide ag economy.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.


IF WBC builds and maintains deep stakeholder relationships across Wyoming and externally (regional/national partners), then uses those relationships to (1) surface barriers and opportunities, (2) connect Wyoming producers/agribusinesses to the right programs, partners, and markets, and (3) strategically promote and recruit agribusiness activity into/within Wyoming, THEN more ag startups will launch and more existing ag businesses will expand into higher-value activities and new markets—leading over time to greater tradable income, business growth, and stronger rural communities.


Program Stories


Water Rippler: Wyoming Ag Innovation Secures Ag-focused Kickstart Funding

[Ag Innovations Water Rippler](#) offers farmers and ranchers an easy solution to keep their stock tanks cleaner and healthier for their livestock. This product was developed by Randall and Shondah Otwell, fourth-generation ranchers from Oshoto, Wyoming. In 2023, they were the winners of the Energy Capital Startup Challenge in Gillette, Wyoming, and are on pace to launch into large-scale production later this year. They were awarded \$50,000 through the Kickstart program.

Other Stories:

Mountain Meadow Wool  [Breaking Through Episode 11: Mountain Meadow Wool](#)

Big Lost Meadery  [What's The Point Ep. 11 - Sam Clikeman, Big Lost Meadery](#)

Backwards Distilling  [Breaking Through Episode 5: Backwards Distilling](#)

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: "AGRICULTURE HERITAGE" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- [Innovation Frontier 2025 Agribusiness Development - Wyoming BusinessCouncil](#)

Wyoming Table

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2023	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Wyoming Table is an online platform to connect interested regional, national, and international buyers with our local producers. It's where customers in and outside Wyoming can access the most delicious food and drinks from our local ranchers, farmers, brewers, distillers, and more.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-109	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Buyers in Wyoming and outside Wyoming (regional, national, international) who want an easy way to find and connect with high-quality, locally-made Wyoming food and beverage.
- **Beneficiaries (primary):** Wyoming producers (ranchers, farmers, brewers, distillers, and more) whose products and listings are surfaced to buyers; Jill described all companies on the site as beneficiaries of the platform.
- **Secondary beneficiaries:** Wyoming communities and the broader economy as producers grow (tradable income, resilience, jobs – i.e. “right-sized opportunities → growth/jobs/tradable income/communities”)

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming producers currently face significant barriers regarding market visibility and streamlined access to external buyers. Concurrently, regional and international buyers require an efficient, trusted mechanism to discover and procure high-quality Wyoming agricultural products. Wyoming Table serves as the strategic bridge for this gap, providing a dedicated online platform that facilitates direct connections between local producers and global market demand.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming Table makes it easy for buyers to discover Wyoming-made food and beverage and directly connect with producers (and producers can show up with clear, buyer-ready listings), THEN more buyer-producer connections will happen and more Wyoming producers will expand sales beyond Wyoming—supporting growth that strengthens the agriculture economy and communities over time.

Program Stories

Partnership & Collaboration – Opening the Door

By bridging the gap between local roots and global reach, Wyoming Table has become a vital catalyst for agricultural growth. Through a strategic partnership with the Wyoming Food Coalition, the initiative successfully launched an annual showcase that serves as a central hub for local food system partners to connect and collaborate.

This impact extends far beyond state lines; on the global stage, Wyoming Table leverages its relationship with the Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA) to open doors to lucrative European and Asia-Pacific markets. By providing access to critical resources like the State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) and Market Expansion Grant (MEG), Wyoming Table empowers local producers to overcome logistical barriers and meet the rigorous requirements of international buyers, ensuring Wyoming-grown products find a home on tables around the world.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: “AGRICULTURE HERITAGE” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
 - <https://wyomingbusiness.org/wyoming-table/>
 - [Innovation Frontier 2025 Agribusiness Development – Wyoming BusinessCouncil](#)
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Building Resilient Communities (BRC)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2004	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Formerly: Business Ready Communities

The Building Resilient Communities (BRC) program helps Wyoming communities finance planning and publicly owned infrastructure that removes barriers to economic growth. Through grants and loans, BRC supports projects like water and sewer capacity, roads and rights-of-way, site and building readiness, business park improvements, and other critical public assets that help communities compete for investment and support existing employers. By pairing state partnership with local match and clear project expectations, BRC strengthens a community's ability to attract opportunity, grow its tax base, and build long-term resilience—so Wyoming businesses can compete and people can thrive.

Agency Recommendation

Minor changes to the existing statute:

- We recommend removing financial limits to planning grants, both the 2% of total fund available for planning purposes and \$100K per planning grant.
- Remove the State Loan and Investment Board approval layer to provide WBC Board final funding authority.
- Provide for the ability to expand the impact of the program.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-601 to 603	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary applicant):** Wyoming communities—**cities, towns, counties, joint powers boards, and the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes**—seeking financing for planning or publicly owned infrastructure projects that address barriers to economic growth.
- **Customer (local implementers / agents):** Local and regional economic development organizations, chambers, downtown development authorities, urban renewal agencies, and other partners that often support project development and management **on behalf of** an eligible applicant (but are typically not the direct applicant).

- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Local employers (existing and prospective), workers, and residents who benefit from improved community readiness—utilities, roads, sites, buildings, and other public assets that make investment and growth feasible.
- **Beneficiaries (broader):** Wyoming’s long-term economic resilience—because BRC helps communities strengthen revenue-generating capacity and reduce structural barriers that make growth hard in a low-population, high-distance state. These revenue generating projects also help communities fund the next revenue generating project and future amenities that improve the quality of life.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming communities often face “growth barriers” (infrastructure, sites/buildings, permitting readiness, and limited local revenue capacity) that prevent them from capturing economic opportunities—even when businesses want to expand or locate there—because the scale and timing of needed public investments frequently exceed what local budgets can support on their own.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do to the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming partners with communities to finance planning and publicly owned infrastructure that removes high-priority barriers to economic growth—using a disciplined, problem-driven approach and requiring local match and readiness—**THEN** communities will become more competitive for business investment, better able to retain and grow employers, and more financially resilient over time as new revenue and capacity reduce dependence on continued state intervention.

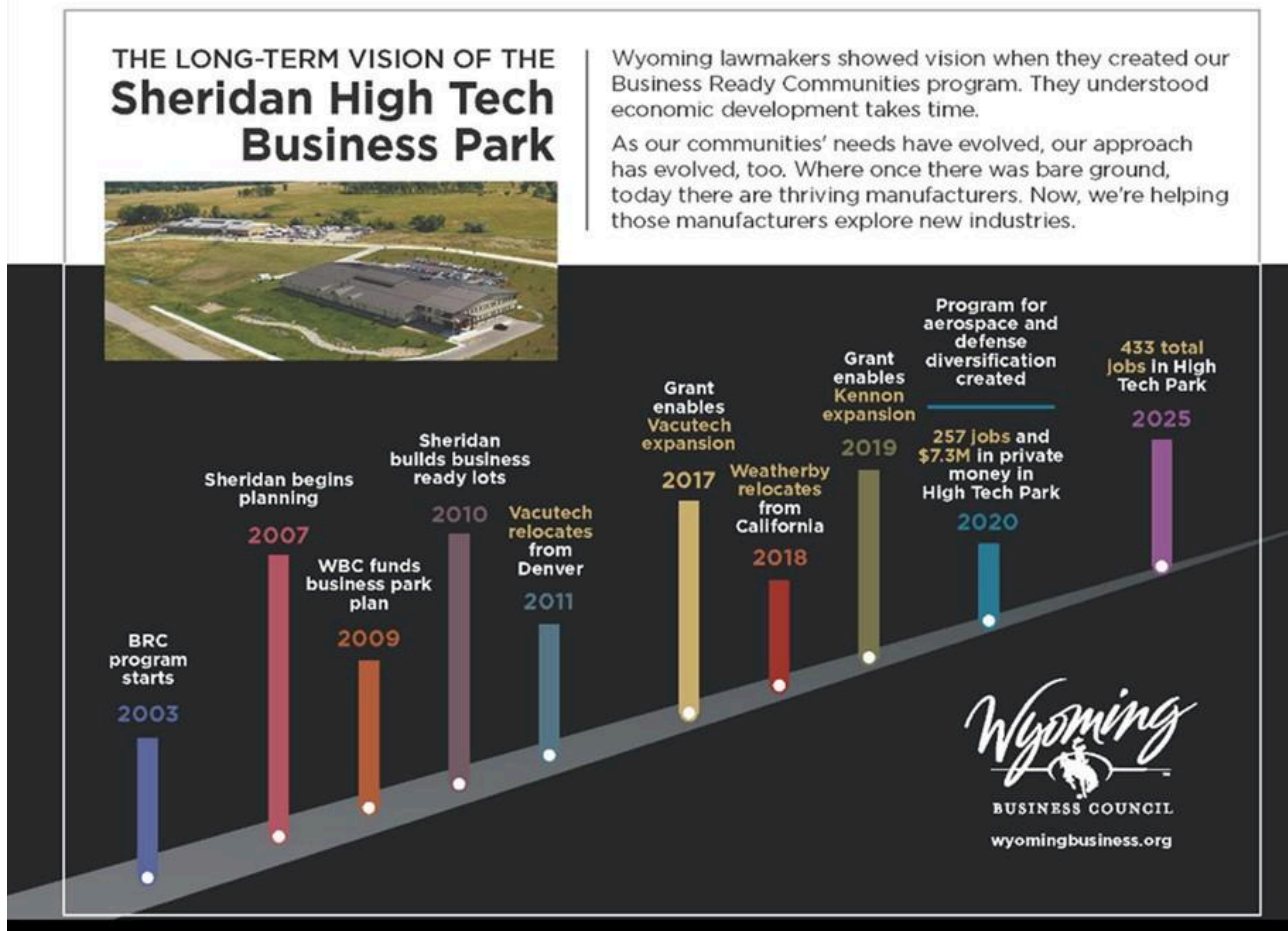
Program Stories

Sheridan High-Tech Park: Building a Manufacturing Cluster that Attracts Talent and Investment

Sheridan County pursued a long-term business readiness strategy to address economic stagnation and workforce loss by investing in the infrastructure needed to support industrial growth. Using \$40.3 million in BRC grants and loans, along with \$47.9 million in local and private match, the community developed Phase I of the Sheridan High-Tech Park on 43.5 acres. That initial build-out created shovel-ready industrial capacity and helped attract manufacturers including Weatherby, Kennon, and Vacutech. As the park gained traction, the community also completed a feasibility study to determine the best location for Phase II, which is now under construction to support additional industrial expansion.

A key element of this effort was pairing industrial development with community amenities that support workforce recruitment and retention. In addition to the park investment, Sheridan also advanced quality-of-life work such as a \$500,000 BRC-funded expansion of the Red Grade Trail System, and manufacturers cited outdoor recreation and local amenities in letters of support as factors that help

recruit and retain a high-quality workforce. Reported outcomes tied to this broader initiative include 841 total jobs (546 direct, 175 indirect, 120 induced), over \$30 million annually in new labor income, an 11% annual manufacturing growth rate over five years, \$36 million in annual housing/local/regional spending, and nearly \$1.68 million annually in combined local and state tax revenues.



From Raw Acreage to Shovel-Ready: Evansville’s Infrastructure Bet Lands Mesa’s 203,000-SF Facility

The Town of Evansville set out to break through regional economic stagnation and create a pathway for high-wage job growth by investing in the kind of industrial infrastructure that large employers require. Partnering with Advance Casper and a private developer, Evansville utilized an \$8,964,713 BRC grant alongside an \$80.2 million local and private match to develop 202 acres of industrial space. BRC funding is being used for critical water and sewer infrastructure plus essential road improvements and extensions, turning raw acreage into shovel-ready industrial ground. That infrastructure is anchoring a 203,000-square-foot manufacturing facility for Mesa Solutions as the company consolidates and scales its regional energy sector operations.

The turning point was installing heavy-duty utilities and access improvements early, which converted “potential” land into a site that could actually support a project of this scale. While construction is still underway, the initiative has already met its initial goal of 261 new jobs, with a reported median wage of \$29.74 per hour, and it is also associated with 222 retained jobs in the community. This matters because it shows how targeted public infrastructure can unlock major private capital and secure high-quality industrial employment that a community could not support with local capacity alone.

Without the water, sewer, and road capacity enabled by BRC, Evansville likely would not have been able to compete for or support an industrial expansion of this magnitude, putting both investment and high-wage job outcomes at risk.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- SEE: "BRC" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/financing/business-ready-community/>
- [East Central Profile](#)
- [Northeast Profile](#)
- [Northwest Profile](#)
- [Southeast Profile](#)
- [Southwest Profile](#)
- [West Central Profile](#)

Community Facilities Program (CFP)

Status: Dormant	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2005	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Community Facilities Program was created to help Wyoming communities repurpose older public facilities—especially former schools and surplus government buildings—into community-serving spaces, with an emphasis on uses that enhance quality of life such as youth and community services. The intent is to preserve valuable community assets, avoid long-term vacancy and deterioration, and turn legacy buildings into functional facilities that support community resilience. While the program was active in earlier years, it has not recently operated as a recurring statewide offering and is best understood as a tool designed to address a specific historical need.

Agency Recommendation

Remove from the Wyoming Business Council statute. In its current form this program is limited to only repurposing older public facilities like former schools which isn't a current challenge Wyoming communities face. Additionally, projects that address a barrier to economic growth and strengthen Wyoming's economy could be funded through BRC.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S 9-12-801 to 804	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming communities—typically local governments and eligible community partners—seeking to repurpose former public facilities (especially older schools or government buildings) into community-serving spaces.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** community organizations and residents who will use the repurposed facility, with an emphasis on **youth-serving** and community services where applicable.
- **Beneficiaries (broader):** the community at large through stronger local capacity, safer and more usable public spaces, preservation of important community assets, and reduced blight or vacancy from large legacy buildings.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

During periods of growth and new school construction, Wyoming communities needed a practical way to repurpose older public facilities—especially former schools—so that large, structurally sound buildings did not become long-term vacant liabilities and could instead be converted into community assets (often supporting youth and community services).

Intended Impact

The link between what we do to the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming provides targeted support to help communities convert underused or obsolete public facilities into functional community facilities (with priority toward community needs such as youth services), **THEN** communities can preserve key assets, reduce vacancy and deterioration, and increase local capacity by creating durable spaces that support community services and long-term resilience.

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity

Community Facilities Rehabilitation Grant Program

Status: Dormant	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2024	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Community Facilities Rehabilitation (CFR) Grant Program is a targeted funding tool that helps eligible Wyoming towns preserve and rehabilitate historic former school facilities into community centers. The program is designed to protect important community assets that might otherwise deteriorate due to high rehabilitation costs, while ensuring the renovated facility can be operated sustainably for public benefit. By pairing state investment with strong local planning, public engagement, and clear long-term operations and maintenance plans, CFR helps communities turn landmark buildings into durable spaces that serve residents for years to come.

Agency Recommendation

None, this was added as one-time funding in the 300 section of the budget and is not in statute.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: N/A	Rules: N/A
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Eligible Wyoming municipalities—**cities and towns**—seeking to preserve and rehabilitate a former school facility into a community center.
- **Customer (local operators/partners):** The local entity (city/town and any partnered community development organization) responsible for operating and maintaining the facility long-term.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Residents who will use the rehabilitated community facility (programming, services, gatherings, community uses).
- **Beneficiaries (broader):** The community as a whole through preservation of a major historic asset, strengthened civic infrastructure, and improved quality-of-life amenities that support local vitality.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Some Wyoming communities have former school facilities with significant historic and community value, but the cost and complexity of preservation and rehabilitation can exceed local capacity—putting these assets at risk of deterioration and limiting their ability to serve as durable community centers.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do to the change we expect to see.

IF the state provides targeted rehabilitation support for eligible historic former school facilities (paired with strong local planning, public engagement, and a viable operating plan), **THEN** communities can preserve and repurpose landmark buildings into functional community centers, improving long-term community capacity and quality of life while protecting an important public asset for future generations.

Program Stories

Old Stoney’s Final Chapter: Sundance Completes the Rehabilitation with a New Community Gathering Space

Sundance’s Old Stoney Rehabilitation Project was designed to preserve a historic community landmark while transforming it into a functional, income-generating public asset that serves residents and visitors year-round. After completing Phase I with support previously provided through BRC funding, the community moved into Phase II, the second and final phase of the project. This phase focuses on restoring and activating the third floor, a 7,000-square-foot space that includes the original stage and auditorium area, plus new amenities that make the building more useful and sustainable for modern community needs. The turning point was completing the foundational work in Phase I so the building could be made secure, accessible, and viable for long-term public use, which created the runway to finish the project with a fully functional third-floor community space. Phase I renovated the basement and subbasement and the entire first floor, replaced windows and exterior doors, reroofed the building, and brought it into ADA compliance. The results are visible in the building’s active uses today: the first floor includes a rentable conference room, public restrooms, the Crook County Museum gift shop, and four leaseable office spaces, while the second floor serves as the museum’s main lobby with exhibits and artifacts. Phase II adds a flexible third-floor venue designed for community events, meetings, and gatherings, including a catering kitchen, conference and meeting spaces, and public restrooms. Without phased investment and sustained follow-through, Old Stony would likely have remained underutilized, inaccessible, and increasingly costly to maintain, limiting its ability to serve as a community asset and economic driver.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/financing/cfr/>

Workforce Housing

Status: Sunset	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2006	End Date: 2009
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Workforce Housing Infrastructure Program provides low-interest loans to local governments and publicly owned entities to finance the infrastructure needed to support workforce housing development, including water, sewer, streets, utilities, and other public improvements. By helping communities cover the high upfront cost of infrastructure, the program enables private housing projects that may otherwise be financially infeasible, particularly in communities experiencing workforce shortages or rapid economic growth.

The program was established in statute in 2006 with short-term funds and is not currently funded or utilized. The functions described in the Wyoming Workforce Housing Infrastructure Program can be accomplished currently under the Business Ready Community program.

Agency Recommendation

Remove from the Wyoming Business Council statute.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-901 to 905	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Any city, town, county, special improvement district or the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribe, or the cooperative tribal governing body.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Housing developers, workers in the housing market, businesses who are able to recruit and retain more workers.
- **Beneficiaries (community-wide):** Wyoming's long-term economic resilience – by alleviating the housing challenges that currently limit growth, Wyoming's economy will see downstream effects of additional clustering, larger labor markets, and greater exports than if growth was constrained by a lack of housing, leading to more opportunities for people in the future.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

There is in this state by reason of the location and expansion of mineral extractive industries and other economic developments, a critical shortage of adequate housing.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF the state provides low-interest infrastructure financing to communities to reduce the upfront cost of enabling workforce housing development, **THEN** local governments and private developers will be able to deliver more housing units for workers and families in areas with constrained supply, and **THAT WILL LEAD TO** improved worker recruitment and retention, stronger labor force participation, business growth, and broader long-term economic growth in Wyoming.

Program Stories

N/A - Program is dormant.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

N/A - No recipient reports. The program was sunset.

50/50 Loan

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2022	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Business Council's 50/50 Loan helps Wyoming businesses move viable expansion projects forward when traditional bank financing alone can't close the gap. Representing a major evolution in state lending, this program modernizes Wyoming's economic toolkit by replacing the older, underutilized Loan Guarantee and Guarantee Loan Participation programs established in the mid-2000s. Instead of the state merely acting as a passive co-signer or backing a portion of bank losses, the Business Council now participates directly alongside local banks. By stepping in as an active co-lender, WBC shares risk more effectively and increases lending capacity—often creating a blended interest rate that benefits the business—while keeping private lenders in the driver's seat. With clear, expanded caps (up to 50% participation and up to \$2.5 million) and meaningful borrower equity, the program supports working capital, equipment, inventory, real estate, and other fixed assets so Wyoming companies can grow, hire, and strengthen local economies—while repaid dollars revolve into future Wyoming projects.

Agency Recommendation

If the Large Project Loan program is removed from statute we would recommend moving \$15M of the total current funding from the Large Project Loan account to the Challenge Loan account. This could allow for a raised maximum from \$2.5M to \$10M with the expanded maximum falling under similar economic impact requirements to the current Large Project Loan program.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 307	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes

- **Customer (primary):** A **Wyoming business** pursuing debt financing (typically for expansion) and needing terms/structure that make the project financeable (working capital, equipment, inventory, real estate, other fixed assets).
- **Delivery partner / "customer-user":** The **participating bank/lender**—because 50/50 is explicitly a participation program "in participation with a Bank," designed to share risk and/or increase lending capacity.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming workers, local suppliers, and communities that benefit when businesses expand, jobs are retained/created, and the tax base strengthens—while repaid dollars revolve into future projects.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Some viable Wyoming business expansion projects can't close with bank financing alone due to lending capacity, collateral/loan-to-value constraints, or deal risk/terms—and the 50/50 Loan exists to complement commercial lending (not replace it) by participating with a bank to close the gap so growth projects can proceed.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC participates alongside a Wyoming bank in an otherwise viable expansion project—sharing exposure up to statutory/program limits, requiring meaningful borrower equity, and using prudent underwriting and monitoring—**THEN** more deals will reach closing with responsible risk-sharing, businesses will add capacity and hit their next milestone, lenders can serve more projects, and the state's revolving dollars will be repaid and redeployed—**which leads to** stronger local economies through jobs, retained employers, and expanded tax base over time.

Program Stories

Childcare Capacity Doubles in Park County: True North Expands with a 50/50 Challenge Loan

Working families and employers in Park County were facing a critical childcare shortage that limited workforce participation, and [True North](#), a local childcare and preschool provider, could not expand without renovating a large 15,000-square-foot facility. To help, the Wyoming Business Council partnered with First Bank of Wyoming to provide a **50/50 Challenge Loan** creating a blended interest rate that stabilized True North's monthly cash flow and made the remodel financially workable. The turning point was protecting cash flow enough for True North to move forward immediately with the renovation, rather than delaying the project.

As a result, True North initially **doubled childcare capacity from 50 to 100 children**, with the renovated facility designed to support up to **300 children** over time, and the loan structured with a maturity scheduled for **2034**. This matters for Wyoming because expanding reliable childcare helps more parents enter or remain in the workforce, strengthening the local economy and improving stability for employers. Without this financing structure, True North likely would have postponed the renovation, leaving the childcare shortage unresolved and slowing workforce growth in Park County.

Local Response, Local Jobs: Newman’s Restoration Establishes a Permanent Sheridan Base

[Newman’s Restoration](#) wanted to better serve the Sheridan area, but without a permanent Wyoming footprint the company was operating remotely from Bozeman, Big Sky, and Billings, Montana, which limited local capability and slowed response times. To close that gap, the Wyoming Business Council partnered with First Federal Bank & Trust to provide a **50/50 Challenge Loan** that enabled Newman’s Restoration to purchase a dedicated office and shop space in Sheridan. The turning point was securing a permanent facility that allowed the company to move specialized equipment into Wyoming and operate as a true local headquarters, rather than dispatching resources from out of state.

As a result, the Sheridan expansion immediately supported **2 new full-time positions**, with continued growth projected to create **up to 6 additional jobs**, and it significantly improved emergency response times by housing equipment locally. This matters for Wyoming because it pulls economic activity into the Sheridan community, strengthens local service capacity, and supports job creation tied to a durable in-state presence. Without this financing, Newman’s Restoration likely would have continued operating solely out of Montana, resulting in slower emergency response times for Sheridan residents and no local job creation.

Keeping Orders in Wyoming: Mine Rite Converts Demand into Delivered Product with a 50/50 Challenge Loan

[Mine Rite Technologies](#), a Buffalo-based manufacturer of specialty mining and construction attachments, saw a strong influx of purchase orders for its patented “Tube Box” truck bodies but faced a common manufacturing constraint: it needed upfront working capital to purchase raw materials and turn orders into finished products. To close that gap, the Wyoming Business Council partnered with Security State Bank to provide a **50/50 Challenge Loan**, to help buy manufacturing inputs and keep production moving. The turning point was securing materials quickly enough to fulfill outstanding orders without disrupting operations or losing momentum.

As a result, Mine Rite sustained its Wyoming manufacturing operations through the duration of the loan and positioned the business for continued market growth ahead of the loan’s scheduled maturity before August 2026. This matters for Wyoming because converting high-value orders into locally produced products keeps specialized manufacturing capability, supply chain activity, and economic value in-state. Without this working-capital bridge, Mine Rite likely would have faced cash flow strain that delayed order fulfillment and increased the risk of losing business to out-of-state competitors.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- SEE: “LOANS & BONDS RECIPIENT LIST” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/50-50-loan/>

Succession Loan

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2022	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Business Council's Succession Loan Program helps keep established Wyoming businesses running when ownership changes hands. Working in partnership with local banks, WBC can help finance the unsecured "blue sky" portion of a business purchase—supporting the transition of a Wyoming business that has operated for at least seven years to new ownership. The program is designed to complement, not replace, private lenders by filling a specific financing gap so viable businesses can stay open, retain jobs, and continue serving Wyoming communities while revolving loan dollars remain available for future projects.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 307	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary): new owners** purchasing an existing **Wyoming business** (at least **7 years old**) who need debt financing to complete the ownership transition.
- **Delivery partner / "customer-user": Wyoming banks and lenders** that can finance the secured portion of an acquisition but may not be able to finance the unsecured or "blue sky" portion (intangible going-concern value).
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** employees, customers, local communities, and Wyoming's economy—through continuity of services, preserved local ownership, and retained jobs and tax base when a long-standing business stays open through transition.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Many established Wyoming businesses risk closing or leaving the state during ownership transitions because traditional financing often can't cover the unsecured "blue sky" portion of a purchase, so the Succession Loan exists to partner with banks to bridge that gap and keep viable Wyoming businesses operating through a successful transition.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC participates with a Wyoming bank to finance the unsecured "blue sky" portion of a viable acquisition—using prudent underwriting, clear caps, and a repayment structure that protects the revolving fund—**THEN** more established Wyoming businesses will successfully transition to new ownership, retain jobs and local economic activity, and continue serving communities—**which leads to** stronger community resilience and preserved economic fabric across Wyoming.

Program Stories

Keeping a 30-Year Local Processor Open: Basin Processing Ownership Transition (Succession Loan)

In July 2024, the local owners of Basin Processing in Greybull were preparing to transition ownership of the business, putting at risk the continuity of a vital meat processing provider that had served the greater Basin area for more than 30 years. To support a smooth transition, the Wyoming Business Council participated with Big Horn Federal Savings Bank to assemble a succession financing package that funded the purchase and transfer of the operation. The turning point was securing the financial backing needed for the new owners to take over without disrupting day-to-day services.

As a result, Basin Processing maintained uninterrupted operations, preserving critical regional meat processing capacity and retaining a staple service for local ranchers and residents. This matters for Wyoming because keeping local processing facilities open protects the regional supply chain and helps agricultural producers maintain reliable, close-to-home services. In total, the WBC invested \$131,250 and was able to leverage \$183,834 that supported the retention of 2 full-time and 4 part-time jobs in the Basin community. Without this succession financing, the ownership transition likely would have fallen through, risking closure of the facility and leaving area producers without local processing options.

Keeping Cowboy Café Open: A Succession Loan Preserves Jobs and a Downtown Anchor in Sheridan

Cowboy Café, a long-standing restaurant in downtown Sheridan, reached a critical transition point as ownership was set to change, putting at risk both a popular community gathering space and the livelihoods of the staff who kept it running day to day. To support a smooth handoff, the Wyoming Business Council partnered with Little Horn State Bank in September 2025 to provide a **Succession**

Loan that enabled new local owners to formally purchase the business. The turning point was securing dedicated acquisition capital that allowed the new ownership team to take over without interruption, keeping the doors open and operations stable.

As a result, Cowboy Café preserved total continuity of daily service and **retained 14 existing employees and managers** immediately following the ownership transition. This matters for Wyoming because keeping downtown commercial anchors open supports vibrant, walkable main streets and protects local jobs in the hospitality sector. Without this financing, the sale likely would have stalled or failed, risking a prolonged closure of a downtown landmark and the immediate loss of 14 local jobs.

A 60-Year Wyoming Brand Stays in Cheyenne: Trophy Creative Ownership Transition (Succession Loan)

Trophy Creative, originally established in 1964 as Wyoming Trophy & Engraving, needed to navigate a critical ownership transition to ensure the full-service screen-printing and engraving company could continue operating from Cheyenne and keep serving customers across the state. To support a smooth handoff, the Wyoming Business Council partnered with Hilltop National Bank in December 2024 to provide a **Succession Loan** that enabled the business to transition to Shawndae Ogle as sole owner. The turning point was securing the acquisition financing needed for the new owner to take over confidently and preserve the operational foundation of a long-standing Wyoming company.

As a result, Trophy Creative maintained continuity of operations in Cheyenne, protected local jobs, and preserved a legacy Wyoming brand with the capacity for future growth. This matters for Wyoming because successful ownership transitions keep experienced craft and production capability in-state and prevent stable, established businesses from closing due to financing gaps during a handoff. Without this financing, the transition to sole ownership likely would have been delayed or cancelled, putting a 60-year-old Cheyenne business and its jobs at risk.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: "LOANS & BONDS RECIPIENT LIST" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/succession-loan>

Contract Loan

Status: Unused & Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2022	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Business Council's Contract Loan Program helps Wyoming businesses take on larger orders when they have a legitimate contract but don't have the upfront cash to purchase the raw materials needed to fulfill it. This is a short-term, tightly structured loan: funds can be used only for raw materials, and repayment is tied directly to the contract proceeds. The goal is to help Wyoming companies convert real market demand into delivered work, revenue, and a stronger track record—so they can scale responsibly, support jobs, and become more bankable over time.

Agency Recommendation

No current statute changes are recommended. We have not had much interest in this program from businesses, and we need more insights into what might not be working, or how to get it working as intended, to help early-stage businesses move quickly, secure contracts, and become bankable in the near future.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 307	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming businesses that have secured (or are actively pursuing) a **large contract** but lack the **upfront cash** to buy **raw materials** needed to fulfill it—so they can take on larger orders and scale.
- **Secondary customer/users:** Wyoming banks and lenders—because this program is designed for situations where the business cannot currently obtain contract financing through traditional underwriting (the program requires **two bank denial letters** as part of the process). The goal is to get these businesses at or close to a bankable status at the conclusion of this loan.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming workers, suppliers, and communities that benefit when local businesses can fulfill bigger orders, keep revenue in Wyoming, and expand operations.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Some Wyoming businesses have real customer demand (confirmed by signed contracts) but can't access traditional financing for the upfront raw-material costs—so the Contract Loan exists to provide short-term liquidity tied directly to a contract so businesses can perform, get paid, and grow into stronger, more bankable companies.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC provides short-term contract financing that is tightly structured around a specific contract (raw materials only, contract proceeds assigned, WBC as co-payee) when a business cannot secure bank financing, **THEN** more Wyoming businesses can fulfill larger orders, generate revenue and operating history, and stabilize cash flow—**which leads to** business growth, job retention/creation, and stronger local supply chains in Wyoming over time.

Program Stories

N/A - No previous activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/contract-loan/>

Large Project Loan

Status: Unused & Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2021	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Originally established by the Wyoming Legislature in 2014 to back major industrial and economic investments, the Large Project Loan Program underwent a pivotal transition in 2021 when lawmakers transferred full administrative authority from the State Treasurer’s Office directly to the Wyoming Business Council. The Large Project Loan Program helps Wyoming compete for high-impact projects that can materially strengthen local economies and the statewide tax base. Designed for projects with total costs above \$5 million, the program can provide debt financing—sized using three-year economic impact modeling—for facilities, equipment, and other investments that add economic value to goods, services, or resources in Wyoming. With clear safeguards (including non-state contribution requirements, loan-to-value discipline, and a first-priority collateral position), the program supports projects that create jobs, increase assessed valuation, and expand sales and property tax base—helping build a more resilient and diversified Wyoming economy over time.

Agency Recommendation

Remove the Large Project Loan offering. See the Agency Recommendation for 50/50 Loan updates if the Large Project Loan is removed.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 308	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming businesses pursuing **large, high-impact projects** with total project cost **over \$5,000,000** that need debt financing for facilities, equipment, and other major capital needs that add economic value in Wyoming.
- **Delivery partners / “customer-users”:** commercial lenders, project developers, and financing partners who help structure large transactions and coordinate underwriting, collateral, and closing requirements (often alongside a bank conversation as the starting point).
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming workers, suppliers, and communities through projects that create jobs, expand payroll, increase assessed valuation, and increase sales/property tax base—while supporting long-term economic diversification and resilience.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming can lose “transformational” industrial and value-added projects when the required capital stack and risk profile exceed what conventional financing can support on its own—especially in a rural state with smaller capital markets—so the Large Project Loan exists to provide a financing tool capable of supporting projects big enough to materially change jobs, tax base, and economic resilience in Wyoming.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC provides large-project debt financing for projects with a high likelihood of completion—structured with strong collateral protections and sized using **economic impact modeling**—THEN more major projects will locate, expand, or remain in Wyoming, enabling substantial capital investment, job creation, and increased assessed valuation and tax base, **which leads to** stronger long-term diversification and economic resilience across the state.

Program Stories

N/A - No previous activity under the WBC authority

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/large-project-loan/>

Natural Gas Infrastructure Loan

Status: Unused & Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2013	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Natural Gas Fueling Infrastructure Loan Program provides direct financing to help Wyoming businesses build functioning natural gas fueling stations—covering eligible costs like engineering, design, equipment, real property, and installation. It was created to address a common early-stage infrastructure challenge: private investment and fleet adoption can stall when fueling access isn't yet reliable. By helping fund strategically located stations—with required private investment alongside state support—the program aims to reduce adoption barriers, expand fueling availability, and support long-term economic value tied to Wyoming's natural gas resources.

Agency Recommendation

Remove from the Wyoming Business Council statute.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 307	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming businesses seeking a **direct loan** to finance qualifying costs to **install a functioning natural gas fueling station** for motor vehicles using natural gas as a transportation fuel.
- **Delivery partners / customer-users:** fueling-station developers, fleet operators, energy/infrastructure firms, and communities or corridor partners coordinating sites, utilization, and adoption (even though the loan itself is direct).
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming industries and communities that benefit from expanded fueling options and infrastructure, and—where adoption occurs—greater utilization of Wyoming natural gas in transportation markets.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming can face a “chicken-and-egg” barrier where fleets won’t adopt natural-gas vehicles without reliable fueling access—and private financing may not pencil early—so this loan program was created to help finance the upfront costs of building natural gas fueling stations that unlock demand and long-term utilization.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF the state provides direct, adequately secured loans that help cover the upfront engineering, design, real property, equipment, and labor costs to install functioning natural gas fueling stations, **THEN** more stations can be built in strategic locations, which reduces adoption risk for fleets and accelerates utilization—supporting transportation energy diversity and long-term economic value tied to Wyoming natural gas resources.

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/natural-gas-fueling-infrastructure-loans/>

Value-Added Agriculture Loan

Status: Unused & Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2004	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Value-Added Agriculture Loan Program helps Wyoming producers and agribusinesses keep more of agriculture’s economic value in Wyoming by financing the equipment and facilities needed to process or package commodities into higher-value products. The program is delivered through local lenders—**the bank applies and the producer is the beneficiary**—and it focuses on rural projects that strengthen local supply chains and create durable in-state capacity. By supporting value-added processing and packaging (not working capital or production costs), the program helps rural communities grow more resilient ag businesses, expand market opportunities, and retain more Wyoming-made value from Wyoming-grown products.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal (USDA)	Statute: N/A	Rules: N/A
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary “user”): Wyoming banks/lenders**, because **the bank is the applicant** for the Value-Added Ag Loan.
- **Beneficiaries (primary): Wyoming producers, producer groups, and agribusiness entities** using the financing to build/expand value-added capacity; this includes independent producers, producer groups, cooperatives, and majority producer-controlled ventures.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming ranchers/farmers, rural communities, processors, workforce, and local supply chains—because more processing/packaging can happen in-state and more of the value chain can stay in Wyoming.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming producers often ship commodities out of state for processing and lose downstream value, yet financing for specialized in-state processing/packaging equipment and facilities can be difficult—so the Value-Added Ag Loan helps lenders and producers invest in rural Wyoming value-added capacity that keeps more economic value in-state.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC partners with lenders to finance machinery, equipment, and facilities that process or package Wyoming agricultural commodities into higher-value products (and does so in a way that fits rural project economics), **THEN** more value-added capacity will be built in Wyoming—helping producers strengthen margins and market access, supporting rural jobs and supply chains, and keeping more of Wyoming agriculture’s economic value within the state.

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/value-added-ag-loan/>

Agriculture Processing Bonds

Status: Unused & Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2022	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Agriculture Processing Bonds are a financing tool authorized for large agricultural processing projects that add value to Wyoming products by enabling access to long-term revenue bond financing. The program was designed to help Wyoming keep more of the economic value of agriculture in Wyoming by supporting the infrastructure needed to process, package, and scale Wyoming products competitively. In practice, the program has not been meaningfully used because the process is complex, requires specialized bond expertise and an issuing community partner, and the program was assigned without dedicated staffing or funding to help applicants navigate it. As a result of these and the other constraints within Wyoming’s underdeveloped bonding ecosystem, for this tool become truly usable for Wyoming businesses and communities, the state must ensure there is adequate technical capacity and a clear process that helps qualified projects move from interest to issuance and, ultimately, to construction and job-creating operations in Wyoming.

Agency Recommendation

Wyoming has an authorized tool that could support large, value-added agricultural processing projects, but the state currently lacks the practical capacity to use it. The bond process is highly specialized, requires an issuing community partner, and demands technical diligence, documentation, and coordination that exceed what current staff capacity and expertise can reliably provide. As a result, the program remains effectively dormant even when there is interest.

To make this tool usable, the WBC recommends dedicating a modest level of ongoing resources to build and maintain bond capability. A practical target is **\$100,000–\$200,000 annually** to cover training, a partial bond-specialist function, and access to bond counsel support. Where feasible, the agency also recommends structuring use of the program’s **allowable non-refundable project fee (up to \$50,000 per project)** to offset transaction costs (such as bond counsel engagement) once deal flow exists, reducing reliance on general funds over time.

Finally, the agency recommends acknowledging a broader statewide constraint: Wyoming does not currently have strong “bonding ecosystem” maturity, and these tools will continue to underperform without intentional investment in expertise and clear role definitions for issuing communities. If the Legislature prefers not to fund this capability, the most transparent alternative is to treat the program as an inactive authority until the state is prepared to resource it, rather than presenting it as a readily available financing option.

Program Details

Funding Source: N/A	Statute: W.S. 9-12-109	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming agricultural processing businesses (existing or proposed) pursuing large-scale manufacturing/processing projects that add value to agricultural or agriculture-related products in Wyoming and need a financing pathway that can support major capital needs.
- **Customer (required local issuing partner):** A Wyoming **city, town, or county** that would serve as the issuing entity for the bonds.
- **Customer (technical partners):** Bond counsel and other specialized advisors needed to structure, document, and execute a bond issuance.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Wyoming producers, processors, and local workforces through increased in-state processing capacity and stronger, more diversified markets for Wyoming products.
- **Beneficiaries (broader):** Wyoming communities and the statewide economy through long-term value-added growth, supply chain strengthening, and job creation tied to major facilities.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Value-added agricultural processing projects often require significant capital, specialized financing, and long repayment timelines, which can be difficult to secure through conventional options alone. Without access to an appropriate financing tool, Wyoming can lose opportunities to build in-state processing capacity, capture more value locally, and strengthen long-term agricultural resilience.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming provides a workable, well-supported pathway for qualified agricultural processing projects to access revenue bond financing, including clear roles for the issuing community and adequate technical expertise to guide applicants through diligence and issuance steps, **THEN** more value-added processing facilities can be financed and built in Wyoming, increasing in-state processing, strengthening rural economies, and creating jobs tied to long-term agricultural resilience.

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/value-added-ag-loan/>

Partnership Challenge Loan

Status: Unused & Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2000	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

NOTE: Partnership Challenge Loan is a specific loan/offering within the broader “Challenge Loan” umbrella

The Partnership Challenge Loan is a community-focused financing tool that helps Wyoming communities and local development organizations assemble the capital needed for economic and community development projects that may be difficult to finance through one source alone. It is designed to work through qualified partner organizations that can take responsibility for repayment and provide appropriate security and oversight. By combining state participation with local and nonprofit partners, the loan helps communities move viable projects forward—supporting business growth, job creation, and long-term local economic capacity across Wyoming.

Agency Recommendation

Remove from Wyoming Business Council statute. Doesn't match the capacity, expertise, or need for communities as it is currently structured.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 307	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming communities and community-based financing entities that can take on and repay debt to support local economic and community development projects—particularly **community development organizations** and **state development organizations** (as defined in policy), and in some cases joint powers boards/related entities depending on structure.
- **Delivery partners / customer-users:** local economic development organizations (EDOs), nonprofit development organizations, and partner lenders who help identify projects, assemble local match, structure terms, and manage compliance and reporting expectations.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming businesses, entrepreneurs, workers, and residents—because these loans are intended to help communities and partner entities finance projects that expand local economic opportunity and community capacity (rather than funding one business in isolation).

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Some Wyoming communities and local development organizations have viable, job-creating projects but lack sufficient local financing capacity (or can't assemble the full capital stack quickly enough), so the Partnership Challenge Loan provides a structured way to combine state participation with local and nonprofit partners to close financing gaps and make community-advancing projects feasible.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC provides partnership-based financing to qualified community and state development organizations (and similar partners) that are willing to take responsibility for repayment and can secure and manage the loan appropriately, **THEN** more Wyoming communities can finance economic and community development projects that unlock business growth, jobs, and private investment—**which leads to** stronger long-term local economic resilience and capacity across the state.

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/challenge-loans/>

Economic Disaster Loan

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2000	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Economic Disaster Loan offering helps Wyoming businesses, most often agriculture businesses, stabilize after a qualifying economic shock that causes documented lost revenues. When an Economic Disaster is declared, impacted businesses can apply for direct loans sized to their **actual dollar loss**, allowing them to spread that hit over time and maintain operations while they recover. The goal is straightforward: help otherwise viable businesses stay open, preserve jobs, and reduce long-term economic damage in the communities affected by the disaster.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 307	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming businesses (or groups of businesses) that have experienced **lost revenues** due to a qualifying “economic disaster,” and need temporary financing to maintain operations while they recover.
- **Delivery partners / supporting roles:** local lenders, EDOs, and community partners often help validate context, document impacts, and coordinate recovery resources—but **the loans themselves are direct** once an Economic Disaster declaration is approved.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** employees, suppliers, and communities that benefit when otherwise viable businesses survive a shock instead of closing or cutting deeply.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

When an unexpected economic shock causes real, documented revenue losses across a Wyoming area or sector, otherwise viable and often agricultural related businesses, may be unable to absorb the hit—and traditional financing may tighten—so the Economic Disaster Loan provides a way to spread verified business losses over time and reduce cascading closures, layoffs, and community economic damage.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF an Economic Disaster is declared (based on documented, qualifying lost revenues) and the WBC can then provide direct loans sized to each business’s **actual dollar loss** with reasonable repayment terms, **THEN** more impacted Wyoming businesses can stabilize cash flow, maintain operations and employment, and recover faster—reducing long-term economic harm in the affected communities and surrounding areas.

Program Stories

The Wyoming Business Council provided critical support to the agricultural community following the **Goshen County canal collapse**. To mitigate the economic impact on the region's producers, the WBC extended **economic disaster loans** to **37 local farmers**. This targeted financing provided the necessary liquidity for these operations to navigate the infrastructure failure and maintain their agricultural production. The program has demonstrated significant resilience, with **only 3 of the loans** being charged off to date, highlighting the efficacy of the support in preserving Wyoming's essential farming industry during a crisis. These loans will mature in 2030.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- SEE: “LOANS & BONDS RECIPIENT LIST” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/economic-disaster-loan/>

Main Street Loan Participation Program

Status: Unused & Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2013	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Main Street Loan Participation Program was designed to help property owners reinvest in downtown buildings and keep Main Street properties safe, functional, and economically productive. In practice, the Wyoming Business Council’s loan team is recommending this offering be consolidated into the 50/50 Loan (or a simplified core loan set) because Main Street projects often require more capital than this product can provide and the program has shown little/no utilization—meaning it is not currently functioning as an effective tool in the market.

Agency Recommendation

Remove from the Wyoming Business Council statute.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-301 to 307	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** the borrower/property owner improving a downtown building.
- **Secondary customer/user:** the commercial lender (if structured as a participation).
- **Beneficiaries:** the downtown/community and local businesses/tenants relying on safe, usable, occupied commercial space.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Downtown building reinvestment is often difficult to finance at small scales because rehab projects can carry execution risk and may not produce immediate cash-flow improvements—yet the current Main Street Loan structure is often too small to materially address real project budgets, which is why consolidation into a larger, more functional tool (e.g., 50/50) is the recommended direction.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming partners with lenders and property owners to finance viable downtown building improvements, **THEN** more downtown properties remain safe, occupied, and productive—supporting long-term community vitality.

(And if that outcome can be achieved more effectively through 50/50, then the toolset should be simplified accordingly.)

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- **Program details:** <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/main-street-loan/>

Wyoming Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (WBRLF)

Status: In transition	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2018	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (WBRLF) helps communities and developers reuse contaminated or potentially contaminated properties by making low-cost cleanup funding available. Delivered in partnership with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality and aligned with EPA eligibility requirements, the program supports environmental cleanups that reduce redevelopment uncertainty and help stalled sites return to productive use—supporting safer communities, stronger local tax base, and reinvestment in places that already have infrastructure and strategic value.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended. Continue the transfer to Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality as full program owner or wind the program down.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal (EPA)	Statute: N/A	Rules: N/A
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming communities, municipalities, eligible public entities, and (where eligible) private developers/property owners who need financing to complete environmental cleanup so a site can be reused or redeveloped.
- **Delivery partners / customer-users:** Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), EPA (eligibility), environmental consultants, developers, and local redevelopment stakeholders—because eligibility and cleanup planning are tightly tied to those partners and processes.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming residents, nearby businesses, and taxpayers through safer sites, reduced blight, reuse of existing infrastructure, and increased long-term property value and tax base.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Brownfield sites often remain vacant or underused because environmental cleanup costs and liability uncertainty make redevelopment financially marginal—so the Brownfields RLF exists to provide low-cost cleanup financing (and subgrants) that reduces uncertainty and helps stalled sites return to productive use.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming can provide flexible, low-cost cleanup capital (loans and subgrants) for eligible brownfield sites—paired with the required regulatory pathway (e.g., DEQ Voluntary Remediation Program and EPA eligibility)—**THEN** more contaminated or perceived-contaminated sites will be cleaned up and redeveloped, unlocking private investment, improving public safety, and expanding local tax base and community vitality.

Program Stories

N/A - No previous loans closed.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/loans/brownfields-rlf/>

Opportunity Zones

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2018	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Opportunity Zones are a federal tax incentive designed to encourage private investment in designated low-income census tracts. At the Wyoming Business Council, the Opportunity Zones function is centered on helping communities, developers, businesses, local leaders, and partners understand how the program works and where it may support local development goals. WBC serves as a translator, connector, and strategic partner that helps communities identify whether an Opportunity Zone designation may be useful, prepare projects that are more investment-ready, communicate local opportunities to investors and partners, and understand how federal designation cycles affect local planning. This work also includes maintaining state-level awareness of tract eligibility, supporting internal and external questions about the program, and helping Wyoming communities align OZ opportunities with broader economic development priorities such as housing, downtown revitalization, industrial development, and business expansion.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: N/A	Statute: This is not included in Wyoming Statute, however, Federal statute assigns the Opportunity Zone nomination authority to the Governor, as the State's chief executive officer. The statute does not expressly require the Governor to receive assistance from state staff. However, Treasury and IRS implementation materials make clear that the nomination process requires tract-level analysis, written notice, use of a nomination tool, possible modifications during the nomination window, and, in some cases, detailed supporting analysis. In practice, those requirements create a clear administrative and analytical role for state staff supporting the Governor's nomination decision.	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Direct customers:** Local governments, economic development organizations, community leaders, developers, businesses, site selectors, and property owners seeking to understand whether Opportunity Zones can support a project or investment strategy. Other important customers include state leadership, legislators, congressional offices, and internal WBC staff who need clear guidance on program rules, tract status, and nomination processes.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming communities and residents in or near designated tracts, especially where the program can help attract private investment into projects that support business growth, redevelopment, housing, infrastructure, and job creation. Beneficiaries also include communities that may not ultimately use the incentive directly but gain from clearer planning, stronger project packaging, and better understanding of how federal place-based incentives fit into local development strategy.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Many Wyoming communities have designated or eligible Opportunity Zone tracts, but the federal program is technical, investor-driven, and often misunderstood. Communities and project sponsors may know they are in an Opportunity Zone without understanding what the designation actually does, what kinds of investments it can support, or what is required to make a project investable. At the same time, state and local leaders need clear information about tract eligibility, designation cycles, and the practical limits of the tool in a rural state with thin markets, small deal flow, and uneven investor attention. Without active guidance and coordination, Wyoming communities may miss opportunities to position viable projects, may overestimate what the designation can accomplish on its own, or may struggle to connect local needs with the types of investment the program is meant to attract.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

If WBC helps communities, partners, and decision-makers understand how Opportunity Zones work, which tracts are eligible or designated, and what kinds of projects are realistic fits for the program, then Wyoming will be better positioned to use the federal incentive in ways that align with local development goals.

If WBC helps local leaders and project sponsors improve project readiness, communicate opportunities clearly, and connect with relevant investors and partners, then more projects in designated tracts will be able to compete for private investment.

If WBC provides accurate analysis on tract eligibility, nomination cycles, and federal program changes, then Wyoming decision-makers will be better equipped to respond strategically during designation periods and to advocate for outcomes that reflect the state's development needs.

If communities understand both the value and the limits of the program, then Opportunity Zones are more likely to be used as one tool within a broader local development strategy rather than treated as a stand-alone solution.

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/financial-incentives/opportunity-zones/>

Small Business Investment Credit (SBIC)

Status: Dormant	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2014	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Small Business Investment Credit (SBIC) program was designed to encourage investment into qualified Wyoming small businesses by providing a tax credit mechanism tied to structured private investment. In concept, the program aims to expand access to capital for Wyoming entrepreneurs and small businesses so they can grow, create jobs, and strengthen the state's economy. In practice, however, the program has seen very limited use over time, which reduces its value as an active tool in Wyoming's current business financing landscape.

Agency Recommendation

SBIC should be treated as a candidate for **removal or major modernization** in statute due to persistent non-use and lack of practical applicability. The program has only been used by two companies since 2014 and includes extensive statutory complexity relative to demonstrated impact; further, the credit structure appears tied to years that have already passed, limiting the program's viability as a current financing pathway. If the Legislature's intent is to increase capital access for Wyoming small businesses, the WBC recommends either (1) formally sunseting SBIC to reduce confusion and "zombie program" noise, or (2) redesigning it into a simpler, actively usable capital tool with clear incentives, a defined operating model, and measurable outcomes.

Program Details

Funding Source: N/A	Statute: W.S. 9-12-1301 to 1312	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming small businesses and entrepreneurs who need growth capital and could benefit from investment structured through the Small Business Investment Credit (SBIC) mechanism.
- **Customer (critical "enabling" user):** participating investors and any certified Wyoming small business investment company structures used to deploy qualified investments into qualified Wyoming businesses.

- **Beneficiaries (direct):** qualifying Wyoming businesses receiving investment capital (debt, equity, or hybrid structures) that supports expansion, stability, or relocation/retention in Wyoming.
- **Beneficiaries (broader):** Wyoming workers and communities through business growth, job creation/retention, and diversification of the state’s economy.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming businesses can face limited access to appropriately structured growth capital, but the SBIC program has not functioned as a practical, widely usable financing pathway, resulting in minimal real-world utilization and limited impact relative to the administrative and statutory complexity.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming offers a credible investment credit mechanism that encourages qualified investors to deploy capital into qualified Wyoming businesses through an approved structure, **THEN** more Wyoming businesses will access growth capital, enabling expansion, job creation, and long-term economic diversification.

Program Stories

N/A - No recent activity

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- N/A - No recent activity
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/businesses-seeking-finances/>

Kickstart Grant Program

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2018	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Kickstart (kickstart:Wyoming) helps growth-oriented Wyoming startups overcome early hurdles by providing **\$5,000 to \$50,000** in non-dilutive funding—paired with feedback, mentorship, and connections—to reach a clear next milestone and move into the next phase of growth. The program isn't the first stage in the funnel; in fact, applicants are required to be a finalist in a regional pitch challenge, a graduate of a high-growth business accelerator, or a seasoned high-growth entrepreneur to be eligible. Kickstart is designed to strengthen Wyoming's entrepreneurial ecosystem by helping founders build durable companies here, pursue markets beyond Wyoming, and create new economic opportunities through business formation and job growth. Kickstart also supports accountability through clear program rules and ongoing reporting so Wyoming leaders can see what's working and continuously improve how the state supports high-potential startups.

Agency Recommendation

Minor changes to the statute could be useful to the entrepreneurs and innovation ecosystem this program was intended to support.

- Remove references to the Coordinator of Economic Diversification since that role no longer exists at the Governor's Office.
 - Expand reporting requirements from a single report to multiple reports from companies so that we can better understand the long-term impact for Wyoming.
 - Slightly expand the maximum award so that an annual public pitch competition could help entrepreneurs get investment-ready as well as shine a light on the ecosystem and Wyoming entrepreneurs.
 - Move the budget allocation out of the Governor's office to the Wyoming Business Council to satisfy the spirit of W.S. 9-12-105 (d)(iii) as it relates to startup founders.
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Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-105(b,c) & 1404(v)	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** The **Wyoming-based entrepreneur / early-stage startup** seeking non-dilutive funding to reach a specific next milestone (idea → market fit / early traction), with potential for high growth and markets outside Wyoming.
- **Beneficiaries:**
 - The **startup** (capital + feedback/mentorship + exposure to resources/investors).
 - Wyoming communities and the state economy (longer-term business formation, job creation, revenue growth, diversification).
- **Secondary “customer/users”:** program reviewers/judges and ecosystem partners (accelerators, pitch events, investor partners) who participate in screening and post-award support. Creating relationships upstream so that downstream conversations are easier.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

High-growth Wyoming startups often hit early “activation” hurdles—where a relatively small amount of capital plus targeted feedback and connections can determine whether they reach their next milestone—so Kickstart exists to provide **\$5,000–\$50,000** in early non-dilutive funding (and structured support) to help Wyoming-based founders move from idea/early validation into the next phase of growth while keeping a meaningful nexus in Wyoming.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC competitively selects Wyoming-based, growth-oriented startups with credible founders and an achievable near-term milestone, then provides non-dilutive Kickstart funding (and structured feedback/mentorship/resource connections) tied to a clear use-of-funds plan and ongoing reporting, **THEN** more startups will clear early execution hurdles, progress toward product-market fit and out-of-state markets, and remain rooted in Wyoming—resulting over time in more durable Wyoming companies, higher-value job creation, and a stronger entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Program Stories

Wyoming Innovation, Global Demand: Kickstart Grant Propels Firefighting Bucket Prototype to International Market (Worland)

Based in Worland, [Wyoming Bucket](#) is developing a major upgrade to long-line helicopter water buckets used in wildfire response. Founder Ed Keller, an established business owner, saw a persistent problem in the field: valuable time was being lost because buckets required servicing that pulled equipment out of action during critical firefighting windows. He redesigned key bucket components to create a “service on the ground” model, where parts are replaceable and maintenance can be completed in the field—often within about an hour—so crews can get back to flying and fighting fire faster. A \$50,000 award is helping finalize the current prototype to secure pre-sales and produce the drawings and manuals needed for manufacturing, with a commitment to source materials from Wyoming companies where possible (including vendors in Sheridan, Worland, and Casper). The product is already drawing serious interest, including from the U.S. Air Force and prospective customers overseas, showing real potential for a Wyoming-made solution with global demand.

Beyond the Grant: How Kickstart Feedback Accelerated EstateScribe's Path to Venture Capital (Jackson)

[EstateScribe](#) is a Jackson-based software company founded by estate attorney Tyler Bass to address a practical challenge affecting many Wyoming families: limited bandwidth and clarity in the estate-planning process. After seeing gaps in the system firsthand—both in the capacity available to meet demand and in public understanding of estate planning—Tyler began building a SaaS platform designed to help attorneys produce high-quality estate plans more efficiently and consistently. While Tyler applied to the Kickstart Program multiple times and was not selected as a finalist, the support still proved valuable: feedback and networking connections helped refine pricing, strengthen the investment narrative, and sharpen growth strategy. Those adjustments translated into measurable traction, including new clients and interest from regional venture capital, demonstrating that targeted, non-funding support can still accelerate commercialization for Wyoming entrepreneurs.

Kickstart to Series A: DISA Technologies Scales a WY-Built Innovation (Mills)

[DISA Technologies](#), a Casper-based company founded by University of Wyoming alumni, set out to commercialize patented mineral processing and remediation technology in a capital-intensive space where scaling requires strong validation, credibility, and financing. [The Wyoming Business Council supported DISA early through the Kickstart Grant](#), helping the company move from promising idea to a stronger, execution-ready venture within Wyoming’s growing startup ecosystem. The turning point was DISA building enough traction and proof to attract major partners and investors, showing that Wyoming-based innovation can compete on a global stage while staying rooted in the state.

The results are visible in the company’s continued momentum and fundraising milestones. DISA officially closed a \$15 million Series A in December 2023, led by Evok Innovations with participation from other investors including WYVC, and continues to expand customer engagement domestically and internationally. Concrete proof of progress includes real-world deployment and validation work, such as a successful treatability study demonstrating DISA’s technology in a remediation context. Without early-stage grant support and ecosystem alignment in Wyoming, DISA’s path to traction and follow-on capital would likely have been slower or more dependent on out-of-state support.

Kickstart Bridges the Gap: Airloom Moves from R&D to Demonstration in Wyoming (Laramie)

[Airloom](#) began in Wyoming as Kitefarms, focused on early-stage research and development around a new approach to wind energy. Early progress was supported by federal SBIR awards (before the WBC matching program existed), but as the team built models and small-scale test units, they reached a familiar barrier for deep-tech startups: the need for “gap funding” to hit the next technical milestone and become investable for private capital. The Wyoming Business Council’s **Kickstart Grant** helped fill that gap, providing early support at a stage when the company was still proving out the technology and needed enough momentum to reach the next proof point.

The turning point was Kickstart helping the company progress far enough to [raise its first round of equity capital](#), which then enabled Airloom to build a small-scale demonstration unit in Pine Bluffs to start collecting real-world data and learn what would be required for full-scale deployment. Since then, Airloom has raised an additional round of funding and is nearly complete building a full-scale demonstration unit in Rock River. Without Kickstart bridging the early milestone gap, Airloom likely would have taken longer to reach its first equity round and delayed building Wyoming-based demonstration units that move the technology toward commercialization.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: “KICKSTART RECIPIENT LIST” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/grants/kickstart/>

Reporting Overview: Awardees will send in 6 reports after funding is received. This timeline starts 6 months post funding, with one report due per quarter for 6 quarters. Additionally, report numbers 3 and 6 will be mock board meetings held with the Wyoming Business Council Investments team. The goal is to share knowledge and set expectations on what a board meeting is, how they are handled, the information that should be shared at them, as well as allow founders an understanding of board involvement with their future company (boards are there to support company growth, not create obstacles for failure).

Reporting forms will be sent to each awardee with the following information to be gathered and tracked:

- NAICS code
- Major accomplishments since award (or since previous report)
- Milestones achieved since award (or since previous report)
- New milestones for the next 3–6 months, 6 – 18 months, and 2–3 years
- Wyoming impact since award (or since previous report)
- New contracts (distributors, manufacturers, or retailers) signed since award (or since previous report)
- Feedback gotten
- Things done to get you closer to full commercialization or scalable growth
- Hires made
- Runway
- Burn rate
- Current cash flow

- Revenue to date
- CAPEX
- Current customer count
- Inventory costs
- Service costs
- Gaps discovered that could slow growth
- What help do they need to address that gap
- Future fundraising plan

These data points were selected not only to help us understand a company's progress, but also to assist in better understanding the state's ecosystem for additional program updates in the future.

SBIR (Small Business Innovation and Research) Matching Grant Program (Innovation Grant)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: Minor	Start Date: 2018	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Wyoming's SBIR (Innovation Grant) Matching Program helps high-potential Wyoming companies turn federally funded research into real products, businesses, and jobs. When a Wyoming business wins a competitive federal SBIR or STTR award, the state can match that investment to accelerate technology development and commercialization—while requiring clear reporting and maintaining a meaningful Wyoming nexus. The goal is straightforward: leverage federal dollars to catalyze R&D, patents, and innovation-driven growth that diversifies Wyoming's economy, expands the tax base, and creates high-quality jobs for Wyoming communities.

Agency Recommendation

Changes to the statute could help the state program keep up with the federal program changes, as well as expand our ability to recruit R&D companies and draw in federal funds from other innovation grants not associated with the federal SBIR program.

- Replace SBIR language with Innovation Grant language – allowing us to match funds against any federal innovation grant, leveraging more federal funds within the state, and driving commercialization
- Update funding amounts to be a percentage of the federal award – allowing us to respond to changes in federal funding amounts
- Simplify reporting requirements by removing commercial versus non-commercial language; we will ask for the same information regardless of commercialization status. Additionally, expand the reporting timeline to 5 years to better understand the long term impacts this program has on a business as well as the state

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-105(b,d) & 1404(v)	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes

- **Customer (primary):** A **Wyoming business** with an active **federal SBIR or STTR Phase I or Phase II award** seeking matching funds to advance the technology and move toward commercialization (and maintaining a meaningful Wyoming nexus).
- **Beneficiaries:**
 - The **business** (non-dilutive match to extend R&D, de-risk commercialization, and strengthen readiness for follow-on funding).
 - **Wyoming's economy and communities** through jobs, expanded tax base, and diversification when commercialization occurs (explicit in statute), leverage federal grant funds
- **Secondary customer/users:** WBC internal program/admin teams and state stakeholders who rely on consistent reporting (board/legislature/economic impact studies); ecosystem partners (accelerators, pitch events, investor partners)

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming companies with validated federal SBIR/STTR awards still face a commercialization gap—needing additional non-dilutive capital and accountability to translate R&D into marketable products—so the SBIR Matching Grant exists to match Phase I/II awards and accelerate commercialization, job creation, and economic diversification in Wyoming while ensuring recipients maintain a meaningful Wyoming nexus. Additionally, companies are able to utilize state funds in ways not allowed through the federal grant program, such as marketing, commercialization efforts, and other expansion needs.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC provides matching funds to Wyoming-based SBIR/STTR awardees (with clear eligibility, required documentation, and annual reporting requirements) and recipients use the match to advance technology development and commercialization while maintaining a meaningful Wyoming nexus, **THEN** more federally validated innovations will reach market, generating measurable Wyoming returns through jobs, salary ranges, taxable assets, and revenues—strengthening the state's tax base and diversifying the economy.

Program Stories

Curley Enterprises: Scaling Weather Tech and Jobs (Laramie)

Curley Enterprises was founded in 2020 by Marcus Curley. They are working on developing weather analytics through real-time alerts and status updates. They are leveraging their Frosty Flake system and its use of established public-access cameras across the country. The company is currently working with the Air Force to further develop its technology and is deployed in over 24 states and into Canada. Their current efforts center around expanding their technology into other critical support areas such as fire, hazards, road management, and transportation needs. Curley Enterprises is also beginning the transition into the commercial sector as a SaaS offering, which includes hiring additional developers and support staff as well as continuing existing contracts with Wyoming businesses. Additionally, the products have been well-received by the U.S. Government, with high interest coming from out of state locations.

The funds provided by the SBIR program has allowed the current developers to quickly advance the technology, establishing a foothold in the market. It has also allowed for the continued representation at facilities across the country, increasing the support for expansion into the neighboring product sectors. Additionally, it allows for the hiring of high-paying technical roles – currently 2 full time but also up to 4 interns from UW.

Wyonics: R&D Success to Scaled Production (Laramie)

Wyonics, founded in Laramie by Kristin Di Bona in 2017, is working with the U.S. Department of Energy and the University of Wyoming on complex energy challenges and materials separation technologies. Like many science-driven companies, Wyonics reached a common inflection point: the core idea and performance can be proven at small scale, but commercialization requires building the equipment, processes, and facilities needed to reliably produce at larger volumes. The matching grant is helping the team advance equipment development for their products and support the transition from an R&D-focused model into scaled production and facility management—turning research success into commercial readiness. Along the way, the company has grown from one employee to ten (with interns supporting work each semester) and has brought more than \$1.6 million in federal grants into Wyoming’s economy, showing both job creation and direct economic inflow tied to a Wyoming-based innovation pipeline.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: “SBIR RECIPIENT LIST” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/grants/sbir/>
- [2025 Annual Reporting Raw Data](#)
- [2025 Economic Impact Study](#)
 - Updated reporting methodology and frameworks allowed for an impact study to be done
 - IMPORTANT NOTE – only data from the 2025 annual reporting cycle was used in this study; historical data was not clear enough to correlate reliably.
 - Current plan is to use the same format for the 2026 annual reporting cycle, followed by another impact study to begin the groundwork for larger data trends to be identified.

Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Support

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: Yes	Start Date: 2020	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Business Council's Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Support initiative is the agency's coordinated effort to help Wyoming residents start, grow, and sustain businesses — and to build the statewide conditions that make doing so increasingly viable over time. It operates through two complementary lines of activity: a set of **strategic partnerships** with organizations that deliver direct services to entrepreneurs (coaching, capital access, technical assistance, and market connections), and **business environment development** — systems-level work to improve Wyoming's overall climate for business formation and growth.

Together, these activities pursue two strategic aims. The first is broad: supporting all venture types to create opportunity for Wyoming citizens regardless of industry, geography, or stage. The second is specifically prioritized: growing the share of Wyoming businesses that reach markets beyond the state's borders. These "tradeable" businesses — companies that sell to customers outside Wyoming — bring new dollars into the state's economy rather than recirculating existing ones, and represent the highest-leverage pathway to reducing Wyoming's dependence on mineral extraction revenues.

WBC does not deliver all of these services directly. Instead, it functions as the **coordinating and funding backbone** of a statewide network that includes the Wyoming SBDC Network, the Wyoming Women's Business Center, Startup Wyoming (in partnership with Silicon Couloir), and a range of regional economic development organizations. WBC's role is to resource that network, connect its parts, and ensure that a founder anywhere in Wyoming can find the right help at the right moment — rather than being left to navigate a fragmented system alone.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-105 & 9-12-1401 through 9-12-1408 + SFO118	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Primary: Wyoming Entrepreneurs and Early-Stage Business Owners** The direct customer is any Wyoming resident pursuing a business venture: from someone still developing an idea, through early-stage founders building their first product or client base, to growth-stage

businesses ready to scale. This includes all venture types — retail, service, agricultural, technology, manufacturing, creative economy — with particular attention to founders building businesses capable of competing in national and global markets. WBC serves founders across all 23 counties, recognizing that the structural challenges of starting and growing a business are statewide conditions, not concentrated in any particular region.

- **Secondary: Resource Partners** The ecosystem works only when its parts are connected. WBC's direct partners — the SBDC, Wyoming Women's Business Center, Workforce Services, APEX, IMPACT 307, and others — are also customers of WBC's coordination function. Smooth referrals, clear handoffs, and shared visibility into founder needs are as much a program output as any individual service delivered. If a founder reaches the SBDC but needs capital readiness support that lives at Kickstart, or reaches WWBC but is ready for a WYVC-connected conversation, the quality of that transition matters.
- **Secondary: Wyoming Communities and Employers** The downstream beneficiaries are Wyoming's communities and employers, who gain from increased business formation, greater economic diversification, stronger local employment, and a broader tax base. The specific emphasis on tradeable businesses reflects a recognition that local-market businesses, while valuable, do not by themselves change Wyoming's structural economic vulnerability — that shift requires growing a base of companies that export value beyond the state.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming's entrepreneurship ecosystem is inherently low-density and geographically dispersed—making it hard for founders to discover, trust, and access the right mix of advising, training, permitting guidance, and early capital—so WBC's ecosystem-building work exists to create connectivity and clear pathways among statewide partners (and startup grant programs) so more Wyoming founders can launch, survive the early stage, and scale into durable companies.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC resources and coordinates a network of direct-service partners that meets founders where they are, ensures smooth handoffs between services, and actively fills gaps in coaching, capital access, and market connections — **AND IF** WBC simultaneously invests in the statewide conditions for entrepreneurship — ecosystem navigation infrastructure, investor network development, startup event coordination, legislative education, and federal capital program integration — **THEN** Wyoming entrepreneurs will be more likely to start, survive, and grow businesses in Wyoming; a greater proportion of those businesses will reach markets beyond the state's borders; and Wyoming's economic base will become measurably more diversified over time, reducing the state's structural dependence on mineral extraction revenues.

Program Stories

The Venture Capital Trajectory Wyoming recorded 12 venture capital deals in 2019. By 2025, that number had grown to 35+. That trajectory — nearly tripling in six years — is the single most compelling headline metric available for the entrepreneurship portfolio, and it reflects the cumulative effect of Kickstart seeding early-stage companies, WYVC providing institutional capital and investor credibility, gBETA producing accelerator-vetted graduates, and Silicon Couloir building the investor network that connects Wyoming founders to capital. No single program produced that outcome; the ecosystem did.

WYVC: Leverage as the Argument WYVC's \$20 million deployed across its portfolio has attracted \$162 million in follow-on capital from outside Wyoming. That leverage ratio — 8:1 — is the clearest available evidence that WBC's entrepreneurship investment function brings outside capital into the state rather than substituting for it. For legislators skeptical of government economic development spending, the WYVC case study is the strongest counterargument available: public seed capital unlocking private follow-on is the model conservatives prefer, and Wyoming is doing it.

SBIR/STTR: Federal Dollars to Wyoming Innovators The Wyoming SBIR/STTR Initiative, housed within the SBDC at UW, has won SBA FAST grant funding nearly every year since 2001 — most recently \$200,000 in October 2024. These grants support Wyoming companies in winning competitive federal R&D awards that bring national research dollars into the state, build long-term technology company capacity, and produce the kind of defensible, externally validated outcomes that hold up to legislative scrutiny.

gBETA Wyoming: Private Validation at Scale Since launching in 2020, gBETA Wyoming has run 11 cohorts, graduated 45+ alumni, created 230+ jobs, and generated \$42.7 million in follow-on funding — returning \$58 to Wyoming's economy for every \$1 of Microsoft's co-investment. The private-sector co-funder validation matters as much as the numbers: gBETA is not a government grant program. It is a nationally recognized accelerator/pre-accelerator that chose to operate in Wyoming and has produced returns its corporate sponsor publicly attributes to the state's ecosystem.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- [Entrepreneurship Assistance Overview](#)
- [WYVC/SSBCI Annual Report](#)
- [Wyoming SBDC Annual Report](#)
- [Wyoming APEX Accelerator Annual Report](#) (page 23)
- [StartUp Wyoming Gap Analysis and Phase 2 Startup Roadmap](#)

Wyo BizLink

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2025	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

[Wyo BizLink](#) is Wyoming’s official “front door” to business support—built to help entrepreneurs and established business owners quickly find trusted guidance, vetted resources, and events that match the challenge in front of them. Instead of wasting time searching across dozens of websites and programs, Wyoming business leaders can use one hub to identify the right next step—whether that’s planning, compliance, marketing, funding, or growth support—and connect directly to organizations that can help. The goal is simple: make it easier to start, build, and grow a successful business in Wyoming by reducing confusion and improving access to the right expertise at the right time.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: N/A	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming **business leaders**—especially entrepreneurs and small business owners—who need fast, trustworthy guidance on “what to do next” and where to find help (startup, growth, funding, compliance, marketing, planning, etc.).
- **Direct beneficiaries:**
 - **Startups and existing businesses** that save time, reduce confusion, and make better decisions by finding vetted resources quickly (directory + guides + events).
 - **Support organizations and programs** (SBDC, WWBC, Manufacturing Works, Workforce Services, etc.) that benefit when the right businesses find the right provider sooner (higher-quality leads, better fit, fewer misroutes).
- **Broader public beneficiaries:** Wyoming communities and taxpayers through stronger business formation/survival, better use of existing support capacity, and reduced “lost potential” from founders who give up due to navigation friction.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming has a wealth of business support resources, but they are spread across a fragmented landscape of public and private organizations with no clear entry point. This forces business owners to waste valuable time and money searching for the right help — and many never find it at all. The problem is especially acute in rural and frontier communities where informal networks are thinner, support organizations are fewer, and entrepreneurs often don't know what kind of help is available or even what kind they need.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyo BizLink makes Wyoming's business support resources easily discoverable, searchable, and credibly vetted in one place, **THEN** entrepreneurs will spend less time searching and more time accessing support — leading to better business outcomes (survival, growth, job creation). **AND IF** the platform also connects support organizations to each other, **THEN** the ecosystem becomes less fragmented, referrals improve, and collaboration increases — multiplying the impact of existing resources without requiring new ones to be built **which leads to** stronger local economies and a healthier statewide entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Program Stories

Wyo BizLink launched in August 2025 and is currently in its first year of operation. The platform does not yet have the individual tracking and outcome measurement infrastructure in place to share direct success stories of entrepreneurs served through Wyo BizLink. It was not built on assumptions. The platform's design — its core features, its focus on vetted resource matching, its statewide reach — was shaped directly by feedback collected from Wyoming entrepreneurs. In 2023, the Wyoming Business Council surveyed 92 Wyoming startup founders and small business owners about the barriers they faced and the support they needed. What they described was consistent, specific, and actionable: Wyoming's business resources exist, but finding them is too hard, too slow, and too dependent on knowing the right people. The quotes below are drawn directly from that survey.

What Wyoming entrepreneurs told us — and how we responded

They told us

“There are so many services offered across the state that having an online, searchable, comprehensive guide to all of the resources available — as well as a quick blurb about what each organization specializes in — would be very helpful. Otherwise businesses just have to look in many different places for help and they might miss a few.”

— Wyoming energy startup, 2023 statewide founder survey

Wyo BizLink built

Resource Navigator

A searchable database of 81 vetted Wyoming business support organizations, filterable by area of need, business stage, industry, and location — all in one place.

They told us

“You don’t find out until you’re already in it — versus someone who’s got a great idea and work ethic but needs help navigating how to make it a reality.”

— Wyoming natural products company, 2023 statewide founder survey

Wyo BizLink built

Guided Search

Entrepreneurs can filter resources by business stage from early idea through growth and expansion — meeting founders where they are, not where the ecosystem assumes they should be.

They told us

“We often find out about events or opportunities after they have already occurred.”

— Wyoming technology company, 2023 statewide founder survey

Wyo BizLink built

Statewide Events Calendar

A centralized calendar of business workshops, trainings, and networking opportunities across Wyoming, updated in real time so founders never miss an opportunity.

They told us

“The state has many impactful programs available, but finding out about them is difficult.”

— Wyoming software startup, 2023 statewide founder survey

Wyo BizLink built

Resource Navigator — vetted listings

Every major Wyoming business support program in one verified, searchable database — so no program goes undiscovered and no founder is left to piece together the landscape on their own.

They told us

“There are so many aspects to starting a business. Having more explicit resources on minimum requirements — like registering with Wyoming Workforce, or whether you need a business license — would make a real difference.”

— Wyoming apparel maker, 2023 statewide founder survey

Wyo BizLink built

Guided Search — Inception / Idea stage

Stage-based filtering surfaces the resources most relevant to where a founder actually is, including the foundational steps of business formation that first-time entrepreneurs most need to find.

They told us

“One of the biggest roadblocks for us has been legal help. Dealing with security exemptions, fundraising, and patent review is daunting. It would be incredible to have access to someone with the wisdom and knowledge of the state.”

— Wyoming wireless technology startup, 2023 statewide founder survey

Wyo BizLink built

Resource Navigator — specializations

Each listing distinguishes between services an organization offers generally and areas of particular depth — so a founder searching for specialized legal help finds someone equipped for that work specifically, not just the nearest option.

They told us

“Fundamentally, it is access to assistance that goes beyond the beginner level — networking with peers and mentors. We live, pretty much, in a venture capital desert.”

— Wyoming manufacturing company, 2023 statewide founder survey

Wyo BizLink built

Referral & Navigation Layer (in development)

A human concierge service designed to connect entrepreneurs with specific resources, peer networks, and mentors when self-service search isn’t enough — built to fill the gap beyond the 101 level.

Together, these features represent a direct, platform-level response to what Wyoming's entrepreneurs told us they needed. The problems described in the quotes above are not isolated complaints — they reflect patterns heard consistently across 92 founders and business owners in communities across Wyoming, at every stage of business. Wyo BizLink is the state's systematic answer to those patterns. Each platform feature is a specific response to a specific problem. And as the platform matures, its data improves, and its partner network grows, so does the precision and reach of those responses.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- [May 2026 Briefing Report](#)

Wyoming Venture Capital (WYVC) - Direct Strategy

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2023	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

WYVC's Direct Strategy helps Wyoming-based, high-growth companies access the equity capital they need to scale by co-investing alongside qualified lead investors in larger financing rounds (typically \$5M–\$20M). WYVC Direct is built around a “double bottom line”: disciplined investing intended to generate strong financial performance and a mandate to grow Wyoming's economy through scaling operations, expanding markets, and supporting high-value activity connected to Wyoming. The strategy fills a critical follow-on funding gap (after the angel stage), so that promising Wyoming companies can complete financing rounds, attract additional private capital, and compete in the venture ecosystem. By investing alongside experienced private investors, WYVC Direct supports long-term wealth creation, innovation, and economic diversification while building durable Wyoming outcomes that compound over time.

A key way we protect Wyoming's interests and strengthen company performance is by taking board observer roles on larger investments. A board observer is not a ceremonial seat, it is an active seat at the table that provides visibility into the company's strategy, operating priorities, and execution risks, without taking on voting control. This access allows us to influence outcomes that matter to Wyoming: encouraging founders to build and keep high-value functions tied to the state (e.g. jobs, suppliers, operations, pilots, and expansion decisions), connecting companies to Wyoming-specific assets and customers, and helping remove obstacles that hinder growth. Just as importantly, observer access gives us real-time, ground-truth insights into what high-growth companies are facing (e.g. talent constraints, capital needs, regulatory friction, infrastructure gaps, and market shifts), so we can continuously improve our programs and policy recommendations based on what is actually happening in the field. In short, board observer roles ensure WYVC Direct is not only providing capital, but also driving better company decisions and stronger Wyoming outcomes.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal (SSBCI)	Statute: N/A	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary): Wyoming-based startups / high-growth companies** raising a priced round (or equivalent) that need (1) access to a larger equity capital pool beyond angels to complete a growth round and scale and (2) a value-added, board-level stakeholder. Through board observer participation on most investments, WYVC can help strengthen strategic focus, execution discipline, and investor readiness, while keeping growth decisions connected to Wyoming when it makes business sense. **In addition, WYVC’s early diligence support helps founders prepare for institutional capital by tightening the investment thesis and building a high-quality data room (e.g. financials, capital table, customer validation, legal structures, intellectual property, operating metrics), reducing friction and accelerating conversations with potential lead investors.**
- **Implementation partners (critical “customer/user”): Qualified lead investors and co-investors** in the round. WYVC Direct is designed to co-invest alongside experienced leads and does not typically lead rounds or negotiate terms. However, during the terms negotiation process, WYVC can advocate for the Wyoming-based founders. The board observer role also benefits implementation partners by improving transparency and alignment post close, helping surface risks early, accelerate problem solving, and reinforce strong governance without taking voting control. **Pre-close, WYVC can also function as a diligence “force multiplier” by helping companies package materials in a way that respects institutional diligence workflows, making it easier for leads to assess opportunities quickly and confidently.** If a company is struggling to secure a lead investor, WYVC may produce a **non-binding letter of intent** after initial due diligence to help attract a private lead providing **a credible signal that can help convert interest into a committed syndicate and reduce perceived financing risk.**
- **Direct beneficiaries: Founders and teams** using growth capital to expand product, customers, and operations while meeting Wyoming eligibility (HQ in WY, or 60% employees in WY, or 60% equity owned by WY residents). The board observer role increases the likelihood that capital translates into durable outcomes by adding ongoing, inside-the-room support on strategy, operating milestones, hiring, and scaling decisions. **Founders also benefit from earlier “investor readiness” work catalyzing clearer metrics, tighter documentation, and a more disciplined operating cadence that improves fundraising outcomes even beyond the financing round WYVC participates in.**
- **Broader public beneficiaries: Wyoming workers and communities**, through higher-wage job creation potential, new industries, and long-term wealth creation (e.g. stock options, recycled talent/capital, spinouts). In addition, **Wyoming legislators and board members** benefit from the board observer role because it produces credible, real-time signals as to what is helping or hindering Wyoming companies informing better program design, smarter policy, and clearer accountability for results.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming companies can often raise an initial angel or pre-seed round, but face a major **follow-on capital gap** when trying to raise larger rounds because later-stage capital depends on networks, validation, and warm introductions. WYVC's Direct Strategy exists to co-invest alongside qualified lead investors and help Wyoming companies close future financing rounds, attract outside capital, and scale without Wyoming remaining a "flyover state" in the venture ecosystem.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WYVC's Direct Strategy co-invests in Wyoming-qualified companies *only* when a strong lead investor is secured, while targeting an appropriate share of the round (often ~20%) and staying disciplined on terms and downside protection, **THEN** more Wyoming companies will be able to complete future financing rounds, accelerate execution, and attract larger follow-on private capital **leading to** more scalable companies with durable Wyoming connections, stronger wealth creation, and a larger long-term entrepreneurial flywheel in the state.

Program Stories

Language I/O (Cheyenne)

- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/news/wyoming-innovator-and-language-i-o-ceo-heather-shoemaker-named-to-inc-s-2024-female-founders-list/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckBu5j7nUbk>
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/news/wyoming-business-council-announces-first-wyoming-venture-capital-fund-investment/>

DISA (Mills)

- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/news/wyoming-business-council-announces-wyoming-venture-capital-fund-investment-in-disa-technologies/>

How Board Observer Insights Strengthened Kickstart: Mock Board Meetings That Prepare Founders to Scale

A Wyoming founder in the Kickstart Grant program (“Kickstart”) pipeline had built early traction, but like many first-time entrepreneurs, they didn’t yet understand what a “real” board expects. For example, how should you run an effective board meeting, what metrics matter, how to frame risks, and how to make clear decisions with accountability? Through WYVC’s board observer roles across our portfolio, the team has repeatedly seen the same pattern up close: promising companies were working hard, but they were often underprepared for investor-grade governance. This oversight can slow fundraising, create avoidable missteps, and limit growth. Therefore, Kickstart didn’t just provide capital and coaching, we updated the program to include mock board meetings at key points in the program where founders present like they would to an actual board and receive direct, practical feedback from experienced operators and investors. The turning point is when founders move from “reporting activity” to running the business with board-level clarity communicating tight priorities, measurable outcomes, and confident decision-making.

As a result, founders leave the mock-board session with a sharper board deck, clearer KPIs, and an action-oriented plan for the next quarter, often with immediate upgrades in how they communicate progress to both investors and advisors. This matters for Wyoming because better informed companies are more likely to raise follow-on capital, scale operations, and create durable Wyoming jobs, so we’re not only funding startups, we’re building founders who can compete (and win) in the venture ecosystem while keeping growth tied to Wyoming. In terms of cost/leverage, Kickstart support, plus structured mock-board coaching, improves governance readiness in a way that strengthens the odds of successful follow-on investment and faster scaling. Without this support, many founders would likely enter investor conversations and critical growth phases unprepared for board expectations delaying fundraising, missing strategic signals, and slowing (or relocating) the kind of growth Wyoming wants to retain.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: “WYVC RECIPIENT LIST” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- [Link to current WYVC Direct portfolio](#)
- [Link to WYVC portfolio company jobs board](#)
- [Wyoming Deal Flow Report - 2025](#)
- [Wyoming Deal Flow Report - 2024](#)
- [Wyoming Deal Flow Report - 2023](#)
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/equity/>
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/equity/direct/>

We require quarterly reporting on simple things like jobs and new capital raised. However, as startups grow, the “jobs” number can be volatile. So far, 10 out of the 10 current portfolio companies are still growing, and 5 of the 10 have already raised one or more follow-on rounds of funding for continued scaling.

Wyoming Venture Capital (WYVC)

- Funds Strategy

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2023	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

WYVC's Funds Strategy strengthens Wyoming's long-term entrepreneurial ecosystem by investing as a limited partner ("LP") in early-stage venture funds that are committed to finding, funding, and supporting Wyoming startup companies. This is specifically designed to address the first gap in the funding continuum that exists immediately after friends and family or angel funding. Emerging fund managers bring not only capital, but also informed perspectives, sector expertise, and diversified networks for Wyoming deals. One program benefit to these fund managers is that they can invest up to 20% of the fund in out-of-state deals for a) syndication and b) more diversified portfolio for all of their fund LPs. This syndication helps promote more private, out of state, capital into future Wyoming financing rounds. Over time, the goal is to attract more private capital into Wyoming, help more startup companies scale successfully, and build a more self-sustaining venture ecosystem that drives innovation, wealth creation, and economic diversification statewide.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal (SSBCI)	Statute: N/A	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary): organized investment funds** (early-stage venture capital) with clear strategies to invest in Wyoming startup companies, professional management teams, and private capital investors.
- **Direct beneficiaries:**
 - **Wyoming entrepreneurs/startups** who gain indirect access to larger pools of early-stage capital in addition to venture expertise and networks through WYVC-backed funds.

- **Fund managers** who can raise private capital alongside WYVC capital and operate with Wyoming as the core part of their deployment strategy.
- **Broader public beneficiaries:** Wyoming talent pool and workforce via higher-wage job creation potential, new industries, and long-term ecosystem maturity (e.g. future exits drive both financial and intellectual wealth creation).
- **Clarifying “Wyoming company” lens (beneficiary filter):** portfolio companies are typically expected to meet Wyoming qualification (HQ in WY, or 60% employees in WY, or 60% equity owned by WY residents).

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming’s startup ecosystem faces not just an early-stage capital gap, but a **venture infrastructure and connectivity gap**. Too few, typically nationally-focused, funds have both the incentives and relationships to consistently source, invest in, and support Wyoming founders. The WYVC Funds Strategy exists to seed long-term relationships with aligned emerging fund managers and bring committed capital, expertise, and networks into Wyoming’s ecosystem.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WYVC makes disciplined LP investments into early-stage-focused funds that 1) have committed management teams, 2) demonstrate deal-sourcing and diligence capacity, and 3) are contractually aligned to invest in Wyoming startup companies, while requiring real first-close traction and pari passu (or junior) positioning, **THEN** those funds will repeatedly surface, fund, and support Wyoming founders (e.g. capital, networks, operator expertise) **leading to** more Wyoming companies receiving institutional-quality investment support, stronger syndicates and follow-on pathways, and an increasingly self-sustaining venture ecosystem that puts Wyoming “on the map” with regional and national investors.

Program Stories

Building Wyoming’s Early-Stage Capital Pipeline: WYVC’s First Fund Strategy Investment

Wyoming Venture Capital (WYVC) [launched its Fund Strategy](#) to strengthen Wyoming’s startup financing pipeline by partnering with Wyoming-first fund managers that invest earlier than WYVC typically does through its Direct Strategy. That need is real in Wyoming: promising founders can struggle to find early-stage capital and mentorship close to home, which can force companies to leave the state or stall before they are ready for larger rounds. WYVC addressed this by participating in the first close of Casper-based Breakthrough Venture Capital’s inaugural fund, supporting a Wyoming-first venture firm focused on backing high-growth startups with investment, mentorship, and resources.

The turning point was using WYVC's Fund Strategy to help expand the "funnel" of future Wyoming investments, so startups can raise consecutive rounds of financing in-state and stay rooted in their communities as they grow. While the long-term results of a venture fund play out over time, the immediate proof point is clear: this was WYVC's first Fund Strategy investment, establishing a new pathway to support Wyoming founders earlier and more consistently. Without a fund strategy approach, Wyoming founders are more likely to face gaps between early-stage capital and later-stage investment, increasing the odds that companies slow down, raise outside Wyoming, or relocate as they scale.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- SEE: "WYVC RECIPIENT LIST" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/equity/>
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/financing/equity/funds/>

Funds are required to report quarterly on both the investments that they make and operating capital calls.

WYVC Fund Strategy Portfolio:

- Breakthrough Venture Capital
 - Collective Portfolio
 - Derapi
 - Celldrop Biosciences
 - Eye to Eye Telehealth
 - Alpyn Beauty
 - Red Drop DX (out of state)

Market Expansion Grant (MEG)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 1998	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Market Expansion Grant (MEG) helps Wyoming businesses grow beyond our borders by supporting practical, company-specific steps to expand products and services to markets outside Wyoming. MEG is designed as a problem-solving tool, pairing targeted financial support with relationship-based guidance so businesses can identify their real barriers, clarify their next steps, and connect into the right partners and resources. Success is measured by whether companies achieve their stated market expansion goals and gain momentum toward sustainable growth, strengthening tradable income and economic opportunity for Wyoming communities. In line with this mission, the program was recently transitioned from the Tradeshow and Market Expansion Grant (TSME) to the Market Expansion Grant (MEG), reflecting a new strategic alignment to more effectively address the specific challenges businesses face when reaching markets outside Wyoming.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** The **Wyoming business** (startup or established company) pursuing out-of-state market growth that needs help identifying and removing barriers to expanding into markets beyond Wyoming.
- **Beneficiaries:**
 - **The business itself** (market access, growth progress, potential sales/distribution outcomes).
 - **The WBC/State** (improved understanding of company constraints and what works, stronger "BRE" relationships and pipeline progression).
 - **Wyoming communities** (longer-term benefits via business growth, tradable income, and jobs where applicable).

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming companies face unique constraints in accessing markets outside the state, and MEG exists to help them identify and remove those barriers—using targeted support as a problem-solving mechanism (not just an incentive) so they can expand out-of-state sales and grow.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC uses MEG to fund and support targeted market expansion activities while building a high-trust relationship that helps each company clarify goals, identify the real barriers to out-of-state markets, and connect into the right partner network/resources, **THEN** companies will make measurable progress toward their stated market-expansion goals (directional clarity, connections, and—when feasible—sales/distribution outcomes), strengthening tradable income and growth without creating dependency.

Program Stories

Trilipiderm’s Pivot Pays Off: Independent Hotel Show Breakthrough (MEG)

With support through the Market Expansion Grant (MEG), [Trilipiderm](#) pursued a targeted market expansion strategy by exhibiting at the Independent Hotel Show and leaning into the boutique hotel segment. Unlike large-brand hotel environments driven by strict brand standards, the independent boutique market rewards agility, customization, and differentiated guest experiences, making it a strong fit for Trilipiderm’s premium wellness products. MEG support helped Trilipiderm show up in the right place, with the right market focus, to test and validate this channel and build momentum with buyers.

The results came quickly and continue to build. Within 30 days of the show, Trilipiderm secured orders, established relationships with 14+ hotels, and developed a growing pipeline supported by ongoing follow-up and scheduled meetings. By Q1 2026, additional meetings were already on the calendar, and pending contracts exceeded \$40,000. These new relationships include active engagement with independent boutique properties affiliated with major flags like Hyatt and Marriott, where customized, premium amenities are a competitive differentiator and Trilipiderm’s offering is well-positioned.

From Niche to High-Volume: Gluten Free Oats Finds “Truckload” Growth at Expo West (MEG)

With support through the Market Expansion Grant (MEG), [Gluten Free Oats](#) participated in Natural Products Expo West to expand its reach in the natural and specialty foods market and build relationships with high-volume buyers. The event created immediate, high-impact growth opportunities, including a pending 2026 contract with a bar manufacturer for 660,000 pounds of high-protein oat flour. If finalized, the \$650,000 agreement would represent a 65% increase over 2025 sales and significantly improve mill utilization and production stability.

The show also opened a new pathway into adjacent markets through a relationship with Chobani, with formal supplier evaluations beginning in Q2. Together, these outcomes show meaningful traction in “truckload” programs that diversify the company’s customer base and strengthen long-term scaling potential. In short, the MEG-supported trade show investment helped accelerate measurable progress toward transformative revenue growth and a more stable production future.

Agricultural Innovations Expands from Regional to Multi-State: Water Rippler™ Momentum After the NILE (MEG)

With support through the Market Expansion Grant (MEG), [Agricultural Innovations](#) participated in the Northern International Livestock Expo (NILE) as a strategic market entry move aimed at expanding reach, strengthening distribution, and accelerating sales. The results were immediate and measurable. In the 30 days following the show, the company sold as many units of the Water Rippler™ as it did in the entire 10 months prior, signaling a sharp increase in product movement and customer engagement driven by direct market exposure.

The event also helped Agricultural Innovations convert visibility into expanded channels. The company secured placement on three new retail shelves in Wyoming, Montana, and Nebraska, and grew its customer footprint from 16 states to 28 states, a 75% increase in geographic reach. Just as importantly, the show initiated a partnership with a large regional distribution partner, creating a pathway to scale access to new retail channels across the western and midwestern United States. In short, the MEG-supported trade show helped Agricultural Innovations move beyond one-off sales and into durable market expansion through retail and distribution relationships.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- SEE: “MARKET DEVELOPMENT” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/expand/expand-your-market/market-expansion-grant/>

State Trade Expansion Program (STEP)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2010	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) helps Wyoming small businesses compete in global markets by reducing the cost and risk of international market expansion activities, while holding participants to clear readiness, engagement, and reporting expectations. Funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration and administered by the Wyoming Business Council, STEP is designed to demonstrate clear value to Wyoming by increasing the number of small businesses that export, increasing the overall value of those exports, and increasing the number of small businesses exploring significant new trade opportunities—with a strong underlying focus on broader economic growth and job creation as companies expand into international markets.

Agency Recommendation

STEP is a federally-funded program of the SBA. No legislative changes needed or recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** the **Wyoming-based eligible small business** (ESBC) pursuing international market activity (exporting, export readiness, or significant new trade opportunities).
- **Beneficiaries:**
 - **The business** (reduced cost/risk of international marketing activities; export growth outcomes).
 - **Wyoming's economy/communities** (more export sales and related job impacts over time).
 - **WBC/State** (stronger pipeline of export-capable firms; clearer evidence for reporting due to SBA requirements).

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming small businesses often face cost, knowledge, and access barriers to entering and growing in international markets, and STEP exists (as an SBA-funded program administered by WBC) to reduce those barriers and increase exporting and significant new international trade activity.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC uses STEP funds to reimburse a portion of eligible international marketing activities (and routes not-yet-ready firms into export-readiness next steps when needed), **THEN** more Wyoming small businesses will pursue and win international opportunities—resulting in increased export participation, increased export sales value, and more firms exploring significant new trade opportunities (with associated jobs/distributor relationships where applicable and strengthened economic resilience across the state’s diverse industries.

Program Stories

STEP Opens Global Doors for Frog Creek Partners’ Gutter Bin® System

Frog Creek Partners, a small Wyoming company, wanted to get the Gutter Bin® Stormwater Filtration System in front of the corporate leaders, municipal water managers, and distribution partners who drive major stormwater projects, but the cost of international participation made that reach unrealistic. In 2025, the company received Wyoming STEP grant support to attend two international events, making travel, registration, and booth expenses feasible and allowing the team to show not only the product, but the scale of deployments the company can deliver. The turning point was simple: STEP made it possible for Frog Creek Partners to enter rooms and conversations that typically only larger firms can afford to access, shifting the company from “interested in global markets” to actively pursuing them.

The results have exceeded expectations even before contracts are finalized. The company is now actively pursuing project opportunities in the UK and Spain, and the conferences also generated unexpected connections that opened doors to significant U.S. opportunities still in active pursuit. The volume of projects being scoped and negotiated has already required Frog Creek Partners to add one full-time position in Wyoming, and the credibility gained has strengthened conversations with prospective project funders for large-scale stormwater work. Without STEP, Frog Creek Partners likely would not have attended these events, and the international and unexpected domestic opportunities now in motion would not exist.

Victor Company Uses Workforce + STEP to Build Capacity and Win New Markets

[Victor Company](#) out of Evanston has approached state resources as tools to accelerate growth, not as long-term support. With a strong growth mindset, the company strategically used Wyoming Workforce Training Grants to expand operations, invest in employee development, and hire additional staff to keep pace with increasing demand. The turning point was using training support to strengthen internal capacity so the business could pursue bigger opportunities with confidence, rather than being limited by workforce constraints.

Building on that foundation, as a new-to-export company, Victor Company paired operational growth with market expansion through strategic partnerships and STEP support, helping the company secure major distributor relationships and pursue new market opportunities, including international pathways. The result is a stronger platform for long-term growth that connects improved internal capability with new revenue channels. Without these tools, Victor Company likely would have faced a slower expansion curve, with fewer workforce capabilities and fewer viable pathways into new markets.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: "MARKET DEVELOPMENT" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/business/expand/state-trade-expansion-program/>

Industrial Certifications Incentive Grant

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: None	Start Date: 2022	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Industrial Certifications Incentive Grant helps Wyoming manufacturers become more competitive by cost-sharing the up-front work required to earn advanced industrial certifications that unlock new markets. Through a simple, reimbursement-based structure, the program supports two key steps: developing a clear certification pathway with a third-party consultant, and cost-sharing year-one direct certification expenses with the certifying body. By helping manufacturers pursue certifications that improve quality systems and supplier eligibility, Wyoming strengthens its ability to win higher-value work, retain and grow jobs, and diversify the state's manufacturing economy.

General Note on the Program –The Industrial Certification Incentive Program relies heavily on the WBC's partnership with Manufacturing-Works, who specializes in consultation with small and medium sized manufacturers in Wyoming. Manufacturing-Works will work with a company to identify their problems and needs, then recommend fixes from the private sector like certifications and efficiency improvement efforts. Industrial Certification Incentive Grants encourage companies to take the steps necessary to improve their operations, and reduce their financial risk by sharing half the cost of the certification effort, up to \$20,000.00.

Agency Recommendation

No change recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: N/A	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming-based, private-sector, for-profit manufacturers seeking advanced industrial certifications (e.g., ISO or similar) to expand into new or higher-value markets.
- **Customer (user/participant):** the company's leadership and operations team responsible for implementing the certification pathway and sustaining the requirements.

- **Delivery partners (critical “customers/users”):** third-party certification pathway consultants (Phase 1) and certifying bodies (Phase 2), plus technical assistance partners that help companies prepare (often including Manufacturing Works and similar providers).
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming workers and communities through stronger manufacturing competitiveness, higher-value contracts, and job retention/growth.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Many Wyoming manufacturers must obtain recognized industrial certifications to qualify for advanced markets and supply chains, but the up-front consulting and year-one certification costs can be a barrier—especially for small and mid-sized firms—slowing market diversification and job growth in Wyoming manufacturing.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming helps manufacturers reduce the cost and complexity of pursuing industrial certifications—by cost-sharing either (1) a certification pathway plan or (2) year-one direct certification costs—**THEN** more Wyoming manufacturers will successfully pursue certifications that unlock new market access, improve operational rigor, add previously absent capabilities to our economy, and support job retention and growth in the state’s manufacturing economy.

Program Stories

Red River Builds Safer, Faster Manufacturing with Certification Support

[Red River, LLC](#), a pressure vessel manufacturer based in Gillette, wanted to strengthen capabilities, improve shop-floor safety, and expand into new markets, but needed a more systematic way to upgrade training and operational discipline. Working with Manufacturing Works (a WBC-supported partner), Red River pursued key certifications and process improvements, including ISO 9001 and Lean Six Sigma training, supported through the Wyoming Business Council’s Industrial Certification Incentive Grant alongside related connections and training resources. The turning point was combining outside expertise with cost-share support to implement practical changes on the floor, not just produce a plan.

The results show up in measurable operational performance and new growth readiness. Red River reported a 10% increase in throughput after streamlining workflows and eliminating bottlenecks, and it also invested \$468,000 in new state-of-the-art machinery while improving training and safety practices. Overall, the WBC certification grant support (paired with partner-led implementation) helped enable operational improvements while expanding ability to compete across industries and regions. Without this certification and continuous improvement support, Red River likely would have improved more slowly, with fewer tools and less capacity to standardize operations and compete for higher-value opportunities.

Quality Certification, Real Growth: Clean Energy Cryogenics Raises the Bar

[Clean Energy Cryogenics](#), an Evanston-based manufacturer serving the renewable natural gas (RNG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) industries, pursued ISO 9001:2015 certification as a critical step toward scaling the company's operations and competitiveness. The Wyoming Business Council supported this effort through the **Industrial Certification Incentive Grant**, which cost-shared **50%** of the certification work. For the company, the support helped make a major operational milestone achievable, strengthening quality systems that improve products and services while reducing costs in a highly demanding industrial market.

That certification work is now positioned as a foundation for measurable growth, with the company planning for **25 new jobs** and a projected **25% revenue increase** tied to the improved quality and competitiveness created through ISO 9001:2015. This story also reflects how community investments can compound over time: Clean Energy Cryogenics operates out of a facility that was originally developed as a community asset through the WBC's former Business Ready Communities program. When the initial tenant closed, the building remained a City of Evanston asset and could be repurposed for a new employer, allowing the community to retain and reuse industrial capacity rather than start over.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- [Industrial Certifications Incentive Grant Program Guidelines](#)

Regional Services

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 1998	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Statewide “boots-on-the-ground” services

Wyoming Business Council Regional Directors are the state’s “boots-on-the-ground” partners for community and business progress across six geographically defined regions. They serve as catalysts for community-led action—coaching local leaders, connecting the right resources at the right time, and facilitating planning and problem-solving that turns good ideas into fundable, buildable projects. By supporting business retention and expansion, strengthening local capacity, and helping communities navigate complex partnerships and funding, Regional Directors ensure that state economic development tools are not just available—but usable—so Wyoming communities can grow more resilient and create lasting opportunities.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-105(vi)	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming **communities and local leaders** trying to move their towns/counties forward—mayors, county commissioners, councils, city/county staff, joint powers boards, airports, economic development organizations, chambers, Main Street groups, housing coalitions, grassroots civic groups, and other community partners.
- **Secondary customers/beneficiaries:** Local **businesses and entrepreneurs** (job creators/tax base), plus workers, families, and youth who want reasons to stay/return—because community vitality depends on business support and expansion.
- **Internal/strategic beneficiaries:** WBC leadership and statewide partners benefit from the **regional intelligence** RDs bring (context about barriers, readiness, and opportunities that should shape statewide decisions).

- **Partner beneficiaries:** Resource partners (SBDC, Manufacturing Works, WWBC, Workforce Services, etc.) benefit from stronger referrals and “right–resource, right–time” connections that improve outcomes for shared customers.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming communities often face complex growth barriers with limited local capacity—thin staff and volunteer benches, fragmented leadership, infrastructure and site–readiness gaps, and uneven access to technical expertise—Regional Directors serve as trusted local partners who translate state resources into community–led action and keep the link between state strategy and local execution from breaking.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Regional Directors operate as trusted partners who **coach, connect, facilitate, and bring strategic support** to locally led priorities (including education/training, BRE support, strategic planning/implementation, advocacy, and partnership facilitation), **THEN** communities will strengthen local capacity and coordination, move priority projects from stuck to implementable, better retain and grow businesses, and secure complex funding and partnerships—**which leads to** more resilient local economies and places where people and businesses want to stay, grow, and invest.

Program Stories

Widening the Circle: Building Local Ownership for Riverton's Rec Center

In Riverton, local leaders and community members were trying to move forward on a Sports & Recreation Center, but the effort was bogged down by a familiar rural challenge: the “same 10 people syndrome,” where a small group carries most of the work and projects struggle to build sustained momentum. Wyoming Business Council Regional Directors helped break that pattern by widening the circle—bringing together coaches and volunteers from multiple sports communities (including soccer, baseball, wrestling, and ice hockey) and helping them align around a shared goal and a more collaborative path forward. The key change wasn’t a single grant or one–time event; it was creating the conditions for broader local ownership so the project could shift from fragmented effort to coordinated action. It’s a strong example of the Regional Director team’s statewide value: helping communities organize, build capacity, and turn a stuck idea into real, community–driven progress.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/regions/>
- [A Regional Activity Review | July 2024 – December 2025](#)
- [A Growth Perspective on Wyoming](#)

Rural Communities Initiative

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2025	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Rural Communities Initiative is a WBC-led effort to help smaller Wyoming communities diagnose barriers to growth, identify practical opportunities, and move toward implementation. The initiative supports communities that may lack the staff capacity, technical resources, or analytical tools needed to turn local priorities into actionable projects.

The initiative is designed around applied problem-solving. WBC works with local leaders, regional directors, community partners, and other state or external partners to better understand each community's specific economic context. The work may include data analysis, local interviews, fiscal review, housing and infrastructure assessment, business development support, tourism analysis, or project readiness assistance.

The current group of communities includes places such as Thayne, Clearmont, Lusk, Newcastle, Torrington, and Lovell. Related work also connects to Assessment to Action efforts, including Platte County. Each community has a different starting point. Some are dealing with housing pressure, some with business loss or succession issues, some with long-term stagnation, some with tourism development, and some with business recruitment or economic transition challenges.

The purpose of the initiative is to give WBC a more consistent way to support smaller communities over time. Rather than treating each local request as a separate project, the initiative creates a framework for diagnosing local constraints, building practical tools, supporting local champions, and helping communities move from planning into action.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104(a)(viii); W.S. 9-12-104(a)(xviii); W.S. 9-12-105(a);	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

The primary customers are smaller Wyoming communities seeking practical support with economic development challenges. This includes local elected officials, town staff, county staff, economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, local business owners, community foundations, and local working groups.

The initiative also supports WBC Regional Directors by providing data, tools, diagnostics, and implementation support that can strengthen local engagements.

Beneficiaries include:

- Rural municipalities
- Counties and county-level partners
- Local economic development organizations
- Small businesses and entrepreneurs
- Residents of rural communities
- Young people who may want to stay in or return to Wyoming communities
- Local employers seeking workforce, housing, or infrastructure solutions
- Community leaders trying to move from planning to implementation

The broader beneficiary is the State of Wyoming, because stronger rural communities contribute to statewide economic resilience, local tax bases, workforce retention, and long-term quality of life.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Many small Wyoming communities face economic development challenges that cannot be solved through funding alone. Local leaders often understand the problems their communities face, but they may lack the staff capacity, data, technical tools, or implementation support needed to turn those problems into fundable, buildable, and sustainable projects.

These challenges vary by community. Some places face housing shortages and zoning constraints. Others are trying to respond to business closures, succession risk, stagnant population growth, limited infrastructure capacity, weak project pipelines, tourism opportunities, or difficulty attracting and retaining workers. In many cases, communities have local will and local knowledge, but they need additional support to define the binding constraint, identify a realistic first step, and build momentum around a practical strategy.

Without a consistent support structure, WBC risks responding to rural community needs through disconnected engagements. The Rural Communities Initiative creates a more durable framework for helping communities diagnose their challenges, connect with resources, and move toward implementation.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

If WBC provides smaller communities with tailored diagnostics, practical data tools, local facilitation support, and implementation assistance, then those communities will be better able to identify their most important economic development constraints and move toward specific, achievable projects.

If WBC organizes this support through a consistent internal framework, then the agency can learn across communities, build reusable tools, support Regional Directors more effectively, and identify recurring barriers that may require state-level policy or program changes.

If rural communities receive support that combines local knowledge with data, technical assistance, and implementation follow-through, then they will be more likely to build project pipelines, strengthen local capacity, attract investment, address housing or infrastructure barriers, support existing businesses, and retain residents over time.

Program Stories

N/A

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- [Wyoming's Economic Opportunities](#)
- [Big Horn County Economic Opportunities](#)

Economics Foundation Institute (EFI)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2026	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Economic Foundations Institute helps Wyoming communities make better economic decisions by equipping local leaders with practical, Wyoming-specific tools and training. Many local officials, board members, and volunteers step into roles that shape growth and investment without a shared economic toolkit—EFI closes that gap with an accessible set of resources, workshops, and courses designed for rural Wyoming realities. By building a common language of opportunity and giving decision-makers practical frameworks they can use immediately, EFI strengthens local confidence and collaboration, reduces wasted effort, and helps communities pursue smarter, more resilient economic strategies that improve prosperity statewide.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104 & 9-12-105	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** WY’s **local decision-makers and civic/economic leaders** who influence community growth choices—city/town and county officials, board and council members, chamber and economic development leaders, rural hospital board members, and other volunteers/partners who regularly make/shape decisions without formal economic training.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Those same leaders, through improved confidence, shared language, and practical decision tools tailored to rural Wyoming realities.
- **Beneficiaries (community-wide):** Wyoming communities and residents who benefit when local leaders make better-informed decisions—resulting in stronger projects, less wasted effort, better alignment on priorities, and more effective use of scarce resources.
- **Delivery/partner ecosystem (important secondary “users”):** Community colleges, UW, state/local economic development orgs, local content experts, and national ED experts/organizations that can contribute content and/or help scale training statewide.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Many Wyoming community leaders care deeply about their communities but lack practical, Wyoming-specific economic tools and a shared understanding of how rural economies function—leading to scattered resources, missed opportunities, and disconnected efforts that limit long-term prosperity.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF the Economic Foundations Institute equips Wyoming’s local leaders with practical economic education, simple decision frameworks, and Wyoming-specific tools—delivered in accessible formats that overcome time/distance barriers—**THEN** communities will make more informed, confident, and coordinated choices about growth and investment, resulting in less waste, stronger project execution, and more resilient, opportunity-rich local economies across the state.

Program Stories

N/A – Program is still under development

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

N/A – No recipient reports yet

Assessment to Action (A2A)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2023	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Assessment to Action (A2A) helps Wyoming communities and industry teams move from “we know we have challenges” to a clear, shared plan of action to begin tackling the complex problems hindering local economic development. Through a hands-on workshop and a supported 10-week implementation sprint, teams learn a repeatable process to define the real root problem, build cross-sector collaboration, and take practical steps that fit local capacity. The goal is meaningful, measurable progress—stronger teamwork, smarter decisions, and durable systems that communities can keep using long after the workshop ends.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104(a)(viii), W.S. 9-12-104(a)(xviii), W.S. 9-12-105(a)	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming community, regional, and industry teams made up of local decision-makers and doers—elected officials, city/county staff, economic development and chamber leaders, education/training partners, business and nonprofit leaders, grant/capacity partners—who can commit to a shared 10-week effort and influence real change.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** participating teams that gain a repeatable process, clearer alignment, stronger collaboration, and a practical action plan they can execute.
- **Beneficiaries (community-wide):** residents and businesses who benefit when local leaders solve the right problem (root cause vs. symptoms), reduce wasted effort, and build durable local “implementation muscle.”

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Many Wyoming communities and industry groups face real economic constraints but lack a shared, practical process and cross-sector alignment to identify the true root problem, prioritize effectively, and move from discussion to coordinated action that sticks.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF A2A brings a committed local team through a structured process—building trust, testing assumptions, identifying root causes, and creating an achievable action plan with accountability and weekly coaching—**THEN** communities and industry groups will more efficiently tackle the real, underlying economic problems, **resulting in** stronger collaboration, more durable systems (not one-off projects), and measurable progress against the constraints holding back local economic growth.

Program Stories

Housing Assessment & Long-term Structure — Shoshoni (2024)

In small towns across Wyoming, the housing conversation is often the same: there aren't enough homes, the ones available aren't the right size or price point, and no one is quite sure where to start. For Shoshoni, workforce recruitment and long-term growth depend on having a place for people to actually live, the Shoshoni A2A team recognized that housing wasn't just a real estate problem, it was a community survival problem.

Through the Assessment to Action process, the Shoshoni A2A team dug beneath the surface of their housing shortage to understand the underlying problems driving it. The team conducted one-on-one conversations with key stakeholders including the local school district, engaged directly with realtors and contractors to understand supply-side constraints, and developed community branding and marketing to build local momentum. Rather than treating housing as a single issue to be solved quickly, the process pushed the team to examine what was really getting in the way and to build something durable enough to address it.

The most significant outcome wasn't a report, it was a structure. Shoshoni established a long-term, town-sponsored A2A committee deliberately designed to outlast election cycles and provide the kind of consistent, sustained leadership that complex community challenges demand. That committee is now formalizing their plans to expand its focus to tackle additional constraints facing the community beyond housing. Without this process, Shoshoni would have continued reacting to its housing crisis without a clear diagnosis or a system capable of driving lasting change.

Outdoor Recreation & Tourism Industry Development – Lovell (2025)

Lovell, Wyoming sits at the doorstep of some of the region's most spectacular natural assets, yet like many small Wyoming towns, the community hadn't fully organized around tourism as a deliberate economic strategy. Individual businesses, civic leaders, and attractions were each telling their own story, without a shared vision or coordinated effort to turn visitor traffic into sustained economic growth. The Lovell A2A team saw the opportunity and set out to change that.

Through the Assessment to Action process, the Lovell team conducted one-on-one conversations with a wide cross-section of stakeholders, city council members, chamber representatives, local business owners, national park contacts, and the Wild Horse Museum, to build a clear picture of the community's tourism assets and the barriers holding them back. The team researched best practices, explored regional partnership opportunities including collaboration with nearby Powell, and worked to foster a genuinely collaborative focus across a community that had never fully aligned around outdoor recreation and tourism as a shared priority.

The results reflect real institutional change. Lovell developed a travel council to provide ongoing coordination, crafted common marketing messaging to create both community buy-in and a unified visitor-facing brand, and began shifting local resources toward intentional tourism industry growth. As Bank of Lovell Loan Officer Cameron Miller observed of the process, the WBC framework was useful precisely because it met the community where it was, recognizing that every town faces different obstacles while giving each one the tools to move forward. Without this process, Lovell's tourism potential would have remained fragmented, undersold, and dependent on individual effort rather than a system built to grow.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- [Assessment to Action: Two Years of Turning Strategy into Results](#)
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/community-services/assessment-to-action/>

Leadership and Organization (Services)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2022	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Leadership and Organization is the Wyoming Business Council’s community service category focused on helping local leaders and organizations build the capacity to grow and thrive. Through tools, training, facilitation, and tailored consultation, WBC helps communities strengthen governance, collaboration, and decision-making—so good ideas turn into coordinated action. The goal is practical: reduce wasted effort, improve follow-through, and support durable local systems that help Wyoming communities compete, adapt, and build long-term economic resilience.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State (Staff time)	Statute: W.S. 9-12-105(vi)	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming **communities and local organizations**—including city/town and county leadership, public boards/commissions, chambers, Main Street/downtown groups, economic development orgs, nonprofits, and cross-sector coalitions—who are responsible for making decisions and delivering projects that shape local economic outcomes.
- **Direct beneficiaries:** community leaders and partner teams who need practical support to improve how they organize, collaborate, and make decisions (especially in rural settings where time, staffing, and expertise are limited).
- **Community-wide beneficiaries:** residents and businesses who benefit when local organizations operate with clearer priorities, stronger governance, better collaboration, and more effective execution.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Many Wyoming communities have motivated leaders and organizations, but limited capacity, disconnected efforts, leadership turnover, and a lack of shared tools can prevent good intentions from becoming coordinated action—resulting in missed opportunities, inefficient use of resources, and slower economic progress.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF WBC supports communities with leadership and organizational development services—ranging from basic introductions and tools to hands-on facilitation, training, and tailored consultations—**THEN** local leaders and organizations will build stronger collaboration, clearer governance, and better decision-making systems, enabling communities to identify priorities, execute projects more effectively, and sustain progress over time.

Program Stories

Beyond the Document: How Strategic Planning Built Lasting Capacity for Gillette Leaders

The Gillette Main Street Board knew they needed a clearer direction for their work. Like many community organizations, they had limited time and resources and wanted to make sure they were focusing on projects that mattered most to the community. Through strategic planning support from the Wyoming Business Council, the board went through a process that helped them align around their mission, set priorities, and focus on strategies that could create real impact. The planning process did more than create a document. It gave the board a simple framework they could continue using to guide decisions, organize resources, and stay focused on their goals. The process also helped board members work better together and build agreement around what was most important. Board President Derrick Smith said the process was extremely helpful and continues to shape how the organization works today. This type of support helps build long-term leadership capacity in Wyoming communities. By giving local leaders tools and processes they can continue using, the Wyoming Business Council helps communities make better decisions, stay organized, and build a stronger foundation for future growth.

Preparing for Tomorrow: Succession Planning Secures Leadership and Momentum for Powell Economic Partnership

Leadership changes can be difficult for local organizations, especially when there is no clear plan in place. Without a smooth transition process, organizations can lose momentum, create confusion, and force new leaders to start over from scratch. The Powell Economic Partnership wanted to avoid those challenges by creating a succession plan for its Executive Director position. The Wyoming Business Council provided a structured template and coaching support to help the organization document important information about the role, organizational priorities, and leadership expectations. The final succession plan helped the organization think through the future direction of the position, update the job description, and clarify expectations for the next director. It also helped create a smoother transition between the outgoing and incoming leaders. Strong leadership transitions help organizations stay stable and continue moving forward. By helping local economic development groups prepare for change before it happens, the Wyoming Business Council helps communities maintain consistency, reduce disruption, and continue supporting local economic growth.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/community-services/leadership-and-organization/>

Wyoming Main Street

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: Minor	Start Date: 2004	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Wyoming Main Street strengthens Wyoming communities through grassroots economic development—helping local leaders revitalize downtowns by building the capacity, coordination, and know-how to sustain long-term improvement. For many places, downtown is still the main stage for business activity, services, and community life. As Wyoming’s coordinating program with Main Street America, it delivers technical assistance, education, and connections to resources so communities can align around a clear strategy and execute across the four essentials of downtown success: Economic Vitality, Design, Promotion, and Organization. The result is stronger small businesses, increased reinvestment in historic cores, and authentic, vibrant downtown districts where people want to live, work, and visit.

Agency Recommendation

Minor changes to Main Street Advisory board makeup and duties.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-1101 through 9-12-1105	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming **communities and downtown district leaders** running (or building toward) a local Main Street program—boards, program managers, municipal partners, chambers, and local volunteers working to revitalize a defined downtown/commercial district.
- **Direct beneficiaries:**
 - **Downtown small businesses and property owners** who benefit from increased foot traffic, coordinated promotion, better district design, and stronger economic vitality tools.
 - **Residents and visitors** who gain safer, more attractive, more active downtowns and stronger “place-based” community experiences.

- **Broader public beneficiaries:** local workers and families (jobs and quality of life), local governments (tax base, downtown utilization), and Wyoming legislators/taxpayers through strengthened local economies and reinvestment in historic cores.
- **Partner ecosystem beneficiaries:** communities also gain access to the **Main Street America** network, resources, and standards through Wyoming Main Street’s coordinating role.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Downtown revitalization efforts in Wyoming communities are often fragmented—many entities doing small pieces without a cohesive strategy, shared framework, or sustained local capacity—so Wyoming Main Street exists to provide technical assistance, education, and a practical, community-led approach that helps communities organize, focus, and reinvest in their downtown districts to restore vitality and long-term economic resilience.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming Main Street builds local program capacity (organization and leadership), helps communities choose a clear **Transformation Strategy**, and supports execution through the Main Street Approach’s **Four Points**—Economic Vitality, Design, Promotion, and Organization—while connecting communities to resources and the Main Street America network, **THEN** downtown districts will see sustained reinvestment, stronger small business conditions, improved physical place and community identity, and growing civic engagement—**which leads to** more vibrant downtowns and more resilient local economies across Wyoming.

Program Stories

One Block at a Time: Rock Springs Chosen to Pilot the Wyoming Blocks Downtown Revitalization Program

Rock Springs Main Street and the Urban Renewal Agency [wanted to accelerate downtown revitalization](#) on the 700 block of Pilot Butte Avenue, an area with a strong history of Latino-owned businesses but ongoing challenges including safety concerns, underutilized buildings, and the need for cultural enhancement. Through the Wyoming Main Street program at the Wyoming Business Council, Rock Springs was selected for the Wyoming Blocks Program, a focused initiative designed to show tangible results of the Main Street Approach by concentrating effort on a single downtown block. The WBC team's role combined coaching, technical assistance, and a structured problem-solving approach to help local leaders and stakeholders define the right problems, build alignment, and move from ideas to action.

The turning point was Rock Springs being chosen for the pilot and beginning a structured process to assess challenges and identify solutions, followed by a community workshop to engage business and property owners and build a local team for implementation. The results include targeted support of up to \$20,000 for the block effort and a clear implementation pathway designed to produce incremental, visible improvements that strengthen the block as a cultural and economic hub. This support paired with Wyoming Main Street coaching and local partnerships, to accelerate a focused downtown transformation effort. Without this structured coaching and pilot support, the block's challenges likely would have remained fragmented across isolated projects, delaying the coordinated momentum needed to improve safety, activate buildings, and grow the district's cultural and economic impact.

Wyoming Great American Main Street Award (GAMSA) Winners: [Rock Springs](#) / [Rawlins](#) / [Laramie](#)
Semifinalists ([Evanston](#) / [Sheridan](#))

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- SEE: "MAIN STREET" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX
- [FY2025 Annual Report Wyoming Main Street](#)
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/community-services/main-street/>
- <https://mainstreet.org/about/how-we-work/the-main-street-approach>

Wyoming Academy

Status: Paused/Budget	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2023	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Wyoming Academy is a statewide leadership initiative created through a partnership between Leadership Wyoming and the Wyoming Business Council to connect and grow leaders who are building resilient communities across Wyoming. Through immersive sessions hosted in both large and small communities, participants strengthen relationships, learn practical economic development frameworks, and build leadership skills that help them move real projects and ideas forward back home. The Academy reflects a simple truth: Wyoming’s long-term success depends not only on investments and infrastructure, but on capable local leaders who can collaborate, solve hard problems, and turn opportunity into action.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104 & 9-12-105	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** emerging and established Wyoming leaders who are actively responsible for moving community, civic, and economic work forward—across business, local government, nonprofits, education, healthcare, and economic/community development.
- **Delivery partners (critical “customers/users”):** Leadership Wyoming (program delivery backbone) and the Wyoming Business Council (economic development frameworks, statewide perspective, and integration with broader community/economic tools). The University of Wyoming College of Business is also a key facilitation partner.
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Wyoming communities and employers that benefit when local leaders are better connected, better equipped, and more capable of collaborative problem-solving—especially in rural places where capacity is thin.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming's long-term economic and demographic challenges require local leaders who can collaborate across sectors and communities to solve complex problems, yet many communities face limited leadership capacity, fragmented networks, and difficulty turning ideas into coordinated action.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF the Wyoming Academy connects and equips a cross-sector cohort of leaders through immersive, place-based sessions, peer learning, executive coaching, and practical economic development frameworks, **THEN** participants will return home with stronger relationships, better problem-solving tools, and increased confidence to move community and economic initiatives forward—strengthening resilience and collaboration across Wyoming over time.

Program Stories

Daniel Boscaljon, Cheyenne

"I appreciated learning more about ways that communities band together and get buy-in from civic leaders—the Gillette council seemed to be an extraordinarily effective way of creating a harmonious vision and plan for the year to the betterment of all."

Brynn Hirschman, Laramie

"I am blown away by the grit and sense of community of Upton! The passion that Nick and Kelley have for their community is unmatched, and I hope that other communities can experience the same thing at some point. I greatly appreciated the hospitality of Kevin and Dana for dinner. They are also an inspiration for anyone who has a dream for their community!"

Mark Cowan, Sweetwater County Treasurer and Small Business Owner

"The Leadership Wyoming Academy has had a significant impact on my work and perspective on economic development. I joined the Academy after serving on the Sweetwater County Economic Development Coalition for about two years because I wanted to better understand what other communities across Wyoming were doing and how we could adapt successful ideas and strategies locally.

The experience was eye-opening. Visiting communities throughout the state allowed us to see economic development in action — communities that have embraced a growth mindset and cultivated leaders who continually push their communities forward.

In Sweetwater County, we are currently going through the difficult but necessary process of rebuilding our economic development coalition after the loss of major funding sources. One of the key lessons reinforced through the Academy is the importance of building resilient organizations supported broadly by the community so that the loss of one funding source does not jeopardize the entire mission.

Overall, the Leadership Wyoming Academy has been instrumental in providing both real-world examples and valuable connections with leaders and expertise from communities I otherwise may never have known.”

Marty Axlund Brick & Bond, Downtown Division

*Joint Minerals, Business & Economic Development Committee
Wyoming State Legislature
200 W. 24th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002*

Dear Members of the Joint Minerals, Business & Economic Development Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the Wyoming Academy, a program created through the partnership of the Wyoming Business Council, University of Wyoming and Leadership Wyoming. My experience in the Academy came at exactly the right time, both professionally and personally, and it has had a lasting impact on the way I think about leadership, partnership, economic development, and the future of Wyoming.

Through my work with Brick & Bond in downtown Casper, I have been deeply involved in efforts to revitalize our urban core, advance private-sector redevelopment, and help create the conditions for long-term community growth. Our work has included projects and initiatives tied to downtown housing, historic buildings, adaptive reuse, tax increment financing, New Markets Tax Credits, conduit financing, and broader Urban Renewal Authority efforts. These projects are complex. They require persistence, trust, creative financing, and a shared vision between private developers, municipalities, elected officials, lenders, community partners, and the public.

The Wyoming Academy helped me see that work in a broader statewide context. It connected me with leaders across Wyoming who are wrestling with similar challenges in their own communities. Those relationships were invaluable. I left each session with new ideas, new perspectives, and a deeper appreciation for the people across this state who are working hard to build resilient communities.

Just as importantly, the Academy helped me find renewed inspiration in the work we are doing in downtown Casper. At the time I entered the program, I was going through a difficult professional season. The work was tough, the challenges were real, and it was easy to feel isolated in the effort. The Academy gave me the opportunity to step back, refocus, reframe, and remember why this work

matters. It helped me regain momentum and continue pushing forward, not only for Casper, but for Wyoming.

One of the most meaningful lessons I took from the program was the importance of partnership. The Academy helped me better understand how to communicate with municipalities, community leaders, and public-sector partners in ways that are more constructive, patient, and productive. It taught me that getting things done in Wyoming often requires more than a good idea or a strong project. It requires trust, shared language, humility, and the ability to bring people along. That perspective has changed how I approach our work.

The Academy also exposed me to ways of solving problems that I had not previously considered. It challenged me to think differently about leadership and economic development. It showed me that durable progress often comes through collaboration, listening, and steady action rather than trying to force outcomes alone. Those lessons have directly influenced how I think about our projects and how I engage with partners across the state.

I am grateful to the Wyoming Business Council, University of Wyoming and Leadership Wyoming for creating and investing in this program. The Wyoming Academy was not just another leadership course for me. It was something I needed at that point in my career. It gave me connection, perspective, encouragement, and practical tools at a time when I needed all of them. I believe the program is helping build the kind of leaders Wyoming needs, people who are committed to their communities, willing to work across sectors, and focused on the long-term success of the state.

For those reasons, I strongly support the Wyoming Academy and hope it continues to grow and serve leaders across Wyoming for years to come.

*Martin J. Axlund
Chief Operating Officer
Brick & Bond, Downtown Division*

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: “Wyoming Academy” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- [The 2025 Wyoming Academy Snapshot](#)
- <https://leadershiptyoming.org/-the-academy-2025>

Community Leadership Grant

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: Pre-dates WBC	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Rural Development Community Leadership Grants help Wyoming communities grow the leadership capacity needed to build stronger local economies. Through two tracks—youth leadership and adult economic leadership—these grants support training, programs, conferences, and competitions that build practical skills and create a stronger pipeline of informed community decision-makers. By investing in leadership development and real-world economic growth education, the Wyoming Business Council helps communities strengthen collaboration, improve decision-making, and build long-term capacity to tackle local challenges and pursue sustainable opportunity.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal (USDA)	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104 & 105	Rules: N/A
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming organizations and community entities that develop leaders—local/regional leadership programs, state leadership development organizations, economic/business development organizations, community development organizations, and eligible public entities (cities, towns, joint powers boards, and the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes).
- **Beneficiaries (direct):**
 - **Youth participants** gaining leadership, career exploration, and business/economic development exposure through programs, competitions, and conferences.
 - **Adult community leaders** (boards, committees, leadership cohorts, citizen groups, local officials) building practical economic growth and decision-making capability.
- **Beneficiaries (community-wide):** Wyoming communities that benefit when current and future leaders are better prepared to collaborate, prioritize, and make informed choices that improve local economic opportunity and quality of life.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Rural communities often lack accessible resources to build the leadership skills and practical economic development understanding needed for strong local decision-making—limiting a community's ability to collaborate effectively, prioritize well, and sustain long-term economic progress.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF the Community Leadership Grants reduce the cost barrier for leadership and economic development training—supporting youth leadership pipelines and equipping adult community leaders with practical, community-centered economic growth skills—**THEN** communities will build stronger local leadership capacity over time, improving collaboration and decision quality and increasing the likelihood that communities can execute durable economic development efforts.

Program Stories

Wyoming FBLA State Leadership Conference — Laramie, Wyoming (2026)

High school students across Wyoming arrive at each State Leadership Conference with big ambitions but uneven access to the business networks, mentors, and professional experiences that turn potential into direction. For many, particularly those from smaller or more rural communities, this conference represents their only opportunity in a given year to compete alongside peers, connect with working professionals, and envision a future beyond their hometown.

With a \$2,000 WBC grant helping to offset conference expenses, Wyoming FBLA brought together more than 485 students and advisers at the University of Wyoming College of Business for its annual State Leadership Conference, a two-and-a-half-day experience spanning 70+ competitive events, professional development workshops, a college and career fair, campus tours, keynote programming, and a formal state officer election and installation ceremony. More than 100 business professionals from the Laramie area volunteered their time as competition judges, offering students direct feedback and real-world perspective that no classroom can replicate.

The results speak to the scale of impact a single well-executed event can generate. Every student who placed in a competitive event earned the opportunity to represent Wyoming at the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, while every attendee left with stronger skills in decision-making, teamwork, and professional communication. Without this \$2,000 investment, the cost burden of hosting a conference of this size could have limited access for students and chapters with fewer resources, quietly narrowing the pipeline of future business leaders Wyoming depends on. Investing in events like this is investing in the next generation of entrepreneurs, civic leaders, and community builders who will shape Wyoming's economy for decades to come.

Economic Development 101 – Fremont County, Wyoming (2026)

Most people who step into community leadership roles care deeply about their towns but have never been taught the fundamentals of how local economies actually work — where money comes from, where it goes, and what it takes to keep a community growing. For the Leadership Fremont County class, that gap between civic passion and economic literacy was exactly the problem WBC Regional Director Patrick Edwards set out to close.

Using the Adult Leadership grant awarded to Fremont County Leadership, Patrick facilitated a custom Economic Development 101 course designed specifically for the Leadership Fremont County cohort, 21 emerging community leaders who received tailored instruction on core economic concepts like tradeable income, business retention, and the mechanics of local economic growth. Rather than relying on a generic curriculum, the content was built around Fremont County's own economy, making the lessons immediately relevant and recognizable. Local economic development organization IDEA Inc. joined the session to connect the classroom concepts to real efforts already underway in the community.

The impact showed up almost immediately. As a grant requirement, at least 80% of participants completed an ED101 quiz at the close of the session, a built-in measure of both training quality and knowledge retention that ensures the investment translates into real learning, not just attendance. Within a week of the course, the local Chamber Director was already putting the concepts to work, incorporating what she had learned directly into a public speaking engagement. Twenty-one future leaders walked away understanding that a healthy local economy doesn't happen by accident. It takes deliberate work, informed leadership, and sustained community investment. Without this training, these individuals would have likely stepped into leadership roles without the foundational knowledge to engage meaningfully.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: "RURAL REHABILITATION" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/financing/rural-development-grant/>

Community Economic Growth Grant

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: Pre-dates WBC	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

The Community Economic Growth Grant is a small, practical funding tool that helps rural Wyoming communities move forward on community-wide economic development projects that improve quality of life and strengthen local opportunity. With up to \$10,000 in reimbursement support, the grant can fund critical early steps, like assessments, feasibility work, local economic development programming, partnership-driven initiatives, or match for larger projects, so communities can test ideas, build capacity, and unlock bigger wins. The goal is simple: help communities make targeted improvements to the business environment and local economic opportunity in a way that's collaborative, grounded in real needs, and achievable with local capacity.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal (USDA)	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104 & 105	Rules: N/A
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Eligible rural Wyoming communities and public entities (cities, towns, joint powers boards, and the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes), plus eligible community/economic development organizations that are sponsored by a city or county.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Community leaders and partner organizations implementing a specific, community-wide economic development project (planning, research, capacity-building, partnership work, or other eligible activities).
- **Beneficiaries (community-wide):** Residents and local employers who benefit when a community improves its business environment, strengthens economic opportunity, and invests in quality-of-life improvements that support long-term growth.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Rural communities often lack flexible, accessible funding to test and advance practical, community-wide economic development projects—so promising ideas (or needed planning and partnership work) stall before they can build momentum or unlock larger investment.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF the Community Economic Growth Grant provides small, timely funding support for community-wide economic development projects that are grounded in a well-defined problem statement and include a logical plan, budget, and collaboration, **THEN** more rural communities will build the capacity, partnerships, and early traction needed to improve local economic opportunity—often by piloting ideas, completing critical planning/research, or leveraging the grant as match to pursue larger projects.

Program Stories

Bringing Back the Last Light — Clearmont, Wyoming (in process)

When the Clear Creek Stop closed its doors after 25 years, Clearmont didn't just lose a gas station. It lost its last commercial business, the final anchor holding together the economic life of a small Wyoming town. Residents and seniors who once filled up down the street now drive 30 to 40 miles round trip for fuel, groceries, and basic supplies. Tax dollars that once stayed in Clearmont now flow to neighboring communities. And without tradeable income circulating locally, colleagues in the Rural Community Project are frank about what comes next: without action, Clearmont is likely to fade away.

With a \$10,000 WBC Growth Grant and \$1,000 in matching funds from the Town, Clearmont is taking a deliberate, eyes-open approach to what comes next. This isn't a rescue mission for a single business, it's an investment in making sure the community has the rigorous, data-driven information it needs to make the very best decision possible for its future. The grant will fund a professional feasibility study, market analysis, and implementation plan, giving Clearmont's leaders and residents a clear-eyed picture of what is truly viable before committing to a path forward. The effort builds on eight months of collaboration with the Wyoming Business Council and the Harvard Growth Lab, along with input gathered during a Rural Growth Initiative site visit and conversations with residents and community leaders who have made clear the demand is real and the need is urgent.

The stakes couldn't be higher or the math more straightforward. If the feasibility study confirms viability, a successfully recruited business is projected to create two to five local jobs and restore the sales tax revenue currently bleeding out of town, while making Clearmont a more attractive place to live, invest, and build a future.

Go Local Laradise — Laramie, Wyoming (In Process)

Laramie's locally owned retailers and restaurants are facing a quiet crisis. Declining consumer confidence, economic uncertainty, and residents increasingly spending their dollars outside the community have left small business owners feeling isolated and overlooked. To meet this challenge, a coalition of five partners — Laramie Main Street, the Laramie Chamber Business Alliance, UW's College of Business, Visit Laramie, and the City of Laramie — came together to launch "Go Local Laradise," a year-round collaborative marketing campaign using video storytelling, social media challenges, shared branding, and community leader voices to emotionally connect residents to their local businesses.

The turning point comes when consumers see the faces behind their favorite shops and restaurants and understand that every local dollar strengthens their own community — making spending a civic act, not just a transaction. Grounded in real data from Placer AI, Retail Coach 360, and BR&E interviews with downtown business owners, the campaign targets documented pain points rather than assumptions. A \$10,000 WBC grant and \$1,000 match will fund digital advertising, light pole banners, video production, and community swag, with in-kind partner contributions of staff time, software, and data contracts stretching the campaign's reach well beyond its hard costs.

Without this effort, Laramie's small business owners would likely continue losing ground to dollar leakage and declining foot traffic, with no coordinated community voice rallying residents to their side. When Laramie's small businesses thrive, the whole community wins through local jobs, stronger tax revenue, and the kind of vibrant, engaged downtown that makes people want to stay and build a life here.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: "RURAL REHABILITATION" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/financing/rural-development-grant/>

BEAD – Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2021	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Wyoming Broadband Office (WBC)

NOTE: This write-up is for BEAD only. It is distinct from Connect Wyoming 1 and Connect Wyoming 2 (CPF), though it complements them as part of Wyoming’s overall broadband portfolio.

Wyoming’s BEAD program is the state’s largest broadband expansion effort, led by the Wyoming Broadband Office within the Wyoming Business Council to extend reliable, affordable, future-ready internet access to the places the market alone can’t reach. By coordinating federal funding, strong planning and mapping, and accountable partnerships with providers, BEAD targets the remaining hardest-to-serve gaps so Wyoming homes, businesses, schools, healthcare services, and public safety agencies can connect and compete. The result is practical and measurable: more locations served, improved reliability, and stronger opportunity for remote work, education, healthcare access, and long-term economic resilience across Wyoming’s rural and frontier communities.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal	Statute: W.S. 9-12-1501 through 9-12-1510	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Wyoming **residents, businesses, and communities**—especially those in the hardest-to-serve areas—who need reliable, affordable broadband to participate in modern work, education, healthcare, and civic life.
- **Implementation partners (critical “customer/user”):** Broadband **providers** and other eligible subrecipients that will design, build, and operate networks, and must comply with federal and state requirements over a multi-year buildout.

- **Key beneficiaries:** Rural households, small businesses/entrepreneurs, students/schools, healthcare providers/patients (telehealth), public safety entities, and communities seeking to retain/attract workforce and investment.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming’s size, terrain, and low population density make it difficult for the private market alone to extend high-quality broadband everywhere, so BEAD exists to close the remaining “hardest-to-serve” gaps through accountable public-private investment and statewide planning so Wyoming communities are not left behind economically or socially.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming administers BEAD with strong mapping and challenge processes, clear rules, and disciplined project oversight—strategically awarding funds to providers to serve unserved and underserved locations with scalable, reliable solutions—**THEN** more Wyoming homes and businesses will gain dependable broadband service, which increases access to remote work and workforce opportunity, strengthens education and healthcare access, improves public safety connectivity, and supports long-term competitiveness and resilience across the state.

Program Stories

N/A - Construction is not yet underway

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: “BROADBAND” SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://broadband.wyomingbusiness.org/bead/>
- [WY BEAD CPF - Connected locations and funding by county](#)
- [Memo - WY Broadband Progress 20260127](#)

Connect Wyoming 1

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2018	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Wyoming Broadband Office (WBC)

NOTE: This write-up is for Connect Wyoming 1 only. It is distinct from Connect Wyoming 2 (CPF) and BEAD.

Connect Wyoming 1 is a State Broadband Office initiative designed to help expand affordable, reliable high-speed internet in parts of Wyoming where geography and low population density make broadband difficult to finance through private investment alone. The purpose is to close infrastructure gaps so Wyoming residents and businesses can access modern education, healthcare, and economic opportunities—supporting stronger communities and a more competitive statewide economy. As Wyoming now operates multiple broadband efforts (Connect Wyoming 1, Connect Wyoming 2/CPF, and BEAD), the program’s future success depends on clear distinctions, clear rules, and a clear decision on whether Connect Wyoming 1 will be activated, redesigned, or retired as part of a coherent statewide broadband strategy.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State	Statute: W.S. 9-12-1501 through 9-12-1510	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary): Internet Service Providers (ISPs)** and other eligible broadband applicants who would build/operate last-mile infrastructure using a public-private partnership structure (i.e., the entities positioned to design, permit, construct, and deliver service).
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Wyoming residents and businesses in areas that are **unserved/underserved** (reliable, affordable broadband access).
- **Beneficiaries (economic/community):** local contractors and construction workforce (build activity), employers needing a reliable labor pool, students, healthcare patients/providers (telehealth), and communities improving quality of life and competitiveness.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming's geography and low population density make broadband expensive to build and slow to pencil for private investment alone, so Connect Wyoming (1.0) was created as a public-private broadband tool—but in practice it has remained **dormant/unused**, leaving a gap between intent and execution that should be addressed clearly.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF the State makes targeted capital available through Connect Wyoming (1.0) to reduce the financial barrier for ISPs to serve high-cost, unserved/underserved areas, **THEN** more Wyoming locations will gain reliable high-speed service, enabling education, healthcare access, remote work, and business growth—strengthening long-term economic competitiveness and quality of life statewide.

Program Stories

N/A

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- <https://broadband.wyomingbusiness.org/connect-wyoming/>
- [WY BEAD CPF - Connected locations and funding by county](#)
- [Memo - WY Broadband Progress 20260127](#)

Connect Wyoming 2 (Capital Projects Fund)

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2021	End Date: N/A
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Wyoming Broadband Office

NOTE: This write-up is for Connect Wyoming 2 / Capital Projects Fund (CPF) only. It is distinct from Connect Wyoming 1 and BEAD, which have different funding sources, rules, and timelines.

Program Overview

Connect Wyoming 2 is Wyoming's Capital Projects Fund (CPF) broadband initiative, administered by the Wyoming Business Council State Broadband Office to expand reliable, high-speed internet in unserved and underserved areas. Using \$70.5 million in federal CPF funding—leveraged with private investment by internet service providers—Wyoming is supporting construction of future-proof broadband infrastructure designed to help residents and businesses participate fully in modern work, education, and healthcare. The program's near-term focus is clear and measurable: deliver the awarded projects and connect the targeted locations by the end of 2026, with service that meets Wyoming's high-speed standards and supports long-term statewide competitiveness.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: Federal	Statute: W.S. 9-12-1501 through 9-12-1510	Rules: Yes
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that apply for CPF support to build, own, and operate last-mile broadband infrastructure in unserved/underserved areas.
- **Beneficiaries (direct):** Wyoming households and businesses gaining access to high-speed broadband (100/20 standard, with emphasis on scalable/future-proof infrastructure).
- **Beneficiaries (economic/community):** Communities, schools and learners, healthcare systems/patients (telehealth), employers, entrepreneurs, and public services that rely on connectivity for modern participation in work, education, and healthcare.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming's rural geography and low population density make broadband infrastructure expensive and slow to build through private investment alone, so Connect Wyoming 2.0 (CPF) uses time-limited federal dollars to close last-mile gaps and deliver reliable, future-proof broadband that enables remote work, distance learning, and telehealth statewide.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming uses CPF funds to partner with ISPs to deploy last-mile broadband in unserved and underserved areas—prioritizing future-proof solutions (with fiber preferred when feasible) and requiring projects to be installed, owned, and operated by the applicant—**THEN** more Wyoming homes and businesses will gain reliable high-speed connectivity, strengthening workforce participation, business productivity, education access, healthcare access, and long-term competitiveness across the state.

Program Stories

Fiber Access Helped One Rural Wyoming Community Attract New Residents and New Business Activity

After broadband investments helped expand fiber access into an underserved rural area in northern Wyoming, local provider TCT shared that families began purchasing homes in the community specifically because reliable high-speed internet made remote work possible. According to a group of internet service providers during a [recent panel discussion](#), some homes were purchased “sight unseen” once potential residents learned fiber service was available, allowing them to telecommute while living in rural Wyoming. TCT also noted that some of those new residents later opened additional local businesses in the community. The example illustrated how broadband infrastructure can influence workforce attraction, housing demand, and long-term economic activity in rural parts of the state where connectivity was previously limited.

Broadband Providers Are Expanding Service in Areas Where There May Be Only One Customer Per Mile

During a [recent panel discussion](#), broadband providers explained the economic realities of serving Wyoming's rural communities, noting that in some areas there may be only about 1.1 customers per mile of infrastructure. Providers described how the cost of placing fiber or supporting wireless infrastructure across long distances can exceed what they are likely to recover through monthly customer payments alone. Through programs like CARES, ARPA CPF, and BEAD, providers said they have been able to continue expanding service into areas that otherwise may have remained underserved for many more years. TCT shared that ARPA-supported projects helped connect roughly 2,200 additional customers, while statewide broadband efforts are expected to support connections to more than 53,000 locations across Wyoming.

Wyoming Broadband Investments Are Helping Build More Reliable and Resilient Networks

Broadband providers participating in a [recent panel discussion](#) described how Wyoming's geography and long infrastructure distances require networks that can remain operational during outages, weather events, or fiber cuts. Providers explained that newer investments are helping expand both fiber and fixed wireless systems while also improving redundancy through secondary fiber routes and microwave backup systems between towers and infrastructure locations. Vistabeam noted that building resilient systems allows traffic to be rerouted if a line is damaged or a tower goes offline, helping maintain service for customers who increasingly rely on broadband for work, communication, business operations, education, and healthcare access.

Broadband Is Increasingly Being Treated as Essential Infrastructure for Wyoming Communities

Throughout a [recent panel discussion](#), providers and Wyoming Broadband Office leadership emphasized that broadband is no longer viewed simply as a convenience, but as critical infrastructure that supports economic participation and quality of life across the state. Speakers connected broadband access to workforce recruitment, remote work, healthcare, education, emergency services, and business competitiveness, particularly in rural communities. One provider compared broadband maintenance and investment to "fixing fence" or maintaining roads and utilities — infrastructure that requires ongoing attention to avoid larger problems later. The discussion highlighted how Wyoming's broadband efforts are focused on expanding reliable, future-ready connectivity in communities where private investment alone has often been difficult due to low population density and high infrastructure costs.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- **SEE: "BROADBAND" SECTION OF THE APPENDIX**
- <https://broadband.wyomingbusiness.org/connect-wyoming/>
- [WY BEAD CPF - Connected locations and funding by county](#)
- [Memo - WY Broadband Progress 20260127](#)

Wyoming's Child Care Initiative

Status: Active	Statute Recommendations: No	Start Date: 2023	End Date: N/A
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Program Overview

Wyoming's interagency child care work treats child care as essential economic infrastructure—because when families can't find child care, parents can't work the hours they want, and employers can't fill jobs. Through the Interagency Working Group on Childcare convened by the Wyoming Business Council and partners, Wyoming is focused on expanding child care supply by helping providers succeed as small businesses: launching new providers in child care deserts, connecting providers to business planning and licensing supports, engaging employers with practical ROI tools, and reducing local barriers that prevent new capacity. The goal is straightforward: more child care options means stronger workforce participation, stronger businesses, and stronger communities across Wyoming.

Agency Recommendation

No legislative changes recommended.

Program Details

Funding Source: State (Staff Time)	Statute: W.S. 9-12-104 (a)(viii), W.S. 9-12-105(a)(vii), 9-12-106 (a)(vii)	Rules: No
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Customer(s) and Beneficiaries

Who this program serves and who benefits from the outcomes.

- **Customer (primary):** Business leaders and economic developers who have a stake in workforce availability as well as Wyoming child care providers and prospective providers (home-based providers, centers, and entrepreneurs) who need practical support to start, expand, stabilize, or transfer a child care business.
- **Delivery partners / customer-users:** Employers, chambers, communities, local governments, DFS, DWS, WDH, SBDC, Wyoming Women's Business Center, UW's Early Childhood Professional Learning Collaborative, and philanthropic/community leaders—because expanding supply requires coordinated business support + system supports (not just one lever).
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Employers, working parents, children, and communities—because access to affordable child care supports family stability and broader community economic growth.

Problem Statement

The core challenge this program is designed to address.

Wyoming's child care shortage is a workforce and economic growth constraint—**supply is not keeping up with demand**, providers continue to decline over time, and as a result many parents cannot participate in the workforce the way they want to—so Wyoming is treating child care as essential economic infrastructure and investing in provider supply growth and business viability.

Key context:

- Provider decline cited publicly: **721 providers (2014) → 527 providers (Dec 2024)**.
- Independent estimate of the child care “gap”: about **28%**, representing **5,000+ children** with all available parents in the labor force needing care (and it likely understates the issue because it doesn't count parents who have already left the labor force).
- Workforce impact estimate: **10,000+ Wyomingites** may be out of the workforce due to lack of child care access.

Intended Impact

The link between what we do and the change we expect to see.

IF Wyoming treats child care as essential economic infrastructure and helps providers operate as viable small businesses—by lowering startup and expansion barriers, improving licensing/navigation support, expanding business coaching and operating supports, and engaging employers with practical ROI and local “what providers actually need” tools—**THEN** child care supply will grow (especially in child care deserts), parents will be better able to voluntarily participate in the workforce, employers will have a larger and more stable labor pool, and communities will be more competitive for growth and retention.

Program Stories

Expanding Child Care Supply: Broadway Childcare Grows in Thermopolis

Before receiving the Childcare Provider Grant, care provider Cassandra Norskog served seven children in her in-home program. The grant made her feel appreciated and gave her the security to increase the number of children she cares for. Since receiving the funding, she's expanded to serve 10 children and hopes to grow to 15. “The grant has been so helpful in providing supplies that I otherwise wasn't able to afford,” Norskog said. “I have so much gratitude for the grant. It has been life changing in a positive way – not just for my business – but for the families I am able to serve.” Beyond financial support, the collaborative group provided and continues to provide business assistance through the Wyoming Women's Business Center and the Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Additionally, the University of Wyoming Early Childhood Outreach Network's Professional Learning Collaborative is a partnering group which offers resources as well.

True North Academy Expands & Rescues in Cody

When a community faces a childcare shortage, it doesn't just impact parents; it ripples through the entire local economy. In Cody, Wyoming, **True North Academy** stood as a beacon of high-quality early childhood education, but they were capped at 50 students and facing a staggering waitlist. They had the vision to expand, but they needed the capital to make it happen. In 2024, True North Academy secured a Wyoming Business Council (WBC) Challenge Loan. This crucial injection of capital allowed the academy to execute a massive facility expansion. To achieve full state licensure for the expanded space, they also needed a safe, outdoor environment. By partnering with the Wyoming Community Foundation, they secured a Childcare Startup Grant to build a state-of-the-art outdoor play area dedicated to the health and wellbeing of their students.

The Results at a Glance:

- Previous Capacity: 50 enrolled students (with a lengthy waitlist).
- New Licensed Capacity: 160 students.
- Growth: Exactly tripled their ability to serve local families.

The true value of this expansion was proven shortly after completion. When another local childcare provider abruptly closed its doors, Cody was on the verge of a workforce emergency. Several parents were suddenly left without care, threatening their ability to show up to work. Because True North Academy had just scaled its facility, they were able to immediately absorb the displaced students. The transition was seamless, preventing a localized economic disruption and ensuring families maintained uninterrupted workforce stability.

True North Program Director, **Kyalonni Zierke**, credits the Wyoming Business Council for looking beyond the numbers and understanding the human and economic reality of the situation:

"The Wyoming Business Council recognized the problem in our community, reviewed our business plan, and helped us address a compounding issue. They listened to research on the importance of high-quality early learning in a student's life and its impact on future generations. They understood the impact on academic, social, and economic development, as well as how the lack of early childhood education affects those areas."

Through proactive public-private partnerships, True North Academy didn't just expand a building—they fortified the economic foundation of the Cody community.

Recipient Reports & Related Resources

- <https://teamof1000s.wyomingbusiness.org/childcare/>



MAY 2026

WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPENDIX

PREPARED FOR THE JOINT MINERALS, BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agriculture Heritage: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name/Activity	Type	Activity Date	Amount
WUSATA membership	Ag Promotion	Annual	\$2500/yr
WUSATA Taste of the Mountains- social media campaign	Ag Promotion	2023	\$0.00
WUSATA Taiwan Outbound- Food Taipei	Ag Development &Promotion	2024	\$0.00
WUSATA European Inbound- Food manufacturing	Ag Promotion	2025	\$500.00
WUSATA Taste of the West- outbound SKorea	Ag Promotion	2027	\$0.00
Taiwan Outbound Mission	Ag Development & Promotion	2023	\$5,000.00
National Restaurant Show - Taste of the States	Ag Promotion	2023	\$10,000.00
National Restaurant Show - Taste of the States	Wyoming Table	2024	\$30,000.00
Centennial Farm and Ranch Sponsorship	Ag Promotion	2020-present	\$750/yr
Wyoming Wool Initiative Outbound New Zealand	Ag Development &Promotion	2025	\$10,000.00
Animal Health Corridor Cluster outbound mission to Kansas City	Ag Development &Promotion	2023	\$5,000.00
World Ag Tech Panel- New York	Ag Development &Promotion	2023	\$2,500.00
World Ag Tech Panel- Outbound mission- London	Ag Development &Promotion	2024	\$15,000.00
NASDA Ag Frontier Panel- Cheyenne	Ag Development &Promotion	2023	\$20,000.00
Wyoming State Fair Sponsorship	Ag Development &Promotion, Wyoming Table	2021-2025	\$73,500.00
National Ag Statistics data contracts	Ag Development	2020-2026	\$26,233.00
Meat Processing Expansion Grant Review Team w/ WDA	Ag Development	Ongoing	N/A
Cowboy State Ag Initiative	Wyoming Ag Industry Representation	Ongoing	N/A
LCCC Ag Pathways Advisory Board	Wyoming Ag Industry Representation	Ongoing	N/A
UW College of Ag Advisory Board	Wyoming Ag Industry Representation	Ongoing	N/A
Wyoming State Fair Board	Wyoming Ag Industry Representation	Ongoing	N/A
Research & Development-Cluster Development	Wyoming Ag Industry Representation	Ongoing	N/A
Food Freedom A2A Group	Wyoming Ag Industry Representation	Ongoing	N/A
WY CO Engine- soil, water, weather sensing technology hub	Wyoming Ag Industry Representation	Ongoing	N/A

Broadband: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date Announced	County	Award
Amazon-112	BEAD	1/9/2026	Fremont	\$253,800
Amazon-114	BEAD	1/9/2026	Goshen	\$30,600
Amazon-115	BEAD	1/9/2026	Platte	\$600
Amazon-116	BEAD	1/9/2026	Platte	\$1,200.00
Amazon-118	BEAD	1/9/2026	Carbon	\$600.00
Amazon-119	BEAD	1/9/2026	Natrona	\$600.00
Amazon-122	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany	\$1,800.00
Amazon-126	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany	\$4,200.00
Amazon-127	BEAD	1/9/2026	Platte	\$6,600.00
Amazon-13	BEAD	1/9/2026	All Counties	\$8,919,302.94
Amazon-145	BEAD	1/9/2026	Converse	\$75,000.00
Amazon-167	BEAD	1/9/2026	Niobrara	\$233,400.00
Amazon-168	BEAD	1/9/2026	Niobrara	\$121,800.00
AMG-170	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany, Carbon, Goshen, Laramie, Lincoln, Sweetwater, Uinta	\$2,818,830.00
AMG-171	BEAD	1/9/2026	Uinta	\$320,625.85
AMG-172	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany	\$938,688.30
AMG-174	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany	\$403,504.90
AMG-175	BEAD	1/9/2026	Goshen	\$56,325.00
AMG-177	BEAD	1/9/2026	Goshen	\$72,325.00
AMG-178	BEAD	1/9/2026	Goshen	\$182,527.50
AMG-179	BEAD	1/9/2026	Goshen	\$55,487.50
AMG-180	BEAD	1/9/2026	Goshen	\$63,757.50
AMG-181	BEAD	1/9/2026	Goshen	\$12,032.50
AMG-182	BEAD	1/9/2026	Laramie	\$324,120.00
AMG-183	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany, Carbon, Sweetwater, Uinta	\$17,041,903.60
AMG-184	BEAD	1/9/2026	Uinta	\$431,841.20
AMG-185	BEAD	1/9/2026	Laramie	\$623,715.30
BHT-76	BEAD	1/9/2026	Park	\$23,273,864.97
BHT-77	BEAD	1/9/2026	Big Horn, Park, Washakie	\$39,863,852.31
BHT-81	BEAD	1/9/2026	Big Horn, Park	\$345,189.00
Diamond-89	BEAD	1/9/2026	Park	\$4,424,363.87
Mountain West-100	BEAD	1/9/2026	Natrona	\$67,679.45
Mountain West-103	BEAD	1/9/2026	Natrona	\$15,000.00
Mountain West-107	BEAD	1/9/2026	Platte	\$100,000.00

Broadband: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date Announced	County	Award
Mountain West-108	BEAD	1/9/2026	Platte	\$204,751.59
Mountain West-109	BEAD	1/9/2026	Carbon	\$3,214,697.75
Mountain West-110	BEAD	1/9/2026	Carbon	\$320,907.09
Mountain West-96	BEAD	1/9/2026	Platte	\$100,000.00
Range Telephone-173	BEAD	1/9/2026	Crook	\$3,626,793.80
RT Communications-7	BEAD	1/9/2026	Washakie County	\$4,686,742.08
Silver Star Telephone-188	BEAD	1/9/2026	Lincoln, Sublette	\$4,822,665.00
Silver Star Telephone-28	BEAD	1/9/2026	Lincoln	\$881,587.00
Silver Star Telephone-37	BEAD	1/9/2026	Teton	\$5,903,559.00
Silver Star Telephone-38	BEAD	1/9/2026	Sublette	\$19,928,562.00
Space Exploration Technologies-84	BEAD	1/9/2026	All Counties Except Goshen	\$1,010,265.34
Union Telephone-85	BEAD	1/9/2026	Sweetwater, Uinta	\$136,805.39
Union Telephone-87	BEAD	1/9/2026	Sublette	\$203,096.26
Union Telephone-90	BEAD	1/9/2026	Carbon	\$13,489.73
Union Telephone-91	BEAD	1/9/2026	Uinta	\$1,139,916.08
Union Telephone-93	BEAD	1/9/2026	Carbon	\$168,457.83
Union Telephone-94	BEAD	1/9/2026	Carbon	\$54,028.83
Visionary Broadband-44	BEAD	1/9/2026	Crook	\$637,557.00
Visionary Broadbandy-43	BEAD	1/9/2026	Campbell	\$2,623,607.00
Vistabeam-15	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany	\$2,102,241.09
Vistabeam-17	BEAD	1/9/2026	Albany	\$1,631,764.45
Vistabeam-56	BEAD	1/9/2026	Natrona	\$2,487,334.50
Vistabeam-57	BEAD	1/9/2026	Natrona	\$4,546,268.65
Vistabeam-58	BEAD	1/9/2026	Natrona	\$4,937,900.08
Vistabeam-59	BEAD	1/9/2026	Converse	\$1,292,424.65
Vistabeam-60	BEAD	1/9/2026	Converse	\$652,404.49
Vistabeam-61	BEAD	1/9/2026	Laramie	\$4,782,050.42
Vistabeam-62	BEAD	1/9/2026	Laramie	\$6,944,414.79
Vistabeam-63	BEAD	1/9/2026	Carbon	\$313,840.04
Vistabeam-66	BEAD	1/9/2026	Platte	\$5,477,292.75
Wind River-12	BEAD	1/9/2026	Fremont	\$12,500,000.00
All West Communications, Inc. - 000000018	CPF	12/13/2023	Lincoln	\$272,173.00
BHT - 000000006	CPF	12/13/2023	Big Horn	\$4,936,125.72
BHT - 000000019	CPF	12/13/2023	Big Horn	\$3,097,781.53

Broadband: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date Announced	County	Award
BHT - 000000067	CPF	12/13/2023	Park	\$2,128,393.29
BHT - 000000068	CPF	12/13/2023	Park	\$889,618.02
BHT - 000000070	CPF	12/13/2023	Park	\$1,738,353.15
BHT - 000000071	CPF	12/13/2023	Park	\$1,860,956.49
Charter Communications - 000000082	CPF	12/13/2023	Campbell	\$2,502,848.25
Charter Communications - 000000083	CPF	12/13/2023	Crook	\$3,759,484.00
Charter Communications - 000000091	CPF	12/13/2023	Fremont	\$1,536,550.00
Charter Communications - 000000103	CPF	12/13/2023	Sheridan	\$557,000.00
Charter Communications - 000000106	CPF	12/13/2023	Laramie	\$1,295,379.60
Charter Communications - 000000107	CPF	12/13/2023	Park	\$1,245,370.56
Charter Communications - 000000110	CPF	12/13/2023	Park	\$1,933,790.00
Charter Communications - 000000114	CPF	12/13/2023	Weston	\$2,923,611.20
Gallatin - 000000037	CPF	12/13/2023	Crook	\$16,260,923.86
Mountain West - 000000051	CPF	12/13/2023	Natrona	\$932,761.59
Range Telephone Cooperative, Inc. - 000000058	CPF	12/13/2023	Carbon	\$1,248,440.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000003	CPF	12/13/2023	Campbell	\$1,532,039.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000030	CPF	12/13/2023	Platte	\$2,339,619.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000039	CPF	12/13/2023	Albany	\$1,309,542.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000042	CPF	12/13/2023	Natrona	\$1,124,459.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000055	CPF	12/13/2023	Goshen	\$123,875.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000056	CPF	12/13/2023	Fremont	\$901,341.04
Visionary Broadband - 000000081	CPF	12/13/2023	Campbell	\$2,038,340.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000084	CPF	12/13/2023	Campbell	\$953,199.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000086	CPF	12/13/2023	Laramie	\$1,253,837.61
Visionary Broadband - 000000087	CPF	12/13/2023	Johnson	\$1,207,431.13
Visionary Broadband - 000000088	CPF	12/13/2023	Laramie	\$437,947.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000089	CPF	12/13/2023	Campbell	\$366,874.33
Visionary Broadband - 000000092	CPF	12/13/2023	Sheridan	\$1,092,662.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000093	CPF	12/13/2023	Goshen	\$502,090.40
Visionary Broadband - 000000118	CPF	12/13/2023	Campbell	\$797,383.00
Visionary Broadband - 000000126	CPF	12/13/2023	Sheridan	\$3,588,991.00

Business Recruitment: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Project Name: Category	Type	Date	County	Team Investment	Outcome
Radiant: Manufacturing	Attraction	3/13/2024	Natrona	18 months	(Won, then Lost) Chose site in Bar Nunn, but then ultimately decided to not move forward due to legislation and local political pressures
Snow: Manufacturing/Defense	Attraction	10/21/2022	Uinta	4 Months	(Won)
Lightning: Manufacturing	Attraction	8/24/2022	Multi county	2 Months	(Lost) Shipping/logistics too high
Jet Stream: Energy	Attraction	6/22/2022	Multi county	2 Months	(Lost) Locations could not match all project requirements
Tsunami: Consumer	Attraction	3/16/2022	Multi county Search	1 Month	(Lost) No available buildings that met their needs
Kifaru: Consumer	Attraction	3/1/2022	Fremont	1 year	(Won)
CTV: Energy	Attraction	2/21/2022	Natrona, Campbell	6 months	(Lost) Did not come to fruition but interested in WY based on Class XI wells
Tacoma: Defense	Attraction	1/18/2022	Laramie	3 years	(Lost)
Clearwater: Phoslock	Attraction	7/27/2021	Natrona	1 Year + BRC referral	(Won, then Lost) Chose site in Casper, building purchased with BRC funding, company then had financial problems due to Chinese contracts
Bumblebee: Technology	Attraction	6/9/2021	Multi county	1 Month	(Lost) Lack of available power at sites
Blaze: Consumer	Attraction	3/12/2021	Laramie	6 Months+ SBIR referral	(Won) Office project hiring 2-3 people, has done multiple SBIR projects
Crane: Manufacturing	Attraction	3/30/2020	Multi county	6 months	(Lost) Died during covid
Tropical: Consumer	Attraction/Relocation	8/12/2020	Multi county	6 month	(Lost) Wanted greenhouse and shop space, very startup, died during covid
Oriole: Technology	Attraction/Relocation	4/29/2020	Multi county	6 months	(Lost) Died during covid
Quail: Manufacturing	Attraction/Relocation	4/14/2020	Multi county	6 months	(Lost) Brazilian company, found potential site, constrained by covid in traveling
Sparrow: Defense	Attraction/Relocation	1/28/2020	Multi county	6 months	(Lost) Wanted WY to match incentive package from TX
Eagle: Consumer	Attraction/Relocation for OR	2/21/2020	Multi county search	2 years	(Lost)
Ptarmigan: Consumer	Attraction/Relocation from AZ	9/3/2020	Park, Albany	6 Months	(Lost) Needed moving expenses
Owl: Manufacturing	Attraction/Relocation from MN	12/3/2020	Multi county	7 Months	(Lost) Was looking during a very politically charged climate in MN - but needed funding to move
Wren: Consumer	Attraction/Relocation from NH	2/12/2020	Sheridan, Albany	6 months	(Lost) Ended up choosing SD due to building availability
Steamboat: Technology	Expansion	5/23/2025	Laramie	Ongoing	(Won) Sales tax exemption certification
Silver Stag: Defense	Expansion	5/8/2023	Natrona	2 years	(Won)
West Wind: Manufacturing	Expansion	2/14/2022	Multi county	1 Month	(Lost) Logistics issues and not enough required contract manufacturers nearby
Cyclone: Defense	Expansion	2/10/2022	Sweetwater	2 Years	(Won) Built building in Rock Springs used no public dollars
Domino: Defense	Expansion	4/12/2021	Multi county	6 Months	(Won as a later project) Came back later as Silver Stag
Wellness Warrior: Consumer	Expansion	3/30/2021	Multi county	6 Months	(Lost)
Cosmo: Technology	Expansion	1/22/2021	Laramie	over 5 years	(Won) Originally started as Project Forwood in April of 2019, sales tax exemption certification
Stratus: Defense	Retention	6/14/2022	Natrona, Laramie	6 Months	(Lost) Jackson Hole company - didn't really want to move out of Jackson
Florence: Consumer	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	10/27/2022	Multi county	2 Months	(Lost) Hard to meet water requirements
Mountain High: Consumer	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	10/10/2022	Multi county	3 Months	(Lost) Hard to meet water requirements
Scout: Energy	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	8/26/2022	Multi county	1 Month	(Lost) Needed large shovel ready site
Allen: Energy	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	8/25/2022	Multi county	1 Month	(Lost) Needed large brownfield site with infrastructure access
Outdoors: Consumer	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	3/16/2022	Multi county	2 Months	(Lost) Lifestyle communities they were seeking could not match project requirements
Singularity: Manufacturing	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	8/9/2021	Multi county	1 Month	Could not match project criteria
Falcon: Manufacturing	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	5/5/2021	Multi county	6 Months	(Lost) Lack of site with needed larrge capacity water municipal connection
Hanger: Defense	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	5/5/2021	Multi county	1 Month	(Lost) Lack of available infrastructure/hanger space for testing
Feather: Manufacturing	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	4/2/2021	Multi county	4 Months	(Lost)
Icarus: Defense	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	3/31/2021	Multi county	6 Months	(Lost) Lack of needed site requirements
Westing: Manufacturing	Site Selector (Type Unknown)	2/24/2020	Multi county	2-3 months	(Lost) Died during covid

Kickstart: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)				
Name	Type	Date	County	Award
PIXELPAY	Kickstart	4/1/2026	Laramie	\$50,000.00
Sweet Motivation LLC	Kickstart	4/1/2026	Laramie	\$50,000.00
Cowboy Country Milling	Kickstart	4/8/2026	Laramie	\$50,000.00
Wyoming Bucket, LLC	Kickstart	4/8/2026	Washakie	\$50,000.00
Bolt Carrier Group, LLC	Kickstart	4/8/2026	Natrona	\$50,000.00
Bullfrog Creatives, LLC	Kickstart	4/1/2026	Natrona	\$50,000.00
ING Outdoors	Kickstart	3/24/2025	Teton	\$50,000.00
Agricultural Innovations	Kickstart	3/24/2025	Crook	\$50,000.00
Root to Shoot (now Ten Galon)	Kickstart	3/24/2025	Sheridan	\$50,000.00
Ice Spas, LLC	Kickstart	6/4/2025	Natrona	\$50,000.00
SLP Tools LLC	Kickstart	6/4/2025	Natrona	\$50,000.00
Point Blank Tech LLC	Kickstart	6/4/2025	Park	\$50,000.00
REALTIMEEDTECH LLC	Kickstart	8/27/2025	Teton	\$50,000.00
Maypall	Kickstart	8/27/2025	Albany	\$50,000.00
Power Theory	Kickstart	8/27/2025	Albany	\$50,000.00

Loans & Bonds: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)				
Name	Loan Type	Origination Date	County	Award (WBC Portion)
Bearlodge Ag Feed Store	50/50	4/1/2026	Crook	\$166,000.00
Sheridan Pet Care	50/50	3/4/2026	Sheridan	\$349,384.00
Double U Designs	50/50	1/26/2026	Sheridan	\$343,000.00
Newman's Restoration (Reiver Bend Investments, LLC)	50/50	12/31/2025	Sheridan	\$223,434.32
BH, Inc/ Britz & Co	50/50	8/13/2025	Sheridan	\$463,400.00
COR Health	50/50	6/16/2025	Albany	\$250,000.00
True North/HOPE Church	50/50	9/25/2024	Park	\$995,000.00
Britz & Company	50/50	8/13/2024	Sheridan	\$463,400.00
Mine Rite Tech	50/50	5/26/2023	Johnson	\$50,000.00
Mine Rite Tech.	50/50	5/26/2023	Johnson	\$250,000.00
Jared Hort	Econ Disaster	3/6/2020	Goshen	\$16,912.80
Stan/Ken Chapman Chapman Brothers	Econ Disaster	3/6/2020	Goshen	\$100,000.00
Bruce Zimmerer	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$116,640.00
Dennis Wambolt	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$139,968.00
Don Young Box A Ranch, LLC	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$54,000.00
Gilbert Ramirez	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$53,946.00
Isaac Eisenbarth	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$159,505.20
Lowell Kautz	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$58,320.00
Marty Yorges	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$59,778.00
Scott Steinhausen	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$70,858.00
Wayne Hort	Econ Disaster	3/3/2020	Goshen	\$103,518.00
Arthur Elsberry	Econ Disaster	2/26/2020	Goshen	\$40,532.00
Byron Booth	Econ Disaster	2/26/2020	Goshen	\$34,992.00
Cory Johnson	Econ Disaster	2/26/2020	Goshen	\$32,163.48
Adam Wambolt	Econ Disaster	2/21/2020	Goshen	\$93,312.00
Justin Briggs	Econ Disaster	2/21/2020	Goshen	\$74,941.20
Michael & Lindsay Booth	Econ Disaster	2/21/2020	Goshen	\$72,900.00
Jack Miskimins	Econ Disaster	2/20/2020	Goshen	\$22,161.60
Will Whitlock	Econ Disaster	2/20/2020	Goshen	\$26,244.00
Erv Gara Wyoming HayBusters LLC	Econ Disaster	2/10/2020	Goshen	\$500,000.00

Loans & Bonds: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Loan Type	Origination Date	County	Award (WBC Portion)
Brett A. Meyer	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$145,216.80
Dakota McClun	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$11,664.00
Daniel Hill	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$74,358.00
David Saul	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$49,500.00
Dennis Vanatta	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$67,068.00
Joel Alworth	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$40,532.40
Lucas Moore	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$29,160.00
Monte Stokes	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$58,320.00
Quinn Hunter	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$9,622.80
Randy Steben	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$107,892.00
Scott Forrest	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$233,280.00
Shawn H. Booth	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$131,220.00
Travis D. Rodewald	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$92,437.20
Travis W. Eisenbarth	Econ Disaster	2/6/2020	Goshen	\$35,866.80
Cowboy Drifters (D&M Properties, LLC)	Succession	2/5/2026	Natrona	\$500,000.00
Mountain West Valuations	Succession	12/31/2025	Natrona	\$252,665.00
Cowboy Café	Succession	11/21/2025	Sheridan	\$175,000.00
Other Side B&G	Succession	11/14/2025	Campbell	\$400,000.00
Front Range Nuclear	Succession	8/5/2025	Laramie	\$500,000.00
Bella Fuoco	Succession	8/4/2025	Laramie	\$275,000.00
Preschool Academy	Succession	6/30/2025	Campbell	\$236,000.00
Preschool Academy, R&T Legacy	Succession	6/30/2025	Campbell	\$236,000.00
Trophy Creative	Succession	12/16/2024	Laramie	\$360,000.00
Rocky Mountain Electric	Succession	10/7/2024	Natrona	\$244,375.00
Basin Processing	Succession	7/1/2024	Big Horn	\$131,250.00
Moore Insulation	Succession	6/18/2024	Laramie	\$500,000.00
Cheyenne Tile & Stone	Succession	6/12/2024	Laramie	\$405,000.00
Rock Springs Block Co.	Succession	1/31/2024	Sweetwater	\$305,066.00
ChemSol, LLC	Succession	6/2/2023	Campbell	\$175,000.00

Main Street: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Services / Notes
Downtown Evanston (City of Evanston / Evanston URA)	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Uinta	\$2,500.00	
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Sheridan	\$2,500.00	
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Campbell	\$2,500.00	
Glenrock Main Street	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Converse	\$1,813.30	
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Albany	\$2,500.00	
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Converse	\$2,500.00	
Rock Springs Main Street / URA	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Sweetwater	\$2,500.00	
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	5/1/2026	Goshen	\$2,432.45	
Glenrock Main Street	Conference Allocation	09/24/2025	Converse	\$384.88	Glenrock Main St Wy Working Together
Downtown Evanston (Evanston URA)	Conference Allocation	04/03/2025	Uinta	\$3,500.00	Urban Renewal per diem reimbursement
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Conference Allocation	04/03/2025	Converse	\$3,459.21	Douglas Main St BP reimbursement
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Conference Allocation	04/03/2025	Sweetwater	\$3,500.00	Rock Springs Renewal Fund Main St BP reimbursement
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	04/03/2025	Goshen	\$2,529.59	Go Goshen Main St BP
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	04/02/2025	Sheridan	\$3,500.00	Main St Best Practices reimbursement
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	04/02/2025	Campbell	\$3,500.00	Gillette Main St BP
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	10/23/2024	Goshen	\$769.94	Main Street Workshop in Casper
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	05/05/2024	Albany	\$881.27	Laramie MS Alliance Scholarship reimbursement- Sena Krula
Downtown Evanston (City of Evanston)	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Uinta	\$4,000.00	City of Evanston MS Scholarship reimbursements for Mieke Madrid & Jen Ellingford (\$2k each)
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Sheridan	\$2,000.00	Downtown Sheridan Association Main Street reimbursement- Zoila Perry
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Campbell	\$2,000.00	Gillette MS stipend reimbursement for Jessica Seders for the Ms Best Practices and MS Conference
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Campbell	\$2,000.00	Gillette MS stipend reimbursement for Stephanie Murray for MS Best Practices & MS Conference
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Albany	\$2,000.00	Laramie MS Alliance reimbursement for WY Best Practices and MS Now Conference
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Converse	\$3,600.80	MS Douglas stipend reimbursement x 2 for MS Best Practices and MS Conference
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Hot Springs	\$2,000.00	MS Best Practices and MS Conference stipend reimbursement for MS Thermopolis
Rawlins Main Street (CITY OF RAWLINS)	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Carbon	\$939.52	Rawlins DDA MS Conference scholarship reimbursement- Stephanie Kramer
Rawlins Main Street (CITY OF RAWLINS)	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Carbon	\$1,913.04	Rawlins DDA / Main Street reimbursement for Best Practices- Pam Thayer
RIVERTON DOWNTOWNERS MAINSTREET ALLIANCE	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Fremont	\$2,738.90	Riverton Dntowners MS Best Practices reimbursement for Reagan and Traci Cooper
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Sweetwater	\$4,000.00	WY Main Street Best Practices Workshop scholarship
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Goshen	\$2,000.00	Go Goshen MS scholarship reimbursement for Leann Mattis
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Goshen	\$1,000.00	Go Goshen MS scholarship reimbursement- CJ Bohl
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	05/02/2024	Goshen	\$2,000.00	Go Goshen MS scholarship reimbursement- Meagan LeBar
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	05/01/2024	Albany	\$1,907.05	Ana Castro- Laramie Main Street reimbursement for Main Street Now 2024 and Best Practices workshop
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	05/01/2024	Albany	\$1,958.48	Laramie MS Alliance scholarship reimbursement-Katelyn Heller
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Conference Allocation	09/19/2023	Converse	\$902.25	Main Street Douglas WY Working Together reimbursement
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Conference Allocation	09/19/2023	Hot Springs	\$1,000.00	Main Street Thermopolis WY Working Together reimbursement
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Conference Allocation	09/18/2023	Laramie	\$1,000.00	Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority reimbursement for WY Working Together conference
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	09/18/2023	Sheridan	\$738.11	Wyoming Working Together conference reimbursement for Zoila Perry
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	09/18/2023	Albany	\$1,000.00	Laramie Main Street WY Working Together Conference registration reimbursements
PLATTE COUNTY MAIN STREET	Conference Allocation	09/18/2023	Platte	\$757.56	Platte County Main Street reimbursement for MS Conference
RIVERTON DOWNTOWNERS MAINSTREET ALLIANCE	Conference Allocation	09/18/2023	Fremont	\$375.00	Riverton Dntowners MS Alliance State Chamber luncheon registration
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	03/27/2023	Goshen	\$2,000.00	2023 MS Conference scholarship reimbursement for Carolyn McBurney
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	03/24/2023	Campbell	\$2,000.00	Gillette Main St Boston Best Practices Main Street
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Sheridan	\$2,000.00	Downtown Sheridan Perry Boston Main Street
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Sheridan	\$2,000.00	Downtown Sheridan Welch Boston Main Street
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Sheridan	\$2,000.00	Downtown Sheridan Pacheco Boston Main Street
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Sheridan	\$2,000.00	Downtown Sheridan Mueller Boston Main Street
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Albany	\$1,886.22	Laramie Main Street Best Practices JPower
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Albany	\$1,850.00	Laramie Main Street Best Practices TTimmis
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Albany	\$1,557.03	Laramie Main Street Best Practices SThompson
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Converse	\$2,000.00	Best Practices and Main Street Conference reimbursement
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Hot Springs	\$4,000.00	BPW and MSC reimbursement for Howie & Suzanne Samelson
Rock Springs Main Street (CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS)	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Sweetwater	\$2,000.00	Rock Springs Best Practices Conference Boston Banks

Main Street: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Services / Notes
Rock Springs Main Street (CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS)	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Sweetwater	\$2,000.00	Rock Springs Best Practices Conference Boston McCormack
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Goshen	\$2,000.00	BPW & MSC reimbursement for Cj Bohl
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	03/23/2023	Goshen	\$2,000.00	BPW & MSC reimbursement for Leann Mattis
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	01/18/2023	Goshen	\$220.00	Goshen County Economic Development Training WEDA Winter Conference
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	09/28/2022	Campbell	\$796.90	Gillette Main Street Jessica Seders
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Conference Allocation	09/27/2022	Laramie	\$743.63	Cheyenne DDA Wyoming Working Together Conf Scholarship D Brothe
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	09/27/2022	Sheridan	\$365.00	Downtown Sheridan Wyoming Working Together Conference and DSA Event
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	09/27/2022	Albany	\$1,000.00	Laramie Main Street Alliance WEDA/Wyo Working Together-Trey Sherwood plus 2
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	09/27/2022	Goshen	\$1,000.00	Goshen Economic Dev Main Street Training Sheridan
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	09/27/2022	Goshen	\$1,000.00	Goshen Economic Dev Chamber of Commerce Main Street Grant
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Conference Allocation	09/26/2022	Hot Springs	\$1,000.00	Main Street Thermopolis Wyoming Working Together
Rawlins Main Street (CITY OF RAWLINS)	Conference Allocation	09/26/2022	Carbon	\$1,000.00	City of Rawlins DDA / MS- for Leadership Retreat and WY Working Together- Pam Thayer & Sondra
Glenrock Main Street	Conference Allocation	09/13/2022	Converse	\$465.00	Glenock Main StreetC Benedetta Mileage to Laramie, MJones Wyo Working Together Mileage
Rawlins Main Street (CITY OF RAWLINS)	Conference Allocation	09/13/2022	Carbon	\$1,305.11	Rawlins Downtown Dev Authority Community Transformation Workshop Scholarship Sondra Dent
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	09/13/2022	Goshen	\$572.91	Goshen Economic Development LMattis Scholarship Community Transformation Workshop
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	05/15/2022	Goshen	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Carolyn McBurney Richmond VA
Downtown Evanston (City of Evanston)	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Uinta	\$1,844.65	2022 Main Street Conference Richmond VA - Mieke Madrid
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Sheridan	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference allocations; Downtown Sheridan Zoila Perry Richmond VA
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Campbell	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference allocations; Jessica Seders
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Campbell	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Stefanie Crawford
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Campbell	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference allocations; Jessica Seders
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Campbell	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Stefanie Crawford
Glenrock Main Street (Town of Glenrock)	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Converse	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Mandy Jones Town of Glenrock Richmond VA
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Albany	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Jennifer Power
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Albany	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Laramie Main Street Bailey Payton Richmond VA
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Albany	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference allocations; Laramie Main Street Trey Sherwood Richmond VA
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Converse	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference allocations
PLATTE COUNTY MAIN STREET	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Platte	\$1,469.05	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Genia Vineyard Richmond VA
Rawlins Main Street (CITY OF RAWLINS)	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Carbon	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference Scholarships Damien Cesko Rawlins DDA Richmond VA
Rawlins Main Street (CITY OF RAWLINS)	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Carbon	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference allocations; Rawlins DDA Sondra Dent Richmond VA
Rock Springs Main Street (CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS)	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Sweetwater	\$2,000.00	2022 Main Street Conference allocations, City of Rock Springs-Chad Banks, (max amt of \$2,000 per com
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Conference Allocation	05/12/2022	Goshen	\$1,748.72	2022 Main Street Conference allocations (max amt of \$2,000 per community) DEstes City of Torrington
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Conference Allocation	02/15/2022	Laramie	\$250.00	Cheyenne DDA/MS 2022 WEDA
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	02/15/2022	Sheridan	\$250.00	Downtown Sheridan Assoc WEDA
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	02/15/2022	Campbell	\$250.00	Gillette Main Street 2022 WEDA
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	10/06/2021	Sheridan	\$750.00	Downtown Sheridan Assoc Main Street; Working Together Conference
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	10/06/2021	Campbell	\$750.00	Gillette Main Street Fall 2021 WEDA Conference
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Conference Allocation	10/06/2021	Hot Springs	\$560.12	Main Street Thermopolis Wyoming Working Together Conference Grant
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Conference Allocation	06/02/2021	Laramie	\$500.00	Downtown Development Authority / Main Street- Main Street Conference in Saratoga- reimbursement
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Conference Allocation	06/02/2021	Laramie	\$500.00	Downtown Development Authority / Main Street- Main Street Conference in Saratoga- reimbursement
Downtown Evanston (City of Evanston / Evanston URA)	Conference Allocation	06/02/2021	Uinta	\$397.04	Evanston Urban Renewal Agency- reimbursement for Jane Law at WY MS Conference in Saratoga
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Conference Allocation	06/02/2021	Sheridan	\$500.00	Downtown Sheridan Association- WY Main Street Conference in Saratoga reimbursement
Gillette Main Street	Conference Allocation	06/02/2021	Campbell	\$500.00	Gillette Main Street reimbursement for Main Street Conference in Saratoga
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Conference Allocation	06/02/2021	Albany	\$596.00	Laramie Main Street Alliance- reimbursement for Main Street Conference in Saratoga
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Education Stipend	10/10/2025	Sweetwater	\$150.00	WY Main St Training Grant
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Education Stipend	12/11/2024	Sweetwater	\$125.00	Main Street Training Grant
Rock Springs Main Street (Chad Banks)	Education Stipend	02/23/2024	Sweetwater	\$347.06	Chad Banks mileage reimbursement for trip to Idaho Falls, ID for Main Street
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Education Stipend	02/23/2024	Sweetwater	\$179.98	Reimbursement for Chad Banks trip to Idaho Falls, Idaho- lodging
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Education Stipend	09/15/2021	Sheridan	\$800.00	National Main Street Center - Community Transformation Workshop
Rock Springs Main Street (CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS)	Education Stipend	09/15/2021	Sweetwater	\$800.00	City of Rock Springs- National Main Street Center- Community Transformations Workshop
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Education Stipend	06/14/2021	Sheridan	\$250.00	Downtown Sheridan Association- Historic Real Estate Finance- Remote Class for Zoila Perry- tuition

Main Street: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Services / Notes
Gillette Main Street	Marketing Assistance Grant	12/12/2025	Campbell	\$10,000.00	
Downtown Evanston (City of Evanston)	Marketing Assistance Grant	10/15/2025	Uinta	\$7,000.00	
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Marketing Assistance Grant	10/15/2025	Converse	\$6,650.00	
Rock Springs Main Street / URA	Marketing Assistance Grant	10/15/2025	Sweetwater	\$10,000.00	
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	07/01/2026	n/a	\$2,775.00	2026 Coordinating Program Membership 07/01-12/31/26
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	01/01/2026	n/a	\$2,775.00	2026 Coordinating Program Membership 01/01-06/30/26
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	07/01/2024	n/a	\$2,775.00	Kayla Kler- National Main Street Center 2024 Coordinating Program Dues
WYOMING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION	Membership Dues	07/01/2024	n/a	\$200.00	WEDA membership for Main Street
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	01/01/2024	n/a	\$2,775.00	Kayla Kler- National Main Street Center 2024 Coordinating Program Dues
WYOMING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION	Membership Dues	01/01/2024	n/a	\$200.00	WEDA membership for Main Street
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	07/01/2023	n/a	\$2,275.00	2023 Coordinating Program Membership dues
Roger Brooks International Inc	Membership Dues	07/01/2023	n/a	\$460.00	Destination Development Association Membership
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	01/01/2023	n/a	\$2,275.00	2023 Coordinating Program Membership dues
Roger Brooks International Inc	Membership Dues	01/01/2023	n/a	\$460.00	Destination Development Association Membership
HYPER LOCAL MEDIA INC	Membership Dues	07/01/2022	n/a	\$466.67	Locable Grow Plan Annual Subscription
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	07/01/2022	n/a	\$2,275.00	Kayla Kler 2022 Coordinating Program Membership 01/01/2022-12/31/2022
WYOMING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION	Membership Dues	07/01/2022	n/a	\$93.75	2021/2022 Membership Dues; Kayla Kler Main Street
HYPER LOCAL MEDIA INC	Membership Dues	03/03/2022	n/a	\$233.33	Locable Grow Plan Annual Subscription
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	01/01/2022	n/a	\$2,275.00	Kayla Kler 2022 Coordinating Program Membership 01/01/2022-12/31/2022
WYOMING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION	Membership Dues	10/01/2021	n/a	\$281.25	2021/2022 Membership Dues; Kayla Kler Main Street
HYPER LOCAL MEDIA INC	Membership Dues	07/01/2021	n/a	\$466.67	Hyper Local Media dba Locable Annual subscription fee. Marketing Platform Grow plan.
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	07/01/2021	n/a	\$2,275.00	National Main Street Center - 2021 Membership dues
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Membership Dues	01/01/2021	n/a	\$2,275.00	National Main Street Center - 2021 Membership dues
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	11/01/2025	n/a	\$660.00	WY Main Street Materials
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Professional and Technical Services	07/01/2025	n/a	\$6,252.63	WY Community Transformation Strategy Identification- Rock Springs
NEW THOUGHT MEDIA INC	Professional and Technical Services	07/01/2025	n/a	\$10,994.21	Video production for WY Main Street
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	07/01/2025	n/a	\$440.00	WY Main Street Handbook
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Professional and Technical Services	06/08/2025	n/a	\$1,707.58	WY Community Transformation Strategy Identification- Rock Springs- travel
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Professional and Technical Services	06/02/2025	n/a	\$2,747.37	WY Community Transformation Strategy Identification- Rock Springs
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	06/01/2025	n/a	\$2,502.50	WY Main Street Handbook
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	05/11/2025	n/a	\$110.00	WY Main Street Handbook
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	03/28/2025	n/a	\$165.00	WY Main Street Materials
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Professional and Technical Services	02/14/2025	n/a	\$18,000.00	WY Community Transformation Strategy- Gillette, Sheridan
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Professional and Technical Services	02/14/2025	n/a	\$2,818.40	WY Community Transformation travel- Gillette, Sheridan
NEW THOUGHT MEDIA INC	Professional and Technical Services	01/28/2025	n/a	\$47,030.79	Video production for WY Main Street
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	01/01/2025	n/a	\$825.00	WY Main Street Handbook
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	12/01/2024	n/a	\$797.50	WY Main Street Handbook
WAREHOUSE TWENTY ONE INC	Professional and Technical Services	10/01/2024	n/a	\$550.00	WY Main Street Handbook
NEW THOUGHT MEDIA INC	Professional and Technical Services	08/27/2024	n/a	\$18,000.00	Main Street Comprehensive Video Content Strategy
Jennifer Power Art & Design	Professional and Technical Services	01/06/2023	n/a	\$1,500.00	Jennifer Power Art & Design-design a Mainstreet Logo Draft Completion
Jennifer Power Art & Design	Professional and Technical Services	11/18/2022	n/a	\$1,500.00	Jennifer Power Art & Design-design a Mainstreet Logo Draft Completion
Laramie Main Street Alliance (Trey Sherwood) - Mentoring Community Visit	Professional and Technical Services	07/24/2022	Albany	\$175.47	Teresa Sherwood Community Visit Lander with Kayla Kler
Rock Springs Main Street (Chad Banks) - Mentoring Community Visit	Professional and Technical Services	06/24/2022	Sweetwater	\$178.60	Chad Banks Community Visit Lander with Kayla Kler
FREDERICK MOUNTAIN GROUP LLC	Professional and Technical Services	05/04/2022	n/a	\$5,000.00	Main Street Community Model - Main Street Rawlins
Ayres Associates Inc	Professional and Technical Services	04/27/2022	n/a	\$13,929.51	Ayres Main Street Eco Impact Toolkit & Imp Strategy
Ayres Associates Inc	Professional and Technical Services	03/05/2022	n/a	\$6,041.49	Ayres Main Street Eco Impact Toolkit & Imp Strategy
Ayres Associates Inc	Professional and Technical Services	01/29/2022	n/a	\$9,440.00	Economic Impact Toolkit for Main Street programs
FREDERICK MOUNTAIN GROUP LLC	Professional and Technical Services	09/21/2021	n/a	\$5,000.00	FMG Main Street Community Model; Main Street Douglas
STATELINE NO 7 ARCHITECTS	Professional and Technical Services	08/19/2021	n/a	\$3,000.00	Stateline No. 7 Architects; Provide a guide to redeveloping older buildings
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Professional and Technical Services	08/01/2021	n/a	\$14,364.50	National Main Street Center program assessment
Rock Springs Main Street (Chad Banks) - Mentoring Community Visit	Professional and Technical Services	06/04/2021	Sweetwater	\$96.00	Afton Site visit with WY Main Street; Rock Springs Renewal Fund, Inc.

Main Street: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Services / Notes
WE CAN IF CONSULTING LLC	Professional and Technical Services	05/27/2021	n/a	\$1,200.00	Conflict Management Virtual Workshop
Ayres Associates Inc	Professional and Technical Services	03/20/2021	n/a	\$12,589.00	Ayres Associates Inc; WY Pickaxe Toolkit, Workshops and labor
DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT SERVICES LLC	Professional and Technical Services	08/15/2020	n/a	\$20,000.00	Downtown Plan
COMMUNITY BUILDERS	Professional and Technical Services	07/01/2020	n/a	\$750.00	Invoice #3, Wyoming Working Together Webinar.
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	07/01/2025	Sweetwater	\$222.94	Wyoming Blocks Program
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	07/01/2025	Sweetwater	\$867.06	Wyoming Blocks Program
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	11/22/2024	Sweetwater	\$5,775.00	Wyoming Blocks Program
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	09/24/2024	Sweetwater	\$5,300.55	WY Blocks Grant Program
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	07/29/2024	Sweetwater	\$7,749.12	WY Blocks Program to redevelop Pilot Butte Ave.
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	07/06/2024	Sweetwater	\$10,952.39	use funding from WY Blocks Pgm for redevelopment of Pilot Butte Ave
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	05/30/2024	Goshen	\$1,177.50	FY 2024 Technical Assistance
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	11/09/2023	Goshen	\$6,116.44	FY 2024 Technical Assistance
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	10/30/2023	Sweetwater	\$4,000.00	Downtown Rock Springs holiday advertising campaign
Downtown Evanston (City of Evanston)	Special Projects Grant	09/30/2023	Uinta	\$3,683.51	Downtown Evanston holiday advertising campaign
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	09/01/2023	Goshen	\$5,625.00	FY 2024 Technical Assistance
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	08/18/2023	Goshen	\$1,000.00	Go Goshen Main Street grant
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Special Projects Grant	08/11/2023	Hot Springs	\$15,000.00	FY 2024 Technical Assistance
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	08/01/2023	Goshen	\$1,894.00	FY 2024 Technical Assistance
SWEETWATER COUNTY FAIR BOARD	Special Projects Grant	01/13/2023	Sweetwater	\$2,500.00	Boar's Tusk Park placemaking grant; Sweetwater County Fair Board
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	12/08/2022	Sweetwater	\$6,500.00	Rock Springs Renewal Fund Main Street Technical Assistance Grant
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Special Projects Grant	11/28/2022	Converse	\$750.00	Douglas Main Street Shop Small
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Special Projects Grant	11/21/2022	Sheridan	\$1,000.00	Downtown Sheridan Shop Small Business Saturday
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Special Projects Grant	11/18/2022	Hot Springs	\$750.00	Thermopolis Main Street Shop Small
Gillette Main Street	Special Projects Grant	11/17/2022	Campbell	\$1,000.00	Gillette Main Street Shop Small
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	11/17/2022	Goshen	\$1,000.00	Goshen Main Street Shop Small
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	11/15/2022	Sweetwater	\$1,000.00	Rock Springs Main Street Shop Small Grant
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Special Projects Grant	11/14/2022	Albany	\$952.63	Laramie Main Street Shop Small
Glenrock Main Street	Special Projects Grant	11/11/2022	Converse	\$454.20	Glenrock Main Street Shop Small
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Special Projects Grant	10/14/2022	Laramie	\$598.19	Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority Small Business Saturday
TOWN OF FORT LARAMIE	Special Projects Grant	09/27/2022	Goshen	\$8,457.74	Fort Laramie Summer Placemaking
CITY OF LANDER	Special Projects Grant	09/26/2022	Fremont	\$10,000.00	Lander Summer Placemaking Grant
TOWN OF BASIN	Special Projects Grant	08/22/2022	Big Horn	\$6,830.00	Town of Basin Summer Placemaking
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Special Projects Grant	08/08/2022	Sheridan	\$1,500.00	Production of Downtown Sheridan Video
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Special Projects Grant	07/18/2022	Laramie	\$4,950.00	Cheyenne DDA Crosswalk Mural Placemaking Project
TOWN OF MEETEETSE	Special Projects Grant	07/17/2022	Park	\$4,426.35	Town of Meeteetse Summer Placemaking 07/17/22-06/30/23
PLATTE VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL INC	Special Projects Grant	07/01/2022	Carbon	\$500.00	Platte Valley Placemaking Paint-By-Number Mural
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	07/01/2022	Sweetwater	\$3,400.00	Downtown Rock Springs National Historic District- Phase 1 extension
TOWN OF MANDERSON	Special Projects Grant	07/01/2022	Big Horn	\$10,000.00	Town of Manderson Summer Placemaking Grant
TOWN OF BASIN	Special Projects Grant	06/29/2022	Big Horn	\$670.00	Town of Basin Placemaking Outside of Contract
Gillette Main Street	Special Projects Grant	06/25/2022	Campbell	\$3,000.00	Gillette Main Street Summer Placemaking
LUSK ROCS	Special Projects Grant	06/20/2022	Niobrara	\$10,000.00	Lusk ROCS Summer Placemaking
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Special Projects Grant	05/27/2022	Laramie	\$5,000.00	Cheyenne DDA Banner Project
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	05/25/2022	Goshen	\$2,500.00	Art Plan & Mural Project funding as a Technical Assistance project; Dev of Public Art Guidebook
PLATTE VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL INC	Special Projects Grant	05/06/2022	Carbon	\$500.00	Platte Valley Placemaking Paint-By-Number Mural
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	05/05/2022	Sweetwater	\$2,500.00	Rock Springs Renewal Fund Summer Placemaking Grant
Gillette Main Street	Special Projects Grant	03/17/2022	Campbell	\$500.00	Gillette Main Street Match for Historic Preservation Commission's Grant
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	02/01/2022	Sweetwater	\$2,400.00	Downtown Rock Springs National Historic District- Phase 1 extension
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	01/31/2022	Sweetwater	\$1,000.00	Rock Springs Renewal Fund TA Grant to expand the National Historic District in Rock Springs
MAIN STREET DOUGLAS INC	Special Projects Grant	11/30/2021	Converse	\$1,000.00	The Enterprise Douglas Wyoming Converse County Shop Small
Torrington Main Street (Goshen Co. Economic Development Corporation)	Special Projects Grant	11/29/2021	Goshen	\$1,986.60	Goshen County Goshen Main Street Bucks
Rock Springs Main Street (Rock Springs Renewal Fund Inc)	Special Projects Grant	11/26/2021	Sweetwater	\$2,000.00	Main Street Shop Small Promotion Downtown Rock Springs

Main Street: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Services / Notes
MAIN STREET THERMOPOLIS	Special Projects Grant	11/20/2021	Hot Springs	\$1,000.00	Main Street Thermopolis for Affiliate Community
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN ASSOCIATION	Special Projects Grant	11/18/2021	Sheridan	\$2,000.00	Downtown Sheridan Assn Shop Small Business Saturday
CITY OF GREEN RIVER	Special Projects Grant	11/08/2021	Sweetwater	\$1,750.00	U.R.A. Green River Main Street Agency c/o City of Green River. Shop Green River
Rawlins Main Street (CITY OF RAWLINS)	Special Projects Grant	11/02/2021	Carbon	\$2,000.00	Rawlins Main Street Support Small Business
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Special Projects Grant	11/01/2021	Albany	\$2,000.00	Laramie Main Street Small Business Saturday Swag
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Special Projects Grant	10/27/2021	Laramie	\$2,000.00	Small Business Saturday Cheyenne Downtown Dev Authority
Downtown Evanston (City of Evanston)	Special Projects Grant	10/19/2021	Uinta	\$1,602.00	City of Evanston Wyo Main Street Downtown Advertising
Laramie Main Street Alliance	Special Projects Grant	09/15/2021	Albany	\$1,500.00	Laramie Main Street Alliance- reimbursement for GAMSAs video expenses
Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority	Special Projects Grant	07/01/2021	Laramie	\$2,500.00	Cheyenne Community Pride Sign through Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority
Rock Springs Main Street (CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS)	Special Projects Grant	06/02/2021	Sweetwater	\$399.52	City of Rock Springs; Main Street Conference in Saratoga- reimbursement
DEBRA BROWN	Sponsorship	09/24/2025	n/a	\$5,000.00	Speaker Fee
WYOMING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PARTNERSHIP	Sponsorship	10/07/2024	n/a	\$4,000.00	Wyoming State Chamber Of Commerce Wyoming Working Together Keynote Speaker Sponsor
Alliance for Historic Wyoming	Sponsorship	05/01/2024	n/a	\$3,000.00	Alliance for Historic Wyoming sponsorship for Historic Preservation Month
Katie Leeper	Sponsorship	09/20/2023	n/a	\$164.33	Katie Leeper reimbursement for WY MS speaker at the WY Working Together conference in Lander, WY
WYOMING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PARTNERSHIP	Sponsorship	09/20/2023	n/a	\$4,500.00	keynote speaker for WY State Chamber of Commerce Wyoming Working Together
Alliance for Historic Wyoming	Sponsorship	09/19/2023	n/a	\$286.68	Alliance for Historic Wyoming- WY Working Together Conference
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Sponsorship	09/13/2022	n/a	\$4,000.00	WY Main Street Course Registrations for 2022 Community Transformation Workshop
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Sponsorship	09/13/2022	n/a	\$3,000.00	WY Main Street Course WBC Sponsorship for 2022 Community Transformation Workshop
Alliance for Historic Wyoming	Sponsorship	05/01/2022	n/a	\$2,500.00	Alliance for Historic Wyoming Mainstreet Sponsorship
EDWARD T MCMAHON	Sponsorship	10/05/2021	n/a	\$2,176.16	Edward McMahon- Payment for services and reimbursement for travel expenses- WY Working Together Conf
NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER INC	Sponsorship	09/15/2021	n/a	\$5,000.00	Contributing Partner Level Sponsorship Community Transformation Workshop

Market Development: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Activity
CRCRFS LLC	Market Expansion Grant	5/7/2026	Laramie	\$1,565.69	Expat Money Conference 2026 (March 2026)
EstateScribe, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	4/27/2026	Teton	\$2,509.58	ABA Techshow Start-Up Alley
Mentor Agility	Market Expansion Grant	4/27/2026	Teton	\$2,925.00	National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA) Winter Conference
PIXELPAY	Market Expansion Grant	4/27/2026	Laramie	\$2,753.80	Amusement Expo International
Ready Lamp, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	4/22/2026	Goshen	\$2,117.63	Great Homeschool Convention in Greenville, S.C.
GFO, Inc.	Market Expansion Grant	4/21/2026	Park	\$3,646.57	Natural Product Food Expo West 2026
Kara Creek Ranch Beef	Market Expansion Grant	4/21/2026	Crook	\$2,184.69	Black Hill Home Builders Home Show
Infinite Outdoors	Market Expansion Grant	4/17/2026	Natrona	\$4,000.00	Fly Fishing Show
WY Knot Locums LLC dba PsyOS.AI	Market Expansion Grant	4/16/2026	Natrona	\$4,000.00	2026 HIMMS Global Health Conference
MayPall	Market Expansion Grant	4/15/2026	Albany	\$2,613.21	IAOMT Spring Conference 2026
Agricultural Innovations, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	4/7/2026	Crook	\$3,814.97	Western Farm Show
Deer Creek Wildlife, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	4/7/2026	Park	\$4,000.00	Wild Sheep Show
Frog Creek Partners, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	4/7/2026	Natrona	\$4,000.00	International Erosion Control Association (IECA) 2026 Annual Conference & Expo
Good Raising, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	4/7/2026	Carbon	\$3,502.97	Faith and Fundraising Conference 2026
Uplink Robotics, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	4/7/2026	Albany	\$4,000.00	ASHI Inspection World
Alexis Drake, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	3/26/2026	Laramie	\$3,494.70	Sports Licensing & Tailgate Show LaunchPad
Absaroka Valley LLC	Market Expansion Grant	3/6/2026	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	SHOT Show 2026
Cowboy Country Milling	Market Expansion Grant	3/6/2026	Laramie	\$4,000.00	Website Creation
Gold Spur Outfitters, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	3/6/2026	Albany	\$1,408.07	SHOT Show 2026
Guardian Warrior Solutions	Market Expansion Grant	2/27/2026	Natrona	\$4,000.00	SHOT Show 2026
Red Rock Chronicling, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	2/17/2026	Fremont	\$4,000.00	Federal trademark registration
RYT LLC	Market Expansion Grant	2/17/2026	Big Horn	\$4,000.00	SHOT Show 2026
Alpine Revival Co LLC	Market Expansion Grant	2/10/2026	Teton	\$4,000.00	LUXE Ski Show
EstateScribe, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	1/27/2026	Teton	\$3,614.53	LegalTech Connect Conference
Meadowlark Solutions, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	1/9/2026	Washakie	\$3,077.64	Joint Stockmens Convention Trade Show
Chugwater Chili Corporation	Market Expansion Grant	12/29/2025	Platte	\$2,338.70	HPI Autumn Festival
Cognitive Behavioral Theater LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/29/2025	Laramie	\$3,153.00	Association for the Promotion of College Activities Fall MIDWEST Conference
Frog Creek Partners, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/10/2025	Natrona	\$3,476.26	2025 AZFA Conference Attendance
Agricultural Innovations, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/9/2025	Crook	\$4,000.00	Tradeshow Exhibitor at the Northern International Livestock Expo (NILE)
Cognitive Behavioral Theater LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/9/2025	Laramie	\$2,517.11	Association of the Promotion of Campus Activities trade show in Dallas, Texas.
Uplink Robotics, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/9/2025	Albany	\$3,969.55	2025 Texas Inspectors Convention
Meadowlark Solutions, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	11/20/2025	Washakie	\$1,379.75	2025 Joint Stockmen's Convention in NM
STELLAR PROGRAMING & CONSULTING, INC	Market Expansion Grant	10/31/2025	Natrona	\$4,000.00	2025 Colorado SWANA Fall Conference
Frog Creek Partners	Market Expansion Grant	10/21/2025	Natrona	\$4,000.00	CASQA Annual Conference
Double Diamond HCI LLC	Market Expansion Grant	10/15/2025	Laramie	\$1,676.08	FABTECH 2025
Powder Puff Collection	Market Expansion Grant	10/15/2025	Teton	\$4,000.00	NYC Showroom Market
Tripid Research Institute, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	10/15/2025	Teton	\$4,000.00	Independent Hotel Show
Bullfrog Creatives LLC	Market Expansion Grant	8/29/2025	Natrona	\$4,000.00	National Little Britches Rodeo 2025
ASHBRO, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	7/29/2025	Park	\$2,512.87	Overland Expo PWN
Maven Optics	Market Expansion Grant	7/29/2025	Fremont	\$3,714.26	Taiwan Trade Mission
Ready Lamp, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	7/29/2025	Goshen	\$2,765.94	2025 Great Homeschool Convention - Ohio
Ready Lamp, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	7/29/2025	Goshen	\$3,346.84	2025 ASTRA National Convention
Bear Creek Rubs	Market Expansion Grant	7/15/2025	Goshen	\$2,550.00	Website Redesign
Cognitive Behavioral Theater LLC	Market Expansion Grant	6/27/2025	Laramie	\$2,441.10	2025 APCA National Campus Activities Conference

Market Development: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Activity
Black Cat, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	6/25/2025	Laramie	\$1,884.62	2025 SEAA Trade Show
Infiatrix	Market Expansion Grant	6/25/2025	Campbell	\$491.30	AAPD Convention
MayPall	Market Expansion Grant	6/25/2025	Albany	\$3,541.67	AADP 2025
Stellar Programming & Consulting, Inc	Market Expansion Grant	6/25/2025	Natrona	\$4,000.00	RAM/SWANA Conference
Wyoming Authentic Products, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	6/25/2025	Park	\$3,927.00	CHFA West Trade Show
Yellowstone Spice Company	Market Expansion Grant	6/25/2025	Fremont	\$2,431.79	Fancy Food Vegas Jan 2025
EdgeFlyte	Market Expansion Grant	6/20/2025	Laramie	\$1,647.24	CubeSat Developers Workshop
Pine Coffee	Market Expansion Grant	6/20/2025	Sublette	\$4,000.00	SCA Coffee Expo 2025
Deaf Intervention Services	Market Expansion Grant	6/16/2025	Albany	\$2,706.21	2025 ELEVATE PX
Sew Much More, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	5/30/2025	Park	\$3,206.36	NWPPA's Engineering & Operations Conference
Brunton International LLC	Market Expansion Grant	5/29/2025	Fremont	\$4,000.00	SHOT Show 2025
High Plains Gear LLC	Market Expansion Grant	5/12/2025	Park	\$4,000.00	MEG Pheasant Fest
Mentor Agility	Market Expansion Grant	4/18/2025	Teton	\$4,000.00	NASVDA Spring/Winter 2025
Maven Optics	Market Expansion Grant	4/15/2025	Fremont	\$3,634.26	IWA 2025
LUCID Optics	Market Expansion Grant	4/3/2025	Fremont	\$2,538.20	SHOT Show 2025
Child and Family Partners	Market Expansion Grant	3/28/2025	Laramie	\$1,676.04	National Head Start Conference Dec. 2024
Bullfrog Creatives LLC	Market Expansion Grant	3/25/2025	Natrona	\$3,840.81	NFR 2024
RAD Innovations (Bow Spider)	Market Expansion Grant	3/19/2025	Fremont	\$4,000.00	Cowboy Christmas
Craftco	Market Expansion Grant	3/13/2025	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	2025 Colorado Garden and Home Show
Crooked Creek Guest Ranch	Market Expansion Grant	3/13/2025	Natrona	\$4,000.00	Snowmobile USA November 2024
Pine Coffee	Market Expansion Grant	3/13/2025	Sublette	\$4,000.00	Packaging Upgrades
Infinite Outdoors	Market Expansion Grant	3/5/2025	Natrona	\$4,000.00	National Cattlemen's Beef Association
Infinite Outdoors	Market Expansion Grant	3/5/2025	Natrona	\$3,311.38	Land Investment Expo
Deaf Intervention Services	Market Expansion Grant	1/28/2025	Albany	\$3,128.95	2024 AULREC Symposium
Chugwater Chili Corporation	Market Expansion Grant	1/16/2025	Platte	\$4,000.00	RMEF Hunter and Outdoor Christmas Expo 2024
Language IO	Market Expansion Grant	1/7/2025	Laramie	\$4,000.00	HIPPA Certification July 2024
Sew Much More LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/30/2024	Park	\$3,236.31	NWPPA/APA Alaska Electric Utility Conference 2024
Cognitive Behavioral Theater LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/20/2024	Laramie	\$3,595.87	Midwest APCA
CSC Braiding LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/10/2024	Goshen	\$1,054.89	NILE Stock Show Oct 2024
Curley Enterprises	Market Expansion Grant	11/22/2024	Albany	\$776.92	APWA Western Snow and Ice Conference
Saint Industries	Market Expansion Grant	11/22/2024	Laramie	\$4,000.00	Portugal Demonstration Oct 2024
Triipiderm	Market Expansion Grant	11/22/2024	Teton	\$4,000.00	Hospitality Show October 2024
Uplink Robotics	Market Expansion Grant	11/5/2024	Albany	\$3,446.48	InterNACHI Pro Inspections Convention October 2024
Cobalt Golf	Market Expansion Grant	9/20/2024	Fremont	\$4,000.00	Japan/Hong Kong Partner Meetings - August 2024
Mentor Agility	Market Expansion Grant	9/6/2024	Teton	\$3,840.94	NASDVA 2024
Resono Pressure Systems	Market Expansion Grant	8/22/2024	Albany	\$4,000.00	Ascend - July 2024
High Country Fungus	Market Expansion Grant	7/30/2024	Fremont	\$2,306.12	Summer Fancy Food Show
Mentor Agility	Market Expansion Grant	6/27/2024	Teton	\$3,876.91	NASDVA Conference
Infinite Outdoors	Market Expansion Grant	6/26/2024	Natrona	\$4,000.00	Western Hunt Expo 24
Infinite Outdoors	Market Expansion Grant	6/26/2024	Natrona	\$4,000.00	Mile High Hunt Expo 24
Instaclinic	Market Expansion Grant	6/14/2024	Laramie	\$2,851.99	Expansion into Hawaii
Wyoming Authentic Products, LLC	Market Expansion Grant	5/28/2024	Park	\$3,880.69	Canadian Health Food Association) West Trade Show
Foster Fine Art LLC	Market Expansion Grant	5/13/2024	Fremont	\$2,899.99	5 Thunderbird AZ art shows in 2024
Uplink Robotics	Market Expansion Grant	5/13/2024	Albany	\$4,000.00	Fire Department Instructors Conference International

Market Development: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Activity
Resono Pressure Systems	Market Expansion Grant	5/6/2024	Albany	\$4,000.00	2024 AIAA SciTech Forum and Exhibition
Kennon	Market Expansion Grant	4/16/2024	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	PDC Summit 2024
Maven Optics	Market Expansion Grant	3/28/2024	Fremont	\$4,000.00	IWA/Great British Shooting Show
Child and Family Partners	Market Expansion Grant	3/20/2024	Laramie	\$2,740.98	Head Start California Partnership
Open Country Outfitters	Market Expansion Grant	2/29/2024	Crook	\$4,000.00	Great American Outdoor Show
Discreet Ballistics	Market Expansion Grant	2/16/2024	Crook	\$3,064.31	SHOT 2024
High Plains Gear	Market Expansion Grant	2/16/2024	Park	\$3,820.62	Denver ISE
Nature's Design Taxidermy	Market Expansion Grant	2/15/2024	Park	\$4,000.00	Safariclub International
Pure Dixie	Market Expansion Grant	2/5/2024	Carbon	\$4,000.00	Trade Show
Native Tech Co	Market Expansion Grant	1/30/2024	Unita	\$796.63	CEO Circle
Horns for Heros/Bone Daddy Knives	Market Expansion Grant	1/24/2024	Fremont	\$4,000.00	RMEF Christmas Show
Chugwater Chili Corporation	Market Expansion Grant	1/5/2024	Platte	\$4,000.00	RMEF - 2023 Las Vegas
Crooked Creek Guest Ranch	Market Expansion Grant	12/11/2023	Natrona	\$2,238.92	Snowmobile USA
Concordant LLC	Market Expansion Grant	12/7/2023	Albany	\$2,725.55	TechNet Indo-Pacific
Red White and Blued	Market Expansion Grant	12/7/2023	Natrona	\$4,000.00	Trade Show
Iksplor	Market Expansion Grant	11/22/2023	Teton	\$4,000.00	Grassroots Outdoor Alliance Discovery Market Show
Seal Rite Flanges	Market Expansion Grant	10/25/2023	Campbell	\$2,369.81	Permian Basin International Oil Show
Apex Munitions/Discreet	Market Expansion Grant	10/11/2023	Crook	\$1,071.15	Trade Show & Market Expansion Grant
Flowstate	Market Expansion Grant	10/9/2023	Natrona	\$4,000.00	API Pipeline Conference & Exhibition
Red River LLC	Market Expansion Grant	10/4/2023	Campbell	\$2,091.53	RNG Works 2023
Webster Mycology	Market Expansion Grant	10/4/2023	Unita	\$2,756.25	MAP Technology to extend shelf life, increase customer reach
High Plains Gear	Market Expansion Grant	9/22/2023	Park	\$3,584.92	Game Fair
Mentor Agility	Market Expansion Grant	9/14/2023	Teton	\$2,998.01	NASDVA Conference August 2023
Maven	Market Expansion Grant	9/13/2023	Fremont	\$4,000.00	Paris 2023 Hyundai Archery World Cup
Language I/O	Market Expansion Grant	9/11/2023	Laramie	\$4,000.00	Mile High Dreamin'
Media Adventure Queen	Market Expansion Grant	9/5/2023	Fremont	\$834.95	Podcast Movement
Language I/O	Market Expansion Grant	8/29/2023	Laramie	\$4,000.00	Midwest Dreamin'
Nature's Design Taxidermy	Market Expansion Grant	8/28/2023	Park	\$2,179.94	Oddities and Curiosities Expo
Wyoming Arms	Market Expansion Grant	8/28/2023	Park	\$4,000.00	Black Hills Harley Davidson Rally
Yobo Gear	Market Expansion Grant	7/31/2023	Natrona	\$2,834.66	Overland Expo PWN
Brown Sugar	Market Expansion Grant	7/18/2023	Fremont	\$4,000.00	NRA Trade Show
Esal LLC	Market Expansion Grant	7/13/2023	Albany	\$1,765.24	Canadian Shale Water Management 2023
Square One Systems Design Inc	Market Expansion Grant	7/12/2023	Teton	\$1,300.35	Trade Show & Market Expansion Grant
Native Tech Co	Market Expansion Grant	7/11/2023	Unita	\$675.85	CEO Circle
GFO INC	State Trade Expansion Program	4/21/2026	Park	\$4,631.62	STEP 12 GFO, Inc Foodex Japan 03/04-09/29/26 IC#6657
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	4/21/2026	Park	\$5,000.00	CHFA Now 2026 Tradeshow 02/19-02/23/26
HiViz LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	4/9/2026	Albany	\$4,826.60	STEP 12 Hiviz IWA 02/21-09/29/26
Disa Technologies INC	State Trade Expansion Program	12/29/2025	Natrona	\$5,000.00	STEP grant to Exposibram
Brunton International LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	12/19/2025	Fremont	\$5,000.00	STEP 12 Brunton Int IPGC Conference
Precious Cat INC	State Trade Expansion Program	12/9/2025	Laramie	\$5,000.00	STEP Precious Cat London Pet Show
Precious Cat INC	State Trade Expansion Program	12/9/2025	Laramie	\$5,000.00	STEP Precious Cat SE Asia Pet Show
Brunton International LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	11/20/2025	Fremont	\$5,000.00	Society of Economic Geologist Conf. Aus STEP 11
Frog Creek Partners FCP LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	11/19/2025	Natrona	\$4,514.02	Frog Creek IC#6557 STEP. World Water Week
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	11/13/2025	Park	\$5,000.00	CHFA East 2025 Tradeshow STEP grant

Market Development: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Activity
Gunwerks LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/31/2025	Park	\$5,000.00	Tradeshows grant to attend ADIHEK in Abu Dhabi 6/23/2025-9/30/2025
Trilipid Research Institute LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	9/24/2025	Teton	\$5,000.00	STEP Grant 7/9/25-9/29/25 BioAsia 2025 in Taiwan
Frog Creek Partners FCP LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	8/29/2025	Natrona	\$4,982.49	STEP11 Alliance for Water Stewardship
Garrison Minerals LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	7/29/2025	Laramie	\$5,000.00	STEP grant to attend MagForum 2025
HiViz LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/3/2025	Albany	\$5,000.00	IWA 2025 in Germany
Victor Company USA INC	State Trade Expansion Program	5/9/2025	Uinta	\$5,000.00	Reimbursement for STEP IWA 2025
Gunwerks LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	4/28/2025	Park	\$3,456.93	IWA Step reimbursement
Warehouse Twenty One INC	State Trade Expansion Program	4/3/2025	Laramie	\$550.00	IWA Banner Design
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	1/16/2025	Park	\$4,205.66	Private Label Manufacturers Assoc. Show in Chicago
Legacy Innovations LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	12/20/2024	Campbell	\$5,000.00	2024 International Workboat Show in New Orleans, LA
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	11/7/2024	Park	\$5,000.00	CHFA East Show in Toronto, CA
Uplinkrobotics LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/29/2024	Albany	\$1,020.72	2024 EU Trade Exploration in France, Switzerland & Germany
Gunwerks LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	9/30/2024	Park	\$5,000.00	ADIHEX Show in Abu Dhabi
HiViz LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	9/24/2024	Albany	\$5,000.00	HiViz, LLC; IC# 6421- 2024 IWA Show STEP
Trilipid Research Institute LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	9/24/2024	Teton	\$2,820.18	BioAsia Show in Taiwan
Disa Technologies INC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/21/2024	Natrona	\$5,000.00	Disa Technologies, Inc STEP Grant
Brunton International LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/20/2024	Fremont	\$5,000.00	2024 ISPO Outdoor Show in Munich, Germany
Brunton International LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	5/22/2024	Fremont	\$5,000.00	2024 European Geosciences Union General Assembly; April 11-22, 2024
Disa Technologies INC	State Trade Expansion Program	5/16/2024	Natrona	\$4,215.43	Disa Technologies; SME Annual Conf & Expo in Phoenix, AZ 2-25 to 2-28-24
Gunwerks LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	3/18/2024	Park	\$5,000.00	STEP Grant IWA 2024 and British Shooting Show 2024
Radiant Manufacturing	State Trade Expansion Program	2/12/2024	Sweetwater	\$5,000.00	STEP- SBA funds for the Foreign Market and Export Promotion
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	1/5/2024	Park	\$3,455.60	Wyoming Authentic Products- Chicago PLMA Trade Show
Language IO INC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/25/2023	Laramie	\$5,000.00	Foreign Market & Export Promotion
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/25/2023	Park	\$3,673.67	CANADA Trade Show WY Grant for CHFA EAST Show
Celldrop INC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/4/2023	Albany	\$3,837.42	use small business admin funds for the Foreign Market & port Promotion Project
Legacy Innovations LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	7/19/2023	Campbell	\$4,800.41	Legacy Innovations LLC STEP Grant
Backwards Distilling Company LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	7/14/2023	Natrona	\$4,485.09	Backwards Distilling Company, LLC STEP Grant
Big Lost Meadery LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	7/14/2023	Campbell	\$2,853.72	Big Lost Meadery LLC STEP grant
Brunton International LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/22/2023	Fremont	\$5,000.00	IC# 6305- use small business admin funds for Foreign Market & Export Promotion
Brunton International LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/5/2023	Fremont	\$5,000.00	Brunton International LLC STEP grant; foreign market and export promotion project
Sealrite LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	5/18/2023	Campbell	\$2,391.94	Seal Rite STEP Grant Williston Basin Petroleum Conference
Wyoming Arms LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	5/18/2023	Park	\$5,000.00	Wyoming Arms STEP Grant
HiViz LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	5/3/2023	Albany	\$5,000.00	HiViz 2023 STEP Grant IWA Germany
Gunwerks LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	3/24/2023	Park	\$1,367.66	Gunwerks STEP Grant Canada 2023
Gunwerks LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	3/24/2023	Park	\$2,821.31	Gunwerks 2023 STEP Grant Germany IWA
Disa Technologies INC	State Trade Expansion Program	3/21/2023	Natrona	\$4,004.60	Disa Technologies 2023 STEP Grant SME Annual Conference
Kennon Products INC	State Trade Expansion Program	12/14/2022	Sheridan	\$7,000.00	Kennon Products STEP Grant Medica International Trade Fair Dusseldorf Germany
Kennon Products INC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/31/2022	Sheridan	\$5,581.93	Kennon Products STEP Grant Germany and Sweden
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/27/2022	Park	\$1,285.53	Wy Auth Products STEP Toronto Canada Trade Show
HiViz LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/24/2022	Albany	\$1,454.00	HiViz, LLC- STEP funds to attend Modern Day Marine Trade Show
Kennon Products INC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/11/2022	Sheridan	\$1,150.81	Kennon Products STEP Grant
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	10/5/2022	Park	\$5,000.00	Wy Auth Products STEP 6179 Canadian Packaging
Veritek EMP INC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/23/2022	Albany	\$2,700.11	Wilkinson Tactical, LLC- STEP grant to attend Modern Day Marine Trade Show
Wyoming Completion Technologies INC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/22/2022	Park	\$4,000.00	Wyo Completion Technologies STEP Tradewinds Trade Show

Market Development: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Activity
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	6/15/2022	Park	\$3,714.47	Wy Auth Products STEP 6178 CHFA Attendance
Wyoming Outdoor CORP	State Trade Expansion Program	5/27/2022	Fremont	\$6,455.00	Wyoming Outdoor Corp-Maven STEP Grant; South Africa - Huntex
NoSo LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	4/15/2022	Teton	\$3,984.21	NoSo Patches STEP Grant
Gunwerks LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	4/14/2022	Park	\$3,671.57	Gunwerks STEP Grant for trade show in Germany
Wyoming Outdoor CORP	State Trade Expansion Program	4/14/2022	Fremont	\$3,609.57	Wyoming Outdoor Corp-Maven STEP Grant
Wyoming Arms LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	3/31/2022	Park	\$2,751.00	Wyoming Arms, LLC; 2022 SHOT Show expenses (75%)
Big Lost Meadery LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	3/16/2022	Campbell	\$1,562.88	Big Lost Meadery STEP Grant
Backwards Distilling Company LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	9/30/2021	Natrona	\$1,875.00	Trade show grant- STEP
Yellowstone Spice Company	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	6/22/2023	Fremont	\$3,636.35	TS & Market Expansion Grant
Picture My Story	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	6/9/2023	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	Market Expansion Grant
TravelStorysGPS LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	5/31/2023	Teton	\$3,457.66	Trade Show & Market Expansion Grant reimbursement
Kennon Products Inc	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	5/15/2023	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	2023 Army Aviation Missions Solutions Summit
Wyoming Outdoor Corp	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	5/3/2023	Fremont	\$4,660.32	Maven TSME Grant - includes shipping
High Plains Gear LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/20/2023	Park	\$2,721.64	Pheasant Fest
Sealrite LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/20/2023	Campbell	\$4,000.00	4C HSE Enviro Conference
Insurxcel LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/19/2023	Albany	\$2,741.88	WSIA Trade Show & Market Expansion Grant
Rad Innovations LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/19/2023	Fremont	\$2,972.81	Western Hunt Expo
Rad Innovations LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/19/2023	Fremont	\$3,341.67	Great American Outdoor Show
Savage Thread Works LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/19/2023	Natrona	\$497.07	Rocky Mtn Gun Show Sandy UT
Savage Thread Works LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/19/2023	Natrona	\$1,077.05	SHOT Show 2023
Kennon Products Inc	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/14/2023	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	2023 PDC Summit
Infinite Outdoors LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	3/24/2023	Natrona	\$2,534.81	Denver International Sportsman Expo
Infinite Outdoors LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	3/24/2023	Natrona	\$3,119.01	Western Hunt Expo Salt Lake City
Noso LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	3/22/2023	Teton	\$4,000.00	Grass Roots Outdoor Alliance
Skull Bracket LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	3/20/2023	Albany	\$551.91	SHOT Show 2023
Mentor Agility LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	3/15/2023	Teton	\$3,234.78	NASDVA Mid Winter Conference
Kifaru Holdings	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	2/28/2023	Fremont	\$4,000.00	Western Hunt Expo Booth
Wyoming Arms LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	2/10/2023	Park	\$4,000.00	SHOT Show 2023
Lucid Optics Corporation	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	2/9/2023	Fremont	\$4,000.00	SHOT Show 2023
Chugwater Chili Corporation	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	1/11/2023	Platte	\$4,000.00	RMEF Hunter & Outdoor Christmas Expo
Rad Innovations LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	1/11/2023	Fremont	\$2,754.00	RMEF Hunter Outdoor Christmas
Wyoming Outdoor Corp	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	1/11/2023	Fremont	\$4,000.00	Johannesburg ZA PHASA
Curley Enterprises LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	12/22/2022	Albany	\$1,261.88	SIMA
Curley Enterprises LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	12/22/2022	Albany	\$226.05	APWA
Disa Technologies INC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	12/16/2022	Natrona	\$4,000.00	AEMA Annual Meeting
Kennon Products Inc	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	12/14/2022	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	Medica International Trade Fair
The Local Crowd LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	12/6/2022	Albany	\$2,646.02	CFDA Annual Summit
Concordant LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	11/28/2022	Albany	\$2,502.07	Trade Show and Market Expansion Grant
Symmetry Trailers	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	11/23/2022	Natrona	\$1,638.19	Trade Show Incentive Grant
Kennon Products Inc	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	10/31/2022	Sheridan	\$4,000.00	Healthcare Design Conference and Expo
Wyoming Authentic Products LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	10/27/2022	Park	\$2,958.11	Toronto Canada Trade Show
Element 27	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	10/18/2022	Fremont	\$1,982.51	World Amateur Golf Tournament Trade Show
Insurxcel LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	9/30/2022	Albany	\$3,322.22	WSIA Insurtech Conference
Noso LLC	Tradeshaw & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	9/30/2022	Teton	\$4,000.00	Patches Trade Show

Market Development: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award	Activity
Noso LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	9/30/2022	Teton	\$4,000.00	Patches Trade Show
Lucid Optics Corporation	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	8/5/2022	Fremont	\$2,921.68	Modern Day Marine
Element 27	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	6/22/2022	Fremont	\$2,560.50	REX Hospital Open Trade Show
Wyoming Arms LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	6/22/2022	Park	\$4,000.00	Grant NRA Annual Meeting
Earth Work Solutions	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	6/10/2022	Campbell	\$570.81	Trade Show & Market Expansion Grant
Curley Enterprises LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	4/11/2022	Albany	\$4,000.00	SIMA Tradeshow & Minnesota Northern Green Tradeshow
Disa Technologies INC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	3/29/2022	Natrona	\$920.00	SME Annual Conference
Chugwater Chili Corporation	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	1/4/2022	Platte	\$4,000.00	Christmas Expo
TravelStorysGPS LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	9/15/2021	Teton	\$1,825.00	Association of African American Museums Conference
Wyoming Arms LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	8/31/2021	Park	\$4,000.00	Black Hills Harley Davidson Trade Show
Backwards Distilling Company LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	7/15/2021	Natrona	\$1,156.53	Trade Show & Market Expansion Grant
Curley Enterprises LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	5/25/2021	Albany	\$4,000.00	Trade Show
Wyoming Arms LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	2/4/2021	Park	\$4,500.00	Trade Show
Frog Creek Partners Fcp LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	2/28/2020	Natrona	\$1,349.98	ISLE Utilities TAG Conference
Jason House	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	2/19/2020	Big Horn	\$2,221.38	Creations in Antler - Safari Club International
Zaps Smoke Shack LLC	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	2/10/2020	Park	\$1,133.00	International Sportsmen's Expo
Amy L Rankl	Tradeshow & Market Expansion Grant (Inactive)	1/29/2020	Laramie	\$2,500.00	Atlanta International Gift/Home Furn Show
Approved but not reimbursed					
Sweet Motivation LLC	Market Expansion Grant	FY26	Laramie		ADA Scientific Sessions
Visual Engineering Inc.	Market Expansion Grant	FY26	Sublette		World of Coffee San Diego
Escalate LLC	Market Expansion Grant	FY26	Park		EMS World Live - Austin, TX
Guardian Warrior Solutions	Market Expansion Grant	FY26	Natrona		SIDO New-to- Export National Training 2026
Brunton International, LTD	State Trade Expansion Program	STEP 12	Fremont		European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2026
Frog Creek Partners, LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	STEP 12	Natrona		Alliance for Water Stewardship Global Forum 2026
Frog Creek Partners, LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	STEP 12	Natrona		Global Water Summit 2026
Garrison Minerals, LLC	State Trade Expansion Program	STEP 12	Laramie		MagForum 2026
Precious Cat, Inc.	State Trade Expansion Program	STEP 12	Laramie		InterZoo 2026

SBIR: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award
Wyonics LLC	SBIR Match Grant	11/12/2025	Albany	\$70,000.00
Kennon Products, Inc	SBIR Match Grant	10/9/2025	Sheridan	\$200,000.00
SKM Instruments, LLC	SBIR Match Grant	9/18/2025	Albany	\$100,000.00
Airloom Energy, Inc	SBIR Match Grant	9/15/2025	Albany	\$200,000.00
Curley Enterprises LLC	SBIR Match Grant	5/29/2025	Albany	\$200,000.00
Blacktooth Aerospace, LLC	SBIR Match Grant	2/4/2025	Sheridan	\$60,000.00
Native Tech, Co.	SBIR Match Grant	10/4/2024	Uinta	\$200,000.00
Acadian Research & Development LLC	SBIR Match Grant	9/26/2024	Albany	\$200,000.00
Fourth State Communications	SBIR Match Grant	9/16/2024	Laramie	\$200,000.00
Resono Pressure Systems, Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	8/26/2024	Albany	\$70,000.00
Unlocked Labs Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	8/16/2024	Albany	\$200,000.00
Biominerall Systems LLC	SBIR Match Grant	3/19/2024	Albany	\$100,000.00
AsimicA, Inc	SBIR Match Grant	3/13/2024	Albany	\$70,000.00
CellDrop Biosciences Inc	SBIR Match Grant	2/26/2024	Albany	\$200,000.00
Curley Enterprises LLC	SBIR Match Grant	2/26/2024	Albany	\$200,000.00
Square One Systems Design, Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	2/26/2024	Teton	\$200,000.00
Exploration Institute	SBIR Match Grant	11/29/2023	Laramie	\$200,000.00
Curley Enterprises LLC	SBIR Match Grant	8/4/2023	Albany	\$74,968.00
Fourth State Communications	SBIR Match Grant	6/8/2023	Laramie	\$200,000.00
Native Tech	SBIR Match Grant	5/19/2023	Uinta	\$200,000.00
Acadian Research & Development LLC	SBIR Match Grant	4/27/2023	Albany	\$70,000.00
Wyonics LLC	SBIR Match Grant	1/12/2023	Albany	\$200,000.00
SLD Photonics	SBIR Match Grant	12/16/2022	Albany	\$100,000.00
Wyoming Instrumentation Development LLC	SBIR Match Grant	12/13/2022	Albany	\$70,000.00
Evoseer LLC	SBIR Match Grant	11/23/2022	Albany	\$100,000.00
Exploration Institute LLC	SBIR Match Grant	11/10/2022	Laramie	\$200,000.00
Resono Pressure Systems, Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	10/25/2022	Albany	\$200,000.00
ESal, LLC	SBIR Match Grant	9/12/2022	Albany	\$200,000.00
Fourth State Communications, LLC	SBIR Match Grant	7/13/2022	Laramie	\$200,000.00
Kennon Products, Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	7/13/2022	Sheridan	\$200,000.00

SBIR: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name	Type	Date	County	Award
Unlocked Labs Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	7/13/2022	Albany	\$70,000.00
Wyonics LLC	SBIR Match Grant	1/3/2022	Albany	\$100,000.00
Picolo Labs Inc	SBIR Match Grant	11/23/2021	Natrona	\$100,000.00
CellDrop Biosciences Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	10/21/2021	Albany	\$100,000.00
CO2 Sync Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	3/22/2021	Park	\$100,000.00
AsimicA, Inc	SBIR Match Grant	2/8/2021	Albany	\$100,000.00
Exploration Institute	SBIR Match Grant	2/8/2021	Laramie	\$200,000.00
Exploration Institute	SBIR Match Grant	2/8/2021	Laramie	\$100,000.00
Resono Pressure Systems INC	SBIR Match Grant	2/8/2021	Albany	\$200,000.00
Square One Systems Design, Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	10/23/2020	Teton	\$200,000.00
Wyonano, LLC	SBIR Match Grant	10/23/2020	Sheridan	\$100,000.00
Kennon Products, Inc.	SBIR Match Grant	10/20/2020	Sheridan	\$145,000.00
Frontier Astronautics	SBIR Match Grant	10/15/2020	Platte	\$200,000.00
Theraneutrics LLC	SBIR Match Grant	10/13/2020	Albany	\$99,860.00
Acadian Research & Development LLC	SBIR Match Grant	9/1/2020	Albany	\$99,975.00
Wyoming Instrumentation Development, LLC	SBIR Match Grant	4/29/2020	Albany	\$77,520.00

Wyoming Academy: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name (Last, First)	Type	Session Date	County	Award	Notes
Anderson, Stephanie	Academy	10/23/2025	Uinta	\$1,940.28	
Axlund, Martin	Academy	10/23/2025	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Boscaljon, Daniel	Academy	10/23/2025	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Detimore, Teresa	Academy	10/23/2025	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
Duff, Cameron	Academy	10/23/2025	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
Galloway, Nathan	Academy	10/23/2025	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Gross, Heidi	Academy	10/23/2025	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Hacker, Tonya	Academy	10/23/2025	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Heward, Joe	Academy	10/23/2025	Lincoln	\$1,940.28	
Hirschman, Brynn	Academy	10/23/2025	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Johnson, Jim	Academy	10/23/2025	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Krueger, Kem	Academy	10/23/2025	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Leichtnam, Beverly	Academy	10/23/2025	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
Lenz, Kathy	Academy	10/23/2025	Crook	\$1,940.28	
Lilygren, Michael	Academy	10/23/2025	Fremont	\$1,940.28	
Manning, Loretta	Academy	10/23/2025	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
McConnaughey, Ryan	Academy	10/23/2025	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Melaragno, Mary	Academy	10/23/2025	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Mickelson, Josh	Academy	10/23/2025	Teton	\$1,940.28	
Mickelson, Max	Academy	10/23/2025	Uinta	\$1,940.28	
Miller, Robert	Academy	10/23/2025	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
Peterson, Heidi	Academy	10/23/2025	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Pexton, Kim	Academy	10/23/2025	Converse	\$1,940.28	
Schilling, Justin	Academy	10/23/2025	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Smith, Derek	Academy	10/23/2025	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Yunker, Lori	Academy	10/23/2025	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Barlow, Eric	Academy	10/24/2024	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Brown-Herbst, Kari	Academy	10/24/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Dorman, Meri Ann	Academy	10/24/2024	Hot Springs	\$1,940.28	
Evans, Baylie	Academy	10/24/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	

Wyoming Academy: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name (Last, First)	Type	Session Date	County	Award	Notes
Fuller, Josh	Academy	10/24/2024	Teton	\$1,940.28	
Geesey, Jim	Academy	10/24/2024	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Guschewsky, Paul	Academy	10/24/2024	Fremont	\$1,940.28	
Havel, Dustin	Academy	10/24/2024	Teton	\$1,940.28	
Hawley, Kevin	Academy	10/24/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Hogarty, Katie	Academy	10/24/2024	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Holliday, Michael	Academy	10/24/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Kahler, Brett	Academy	10/24/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Krula, Sena	Academy	10/24/2024	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Luhman, Greg	Academy	10/24/2024	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
MacKay, Renny	Academy	10/24/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
McGuffey, Corte	Academy	10/24/2024	Fremont	\$1,940.28	
Miller, Tyler	Academy	10/24/2024	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Miller, Dana	Academy	10/24/2024	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Power, Jennifer	Academy	10/24/2024	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Robbins, Penny	Academy	10/24/2024	Uinta	\$1,940.28	
Rowley, Sam	Academy	10/24/2024	Park	\$1,940.28	
Sanderson, Violet	Academy	10/24/2024	Lincoln	\$1,940.28	
Sarette, David	Academy	10/24/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Schmidt, Korin	Academy	10/24/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Scroggins, Lisa	Academy	10/24/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Sinclair, Cody	Academy	10/24/2024	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
Stine, Chloe	Academy	10/24/2024	Washakie	\$1,940.28	
Valentino, Crista	Academy	10/24/2024	Teton	\$1,940.28	
Yarber, Erika	Academy	10/24/2024	Fremont	\$1,940.28	
Bell, Rusty	Academy	4/5/2024	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Burrige, Lisa	Academy	4/5/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Campbell, Tori	Academy	4/5/2024	Denver, CO	\$1,940.28	UW Grad originally from WY. Works with the College of Business.
Chen, JJ	Academy	4/5/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Cowan, Mark	Academy	4/5/2024	Sweetwater	\$1,940.28	

Wyoming Academy: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)

Name (Last, First)	Type	Session Date	County	Award	Notes
Crank, Donald	Academy	4/5/2024	Lincoln	\$1,940.28	
DiRienzo, Sara	Academy	4/5/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Dixson, Greg	Academy	4/5/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Even, Anne	Academy	4/5/2024	Fremont	\$1,940.28	
Greer, Landon	Academy	4/5/2024	Park	\$1,940.28	
Hamlin, Sarah	Academy	4/5/2024	Fremont	\$1,940.28	
Johnson, Angie	Academy	4/5/2024	Park	\$1,940.28	
Johnson, Dixie	Academy	4/5/2024	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
Kemper, Sabrina	Academy	4/5/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	
Kilbride, Erin	Academy	4/5/2024	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
McRae, Stuart	Academy	4/5/2024	Sheridan	\$1,940.28	
Millar, Kelley	Academy	4/5/2024	Weston	\$1,940.28	
O'Connell, Julie	Academy	4/5/2024	Uinta	\$1,940.28	
O'Neill, Rocco	Academy	4/5/2024	Uinta	\$1,940.28	
Pratt, Aaron	Academy	4/5/2024	Helena, MT	\$1,940.28	Federal level EDA regional rep. for WY.
Richardson, Micah	Academy	4/5/2024	Albany	\$1,940.28	
Scheel, Phillip	Academy	4/5/2024	Hot Springs	\$1,940.28	
Seders, Jessica	Academy	4/5/2024	Campbell	\$1,940.28	
Sheppard, Tim	Academy	4/5/2024	Laramie	\$1,940.28	
Stanton, Dan	Academy	4/5/2024	Sweetwater	\$1,940.28	
Trandahl, Nick	Academy	4/5/2024	Weston	\$1,940.28	
Underwood, Carlton	Academy	4/5/2024	Fremont	\$1,940.28	
Wetzel, John	Academy	4/5/2024	Park	\$1,940.28	
Worthen, Beth	Academy	4/5/2024	Natrona	\$1,940.28	

WYVC: Recipient List (01/01/2020 - 05/19/2026)				
Name	Type	Date	County	Award
Derapi	Direct	12/12/2025	Teton	Equity Financing
UserEvidence	Direct	5/28/2025	Teton	Equity Financing
Alpyn Beauty	Direct	11/8/2024	Teton	Equity Financing
Airloom	Direct	5/16/2024	Albany	Equity Financing
Disa	Direct	12/19/2023	Natrona	Equity Financing
MiaShare (Lumion)	Direct	12/5/2023	Teton	Equity Financing
Eye to Eye Telehealth	Direct	11/22/2023	Laramie	Equity Financing
Frontline Wildfire Defense	Direct	7/21/2023	Teton	Equity Financing
Remo Health	Direct	7/21/2023	Teton	Equity Financing
Language IO	Direct	7/19/2023	Laramie	Equity Financing
Breakthrough Venture Capital	Funds	5/2/2024	Natrona	Limited Partner Capital Commitment



MAY 2026

WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL STATUTORY RECOMMENDATIONS

PREPARED FOR THE JOINT MINERALS, BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

WBC Statutory Recommendations

CHAPTER 12 - WYOMING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACT

ARTICLE 1 - IN GENERAL

9-12-101. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Economic Development Act."

9-12-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act, the following terms have the following meanings, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(i) "Board" means the board of directors of the council;

(ii) "Council" means the Wyoming business council, the body corporate created by this article;

(iii) "Federal agency" means the United States, the President of the United States, and any department, corporation, agency, or instrumentality heretofore or hereafter created, designated, or established by the United States;

(iv) "Financial aid" means:

(A) The infusion of risk capital to persons by making investments for use in the development and exploitation of specific products;

(B) The purchase of securities;

(C) Royalty agreements;

(D) Loans and loan guarantees;

(E) Any contractual arrangement in which the council provides technological services to any person involving the development and exploitation of a specific product.

(v) "Person" means natural persons, firms, foundations, associations, corporations, business trusts, partnerships, joint ventures, and public bodies, including but

not limited to the state of Wyoming, any state, and any agency, department, institution, political subdivision or instrumentality of Wyoming or any state;

(vi) "Product" means any product, device, technique or process, which is or may be exploitable commercially and includes products, devices, techniques or processes which have advanced beyond the theoretic stage and are readily capable of being, or have been, reduced to practice but excludes pure research;

(vii) "Venture" means any contractual arrangement with any person whereby the council obtains rights from or in a product or proceeds therefrom in exchange for the granting of financial aid to the person;

(viii) "This act" means W.S. 9-12-101 through 9-12-1509.

9-12-103. Wyoming business council; creation; composition; compensation; termination; meetings; surety bonds; fiscal control.

(a) There is created the Wyoming business council. The council is a body corporate operating as a state instrumentality operated solely for the public benefit. As such it shall have, and is hereby vested with, the powers and duties conferred in this chapter. Beginning March 1, 2022, it shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of thirteen (13) voting directors, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The governor shall be a member and cochairman of the board, but shall not vote. There shall be two (2) ex-officio nonvoting members from the Wyoming Legislature, one House & one Senate as appointed by the Speaker of the House and Senate President. The appointed directors shall have demonstrated leadership and business expertise. ~~An equal number of directors shall be appointed to initial terms of one (1), two (2) and three (3) years. Thereafter,~~ directors shall serve for terms of three (3) years. No appointed director shall serve more than two (2) successive three (3) year terms. If a vacancy occurs, the governor shall appoint a successor in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101. The governor may remove any board member he appoints for cause and shall remove any director who fails to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the council. No appointed council member shall send a designee to attend a council meeting nor vote by proxy. The board shall select one (1) of its members to act as cochairman of the board. The board shall retain a chief executive officer. The chief executive officer serves at the pleasure of the board. All of the appointed directors shall be appointed at large and at least twelve (12) of the appointed directors shall be residents of Wyoming.

(b) The appointed directors shall receive per diem for attending board meetings in the same amount as state legislators and shall receive no other compensation for serving on the

Commented [1]: Green type indicates suggested new language.

board. The board shall fix the salary of the chief executive officer. Subject to the approval of the directors, the chief executive officer shall determine the terms of employment, tenure, duties, working conditions, promotion and termination of all other employees which the chief executive officer determines are necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the council. Employees of the council shall be covered by the Wyoming Retirement Act, the State Employees and Officials Group Insurance Act and the Wyoming Deferred Compensation Act.

(c) Upon termination of the council, all its rights and properties shall pass to and be vested in the state.

(d) The council shall determine the date, time, place and method of notice for all regular meetings of the council. A majority of the voting directors of the council constitutes a quorum for the transaction of any business or the exercise of any power or function of the council. Matters shall be decided by a majority vote of the voting members of the council. As unanimously determined by the council members, the council may take action by conference telephone or similar communications equipment whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time.

(e) The council may execute and maintain at its expense a blanket surety bond covering each director, the chief executive officer and the employees or other officers of the council in the penal sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00).

(f) The council may also form committees and advisory councils, which may include representatives who are not members of the board, to undertake more extensive study and discussion of the issues before the board. ~~The council shall form an advisory council for broadband development and designate a broadband coordinator in accordance with W.S. 9-12-1509.~~

Commented [2]: Red font indicates language that should be considered for removal.

(g) Except as specifically provided in this act, the following provisions do not apply to the council:

(i) W.S. 9-2-1001.1 through 9-2-1014.2 and 9-2-3201 through 9-2-3209;

(ii) W.S. 9-3-101 through 9-3-105;

(iii) The Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(h) Except as specifically provided in this act, the provisions of W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205 and 16-4-401 through 16-4-408 shall apply to the council.

9-12-104. General powers and duties of the council.

(a) Except as otherwise limited by this act, the council may:

(i) Sue and be sued and procure necessary liability insurance;

(ii) Have a seal;

(iii) Make and execute contracts and other instruments;

(iv) Adopt rules and regulations to implement the programs and functions assigned to the council by this act. Any rule adopted by the council shall be submitted to the management council of the legislature in accordance with W.S. 28-9-101 through 28-9-108, approved by the governor as provided in W.S. 16-3-103(d) and filed with the secretary of state;

(v) Acquire or contract to acquire by grant, purchase, option or otherwise, real, personal or mixed property or any interest in property, including patents, copyrights, trademarks or any other evidence of protection or exclusivity as to products;

(vi) Own, hold, clear, improve and rehabilitate, and sell, assign, exchange, transfer, convey, lease and mortgage real, personal or mixed property or otherwise dispose of, or encumber the same;

(vii) Grant options to purchase any interest in or asset arising out of an agreement;

(viii) Provide advisory, consultative or educational services, technical assistance and advice to any person in order to carry out the purposes of the council;

(ix) Mortgage or pledge any or all of its revenue, income, or interest in or asset arising out of a venture agreement;

(x) Except as otherwise provided in this act, deposit any funds of the council in any financial institutions located within the state;

(xi) Procure insurance against any loss in connection with its property and other assets and operations in amounts and from insurers it deems desirable;

(xii) Engage the services of consultants on a contract basis for rendering professional, financial and technical assistance and advice, including for studies and investigation likely to lead to business development. The procurement of the professional services of architects, engineers and surveyors shall be in accordance with W.S. 9-23-105(f) through (h) and 9-23-106(g);

(xiii) Contract for and accept any gifts or grants or loans of funds or property or financial or other aid in any form from the federal government or any agency or instrumentality thereof, or from any other source and pass through or otherwise comply, subject to the provisions of this chapter, with the terms and conditions thereof;

(xiv) Enter into agreements with persons doing business or who will do business in this state for the advancement of financial assistance to those persons for research and the development of specific products, procedures and techniques to be developed and produced in this state conditioned upon contractual assurances that the benefits of increasing or maintaining employment and tax revenues shall remain in and accrue to this state;

(xv) Consent to the modification of the terms of any mortgage, loan or contract to which the council is a party;

(xvi) Organize, conduct, sponsor or cooperate in and assist the conduct of special institutes, conferences and demonstrations relating to the stimulation and formulation of business development;

(xvii) Make investments in projects that have potential to stimulate economic development in the state;

(xviii) Render advice and assistance and to provide services to state agencies, local and regional economic development entities, private firms and other persons providing services or facilities for economic development in Wyoming;

(xix) Do all acts and things necessary or convenient to carry out the powers granted to it by this act or any other act;

(xx) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

(xxi) Repealed by Laws 2008, Ch. 6, § 2.

(b) The board, consistent with this act, shall develop guidelines for each of the areas specified in subsection (a) of

this section relative to definitions, types of grants or loans, level of funding and repayment requirements.

9-12-105. Economic development services.

(a) It shall be the duty of the council to encourage, stimulate and support the development and expansion of the economy of the state. The council is charged with the following duties and responsibilities:

(i) To see that there are prepared and carried out effective economic development and diversification marketing and promotional programs;

(ii) To make available, in conjunction and cooperation with localities, chambers of commerce, industrial authorities and other public and private groups, to prospective new businesses basic information and pertinent factors of interest and concern to such businesses;

(iii) To formulate, promulgate and advance programs throughout the state for encouraging the location of new businesses in the state and the retention and growth of existing businesses;

(iv) To encourage and solicit private sector involvement, support and funding for economic development in the state;

(v) To encourage the coordination of the economic development and diversification efforts of public institutions, regions, communities and private industry and collect and maintain data on the development and utilization of economic development and diversification capabilities;

(vi) To establish such offices within and without the state that are necessary to the expansion and development of industries and trade. The council shall establish economic development and diversification regions and offices within the state based upon socioeconomic and geographic similarities;

(vii) To encourage the export of products and services from the state to national and international markets. In addition to conducting international and other market research as authorized in W.S. 9-12-106(b), the council shall employ or contract with persons for purposes of developing new markets and expanding foreign trade efforts, including expanding international markets for Wyoming services, Wyoming agricultural and other products and commodities, and targeted consumer advertising;

(viii) To advise the University of Wyoming and the Wyoming community college commission in designating technical training and other educational programs in Wyoming's community colleges and the University of Wyoming beneficial to economic development and diversification activities in this state;

~~(ix) To adopt a state broadband enhancement plan.~~

Commented [3]: Completed, and irrelevant

(b) The council, ~~in consultation with the coordinator of economic diversification~~, shall implement the "startup:Wyoming" program in priority economic sectors identified in the approved twenty (20) year comprehensive economic diversification strategy under W.S. 9-12-1402(a) (iv). The program shall:

(i) Foster connectivity between entrepreneurs, investors and mentors, aligning local entities through coordinated points of contact in participating Wyoming communities. The efforts shall include methods of communication designed to allow interaction between stakeholders on a regular and consistent basis;

(ii) Provide entrepreneurs with advanced resources to help their business succeed, including mentoring, marketing, legal and other business coaching services;

(iii) In conjunction with the University of Wyoming, community colleges, localities, chambers of commerce, industrial authorities and other public and private groups, develop incubators, accelerators, co-working spaces, makerspaces and other unique work spaces and equipment to foster entrepreneurialism.

(c) The council shall administer a "kickstart:Wyoming" program to provide funding to early stage ventures of Wyoming based entrepreneurs. Funding under this subsection shall be provided upon approval of the council. The council shall adopt rules for funding under this subsection ~~in consultation with the coordinator of economic diversification~~. Funding shall be in amounts ranging from five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) and be provided under the following conditions:

(i) To individuals who reside in Wyoming and to business entities which are, or agree in writing to be, headquartered in Wyoming and organized under the laws of the state of Wyoming and which:

(A) Have committed to maintaining a meaningful nexus to the state of Wyoming, including after commercialization of a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset developed with the assistance of the funds;

(B) Proposes a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset which has a probability of providing an economic return to the state of Wyoming through creation of jobs, expanded tax base and diversification of the state's economy;

(C) Agree to provide ~~a~~ reporting to the council on the progress to commercialize the service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset developed with the assistance of the funds.

(ii) The recipient of funding meets other requirements established by rule of the council to ensure adequate consideration for the amount of the funding provided. In establishing provisions for adequate consideration to the state, the council may include, but is not limited to, requiring a recipient to seek additional nonstate investment funding and specifying requirements for maintaining a nexus to the state.

(d) The council shall administer a ~~small business innovation research~~ federal innovation matching program in accordance with this subsection. The program shall match federal funds approved for Wyoming based companies as provided in this subsection. The program shall be administered by the council ~~in consultation with the University of Wyoming research office~~. The following shall apply to the program under this subsection:

shall:

- (i) To be eligible to receive funding, an entity
 - (A) Be headquartered in Wyoming and organized under the laws of the state of Wyoming;

(B) Maintain a meaningful nexus to the state of Wyoming, including for not less than three (3) years after commercialization of a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset developed with the assistance of funds from the program;

(C) Have received funding under the federal small business innovation research, ~~and~~ small business technology transfer programs, ~~or other federal innovation grant~~;

(D) Propose a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset which has a probability of providing an economic return to the state of Wyoming through

Commented [4]: Red type recommends striking language. Green type indicates suggested new language. The recommended addition of "federal innovation" allows Wyoming the ability to keep pace with federal program changes, which currently are ahead of the state statute.

creation of jobs, expanded tax base and diversification of the state's economy;

(E) Agree to provide a report to the council on or before July 1 of each year in the following manner:

(I) For five (5) years after award ~~Prior to commercialization~~, the entity shall report on the progress of the entity to commercialize the service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset developed with the assistance of funds from this program;

Commented [5]: Green type recommends new language; red type recommends striking language.

~~(II) If the entity commercializes a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset, and continues to market the product, concept or design or asset, the entity shall report for three (3) years on:~~

created;

(1) The number of jobs the entity has

(2) A salary range per job;

(3) The taxable assets of the entity;

(4) All revenues from sales of the service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset of the entity.

(5) Progress to commercialization including proposed timeline.

(F) Comply with the requirements of rules adopted pursuant to this subsection.

(ii) Matching funds shall be awarded to recipients as determined by the council in an amount not to exceed 100% of the federal grant award:

~~(A) For a recipient of a phase I award, a match up to one hundred percent (100%) of the award, not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00);~~

~~(B) For a recipient of a phase II award, a match up to one hundred percent (100%) of the award, not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00).~~

(iii) Matching funds under this subsection shall be awarded to the recipient as soon as practicable after approval of the matching fund application;

(iv) An entity shall repay all matching funds provided under this subsection plus interest at the rate of four percent (4%) per annum compounded annually from the date the matching funds were granted ~~through the ending date of the grant agreement.~~~~if~~

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(A) The entity commercializes a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset developed with the assistance of funds from this program; and

(B) The entity fails to maintain a significant nexus with the state of Wyoming within three (3) years of commercializing a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset developed with the assistance of funds from this program and continues to market the service, product, concept, design or asset.

Commented [7]: This should only apply if we are under contract with the awardee.

(v) The council shall adopt rules for the program ~~in consultation with the coordinator of economic diversification.~~ The rules ~~shall~~ include but not be limited to:

(A) Application procedures;

(B) The number of awards and amount of funds available for award in any fiscal year;

(C) Timing of issuance of funds awarded under the program;

(D) Eligibility requirements;

(E) Provision for repayment of matching funds plus interest as provided in this subsection;

(F) Provision for service, product, concept, design or asset review and requirements under the program consistent with this subsection;

(G) Provisions to ensure adequate consideration for the amount of the funding provided. The council may include, but is not limited to, assessment of those items specified in W.S. 9-12-1405(b)(i) through (iv), specifying the allowable use of funds, requiring a recipient to seek additional nonstate investment funding and requiring the recipient to conduct its research in Wyoming to the extent practical.

(e) Not later than October 15, 2018 and every October 15 thereafter, the council shall report to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee concerning

the programs under subsections (c) and (d) of this section. The report shall include:

(i) A yearly and total summary of the number and amounts of matching funds awarded under each program;

(ii) A description of an entity and a service, product, concept, design or any other marketable asset developed which was commercialized with the assistance of funds from these programs within the prior three (3) years;

(iii) The realized economic impact of each program on the state, including jobs created, salary range per job created and potential impact to the local community.

(f) As used in this section, "commercialization" means the creation by an entity of commercial processes, products and services derived in whole or in part from research undertaken with matching funds awarded under subsection (c) or (d) of this section, which results in realized revenues to the entity of at least three (3) times the matching funds awarded under this section.

9-12-106. Planning and research.

(a) It shall also be the duty of the council to:

(i) Develop a comprehensive economic development strategy for the state, starting the first year of each new gubernatorial administration, consistent with the provisions of this act; and

(ii) Conduct such studies and research, in collaboration with state agencies, university and community colleges, local and regional industrial authorities and organizations, and other persons within and without the state, as the council may deem necessary, to assist in the development of the comprehensive economic strategy and the development of recommendations and advice on the improvement of economic development and related programs and strategies across the state.

(b) The council may establish a Wyoming market research center to conduct regional, national and international market research for Wyoming small businesses and potential entrepreneurs and to conduct market feasibility studies for value added projects across all economic sectors, including

agriculture. The center may utilize the services of student interns from the University of Wyoming and community colleges to provide those students with practical marketing experience.

(i) Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 20, § 2.

(ii) Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 20, § 2.

9-12-107. Tourism promotion and development.

(a) Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 5, § 2.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2003, Ch. 8, § 2.

9-12-108. Coordination of business permits.

(a) The council shall:

(i) Compile information on the federal, state and local requirements necessary to begin and operate a business in Wyoming and make this information available to the public on request;

(ii) Develop application procedures to expedite the state licensing and permitting process;

(iii) Assist prospective businesses in obtaining the necessary federal, state and local permits and licenses;

(iv) Encourage and facilitate the participation of federal, state and local government agencies in permit and license coordination;

(v) Review permit requirements and the value to the state of these permits and prepare recommendations for changes for submission to the appropriate agency, the governor and the legislature.

(b) The council may request assistance from any state agency to carry out its duties under this section. State agencies shall cooperate with the request for assistance.

(c) The Wyoming business council shall prepare and present to the economically needed diversity options for Wyoming (ENDOW) executive council a proposal under which the business council, by exercising the duties and authority provided in this section, will assist businesses within the state in priority economic

sectors identified in the approved twenty (20) year comprehensive economic diversification strategy under W.S. 9-12-1402(a)(iv) in obtaining necessary state, local and federal permits and licenses. The business council shall consult with businesses within Wyoming to identify specific federal, state and local regulations which unduly impede or delay permitting and licensing in the state and shall identify those regulations recommended for review by the entity with jurisdiction to eliminate unnecessary provisions. The business council proposals shall be submitted to the ENDOW executive council not later than July 1, 2018. The ENDOW executive council shall include recommendations for implementation of the business council proposals in its twenty (20) year comprehensive economic diversification strategy plan submitted pursuant to W.S. 9-12-1402(a)(iv) and in its first action plan under W.S. 9-12-1402(a)(v).

9-12-109. Promotion of agriculture; financing of agriculture processing projects; revenue bonds.

(a) The council shall encourage and promote the development of agriculture in the state including horticulture, apiculture, livestock, poultry, dairying and the kindred industries and including the development of new value-added agribusiness, agriculture innovation and technologies, and product uses and markets for Wyoming agricultural products.

Commented [8]: Purple underscored text recommends adding language.

(b) The council shall meet not fewer than two (2) times per year to solicit input from industry groups, the department of agriculture and the Wyoming governor's office to:

(i) Maintain a strategy to create small regionally located meat processing plants inspected by the United States department of agriculture or Wyoming department of agriculture and mid-to-large sized processing plants for in-state, interstate and international sales;

(ii) Market Wyoming grown or produced agricultural products in-state, regionally, nationally and internationally, through market development, trade shows and social media and other media outlets;

(iii) Enhance the council's website to promote Wyoming grown or produced agricultural products including match making services between key food system partners;

(iv) Contingent on available funds, provide loans or grants to be used to fund infrastructure for meat processing plants for international, in-state and interstate sales. Loans or grants under this paragraph shall:

(A) Provide funding to create, maintain or expand infrastructure for plants processing meat products for international, in-state or interstate sale;
9-12-109

(B) Be provided through a program administered by the council, including the Wyoming business ready community program, and subject to all applicable statutes and rules governing the program.

(v) Coordinate strategies to improve meat processing facilities and capabilities in Wyoming, including by providing technical assistance or expertise to assist producers and processors with constructing, maintaining, expanding, marketing and seeking federal grants and loans;

(vi) Issue and have outstanding bonds to finance, construct, develop, maintain or operate agriculture processing projects for international, in-state and interstate sales, which bonds shall not exceed per project an amount of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000.00). The principal amount of any bonds that have been retired, redeemed, defeased or refunded by the council need not be taken into account in computing compliance with the maximum amounts of bonds authorized to be issued under this paragraph. The exercise of the powers granted by this paragraph constitutes the performance of an essential governmental function. Any bonds issued under this paragraph and the income therefrom shall be free from taxation of every kind by the state, municipalities and political subdivisions of the state. Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state or local governmental entity shall use any public funds to invest in or purchase any bonds issued under this section. Revenue bonds under this paragraph shall not be issued until information on each bond to be issued, and information pertaining to the project for which the bond would be issued, is provided to the state loan and investment board. The state loan and investment board may review and may object to the council on any bond if the bond may be considered a general obligation of the state or any political subdivision of the state. Any objection by a majority of the members of the state loan and investment board shall prevent issuance of the bond. Revenue bonds under this paragraph shall be issued according to subsections (e) through (n) of this section.

(c) Any meat processing facility receiving assistance under this section shall comply with all applicable state and federal regulations.

(d) The council shall submit a comprehensive report of the programs, objectives, activities and conditions covering the previous fiscal period to the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee not later than October 1 annually.

(e) In addition to the powers otherwise granted to the council and subject to the limits under paragraph (b) (vi) of this section, the council may issue bonds in principal amounts the council determines necessary to provide sufficient funds for achieving its purposes under paragraph (b) (vi) of this section, including the reduction of principal, the payment of interest, the establishment of reserves, the costs of administration and for the purpose of defraying all other associated costs. The council may enter into contracts to insure the payment of principal and interest, for interest rate exchange contracts and for financial guarantees to lower the cost of its borrowing. All bonds issued under this subsection:

(i) Are negotiable instruments under the laws of this state unless expressly provided to the contrary on the face of the bonds;

(ii) Are payable solely out of special funds consisting of all or part of the council's revenues, receipts, monies and assets, as designated in the proceedings under which the bonds are authorized;

(iii) Shall bear interest at fixed or variable rates, be executed and delivered at times and in denominations, be of terms and maturities, be in registered form as to principal and interest or principal alone, and bear manual or facsimile signatures and seals as the council determines;

(iv) Are not general obligations of this state nor of any political subdivision of this state. The bonds shall recite on their face that they do not constitute obligations of the state or any political subdivisions of the state;

(v) May be payable in installments and may bear maturities not exceeding forty (40) years from the date issued as the council determines;

(vi) Together with interest may be payable at a time or place whether within or outside the state, as the council determines;

(vii) May contain an option to redeem all or any part as may be specified. The price of redemption, the terms and conditions and the procedure of notice shall be set forth by the council and may appear on the face of the bonds;

(viii) May be sold at, above or below par value, at public or private sale, in a manner and from time to time as determined by the council. The council may pay legal fees, expenses, premiums and commissions that it finds necessary or advantageous to this state in connection with the issuance and sale;

(ix) Are legal investments that may be used as collateral for insurance companies, banks, savings and loan associations, investment companies, trustees and other fiduciaries that may properly and legally invest funds in their control or belonging to them in bonds of the council;

(x) May contain other provisions not inconsistent with this subsection.

(f) The principal and interest on any revenue bonds that the council issues shall be secured by a pledge of revenues from the operation of the agriculture processing project financed, by a first mortgage on the facilities, by guarantees and pledges of the entity owning the project, or of the parent corporation owning the entity, or by any combination thereof or other security as the council may determine to be reasonable and prudent. The guarantees and pledges shall be no less favorable to the council than those granted other lenders of the same class. The council may require additional payments, as negotiated, to bondholders to be made either in a lump sum at the time of retirement of the bonds or annually from the time of retirement of the bonds until project use is terminated or may require additional incentives from the owner of the project to prospective bondholders so long as the incentives are not contrary to the Wyoming constitution. The council may require such other security for repayment of the bonds as it deems necessary.

(g) Each pledge, agreement, mortgage or other instrument made for the benefit or security of any revenue bonds of the

council is valid and binding from the time when made. The revenues, receipts, monies and assets pledged are immediately subject to the lien of the pledge without delivery or further act. The lien is valid and binding against persons having claims of any kind against the council whether or not the persons have actual notice of the lien. The resolution or the indenture or other instrument by which a pledge is created need not be recorded or filed.

(h) The state pledges to the holders of any revenue bonds issued under subsection (e) of this section that the state will not limit or alter the rights vested in the council to fulfill the terms of agreements made with the holders, or in any way impair the rights and remedies of the holders until the bonds together with the interest, with interest on any unpaid installments of interest and all costs and expenses in connection with any action or proceeding by or on behalf of the holders are fully met and discharged. The council is authorized to include this pledge of the state in any agreement with the holders of the bonds.

(j) In addition to the powers otherwise granted to the council, in relation to revenue bonds under subsection (e) of this section, the council shall have the power to:

(i) Provide for the issuance of bonds to refund any bonds of the council then outstanding, including for the payment of any redemption premium and any interest or premium accrued or to accrue to, the earliest or subsequent date of redemption, purchase or maturity of the bonds;

(ii) Acquire, purchase, make prepayments for, finance, hold, use, lease, license, sell, transfer and dispose of an undivided or other interest in any agriculture processing project within or without the state of Wyoming to facilitate the financing, construction, development, maintenance or operation of agriculture processing projects in this state;

(iii) Enter into loan or other agreements with respect to one (1) or more agriculture processing projects upon terms and conditions the council considers advisable;

(iv) Make and execute agreements, contracts and other instruments necessary or convenient in the exercise of its powers and functions, including contracts with any individual, firm, corporation, governmental agency or other entity.

(k) The council may assess and collect fees that are nonrefundable from applicants seeking to obtain council financing of an agriculture processing project in total amounts not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00), which shall be credited to the state general fund. The council shall require that any entity receiving financing under subsection (e) of this section shall:

(i) Be headquartered in Wyoming and organized under the laws of the state of Wyoming;

(ii) Fall within the United States small business administration small business size standards for its industry classification code, effective August 19, 2019;

(iii) Maintain records and accounts relating to the receipt and disbursements of loan proceeds and make the records available to the state auditor for inspection.

(m) The council shall maintain such records and accounts of revenues and expenditures in relation to revenue bonds under subsection (e) of this section as required by the director of the state department of audit. The director of the state department of audit shall conduct an annual financial and legal compliance audit of the accounts of the council and file copies of the audit with the governor and the legislature.

(n) The sole recourse of any party contracting with the council in relation to revenue bonds under subsection (e) of this section shall be against the council, and there shall be no cause of action against the state, or any county, municipality or other political subdivision of the state.

9-12-110. Exemptions from taxation; exceptions.

The exercise of the powers granted by this act constitutes the performance of an essential governmental function. The council shall not be required to pay any taxes levied by any municipality or political subdivision of the state, other than to comply with the Wyoming employment security law and for assessments for local improvements, upon its property or monies. Except as provided herein, the council's monies and the income therefrom, shall be free from taxation of every kind by the state, municipalities and political subdivisions of the state.

9-12-111. Investment and management of funds; audit.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the council may invest funds not required for immediate disbursement in securities in which state funds may be invested as provided by law, sell securities it has purchased and deposit securities in any financial institution. Funds deposited in financial institutions shall be secured by obligations authorized as permissible security for state investments. In investing and managing its funds, the council shall exercise the judgment and care which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence would exercise under similar circumstances in managing the permanent disposition of their funds, considering the probable income and the probable safety of their capital.

(b) The director of the department of audit or his designee shall conduct an audit of the books and accounts of the council. The examination shall include a financial and compliance audit of the council's operations as the examiner deems appropriate. The audit shall be conducted at least once in each year and copies of the audit report shall be filed with the secretary of state, the joint minerals, business and economic development committee and the legislative service office.

9-12-112. Annual report and budget.

(a) The council shall submit an annual report in the manner provided by W.S. 9-2-1014 and using the benchmarks prescribed in this act. In addition to the requirements of W.S. 9-2-1014, included within the annual report shall be:

(i) The status of the implementation of the comprehensive economic development strategy and recommended legislative and executive actions related to the implementation of the comprehensive economic development strategy;

(ii) A summary of the total investments made by the council under the Wyoming partnership challenge loan program, article 3 of this chapter, including:

(A) The name of each borrower and the amount of each loan;

(B) An evaluation of the loan success in economic development using appropriate performance indicators as identified by the council;

(C) The cost of the loan program to the people of Wyoming in terms of:

(I) Forgone interest that could have been obtained if the funds had been invested by the state treasurer with the permanent funds of the state;

(II) Administrative and other costs associated with the program.

(D) Revenues and any other benefits obtained from the program.

(iii) Repealed By Laws 2003, Ch. 8, § 2.

(iv) Progress concerning the development of the research marketing center and its self-sufficiency under W.S. 9-12-106(b);

(v) Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 7, § 3.

(vi) A summary of the total investments made, if any, by the council under the workforce housing infrastructure program under W.S. 9-12-901 through 9-12-905, including:

(A) The name of each borrower and the amount of each loan;

(B) An evaluation of the loan success in providing workforce housing infrastructure;

(C) The cost of the program to the people of Wyoming in terms of administrative and other costs associated with the program.

(b) The council shall submit its budget for review as provided by W.S. 9-2-1010 through 9-2-1014.

9-12-113. Conflicts of interest.

Council members shall be subject to the provisions of W.S. 16-6-118 and shall abstain from voting in accordance with that section.

9-12-114. Startup-Wyoming investments.

(a) The Wyoming business council in coordination with the economically needed diversity options for Wyoming (ENDOW) executive council, shall prepare a proposal under which the

business council will invest in high growth startup business entities which provide opportunity to advance the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Wyoming in priority economic sectors identified in the approved twenty (20) year comprehensive economic diversification strategy under W.S. 9-12-1402(a)(iv). The proposal shall be directed to investments for seed stage development or growth stage funding of business entities. The council shall include in the proposal:

(i) A suggested entity or entities, if any, to oversee the council's investment decisions under this section;

(ii) The council's determination of whether existing statutory authority is sufficient to implement the program, and if additional statutory authority is required suggested legislation providing that authority;

(iii) Whether eligibility requirements for investment, beyond those specified in this section, should be provided by law;

(iv) Whether the council would propose additional rules to implement the program, together with a description of any such rules.

(b) The proposal shall be submitted to the ENDOW executive council not later than July 1, 2018. The ENDOW executive council shall include the proposal, together with changes recommended by the ENDOW executive council, in the twenty (20) year comprehensive economic diversification strategy plan submitted pursuant to W.S. 9-12-1402(a)(iv).

ARTICLE 2 - SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY FINANCIAL AID

9-12-201. Assumption of science technology and energy authority functions.

In assuming the functions of the science energy and technology authority the council shall administer the program in accordance with the provisions of this act generally and the specific provisions of this article.

9-12-202. Applications for financial aid from the council.

(a) All applications for financial aid shall be submitted to the council who shall investigate and prepare a report concerning the advisability of approving the proposed financial

aid for the applicant and concerning any other factors deemed relevant by the council.

(b) The investigation and report shall include such facts about the applicant under consideration as its history, wage standards, job opportunities, stability of employment, past and present financial condition and structure, pro-forma income statements, present and future markets and prospects, integrity of management as well as the feasibility of the proposed product to be granted financial aid, including the state of development of the product as well as the likelihood of its commercial feasibility.

(c) After consideration of the report, the council shall approve or deny the application. The applicant shall be promptly notified of the decision. In making the decision as to approval or denial of an application, the council shall give priority to those applicants whereby:

(i) The proceeds of the seed capital aid will only be used to cover the initial capitalization needs of the enterprise within Wyoming except as otherwise authorized in this article;

(ii) The enterprise has a reasonable chance of success;

(iii) Participation by the council is necessary to the success of the enterprise because funding for the enterprise is unavailable in the traditional capital markets, or because funding has been offered on terms that would substantially hinder the success of the enterprise;

(iv) The enterprise seed capital has the reasonable potential to create a substantial amount of primary employment within the state;

(v) The entrepreneur and other founders of the enterprise have already made or are contractually committed to make a substantial financial and time commitment to the enterprise;

(vi) There is a reasonable possibility that the council will recoup at least its initial investment from seed capital contracts; and

(vii) Binding commitments have been made to the council by the applicant for adequate reporting of financial

data to the council including a requirement for an annual or other periodic audit of the books of the enterprise, and for control by the council over the management of the enterprise, so as to protect the investment including the right of access to financial and other records of the enterprise.

(d) In determining the level of financial support to be advanced, the council shall limit its proportion of financial aid consistent with the existence of a market failure in product development financing but shall not provide more than twenty percent (20%) of the funds of the council for any one (1) project. Any financial aid toward product development financing granted pursuant to this section shall be equally matched or exceeded by the applicant. No financial aid granted pursuant to this section shall in any manner be pledged as collateral by the applicant.

(e) Before granting any seed capital financial aid, the council shall enter into an agreement with the applicant providing for a return to the council which is commensurate with the level of risk and amount of the financial aid.

ARTICLE 3 - WYOMING PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE LOAN PROGRAM

9-12-301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Business" means any proposed or existing enterprise which employs people within the state, provides services within the state, uses resources within the state or otherwise adds economic value to goods, services or resources within the state, and includes farm and ranch operations;

(ii) "Community development organization" means a group of private citizens organized as a business entity authorized to do business in this state for the purpose of providing financing for new, existing, or expanding businesses and other economic or community development purposes throughout its community or county, and which may take equity positions and shall take security positions in its borrowers' businesses and appropriate personal guarantees from the owners thereof;

(iii) "Economic development account" means the economic development enterprise account within the revolving investment fund created under article XVI, section 12 of the Wyoming constitution. The account shall consist of funds from

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payments as provided in W.S. 9-12-305 and other funds as provided by law;

(iv) "State development organization" means a corporation organized under W.S. 17-11-101 through 17-11-120 with the authority to provide financing for new, existing or expanding businesses and to fulfill other economic or community development purposes throughout the state of Wyoming, and which may take equity positions and shall take security positions in its borrowers' businesses and appropriate personal guarantees from the owners thereof;

(v) "Economic disaster" means an event occurring in Wyoming that has an economic impact with total lost revenues to impacted businesses in a twelve (12) calendar month period of at least four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) or an economic impact with total lost revenues to impacted businesses in four (4) or less counties in a twelve (12) calendar month period of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00). The business council may use good faith estimates of lost revenues to businesses in determining whether an event qualifies as an economic disaster. Calculation of lost revenues shall only include actual losses incurred and shall not include any future losses;

(vi) "Fifty-fifty (50-50) financing program" means the provision of financing for that portion of the total project cost that is calculated by subtracting from the total project cost the sum of the business's debt. The council shall not consider a proposal in which the fifty-fifty (50-50) financing component exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the total project cost or two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00), whichever is less, and the business does not contribute more than fifteen percent (15%) of the total project cost;

(vii) "Guarantee loan participation" means a provision of financing by the council in which the council participates with a lender that has secured a federal guaranteed loan to guarantee repayment of a loan made to a business. The maximum participation by the council shall be fifty percent (50%) of the loan or two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00), whichever is less. The council shall not participate in a new guarantee loan participation under this article on and after July 1, 2022 as provided in W.S. 9-12-304(e);

(viii) "Loan guarantee" means a provision of financing by the council in which the council guarantees a portion of a bank loan made to a business. The council shall not

issue a loan guarantee under this article on and after July 1, 2022 as provided in W.S. 9-12-304(f);

(ix) "Wyoming main street loan participation" means a provision of financing by the council in which the council participates with a lender that has made a loan to a business for building improvements to maintain the structure's historical character. The maximum participation by the council shall be seventy-five percent (75%) of the loan or one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00), whichever is less;

(x) "Natural gas fueling infrastructure loan" means a loan issued by the council for the costs of the engineering, design, real property, equipment and labor necessary to install a functioning natural gas filling station to fuel motor vehicles which operate on natural gas as a transportation fuel;

(xi) "Contract financing" means a provision of financing for a business to gain liquidity and in which the business assigns the proceeds of a valid contract as collateral for the financing;

(xii) "Succession financing" means a provision of financing to be used to assist in the transition or succession of a business that has been in existence for not less than seven (7) years immediately before the transfer or succession to a new owner of the business.

9-12-302. Wyoming partnership challenge loan program; creation; rulemaking; administration account.

(a) The council shall establish and administer a partnership challenge loan program under this article and may contract for necessary professional services. Loans authorized under the program shall be limited, except as otherwise provided under W.S. 9-12-304(c) through (k), to community development organizations and state development organizations and made in accordance with the provisions of W.S. 9-12-304. Any community development organization or state development organization may submit an application to the council to participate in the program on forms prescribed by and subject to rules promulgated by the council.

(b) The council shall establish all fees and interest rates to be charged for each loan as it is underwritten for this program. The interest rate for loans made under this program shall be not less than three percent (3%) per annum. Fees on

loans under the program shall be paid monthly and deposited into a program administration account which is continuously appropriated to the council to be expended solely for the purpose of administering this article and loans authorized under it.

9-12-303. Council duties; actions on loan applications.

All complete applications to participate in the loan program established under this article which conform with the criteria established by law and rules promulgated under this article which are submitted to the council shall be considered by the council. The council shall review the application and may communicate directly with the applicant and other lenders or potential lenders of the applicant. The council shall approve or disapprove each application it considers in accordance with this article and rules promulgated under it. In making its determination under this section, the council shall consider whether approval of the application would cause unfair competition with any existing business in the area. The council shall establish loan amortization schedules, terms and conditions for each loan approved.

9-12-304. Criteria for loans.

(a) Except as otherwise provided under subsections (c) through (k) of this section, loans under this article may only be made by the council to community development organizations and state development organizations which meet the following eligibility criteria:

(i) The community development organization or state development organization will contribute an amount of cash or cash equivalent not less than twenty percent (20%) of the loan it receives under this article to a program of investment in its area of local economic development;

(ii) The community development organization or state development organization will consolidate the loan it receives under this article and its required contribution under paragraph (i) of this subsection and make loans to Wyoming businesses and investments in support of Wyoming businesses, such as infrastructure construction loans and occupational training loans;

(iii) The community development organization has been endorsed by a resolution of the legislative body of its

municipality or county or, in the case of a state development organization, has been endorsed by a resolution of the council; and

(iv) As part of any agreement under this article and to ensure funds loaned or committed under this section are invested by the community development organization or the state development organization in local economic development in a reasonable period of time, the council shall reserve the right to terminate the agreement.

(b) Loans, loan commitments or loan guarantees or any combination thereof shall be made under this article only:

(i) If the total amount to:

(A) A single community development organization, or to a business for an economic disaster loan as provided under subsection (c) of this section, does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00);

(B) A business for fifty-fifty (50-50) financing as provided under subsection (d) of this section does not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of the total project cost, whichever is less;

(C) State development organizations does not exceed three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000.00);

(D) A business for a Wyoming main street loan participation as provided under subsection (g) of this section does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00);

(E) A business for a natural gas fueling infrastructure loan as provided under subsection (h) of this section does not exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the total project cost or one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), whichever is less;

(F) A business for a contract financing loan as provided under subsection (j) of this section does not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00); or

(G) A business for a succession financing loan as provided under subsection (k) of this section does not exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00).

(ii) If there are sufficient funds in the economic development enterprise account to fully fund it and all other outstanding commitments, loans, loan guarantees and guarantee loan participations;

(iii) If funds provided by the state are adequately collateralized. The adequacy of the collateral shall be determined by the council;

(iv) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 208.

(c) Any business or group of businesses may apply to the council for designation of an area of this state as an area in which an economic disaster as defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a) (v) has occurred. The council shall prescribe the form and contents of such applications. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable as to whether an economic disaster area designation shall be made. The council may make loans to any business located within the designated economic disaster area that has lost revenue as a result of the economic disaster. Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to economic disaster loans under this subsection.

(d) Any business may apply to the council for fifty-fifty (50-50) financing as defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a) (vi). The council shall prescribe the form and contents of the application. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable. In the event of a default for any loan made under this subsection, liability shall be shared proportionately between the state and the lending institution in the same percentage as the source of the loan. The interest of the state and the lending institution shall have priority over any claim of the business receiving the bridge financing or any other third party.

(e) Before July 1, 2022, any business may apply to the council for a guarantee loan participation as defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a) (vii). The council shall prescribe the form and contents of the application. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable. No guarantee loan participations shall be issued on and after July 1, 2022. The council shall structure any guarantee loan

participation so that in the event of default of any loan which is participated in under this subsection:

(i) Liability shall be shared proportionally between the state and the lending institution in the same percentage as the source of the funding for the loan; and

(ii) The interest of the state and the lending institution shall have priority over any claim of the business receiving the financing or any other third party.

(f) Before July 1, 2022, any business may apply to the council for a loan guarantee as defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a) (viii). The council shall prescribe the form and contents of the application. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable. No loan guarantees shall be issued on and after July 1, 2022. The council shall structure any loan guarantee so that in the event of default of any loan that is guaranteed under this subsection:

(i) Liability to the state under the guarantee shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) per loan guaranteed or eighty percent (80%) of any net loan loss by the bank, whichever is less; and

(ii) The interest of the state and the lending institution shall have priority over any claim of the business receiving the financing or other third party.

(g) Any business may apply to the council for a Wyoming main street loan participation as defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a) (ix). The council shall prescribe the form and contents of the application. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable. In the event of a default for any loan made under this subsection, liability shall be shared proportionately between the state and the lender in the same percentage as the source of the loan. The interest of the state and the lender shall have priority over any claim of the business receiving the main street loan participation or any other third party.

(h) Any business may apply to the council for a natural gas fueling infrastructure loan as defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a) (x). The council shall prescribe the form and contents of the application. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable. In the event of a default, the state shall have priority over any

claim of the business receiving the natural gas fueling infrastructure loan or third party. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-12-303, no interest or principal payments shall be due for the first two (2) years of the loan term. All deferred interest during the first two (2) years of the loan term shall accrue to the principal balance. All loans issued under this subsection shall not exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) and after five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) in loans have been issued, no further loans shall be issued under this subsection without further legislative approval. Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to natural gas fueling infrastructure loans under this subsection. In evaluating applications for a natural gas fueling infrastructure loan, the council shall consider whether:

(i) The geographic area in which the proposed natural gas fueling infrastructure will be located is currently served by existing natural gas fueling infrastructure; and

(ii) The location of the proposed natural gas fueling infrastructure has a significant number of government or private fleet vehicles with the potential to convert to natural gas.

(j) Any business may apply to the council for a contract financing loan as defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a)(xi). The council shall prescribe the form and contents of the application. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable. In the event of a default, the state shall have priority over any claim of the business receiving the contract financing loan. The council shall not issue a loan under this subsection unless the business agrees to assign the proceeds of a contract to the council as collateral for the loan. The council shall not issue a loan under this subsection unless the business provides not less than two (2) letters from financial institutions denying an application or request for financing. Upon completion of the contract, the council shall retain sufficient proceeds of the contract used as collateral to retire the loan and any outstanding interest and shall remit any remaining proceeds to the business. All loans issued under this subsection shall not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in the aggregate at any one (1) time. In evaluating applications for a contract financing loan under this subsection, the council shall consider whether the contract to be used as collateral will have sufficient proceeds to pay off the loan balance and the likelihood of the successful completion of the contract.

(k) Any business or person seeking to purchase a business may apply to the council for a succession financing loan as

defined in W.S. 9-12-301(a)(xii). The council shall prescribe the form and contents of the application. The council shall review each application and make a determination as soon as practicable. The council shall participate with a lending institution to make a succession financing loan to a business under this subsection, provided that the participation rate of the council shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total loan amount. The interest of the state and the lending institution shall have priority over any claim of the business receiving the succession financing loan or any other third party. The council shall not issue a loan under this subsection unless the business to be purchased and for which the loan is issued has been in operation for not less than seven (7) years directly preceding the application for a loan. The council may require the person or business seeking the loan to pledge revenues from the business as collateral for the loan or for the repayment of the loan. In evaluating applications for a succession financing loan under this subsection, the council shall consider the financial health of the business and the person seeking to purchase the business, including whether the business will generate sufficient revenues to repay the loan.

9-12-305. Economic development enterprise fund account; deposits; continuous appropriation; loans.

Except for fees deposited in accordance with W.S. 9-12-302(b), all repayments of principal and interest to the state in connection with loans made under this article and other funds as appropriated by the legislature for the challenge loan program shall be deposited into the economic development enterprise account within the revolving investment fund. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for loans authorized to be made under this article. ~~Funds within the account may also be transferred upon direction of the governor to the large project account within the revolving investment fund if required to meet loans or loan guarantees approved under W.S. 9-12-308.~~ The total principal balance of outstanding loans shall not exceed the amounts appropriated by the legislature plus interest accrued and collected less any losses of loan principal or interest.

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9-12-306. Audit; report.

(a) The director of the state department of audit or his designee shall annually examine the loan program created under this article and submit his report of examination to the governor, the legislature and the council. This examination

shall include a financial and compliance audit of the council's operations, and such financial audit of borrowers under this article as the examiner deems appropriate. As a condition of any loan under this article, the borrower shall agree to allow the examiner to examine its books and records. The examiner shall treat all proprietary information received in the course of the examination or audit as confidential.

(b) On or before July 15 of each year, the council shall submit a written report to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee reviewing rules adopted by the council during the reporting period, presenting a portfolio of loans made under the program and under W.S. 9-12-308 showing the number of jobs created as a result of loans in the portfolio including whether the jobs are permanent or temporary and presenting a risk analysis of the portfolio of loans prepared by the state banking commissioner. The report, portfolio of loans and risk analysis required under this subsection shall be public records. The risk analysis prepared by the state banking commissioner shall not be subject to the limitations of W.S. 9-1-512.

9-12-307. Penalty.

Any person who knowingly makes a false statement to the council in connection with an application under this article or article 9 of this chapter is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than two (2) years, a fine of not more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00), or both.

Consider Removal and Return of Current Funding (At least \$25M)

9-12-308. Large project loan program.

(a) The large project account within the revolving investment fund created pursuant to article 16, section 12 of the Wyoming constitution, created by 2014 Wyoming session laws, chapter 46, section 2, is continued and codified.

(b) Funds in the large project account within the revolving investment fund shall be used exclusively to promote and aid economic development of the state by providing loan guarantees or loans to proposed or existing enterprises that will employ people within the state, provide services in the state, use resources in the state or otherwise add economic value to goods, services or resources within the state consistent with this section.

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(c) There is created a loan review committee to review all projects, loans and loan guarantees proposed under this section. The committee shall consist of:

(i) The governor or his designee;

(ii) The treasurer or his designee;

(iii) A member of the board of directors of the council who has expertise in banking or experience in the banking industry, designated by the chief executive officer of the council.

(d) The members of the loan review committee may request assistance from staff of the governor's office, the state treasurer's office, the council and any bank participating in the loan transaction or loan guarantee to review and evaluate proposed projects, loans and loan guarantees under this section.

(e) Loans and loan guarantees provided under this section shall be subject to the following procedures:

(i) Any project shall first be submitted to and reviewed by the council who shall provide preliminary recommendations for the size and parameters of the proposed loan or loan guarantee. For any loan or loan guarantee made by any nonpublic lender the council shall provide electronic notice to all Wyoming financial institutions of the potential loan terms and shall allow not less than fifteen (15) business days for Wyoming financial institutions to respond with expressions of interest with proposed terms. All offers of proposed terms shall be provided to the council, the loan review committee and the person seeking the loan for consideration. All information sent by electronic notice shall be treated in accordance with applicable confidentiality requirements. As used in this paragraph, "Wyoming financial institution" means as defined in W.S. 13-1-501(a) (i). The council shall review the project under the process set forth in W.S. 9-12-601 through 9-12-603. In developing recommendations for the size and parameters of the proposed loan or loan guarantee under this paragraph, the council may work with the bank that would issue the loan or loan guarantee;

(ii) The council shall require all persons seeking a loan to disclose and certify, under penalty of perjury, whether the person holds a position with or has any present, direct business connection to any state, county or municipal officer,

employee or instrumentality or has any familial relationship as spouse, child, sibling or parent residing as a member of the same household in the principal place of residence of any state, county or municipal officer or employee. As used in this paragraph, "direct business connection" includes employer-employee and coprincipal relationships. Information disclosed under this paragraph shall not be the determining factor in the selection process;

(iii) The council shall present the project and the proposed loan or loan guarantee and its terms to the loan review committee, which may accept or deny the proposed loan or amend its terms;

(iv) Upon a favorable recommendation by the council and the loan review committee, the project shall then be submitted to the state loan and investment board for final approval. The council and the loan review committee shall only forward projects and proposed loans under this section that have been determined to meet the requirements of this section;

(v) The state loan and investment board shall vote to accept or deny the project and the terms of the loan or loan guarantee developed for the project.

(f) The council and the loan review committee shall recommend, and the state loan and investment board shall only approve, the issuance of loan guarantees and loans under this section for projects that meet the following requirements:

(i) Are anticipated to have an economic impact and a public benefit greater than the economic impact and public benefit of projects regularly funded under the Wyoming business ready community program;

(ii) Based upon the findings of an independent third party selected and approved by the council, will provide the following minimum public benefits:

(A) The creation of a significant expansion of permanent jobs in the county or counties in which the project will be located;

(B) A significant increase in the assessed valuation of the county or counties in which the project will be located, by not less than the value of the loans or loan guarantees received by the applicant borrower;

(C) A substantial increase in the sales, property or other tax revenues to the county or counties where the project will be located; and

(D) Promotion of a stable, balanced and diversified economy.

(iii) Has a high likelihood of completion.

(g) The council shall establish the terms of any loan, loan participation or loan guarantee issued under this section in accordance with the following:

(i) Loans or loan guarantees provided under this section shall be adequately collateralized. To protect the state's interest, the council may negotiate protections with respect to any accepted collateral, including but not limited to escrow accounts, debt limitations, cash sweeps, pledge rights, corporate approval rights and other mechanisms the council deems appropriate;

(ii) Loans under this section shall bear interest at a fixed or adjustable rate. The interest rate shall be:

(A) Indexed to a rate as determined by rule adopted by the council, plus any additional premium determined by the council to be reasonably commensurate with the risk profile of the loan or loan guarantee, as approved by the loan committee; and

(B) Approved by the loan committee and the state loan and investment board.

(iii) The council shall ensure through certification of the applicant, or any other manner determined to be adequate by the council, a commitment of at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the total cost of the project from funding sources not provided by the state of Wyoming;

(iv) Loans or loan guarantees shall be used for direct investment in the project and shall not be used or made available to refinance preexisting debt incurred before commencement of the project;

(v) Borrowers shall demonstrate a balance sheet and cash flow sufficient to demonstrate their ability to repay the loan or loan guarantee;

(vi) Borrowers shall provide security to repay the loan with a residual value sufficient to repay the loan or loan guarantee in event of default;

(vii) When appropriate, the council may require continuing loan guarantees by affiliates and principals of the borrower;

(viii) Except as provided in this paragraph, the council shall ensure that the lead lender secures a first security interest in the entire project sufficient to adequately protect the investment of loan proceeds or proceeds guaranteed by the state under this section. The security interest shall be shared pro rata with the state in percentage of the loan or loan guarantee. If necessary, the council may allow the lead lender to accept substitute security that will protect repayment to the state on a basis substantially equivalent to a first security interest on the project. The council shall ensure that any alternate security is sufficient to prudently protect the state's pro rata interest;

(ix) The council shall charge a loan origination fee or loan guarantee fee of one percent (1%) of the total loan or guaranteed loan amount. Funds collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the large project account within the revolving investment fund, less any amounts used to pay the costs of consultants retained pursuant to subsection (k) of this section.

(h) No loan or loan guarantee shall be made under this section without the written opinion of the attorney general certifying the legality of the transaction and all documents connected therewith.

(j) Repayment of principal and interest to the state in connection with loans made under this section shall be deposited to the large project account within the revolving investment fund. All funds within the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for the purposes of this section. The total principal balance of outstanding loans under this section shall not exceed the amounts appropriated by the legislature plus interest accrued and collected less any losses of loan principal.

(k) The council is authorized to retain experts and service providers as necessary to fully evaluate, negotiate and implement the terms and conditions of the loans and loan guarantees issued under this section. If an expert or service provider is retained by the council under this subsection, any costs incurred that exceed the loan origination fee or loan guarantee fee set in paragraph (g)(ix) of this section shall be paid by the applicant. The independent third party selected and approved by the council under paragraph (f)(ii) of this section shall not serve as an expert or service provider retained under this subsection.

(m) The council shall promulgate rules necessary for the implementation of this section.

ARTICLE 4 - FILM AND VIDEO PROMOTION

9-12-401. Repealed By Laws 2003, Ch. 8, § 2.

9-12-402. Repealed by Laws 2007, ch. 73, § 1.

9-12-403. Repealed by Laws 2007, ch. 73, § 1.

9-12-404. Repealed by Laws 2007, ch. 73, § 1.

9-12-405. Repealed by Laws 2007, ch. 73, § 1.

9-12-406. Repealed by Laws 2007, ch. 73, § 1.

9-12-407. Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 87, § 3.

9-12-408. Renumbered by Laws 2019, ch. 186, § 5 as W.S. 9-12-1405.

9-12-409. Renumbered by Laws 2019, ch. 186, § 5 as W.S. 9-12-114.

ARTICLE 5 - WYOMING COUNCIL FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES

9-12-501. Renumbered as 9-2-603 by Laws 2022, ch. 10, § 1.

9-12-502. Renumbered as 9-2-604 by Laws 2022, ch. 10, § 1.

ARTICLE 6 - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

9-12-601. Wyoming business ready community program; purpose; creation; rulemaking.

(a) It is the purpose of this article to promote economic development at the city, town and county levels and on the Wind River Indian Reservation to create additional economic health and a stronger state economy.

(b) The council shall establish and administer a Wyoming business ready community program as provided by this article. Any city, town, county or the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribe, or the cooperative tribal governing body, may submit an application to the council for a grant or loan under the program on forms prescribed by and subject to rules promulgated by the council. Grants or loans may be applied for by a joint powers board with the approval of all participating agencies to the joint powers agreement. Grants and loans may be made by the council for economic or educational development, planning or infrastructure projects, including the purchase of land, buildings, facilities, telecommunications infrastructure, rights of way, airports, sewer and water projects, roads, landscaping, recreational and convention facilities or other infrastructure determined by the council to be consistent with the purposes of this article. In adopting rules and making grants and loans under this article the council shall require all projects to be related to economic or educational development, planning or infrastructure, which shall not include rehabilitation or expansion of existing infrastructure unless the council determines the rehabilitation or expansion is necessary to meet the purposes of this article. Planning grants and loans shall be limited as provided in subsection (m) of this section. All grants or loans made under this article shall be referred by the council to the state loan and investment board for final approval or disapproval. The state loan and investment board may adopt rules as necessary to implement its duties under this article.

(c) Grants shall be matching grants as determined by the council. Loans shall be made at no or low interest rates.

(d) Grants or loans shall be made under this article, only if the applicant demonstrates that upon receipt of the grant or loan, all projected project costs will be funded. Grants or loans for one (1) project may not exceed a maximum annual amount established by rule of the council. Multi-year projects may be awarded up to the maximum annual amount each year, for a period not to exceed three (3) years, as approved by the state loan and

Commented [16]: Based on the board meeting today, do we need to consider removing this section of BRC statutes?

Commented [17R16]: Yes Remove this section.

investment board. The application shall identify the source of all funds to be used for the project.

(e) Grants or loans may be used to fund project costs in accordance with approved applications and rules of the council. Grant or loan funds may be used to contract with community development organizations and state development organizations in accordance with the purposes of this article and approved applications.

(f) Loans provided under this article shall be adequately collateralized as determined by the council. No loans shall be made without the written opinion of the attorney general certifying the legality of the transaction and all documents connected therewith. An election approving the project and borrowing for the project by the qualified electors of the borrowing entity shall be required only if the attorney general determines such an election is otherwise required by law.

(g) Repayments of loans under this section shall be credited to the business ready community account. The council shall promulgate rules and regulations to identify the type and maximum amount, as a percentage of the total grant, of the revenue that may be recaptured and credited to the account as a result of grants under this section.

(h) Repealed by Laws 2022, ch. 1, § 2.

(j) Grants may be made by the council for projects, in accordance with rules of the council, which:

(i) Improve the development of businesses that will provide data generation and information technology storage capabilities statewide or in municipalities of the state;

(ii) Encourage and provide for the expansion of existing businesses providing information technology storage enterprises in the state, including those developed through the University of Wyoming business technology center;

(iii) Provide a reduction of the costs of electrical power or bandwidth, or both, to businesses meeting the provisions of paragraph (j)(i) or (ii) of this section. In exchange for providing these reductions in costs, the political subdivision receiving the grant and providing the reduction in costs shall contract with the business to receive direct benefits and indirect economic development benefits including:

the business; (A) A specific amount of capital investment by

business; (B) A specific minimum payroll created by the

(C) The provision of information technology storage services to the state or the political subdivision at a price discounted from the fair market value of the services; and

(D) An agreement to repay with a reasonable rate of return any funds received to reduce costs if the business relocates from the political subdivision prior to the expiration of five (5) years from the date of first receiving funds.

(k) As used in this article:

(i) "Community development organization" means as defined by W.S. 9-12-301(a) (ii);

(ii) "State development organization" means as defined by W.S. 9-12-301(a) (iv).

(m) Planning grants and loans shall:

(i) Not exceed two percent (2%) of the total amount appropriated to the business ready community program in any fiscal year;

Commented [18]: Also remove this section

(ii) Not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) per project;

Commented [19]: Strike funding limit for planning grants.

(iii) Be subject to a twenty-five percent (25%) match requirement, which match shall not be met through funds received from a community development block grant.

(n) Grant and loan recipients shall report the expenditures and progress related to a loan or a grant to the council at least annually and more frequently if deemed necessary by the council. At the end of the term of the grant or loan, the recipient shall furnish a comprehensive report to the council that shall, at a minimum, include a cumulative financial audit and a list of the accomplishments as a result of the grant or loan.

(o) On or before November 1 of each year, the council shall report to the joint appropriations committee and the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee information on the administration of the business ready community program. The report shall include a list of all grant and loan requests made in the previous twenty-four (24) months, the amount approved by project, expenditures by project and the progress for each project as of the date of the report.

9-12-602. Wyoming business ready community program account.

There is created the business ready community account. Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the council to be used only for grants or loans authorized to be made under this article.

9-12-603. Council duties; actions on grant and loan applications.

All complete applications to participate in the grant and loan program established under this article which conform with the criteria established by law and rules promulgated under this article which are submitted to the council shall be considered by the council. The council shall approve or disapprove each application it considers in accordance with this article and rules of the council.

ARTICLE 7 - AIR SERVICES FINANCIAL AID

9-12-701. Amended and Renumbered as W.S. 10-3-601 by Laws 2005, ch. 13, § 1.

9-12-702. Amended and Renumbered as W.S. 10-3-602 By Laws 2005, ch. 13, § 1.

9-12-703. Repealed by Laws 2019, ch. 35, § 2.

ARTICLE 8 - WYOMING COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM

9-12-801. Wyoming community facilities program; purpose; creation; administration by council; rulemaking authority; eligible projects.

Commented [20]: Red highlight indicates sections to consider for removal.

(a) It is the purpose of this article to assist communities to preserve former school and government facilities that have existing or future community uses.

(b) The council shall administer a Wyoming community facilities program as provided by this article, subject to the approval of grants and loans by the state loan and investment board as provided by this article.

(c) Any qualifying community with a demonstrated need for a community facility, including a city, town, county, joint powers board, other local governmental entity or the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribe, or the cooperative tribal governing body, may submit an application to the council for a grant or loan under this program on forms prescribed by and subject to rules promulgated by the council. Application by a joint powers board shall require the approval of all participating agencies to the joint powers agreement.

(d) Grants or loans may be recommended by the council and awarded by the state loan and investment board for economic development community facilities projects which provide:

(i) Space for community gatherings and functions;

(ii) Appropriate recreational, swimming and athletic facilities for community members, particularly youth;

(iii) Other functions or uses determined by the council to be consistent with the purposes of this article.

(e) In adopting rules and recommending grants and loans under this article, the council shall require all projects to be related to economic development or enhancement of quality of life in a community. Projects may consist of:

(i) The expansion, renovation or remodeling of existing surplus government facilities;

(ii) The purchase of an interest in the expansion, renovation or conversion of school facilities to the extent the facilities exceed statewide school building and facility adequacy standards established by the school facilities commission under W.S. 21-15-115. No ownership interest to the project or facility under a project shall remain with the school district upon expenditure of any funds under this program for any project.

(f) All grants or loans recommended by the council shall be referred by the council to the state loan and investment board for final approval or disapproval in accordance with this article.

9-12-802. Community facility qualifications; demonstration of need.

(a) To qualify for a grant or loan under this article, an applicant shall demonstrate:

(i) A commitment by the applicant community to adequately maintain the project facility for which the grant or loan is requested during a reasonable period of time;

(ii) A partnership or other working arrangement or agreement with other local governmental entities to ensure the viability of the project facility over a reasonable period of time;

(iii) The project facility is not otherwise provided in the community or that such a facility exists except that the financing of that facility has not been paid in full;

(iv) The project will not compete with existing governmental organizations or businesses;

(v) The relationship of the project facility to a community economic development plan or to the enhancement of quality of life in the community;

(vi) That all project costs will be funded at the time of receipt of a grant or loan under this article, with funding sources specified within the project application;

(vii) The availability of funds sufficient to maintain the project facility. The project application shall clearly identify maintenance funding sources sufficient to cover maintenance costs for a period of not less than four (4) years;

(viii) Any other criteria developed by the council consistent with the purposes of this article.

9-12-803. Community facility grant and loan; approval by state loan and investment board.

(a) Grants shall be awarded on a matching basis at match proportions recommended by the council and approved by the board.

(b) Grants or loans may be used to fund project costs in accordance with approved applications and rules and regulations established by the council. Grant or loan funds may be used to contract with community development organizations and state development organizations in accordance with this article and approved project applications. For purposes of this subsection, "community development organizations" shall be as defined under W.S. 9-12-301(a) (ii) and "state development organizations" shall be as defined under W.S. 9-12-301(a) (iv).

(c) Loans provided under this article shall be adequately collateralized as determined by the council. No loans shall be made without the written opinion of the attorney general certifying the legality of the transaction and all documents connected therewith. An election approving the project and borrowing for the project by the qualified electors of the borrowing entity shall be required only if the attorney general determines such an election is otherwise required by law.

(d) Repayments of loans under this article shall be credited to the community facilities program account.

(e) The council shall prioritize proposed grants and loans it recommends to the state loan and investment board in accordance with rules it adopts under this article.

(f) The state loan and investment board shall adopt rules as necessary to implement its duties under this article governing the approval or disapproval of projects recommended by the council.

9-12-804. Wyoming community facilities program account.

The community facilities program account is created within the special revenue fund and shall consist of funds credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the council to be used only for grants or loans authorized by the state loan and investment board under this article.

9-12-805. Repealed by Laws 2022, ch. 1, § 2.

ARTICLE 9 - COMMUNITY WORKFORCE HOUSING PROGRAM

9-12-901. Wyoming workforce housing infrastructure program; purpose; definitions.

(a) The legislature finds and declares that:

(i) There is in this state by reason of the location and expansion of mineral extractive industries and other economic developments, a critical shortage of adequate housing;

(ii) It is in the public interest of the citizens of this state to facilitate the provision of adequate housing in order to promote the economic welfare of the state and its residents by increasing employment, stimulating economic activity, augmenting sources of tax revenue, fostering economic stability, furthering health care and improving the balance of the state's economy;

(iii) It is the purpose of this article to promote and continue economic development by providing adequate housing necessary to create additional economic health and a stronger state economy;

(iv) This article constitutes a valid public purpose, of primary benefit to all citizens of the state of Wyoming.

(b) As used in this article:

(i) "Community development organization" means as defined by W.S. 9-12-301(a)(ii);

(ii) "Community land trust" means land held in trust as a public investment for the long-term benefit of a community to provide secure, affordable access to land and workforce housing for community residents;

(iii) "State development organization" means as defined by W.S. 9-12-301(a)(iv);

(iv) "Workforce housing" means owner-occupied, residential dwellings;

(v) "Workforce housing infrastructure" means publicly owned infrastructure to a workforce housing subdivision or development, and if determined by the council to be consistent with the purposes of this article, through a workforce housing subdivision or development. To be considered "workforce housing

Commented [21]: Recommending delete 901-905. This is an unfunded mandate. Publicly owned infrastructure for housing can already be funded through the BRC program.

infrastructure" under this article, the infrastructure shall be for a workforce housing subdivision or development for which the political subdivision making application under this article has required, through zoning or otherwise, the inclusion of a specified percentage or number of housing units at specified maximum initial sale prices or to have a specified initially finished, maximum square footage. In addition, the following shall apply:

(A) "Workforce housing infrastructure" includes:

(I) Rights of way;

(II) Sewer and water distribution projects;

facilities;

(III) Storm water control and drainage

(IV) Streets, roads and bridges;

(V) Curbs, gutters and sidewalks;

(VI) Lift stations;

(VII) Traffic signals;

(VIII) Street lighting;

(IX) Payment for the additional costs of over-sizing water and sewer distribution lines through or to a subdivision to accommodate future expansion;

(X) The purchase of land as necessary to accommodate infrastructure projects;

(XI) Other infrastructure determined by the council to be consistent with the purposes of this article.

(B) "Workforce housing infrastructure" shall not include:

(I) Projects, the primary purpose of which is to bring public infrastructure to existing housing which is supplied by a well or uses a septic system. Nothing in this subdivision prohibits the use of funding under this article to provide such infrastructure as incidental to an approved project;

(II) Refinancing of existing projects that have been financed previously with other resources;

(III) Financing any project under the Wyoming water development program established by W.S. 41-2-112 through 41-2-124;

(IV) Financing any project that does not provide for the construction of additional housing units or that involves rehabilitation or expansion of existing infrastructure unless the council determines the rehabilitation or expansion is necessary to meet the purposes of this article;

(V) Financing any infrastructure project which is not under public ownership.

9-12-902. Wyoming workforce housing infrastructure program; creation; rulemaking.

(a) The council shall establish and administer a Wyoming workforce housing infrastructure program as provided by this article. Any city, town, county, special improvement district or the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribe, or the cooperative tribal governing body, may submit an application to the council for a loan under the program on forms prescribed by and subject to rules promulgated by the council. Loans may be applied for by a joint powers board with the approval of all participating agencies to the joint powers agreement. Loans may be made by the council for workforce housing infrastructure projects and community land trust projects. In adopting rules and making loans under this article the council shall require all projects to be related to workforce housing infrastructure or community land trusts.

(b) Loans may be made at zero interest rate, up to an annual interest rate equal to the average prime interest rate as determined in accordance with subsection (e) of this section. The council shall establish criteria for determining the maximum loan amounts subject to final approval by the state loan and investment board.

(c) Loans shall be made under this article, only if the applicant demonstrates that upon receipt of the loan, all projected project costs will be funded. Loans for one (1) project may not exceed a maximum annual amount established by rule of the council. Multi-year projects may be awarded up to

the maximum annual amount each year, for a period not to exceed three (3) years, as approved by the state loan and investment board. The application shall identify the source of all funds to be used for the project.

(d) Loans may be used to fund project costs in accordance with approved applications and rules of the council. Loan funds may be used to contract with community development organizations, state development organizations and nonprofit organizations in accordance with the purposes of this article and approved applications.

(e) Loans provided under this article shall be adequately collateralized as determined by the council. The council shall establish interest rates to be charged for loans under the program, but the interest rate shall not exceed an annual interest rate equal to the average prime interest rate as determined by the state treasurer. To determine the average prime interest rate, the state treasurer shall average the prime interest rate for at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the thirty (30) largest banks in the United States. The interest rate shall be adjusted on January 1 of each year. Interest rates shall be established in recognition of the repayment abilities and needs of the local governmental entity eligible for loans under the program. The council shall establish loan amortization schedules, terms and conditions for each loan approved.

(f) No loans shall be made without the written opinion of the attorney general certifying the legality of the transaction and all documents connected therewith. An election approving the project and borrowing for the project by the qualified electors of the borrowing entity shall be required only if the attorney general determines such an election is otherwise required by law.

(g) Loans and loan commitments or any combination thereof shall be made under this article only:

(i) If there are sufficient funds in the workforce housing infrastructure program account to fully fund it and all other outstanding commitments and loans;

(ii) If repayment of any loan provided by the state is adequately collateralized. The adequacy of the collateral shall be determined by the council, subject to final approval by the state loan and investment board.

(h) Repayments of loans under this section shall be credited to the Wyoming workforce housing infrastructure program account.

(j) Repealed by Laws 2022, ch. 1, § 2.

(k) After approval of loans, the applicants shall report to the council, as required by the approved application. The report shall include:

(i) The progress of the project until the project is completed;

(ii) Any additional information required by the council to ensure compliance with loan requirements or compliance with this article.

9-12-903. Council duties; actions on loan applications.

(a) All complete applications to participate in the program established under this article, which conform with the criteria established by law and rules promulgated under this article and which are submitted to the council, shall be considered by the council. The council shall approve or disapprove each application considered in accordance with this article and rules promulgated by the council. All loans made under this article shall be referred by the council to the state loan and investment board for final approval or disapproval. The state loan and investment board may adopt rules as necessary to implement its duties under this article.

(b) In adopting rules and making funds available under this article, the council shall provide a competitive application and scoring system adequate to measure the benefits of each application. The application scoring system shall target the projects based on ranking criteria which address:

(i) The need for the proposed housing;

(ii) The affordability of the proposed housing;

(iii) The number of additional housing units to be developed, with consideration of the percentage of critical workforce housing needs in the community to be served;

(iv) The extent to which the project is part of an overall community and economic development plan;

(v) The extent to which the project demonstrates readiness;

(vi) Any other criteria determined by the council to be consistent with the purposes of this article.

(c) The council may negotiate and enter into appropriate contracts or memoranda of understanding with Wyoming state agencies, authorities or instrumentalities as necessary or convenient to facilitate the council's duties under this article.

9-12-904. Community land trusts; eligibility; requirements.

(a) Loans made under this article for community land trusts, in addition to meeting other requirements of this article, shall require that:

(i) The land subject of the trust be owned or leased by a political subdivision of the state, including a city, town, county, special improvement district or a housing authority authorized under W.S. 15-10-116;

(ii) The land be used for workforce housing with lots for housing leased and with the political subdivision remaining the owner of the land or the primary lessee;

(iii) The leases of lots be upon such terms as to allow commercial lenders to lend funds for housing construction on terms comparable to housing built on fee owned lands;

(iv) The housing development on lands subject to the trust include a specified percentage or number of housing units at specified maximum initial sale prices or be required to have a specified initially finished, maximum square footage as required by the political subdivision making application under this article, through zoning or otherwise;

(v) The lease terms for housing constructed on the land subject to the trust provide for continuation of the initial long term community benefit through subsequent sales of the housing.

(b) The political subdivision owning or leasing the land subject to the community land trust may fulfill the requirements of this section directly, through a housing authority created pursuant to W.S. 15-10-116, or by agreement with private nonprofit entities.

9-12-905. Wyoming workforce housing infrastructure program account.

(a) There is created the workforce housing infrastructure program account. Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account shall be used only upon legislative appropriation for loans authorized to be made under this article. Except for any repayments of principal on loans, all funds including any earned interest in the account shall revert to the general fund on April 1, 2011. Any repayments of principal on loans under this article remaining in the workforce housing infrastructure program account at the end of a biennium shall not lapse and shall not revert as provided in W.S. 9-4-207 but shall remain in the account to implement the purposes of this section.

(b) Interest and repayments of principal on loans under this article shall be redeposited into the workforce housing infrastructure program account.

(c) Accrued interest and other earnings on unexpended funds within the account shall be credited to the workforce housing infrastructure program account.

Move to 9-30 to create a home for Tourism

ARTICLE 10 - WYOMING TOURISM BOARD

9-12-1001. Wyoming tourism board; creation; composition; appointment; terms; compensation.

(a) There is created the Wyoming tourism board. The board shall serve as the leading proponent of Wyoming's tourism and hospitality industry and shall provide governance and oversight for the division of travel and tourism.

(b) The board shall be comprised of nine (9) members who shall be employed in or associated closely with the travel industry. The board shall be appointed by the governor, and approved with the advice and consent of the senate, in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101 through 28-12-103, as follows:

Commented [22]: Yellow highlights sections indicate areas that we need to be sure aren't necessarily stricken, but placed in the proper places of statute, but not necessarily within the economic development act since they are no longer integrated with the WBC.

(i) One (1) member shall be from tourism appointment district 1, consisting of Albany, Carbon and Laramie counties;

(ii) One (1) member shall be from tourism appointment district 2, consisting of Converse, Goshen, Natrona, Niobrara and Platte counties;

(iii) One (1) member shall be from tourism appointment district 3, consisting of Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan and Weston counties;

(iv) One (1) member shall be from tourism appointment district 4, consisting of Lincoln, Sweetwater and Uinta counties;

(v) One (1) member shall be from tourism appointment district 5, consisting of Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park and Washakie counties;

(vi) One (1) member shall be from tourism appointment district 6, consisting of Fremont, Sublette and Teton counties;

(vii) Three (3) members shall be at-large members appointed to provide geographic and tourism industry balance.

(c) Each appointed member shall serve for three (3) years, except that the initial appointments of the members shall be:

(i) One (1) year for one (1) of the at-large members and the members appointed from tourism appointment district 2 and tourism appointment district 5;

(ii) Two (2) years for one (1) of the at-large members and the members appointed from tourism appointment district 1 and tourism appointment district 3; and

(iii) Three (3) years for one (1) of the at-large members and the members appointed from tourism appointment district 4 and tourism appointment district 6.

(d) No appointed member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms.

(e) The board shall select a chairman and a vice-chairman from among its members.

(f) The governor may remove any member as provided by W.S. 9-1-202.

(g) Members of the board shall receive mileage and per diem for attending board meetings or other meetings as assigned by the board, in the same amount as state legislators and shall receive no other compensation for serving on the board.

(h) For purposes of this article, "board" means the Wyoming tourism board.

9-12-1002. General powers and duties of the board; rulemaking authority.

(a) The board shall be responsible for implementing the tourism program and functions assigned to the Wyoming business council under the Wyoming Economic Development Act, including the expenditure of all funds appropriated for the tourism program and shall:

(i) Assemble and distribute information concerning the scenic and recreational opportunities and resources of Wyoming;

(ii) Encourage close cooperation between public and private agencies engaged in stimulating recognition of Wyoming recreational resources;

(iii) Implement programs to promote tourism in Wyoming; and

(iv) Administer the film industry financial incentive program as provided in W.S. 9-12-402 through 9-12-406.

(b) The board shall assign a member to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Wyoming business council.

(c) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this article.

ARTICLE 11 - MAINSTREET PROGRAM

9-12-1101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Board" means the Wyoming main street advisory board;

(ii) "Business area" means a commercial area existing at the time services under the Wyoming main street program are requested by a municipality;

(iii) "Municipality" means a city, town, county or district;

(iv) "Revitalization" means the process of engaging in activities to increase economic activity while preserving and building upon a location's historically significant characteristics.

9-12-1102. Wyoming main street advisory board.

(a) There is created a Wyoming main street advisory board. The board shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the governor, ~~not more than seventy five percent (75%) of whom shall be from the same political party.~~ Board members shall elect from their membership a chairman, vice-chairman and secretary.

Commented [23]: Removing political party requirements allows for a better variety and engagement of potential board members from across the state.

(b) The governor may remove any member of the board as provided by W.S. 9-1-202.

(c) Board members shall serve a three (3) year term provided that of the initial board, two (2) members shall be appointed for a one (1) year term, two (2) members for two (2) year terms and three (3) members for three (3) year terms. Vacancies on the board shall be filled by appointment of the governor for the unexpired term.

(d) Members of the board shall receive the same per diem, expenses and travel allowance as members of the legislature while in actual attendance at meetings of the board and the performance of their duties relative thereto.

(e) The department shall provide staff services as required by the board to carry out the board's duties.

(f) The board shall meet as often as necessary to conduct business, but not less than three (3) times each year. Meetings shall be called by the chairman. A majority of members of the board shall constitute a quorum.

9-12-1103. Duties of the board.

(a) The board shall:

(i) Assist the council in developing a plan to operate the Wyoming main street program;

(ii) Assist the council in ~~Annually~~ reviewing the program and reporting findings and recommendations, including recommendations for future legislation, to the governor;

(iii) Provide a comprehensive evaluation of the Wyoming main street program annually to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee no later than September 1 of each year. The report shall include findings and recommendations, including recommendations for future legislation.

Commented [24]: Puts the power with the council and not the board to determine program changes

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9-12-1104. Duties of the council.

(a) The council shall establish and administer a Wyoming main street program to coordinate state and local participation in programs offered by the national main street center, created by the national trust for historic preservation, to assist municipalities in planning, managing and implementing programs for the revitalization of business areas.

(b) In carrying out subsection (a) of this section, the council shall:

(i) Enter into contracts to obtain business area revitalization services;

(ii) Subject to legislative authorization, employ any staff necessary to operate the Wyoming main street program;

(iii) With advice from the board, develop a plan describing the objectives of the Wyoming main street program and methods by which the council shall:

(A) Coordinate the activities of that program with private and public sector revitalizations of business areas;

(B) Solicit and use private sector funding for revitalization of business areas;

(C) Assist municipalities engaged in the revitalization of their business areas.

(iv) Coordinate with other state and local public and private entities that provide services to municipalities undertaking projects for the revitalization of business areas;

(v) Provide training, technical assistance and information on the revitalization of business areas to municipalities which do not participate in the Wyoming main street program;

(vi) Repealed By Laws 2009, Ch. 8, § 2.

(c) The council shall promulgate rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this article.

9-12-1105. Main street program.

(a) The council with advice from the board shall determine the number of municipalities to participate in the Wyoming main street program. The council shall select program participants that represent different geographical regions or populations. The council shall hold at least one (1) public hearing before making selections under this subsection.

(b) In making its selection pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the council, with the assistance of the board, shall develop criteria for use in selecting program participants which relate to at least the following issues:

(i) Private and public sector interest in and commitment to revitalization of a business area selected by the municipality;

(ii) Potential private sector investment in a business area selected by the municipality;

(iii) Local organizational and financial commitment to employ a program manager for not less than three (3) years;

(iv) Local assistance in paying for the services of a design consultant recommended by the advisory board;

(v) Local commitment to assist in training programs to direct activities related to business areas in municipalities that do not participate in the Wyoming main street program.

Move to the Energy Authority

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ARTICLE 12 - WYOMING ENERGY PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

9-12-1201. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Agency" means a branch, agency, department, board, instrumentality or institution of the state of Wyoming, a county, a municipal corporation, a school district, a community college district, the University of Wyoming, the cooperative tribal governing body, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern Arapaho Tribe, a joint powers board formed pursuant to this act or a special district specifically involved in providing facilities or functions enumerated in W.S. 16-1-104(c);

(ii) "Energy conservation measure" means an energy study, audit, improvement or equipment that is designed to provide energy, water and operational cost savings at least equivalent to the amount expended by a facility owner for such energy study, audit, improvement or equipment over a period of not more than twenty (20) years after the date such improvement or equipment is installed or becomes operational;

(iii) "Energy performance contract" means the contract that allows a facility owner to accomplish energy or water efficiency projects without upfront capital costs or capital appropriations. An energy performance contract shall not be considered to be a contract for public improvement pursuant to W.S. 15-1-113;

(iv) "Energy services company" means the contractor not organized under the auspices of a utility regulated by the public service commission with demonstrated technical, operational, financial and managerial capabilities to design and implement energy conservation measures and the ability to secure necessary financial measures to ensure related guarantees for operational cost savings and who is responsible for the audit, design, implementation, measurement, verification and guarantee of savings for individual projects;

(v) "Facility owner" means an agency or group of agencies, a public hospital or other public entity responsible for an individual facility or group of facilities;

(vi) "Investment grade energy audit" means the detailed engineering investigation and report of a facility's

current energy and water consuming equipment inventory, condition, operation, maintenance and performance, energy baseline, potential energy and water efficiency upgrades, life cycle costs and risks for future performance that provides the justification for the energy performance contract project;

(vii) "Wyoming energy conservation improvement program" means the Wyoming business council state energy office program designed to enable and support development and implementation of energy performance contract projects.

9-12-1202. Energy performance contracting.

The council shall establish a Wyoming energy conservation improvement program which provides support development and implementation of energy performance contract projects to facility owners voluntarily participating in the program. In order to participate in the program, facility owners and energy services companies shall be subject to the provisions of this article and rules adopted pursuant to this article.

9-12-1203. Energy performance contracting.

(a) Upon receipt of a request from a facility owner, the Wyoming business council shall provide the facility owner with a list of energy service companies interested in providing services to the facility owner and qualified by the Wyoming business council to participate in the Wyoming energy conservation improvement program.

(b) The energy services company participating in the Wyoming energy conservation improvement program shall provide an investment grade audit showing the estimated energy and operational cost savings that would result from the proposed energy conservation measures. Before executing any contract or lease purchase agreement under subsection (c) of this section, the energy services company shall provide the facility owner with plans for the proposed energy conservation measures prepared by an engineer licensed to practice in Wyoming.

(c) Notwithstanding W.S. 15-1-113 and subject to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, a facility owner may enter into an installment payment contract or lease purchase agreement for an energy or water conservation measure which meets the criteria of this section. Any documents related to negotiations entered into pursuant to this section with individual energy services companies by an agency or facility

owner shall be considered trade secrets pursuant to the provisions of the Wyoming Public Records Act, W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205. After a contract has been executed by an agency, the contract and all proposals from energy service companies shall be open records available for public inspection in accordance with the Wyoming Public Records Act.

(d) Energy performance contracts entered into pursuant to the Wyoming energy conservation improvement program shall require the energy services company to provide to the facility owner an annual reconciliation of the guaranteed energy savings. If the reconciliation reveals a shortfall in annual energy savings, the energy services company shall be liable for compensation to the facility owner for such shortfall under the provisions of the energy performance contract. If the reconciliation reveals an excess in annual energy savings, the excess savings shall be retained by the facility owner and shall not be used to cover potential energy savings shortages in subsequent contract years.

(e) An energy performance contract entered into pursuant to the Wyoming energy conservation improvement program may provide for financing, including tax exempt financing, by a third party. The contract for third party financing may be separate from the energy performance contract. A separate contract for third party financing shall include a provision that the third party financier shall not be granted rights or privileges that exceed the rights and privileges available to the energy services company.

(f) The Wyoming business council may provide support under the Wyoming energy conservation improvement program as requested by facility owners for purposes of this section. The Wyoming business council state energy office may fix, charge and collect reasonable fees for any administrative support and resources or other services provided by the Wyoming business council pursuant to this subsection.

(g) If the facility owner fails to appropriate or receive an appropriation of money for a periodic payment due for improvements made through an energy performance contract, any security interest in any property created pursuant to the energy performance contract, may be enforced by the holder of such a security interest against the property.

(h) The term of an energy performance contract shall not exceed twenty (20) years after the date on which the work

required by the energy performance contract to implement all energy conservation measures is completed.

(j) The Wyoming business council shall submit to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee by October 1, an annual report on the energy performance contracting performed under the Wyoming energy conservation improvement program. The report shall include the number of applications submitted, the number of facility owners, the number of energy performance contracts, the results of the investment grade energy audits and the results of the energy performance contracts.

ARTICLE 13 - WYOMING SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT CREDIT

9-12-1301. Short title.

This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Wyoming small business investment credit program".

9-12-1302. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Affiliate" means any person who, directly or indirectly, owns, controls or holds power to vote fifteen percent (15%) or more of the outstanding voting securities or other voting ownership interest of a Wyoming small business investment company or insurance company licensed in this state and includes any person if fifteen percent (15%) or more of the outstanding voting securities or other voting ownership interest of that person are directly or indirectly owned, controlled or held with power to vote by a Wyoming small business investment company or insurance company licensed in this state. "Affiliate" does not include an investment by a participating investor in a Wyoming small business investment company pursuant to an allocation of premium tax credits under this article;

(ii) "Allocation date" means the date credits under W.S. 9-12-1305 are allocated to participating investors in a Wyoming small business investment company;

(iii) "Council" means the Wyoming business council or any designated subcommittee of its members;

(iv) "Designated capital" means an amount of money that:

Commented [27]: Suggest repeal/remove

Commented [28R27]: @bert.adam@wyo.gov Bert, can you add a short comment in here summarizing the recommendation to eliminate the SBIC language?

Commented [29R27]: SBIC was run for a few years, but was unsuccessful. We slowly started to let any outstanding work wrap up and we are close to not having any active projects under SBIC.

(A) Is invested by a participating investor in a Wyoming small business investment company; and

(B) Fully funds the purchase price of a participating investor's qualified debt instrument issued by a Wyoming small business investment company.

(v) "Participating investor" means any insurer licensed in this state with a tax liability under W.S. 26-4-103;

(vi) "Qualified business" means a business which:

(A) Is independently owned and operated;

(B) Is headquartered in Wyoming, its principal operations are located in Wyoming, at least sixty percent (60%) of the employees are employed in Wyoming or the business has committed in writing to move to Wyoming as a condition of the investment;

(C) Has provided evidence acceptable to the council of its intent to remain in Wyoming after receipt of the qualified investment;

(D) Has two hundred fifty (250) employees or less;

(E) Is not a franchise of and has no financial relationship with a Wyoming small business investment company or any affiliate of a Wyoming small business investment company prior to a Wyoming small business investment company's first qualified investment in the business; and

(F) Is not predominately engaged in:

(I) Professional services provided by accountants, doctors or lawyers;

(II) Banking or lending except a bank holding company as defined in W.S. 13-1-101(a)(iii) which is authorized to establish a small business investment company;

(III) Insurance;

(IV) Direct gambling activities; or

(V) Making loans to or investments in a Wyoming small business investment company or an affiliate.

(vii) "Qualified debt instrument" means a debt instrument issued by a Wyoming small business investment company which:

(A) Is issued at par value or a premium;

(B) Has an original maturity date of at least four (4) years from the date of issuance and a repayment schedule which is not faster than a level principal amortization over four (4) years; and

(C) Satisfies the rating criteria to qualify as "NAIC 1" as determined by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners.

(viii) "Qualified distribution" means any distribution or payment made by a Wyoming small business investment company in connection with:

(A) The costs and expenses of forming, syndicating and organizing the Wyoming small business investment company, including any fee paid for professional services, and the costs of financing and insuring the obligations of the Wyoming small business investment company;

(B) An annual management fee not to exceed three percent (3%) of designated capital on an annual basis to offset the costs and expenses of managing and operating a Wyoming small business investment company;

(C) Reasonable and necessary fees in accordance with industry custom for ongoing professional services, including, but not limited to, legal and accounting services related to the operation of a Wyoming small business investment company;

(D) An increase or projected increase in federal or state taxes, including penalties and related interest, of the equity owners of a Wyoming small business investment company resulting from the earnings or other tax liability of a Wyoming small business investment company to the extent that the increase is related to the ownership, management or operation of a Wyoming small business investment company; and

(E) Payments of principal and interest to holders of qualified debt instruments issued by a Wyoming small business investment company.

(ix) "Qualified investment" means the investment of money by a Wyoming small business investment company in a qualified business for the purchase of any debt, debt participation, equity or hybrid security of any nature and description, including a debt instrument or security which has the characteristics of debt but provides for conversion into equity or equity participation instruments such as options or warrants, but shall not include any purchase of a guaranteed portion of a federally guaranteed loan;

(x) "State premium tax liability" means a liability incurred by an insurer under W.S. 26-4-103, or in the case of a repeal or reduction of the liability imposed by W.S. 26-4-103, any other tax liability imposed upon a participating investor by the state;

(xi) "Wyoming small business investment company" means a partnership, corporation, trust or limited liability company organized on a for-profit basis which is certified by the council pursuant to W.S. 9-12-1303.

9-12-1303. Certification.

(a) The Wyoming business council shall provide a form for applying for certification as a Wyoming small business investment company.

(b) An applicant to be certified as a Wyoming small business investment company shall:

(i) File an application with the council and pay a nonrefundable fee equal to the annual certification fee provided under W.S. 9-12-1308(b);

(ii) Submit as part of the application an audited balance sheet which contains an unqualified opinion of an independent certified public accountant issued not more than sixty (60) days before the application date and includes a statement that the applicant has an equity capitalization of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) or more in the form of unencumbered cash, marketable securities or other liquid assets; and

(iii) Have at least two (2) principals or persons, employed or engaged to manage the funds who each have a minimum of five (5) years of money management experience in the venture capital or private investment industry or five (5) years of experience as an officer in a commercial bank and acceptable business qualifications as determined by the council in consultation with the Wyoming state banking commissioner.

(c) The council may certify a partnership, corporation, trust or limited liability company which is organized on a for-profit basis and submits an application to be designated as a Wyoming small business investment company if:

(i) The applicant is located, headquartered and licensed or registered to conduct business in Wyoming;

(ii) The applicant has as its primary business the activity of investing cash in qualified businesses;

(iii) After a review of the organizational documents and the business history of each applicant the council determines that the officers and the board of directors, general partners, trustees, managers or members of the applicant are acquainted with the requirements of this article; and

(iv) The applicant has complied with the requirements set forth in subsection (b) of this section for a Wyoming small business investment company and is otherwise qualified pursuant to the provisions of this article.

(d) Not more than forty-five (45) days after the receipt of an application under this section, the council shall issue a certification as a Wyoming small business investment company or refuse to issue the certification and provide to the applicant the grounds for the refusal and any information that may allow the applicant to obtain certification.

(e) The council shall begin accepting applications for certification as a Wyoming small business investment company not later than January 1, 2011.

(f) The council may contract with an independent third party to review, investigate and certify that the applications under this section and requests under W.S. 9-12-1307(j) and 9-12-1310(c) comply with the provisions of this article.

9-12-1304. Requirements.

(a) An insurance company or affiliate of an insurance company or insurer shall not, directly or indirectly:

(i) Own, whether through rights, options, convertible interest, or otherwise, fifteen percent (15%) or more of the voting securities or other voting ownership interest of a Wyoming small business investment company;

(ii) Manage a Wyoming small business investment company; or

(iii) Control the direction of investments for a Wyoming small business investment company.

(b) A Wyoming small business investment company may obtain one (1) or more guaranties, indemnities, bonds, insurance policies or other payment undertakings for the benefit of its participating investors from any entity, except that in no case shall more than one (1) participating investor of the Wyoming small business investment company, including any affiliates of the participating investor, be entitled to provide such guaranties, indemnities, bonds, insurance policies or other payment undertakings in favor of the participating investors of the Wyoming small business investment company and its affiliates.

(c) This section shall not be construed to preclude a participating investor, insurance company or other party from exercising its legal rights and remedies including, without limitation:

(i) Interim management of a Wyoming small business investment company in the event that a Wyoming small business investment company is in default of its statutory obligations or its contractual obligations to such participating investor, insurance company or other party;

(ii) Monitoring a Wyoming small business investment company to ensure its compliance with this section; or

(iii) Disallowing any investments that have not been approved by the council pursuant to this article.

9-12-1305. Wyoming small business investment credit.

(a) A participating investor under this article shall earn a credit against any state premium tax liability as provided in this section up to one hundred percent (100%) of the participating investor's investment of designated capital in a Wyoming small business investment company.

(b) A participating investor may claim in the year immediately following a credit under this section for tax years 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 in an amount equal to fourteen and two thousand eight hundred fifty-seven ten-thousandths percent (14.2857%) of the participating investor's investment of designated capital.

(c) The credit for any tax year shall not exceed the participating investor's state premium tax liability for that tax year. If the amount of the credit determined under this section for any tax year exceeds the liability for tax under this chapter, the credit may be carried forward to future tax years without limitation. The premium tax credits provided by W.S. 26-19-312, 26-42-111 and 26-43-105, and deposits to the volunteer firefighter, EMT and search and rescue pension account pursuant to W.S. 26-4-102(b)(ii), shall take priority over the premium tax credits provided by this section and shall be calculated using the gross premium tax before the credits provided by this section.

(d) A credit under this section may be used in connection with both final payments and prepayments of a participating investor's state premium tax liability.

(e) A participating investor claiming a credit under this section shall not be required to pay any additional tax or fee as a result of claiming a credit under this article.

(f) If the payment of state premium tax liability by a participating investor would result in a credit against or reduction in any other tax imposed by this state, the amount of such credit or reduction shall not be affected by the issuance of a credit under this section.

(g) Final decertification of a Wyoming small business investment company under W.S. 9-12-1310 shall result in the disallowance and the recapture of a credit under this section. The amount to be disallowed and recaptured shall be assessed as follows:

(i) If decertification of a Wyoming small business investment company is within four (4) years of its allocation date and prior to meeting the requirements of W.S. 9-12-1307(a)(ii), all credits under this section are disallowed. To the extent any credit had been taken, the tax shall be immediately due and payable and the collecting authority is authorized to collect the tax;

(ii) If decertification of a Wyoming small business investment company occurs after the company has met the requirements of W.S. 9-12-1307(a)(ii), no credits under this section are disallowed and no credits that were previously taken under this section shall be recaptured.

(h) A participating investor shall not transfer, agree to transfer, sell or agree to sell a credit under this section until one hundred eighty (180) days or more from the date on which the participating investor invested designated capital. One hundred eighty (180) days or more from the date of investment, a participating investor, or subsequent transferee, may transfer credits based upon rules adopted by the council in consultation with the department of insurance to facilitate such transfers. Any transfer or sale of credits shall not affect the time schedule for claiming a credit. Any tax credit required to be repaid under this section shall remain the liability of the participating investor that actually applied the credit towards its tax liability.

9-12-1306. Aggregate limitations on investment tax credits; allocation.

(a) The aggregate amount of investment tax credits to be allocated to all participating investors of Wyoming small business investment companies under this article shall not exceed thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00). No Wyoming small business investment company, on an aggregate basis with its affiliates, shall file credit allocation claims that exceed thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00).

(b) Tax credits shall be allocated to participating investors in the order that the credit allocation claims are filed with the council, provided that all credit allocation claims filed with the council on the same day shall be treated as having been filed contemporaneously. Any credit allocation claims filed with the council prior to the initial credit allocation claim filing date shall be deemed to have been filed on such initial credit allocation claim filing date. The

council shall set the initial credit allocation claim filing date to be not less than ninety (90) days and not more than one hundred twenty (120) days after the council begins accepting applications for certification as a Wyoming small business investment company under W.S. 9-12-1303(e).

(c) If two (2) or more Wyoming small business investment companies which are qualified under the provisions of this act file credit allocation claims with the council on behalf of their respective participating investors on the same day and the aggregate amount of credit allocation claims exceeds the lesser of the aggregate limit of investment tax credits under this section or the amount of credits that remain unallocated on that day, the credits shall be allocated among the participating investors who filed on that day on a pro rata basis with respect to the amounts claimed. The pro rata allocation for any one (1) participating investor is the product obtained by multiplying a fraction, the numerator of which is the amount of the credit allocation claim filed on behalf of a participating investor and the denominator of which is the total of all credit allocation claims filed on behalf of all participating investors on that day, by the lesser of the aggregate limit of credits under this section or the amount of credits that remain unallocated on that day.

(d) Not more than ten (10) business days after the council receives a credit allocation claim filed by a Wyoming small business investment company on behalf of one (1) or more of its participating investors, the council shall notify the Wyoming small business investment company of the amount of credits allocated to each of the participating investors of that Wyoming small business investment company. In the event a Wyoming small business investment company does not receive an investment of designated capital from each participating investor required to earn the amount of credits allocated to such participating investor within ten (10) business days of the Wyoming small business investment company's receipt of a notice of allocation, it shall notify the council on or before the next business day and the credits allocated to such participating investor of the Wyoming small business investment company shall be forfeited. The council shall reallocate credits forfeited under this subsection among the participating investors of the other Wyoming small business investment companies on a pro rata basis with respect to the credit allocation claims filed on behalf of the participating investors.

(e) The council may impose a civil penalty of not more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) upon a participating investor which does not invest the full amount of designated capital required to fund the credits allocated to it by the council in accordance with the credit allocation claim filed on its behalf. The council shall provide by rule, notice and opportunity for hearing prior to imposing a civil penalty under this subsection. In determining the amount of the penalty the council shall consider the direct and indirect cost to the state as a result of the investor's failure to invest the full amount of designated capital.

(f) No participating investor, individually or on an aggregate basis with its affiliates, shall file an allocation claim for more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the maximum amount of investment tax credits authorized under this article regardless of whether such claim is made in connection with one (1) or more Wyoming small business investment companies.

(g) The council shall annually certify by January 31, the amount of investment tax credits for which each participating investor qualifies under this article as of December 31 of the previous year. The certification shall be made to the insurance commissioner, and to the entity otherwise authorized to collect the tax due if the credit is allowed against another tax liability to the state.

9-12-1307. Requirements for continuance of certification.

(a) To maintain certification under this article, a Wyoming small business investment company shall make qualified investments as follows:

(i) Within two (2) years after the allocation date, a Wyoming small business investment company shall invest an amount equal to at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its designated capital in qualified investments; and

(ii) Within four (4) years after the allocation date, a Wyoming small business investment company shall invest an amount equal to at least fifty percent (50%) of its designated capital in qualified investments.

(b) Before making a proposed qualified investment in a specific business, a Wyoming small business investment company shall request from the council a written determination that the proposed investment is a qualified investment in a qualified

business. The council shall notify a Wyoming small business investment company within ten (10) business days from the receipt of a request of its determination and an explanation thereof. If the council does not notify the Wyoming small business investment company of its determination within ten (10) business days, the proposed investment is deemed to be a qualified investment in a qualified business.

(c) Any designated capital not invested in qualified investments by a Wyoming small business investment company shall be held or invested in such manner as the Wyoming small business investment company, in its discretion, deems appropriate.

(d) Designated capital and proceeds of designated capital returned to a Wyoming small business investment company after being originally invested in qualified investments may be invested again in qualified investments and such investment shall be considered under the requirements of subsections (a), (e) and (f) of this section for the purposes of making investments of designated capital in qualified investments.

(e) If, within six (6) years after its allocation date, a Wyoming small business investment company has not invested at least seventy percent (70%) of its designated capital in qualified investments, neither the Wyoming small business investment company nor its affiliates shall be permitted to receive management fees.

(f) If, within eight (8) years after its allocation date, a Wyoming small business investment company has not invested one hundred percent (100%) of its designated capital in qualified investments, neither the Wyoming small business investment company nor its affiliates shall be permitted to receive management fees.

(g) A Wyoming small business investment company shall not invest more than twenty percent (20%) of its designated capital in any one (1) qualified business without the specific approval of the council.

(h) For purposes of calculating the investment percentages in this section, the cumulative amount of all qualified investments made by a Wyoming small business investment company from the allocation date shall be considered.

(j) A Wyoming small business investment company may, at any time but not more than once every two (2) years, request

that the council determine if the Wyoming small business investment company is in compliance with the requirements of this section. Upon a request under this subsection, the council shall, not later than sixty (60) days after receipt of a request under this subsection, certify that the Wyoming small business investment company has satisfied the requirements of this section as of the date of the request or provide notice of noncompliance and an explanation of the deficiencies. If the council does not provide such notification within the sixty (60) day period, the Wyoming small business investment company shall be deemed to have met the applicable requirements of this section as of the date of the request.

9-12-1308. Wyoming small business investment company reporting requirements.

(a) Each Wyoming small business investment company shall report the following to the council:

(i) As soon as practicable after the receipt of designated capital:

(A) The name of each participating investor from which the designated capital was received, including such participating investor's national association of insurance commissioners (NAIC) identification number;

(B) The amount of each participating investor's investment of designated capital; and

(C) The date on which the designated capital was received.

(ii) On or before January 31 of each year:

(A) The amount of the Wyoming small business investment company's remaining uninvested designated capital at the end of the immediately preceding fiscal year;

(B) Whether the Wyoming small business investment company has invested more than twenty percent (20%) of its total designated capital in any one (1) business;

(C) All qualified investments that the Wyoming small business investment company has made in the previous fiscal year, including the number of employees of each qualified business in which it has made investments at the time of such

investment and as of December 1 of the preceding fiscal year;
and

(D) For any qualified business where the Wyoming small business investment company no longer has an investment, the Wyoming small business investment company shall provide employment figures for that company as of the last day before the investment was terminated.

(iii) Any information that the council may require by rule and regulation:

(A) Which will help the council ascertain the impact of the Wyoming small business investment company program directly and indirectly on the economy of the state of Wyoming including, without limitation, the number of jobs created by qualified businesses that have received qualified investments;
or

(B) Information on the operations of the Wyoming small business investment company that the council requires to determine compliance with the requirements of this article.

(iv) Within ninety (90) days of the close of its fiscal year, annual audited financial statements of the Wyoming small business investment company which shall include the opinion of an independent certified public accountant.

(b) The business council shall set annual certification fees through rule and regulation in the manner provided in W.S. 33-1-201(a). A Wyoming small business investment company shall submit to the council the annual, nonrefundable certification fee on or before April 1 of each year. The council shall transfer the fee to the state treasurer for deposit into the general fund. The annual certification fee shall not be required for the year if the payment date under this subsection is within six (6) months of the date a Wyoming small business investment company is first certified by the council under W.S. 9-12-1303.

9-12-1309. Distributions.

(a) A Wyoming small business investment company may make a qualified distribution at any time. In order for a Wyoming small business investment company to make a distribution other than a qualified distribution to its equity holders, the cumulative amount of all qualified investments of the Wyoming

small business investment company shall equal or exceed one hundred percent (100%) of its designated capital.

(b) A Wyoming small business investment company shall transfer to the state treasurer for deposit into the general fund an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of all distributions to the equity holders of the Wyoming small business investment company, other than qualified distributions and distributions of paid-in capital contributed to a Wyoming small business investment company by the equity holders. A Wyoming small business investment company shall make all contributions required under this subsection concurrently with distributions to its equity owners by payment to the Wyoming business council. The council shall upon receiving payment from the Wyoming small business investment company transmit the funds to the state treasurer for deposit into the general fund. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect qualified distributions.

(c) If, more than ten (10) years after the allocation date, a Wyoming small business investment company has failed to cumulatively invest an amount equal to at least one hundred percent (100%) of its designated capital in qualified investments, the percentage of distributions that a Wyoming small business investment company is required to contribute to the state of Wyoming general fund under subsection (b) of this section shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of all distributions to the equity holders of the Wyoming small business investment company, other than qualified distributions and distributions of paid-in capital contributed to a Wyoming small business investment company by the equity holders.

9-12-1310. Decertification; certification of compliance.

(a) The council shall conduct an annual review of each Wyoming small business investment company to determine if each Wyoming small business investment company is abiding by the requirements of this article and to ensure that no investment has been made in violation of this article. The cost of the annual review and other determinations under this article including certifications requested under W.S. 9-12-1307(j) and subsection (c) of this section shall be paid by each Wyoming small business investment company according to a fee schedule adopted by the council sufficient to cover actual direct and indirect costs of the review or certification.

(b) Any material violation of this article, including any material misrepresentation made to the council in connection

with the application process, is a basis for decertification of a Wyoming small business investment company and the disallowance of credits under W.S. 9-12-1305, provided that in all instances the council shall provide notice to the Wyoming small business investment company of the grounds of a proposed decertification and the opportunity to cure any violation of this article before the decertification becomes effective.

(c) A Wyoming small business investment company may request that the council certify that the company has invested an amount cumulatively equal to one hundred percent (100%) of its designated capital in qualified investments as provided in W.S. 9-12-1307 and has complied with all other requirements provided under this article. Upon a request under this subsection, the council shall notify a Wyoming small business investment company not later than sixty (60) days after receipt of a request under this subsection:

(i) That it has achieved certification under this subsection; or

(ii) That it has not met the requirements of this article, provide a reason for the determination that the company has been determined not to have met the requirements of this article and decertify the company if applicable under subsection (b) of this section.

(d) If the council certifies a Wyoming small business investment company under subsection (c) of this section, the company shall no longer be subject to regulation by the council and shall not be subject to the reporting requirements under W.S. 9-12-1308. If the council does not provide notification within the sixty (60) day period as required in subsection (c) of this section, the Wyoming small business investment company shall be deemed to be certified as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

(e) The council shall provide written notice of any decertification proceedings under this section to the insurance commissioner and to the address of each participating investor whose tax credit may be subject to recapture or forfeiture, using the address shown on the last filing submitted to the council.

9-12-1311. Registration requirements.

Each investment by a participating investor for which a tax credit is awarded under this article shall be registered or specifically exempt from registration in accordance with applicable state or federal law.

9-12-1312. Reports to the governor and legislature.

(a) The council shall make an annual report to the governor, the joint appropriations interim committee and the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee for review and comment. The report shall include:

(i) The number of Wyoming small business investment companies holding designated capital;

(ii) The amount of designated capital invested in each Wyoming small business investment company;

(iii) The cumulative amount that each Wyoming small business investment company has invested;

(iv) The cumulative amount of follow-on capital that the investments of each Wyoming small business investment company have created in terms of capital invested in qualified businesses at the same time or subsequent to investments made by a Wyoming small business investment company in such businesses by sources other than Wyoming small business investment companies;

(v) The total amount of investment tax credits applied under this article for each year;

(vi) The performance of each Wyoming small business investment company with regard to the requirements for continued certification;

(vii) The classification of the companies in which each Wyoming small business investment company has invested according to industrial sector and size of company;

(viii) The gross number of jobs created by investments made by each Wyoming small business investment company and the number of jobs retained;

(ix) The location of the companies in which each Wyoming small business investment company has invested;

(x) Those Wyoming small business investment companies that have been decertified, including the reasons for decertification; and

(xi) Other related information as necessary to evaluate the effect of this article on economic development.

ARTICLE 14 - ECONOMICALLY NEEDED DIVERSITY OPTIONS FOR WYOMING
(ENDOW) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

9-12-1401. Economically needed diversity options for Wyoming executive council; creation; appointment and terms of members.

Commented [30]: Eliminate all of 1401. All responsibilities were due in 2018 and were accomplished.

(a) There is created the economically needed diversity options for Wyoming (ENDOW) executive council. The members shall represent existing, new and emerging economic sectors or subsectors or have demonstrated executive level experience. The council shall consist of not more than twenty (20) voting members, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The presiding officers of the house and senate and the chairmen of the house and senate minerals, business and economic development committees shall be ex officio, nonvoting members. The governor may remove any appointed member as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. If an appointed member's position is vacant the governor shall appoint a new member as provided in W.S. 28-12-101. The governor, or his designee, shall be a member and chairman of the council, but shall not vote. The council shall elect a vice-chairman from among the appointed members. One-half plus one (1) of the appointed members shall have initial terms of four (4) years and the remaining members shall have initial terms of two (2) years. Thereafter, appointed members shall serve for terms of four (4) years.

(b) In appointing members the governor shall, to the extent practicable, provide for diversity of members based upon existing, new and emerging economic sectors and subsectors. No more than two (2) members shall be appointed to serve concurrently from the same economic subsector.

(c) Members of the council shall not receive compensation for their services, but when engaged in the performance of their duties, they may receive travel expenses, per diem and mileage expenses in the same manner and amount as employees of the state.

(d) The council shall meet as often as necessary to conduct business. Meetings shall be called by the cochairmen. A majority of the voting members of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business or the exercise of any power or function of the council.

(e) The council shall be administered by the office of the governor and staffed and supported by the Wyoming business council, community college commission, University of Wyoming and department of workforce services. The council shall, where appropriate and authorized by the governor, make use of the services and facilities of other departments, boards, commissions and agencies of the state of Wyoming.

(f) As used in this article:

(i) "Business development and innovation zone" means defined geographic areas within the state in which local, state and federal permitting and other regulatory requirements will be met for all or significant segments of industry located in the zone or in which industries or businesses would be benefitted substantially as a result of being located in proximity to each other;

(ii) "Economic sector" and "economic subsector" means a primary business activity identified respectively as a sector or subsector in the most recent edition of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) manual.

9-12-1402. General powers and duties of the council; economic diversification policy and strategy; authority of governor.

(a) The ENDOW executive council shall:

(i) Receive and evaluate public input, opinions and recommendations regarding the diversification of Wyoming's economy and advise the governor and legislature of any findings or recommendations. The council shall seek the advice of departments, boards, commissions and agencies of the state of Wyoming;

(ii) By August 30, 2017, prepare and submit to the governor and legislature through the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee, an exhaustive assessment of socioeconomic data, which shall include an examination of state and local fiscal sustainability, existing,

new and emerging economic sectors and subsectors of the economy, identification of potential business development and innovation zones, an inventory of existing workforce strengths and deficiencies, economic trends and key enablers for economic growth in the state that translate to viable business development;

(iii) By December 31, 2017, prepare and submit to the governor and legislature a report of its preliminary findings and recommendations in the development of a comprehensive economic diversification strategy. The preliminary report shall evaluate investments necessary to support new and emerging industries or economic sectors, knowledge transfer, infrastructure, international trade, and cooperation between the public sector and private enterprise, assess the relationship between incremental state and local tax revenues, costs of public services and economic diversification and make recommendations as appropriate. The report shall identify specific areas which should be designated as business development and innovation zones. In identifying potential zones the report shall review the establishment of zones including, but not limited to, industries involving agriculture and agricultural business, renewable energy sources, advanced clean coal technologies, nuclear fuel processing and enrichment, hybrid energy sources, enhanced oil recovery, inland distribution ports, international trade, food and beverage industry distribution, promotion, marketing and development of the international trust and fiduciary business and related sectors, emerging research and technological development, existing, new and emerging economic sectors and subsectors, and value added manufacturing involving Wyoming resources. The potential zones shall be described by location in the state, including recommended boundaries. The report shall also identify existing industries in these areas which could be expanded and used to attract other businesses in the same, related or mutually supporting industries. The report shall identify existing deficiencies and strengths in Wyoming's workforce and workforce training programs;

(iv) By August 1, 2018, prepare and submit to the governor for his approval a twenty (20) year comprehensive economic diversification strategy. The strategy shall contain explicit economic targets to guide the evolution of Wyoming's economy in order to build a sustainable and diversified, value added economy by 2038. The strategy shall identify agency specific or collective actions that can be implemented immediately without new state appropriations and resources and

agency specific and collective actions that will require new state appropriations or reallocation of state resources. The strategy shall address the creation of business development and innovation zones and plans to implement the zones. The council may recommend to the governor modifications to the twenty (20) year plan from time to time as it deems advisable;

(v) In coordination with departments, boards, commissions and agencies of the state of Wyoming, develop four (4) year action plans with performance benchmarks, including policy recommendations and budget requests. Each plan shall specify a time period for creating business development and innovation zones within the plan's four (4) year period and a time schedule for full implementation of steps necessary to establish each zone. The council shall submit each action plan to the governor for his approval. After approval by the governor, the council shall, in coordination with departments, boards, commissions and agencies of the state, implement the action plan and provide regular progress reports in meeting targets and shall identify adjustments to be made to the governor and legislature;

(vi) Review with the Wyoming business council, community college commission, University of Wyoming, the department of workforce services, and other state agency directors as determined by the governor and ENDOW executive council to be necessary or desirable, agency enabling legislation, rules and regulations, policies, procedures and other governing mechanisms to determine amendments which would better align agency functions with the economic diversification strategy and to allow for implementation of business development and innovation zones;

(vii) Engage the private sector in review of state laws, rules and regulations, policies, procedures and other governing mechanisms that inhibit economic diversification efforts, including those which stand as obstacles to the implementation of business development and innovation zones, in order to determine amendments to the same without compromising Wyoming's environmental and workplace standards;

(viii) Have the authority to contract with consultants through the Wyoming business council for rendering of professional, financial and technical assistance and advice, including for studies and investigation likely to lead to economic diversification;

(ix) At the request of the governor, review and make recommendations to the governor for approval on projects submitted for grant and other funding opportunities from nonstate sources which support the economic diversification strategy;

(x) Conduct studies to identify services, facilities and amenities that are attractive to businesses and their employees seeking to relocate but which are substantially lacking or deficient in Wyoming, and identify potential solutions to address those deficiencies to create working and community life climates attractive to a modern day workforce;

(xi) Develop a performance evaluation system, monitor progress and report to the governor the status of programs and activities outlined as goals, objectives or action items in the state's economic diversification strategy;

(xii) In consultation with the University of Wyoming, community colleges, the department of education, department of workforce services and Wyoming business council, review existing career technical education programs and develop recommendations regarding opportunities to better coordinate existing public and private programs, and develop or acquire existing career technical education facilities to further technical education opportunities in the state. The recommendations shall be included in the council's twenty (20) year economic diversification strategy and may be included in the council's four (4) year action plan as determined appropriate by the council.

(b) In carrying out his duties under this article the governor, in consultation with the presiding officers of the legislature, may convene advisors to obtain objective advice in the formulation of economic diversification policy, including assessing local, national and global conditions and trends and evaluating the significance of those factors relative to Wyoming.

9-12-1403. Coordinator of economic diversification; duties.

(a) The governor shall designate a coordinator of economic diversification, who shall be a qualified elector of the state and who may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. The coordinator shall:

(i) Provide administrative support for the ENDOW executive council;

(ii) Direct and oversee the execution of Wyoming's economic diversification strategies and initiatives and the advancement of the interests of Wyoming in policy, program and project development and implementation to support diversification of the economy of Wyoming. Unless law directs a different state entity to undertake those programs and projects the coordinator may initiate or implement those programs and projects;

(iii) Coordinate activities with the Wyoming business council, community college commission, University of Wyoming, department of workforce services, Wyoming department of transportation, department of environmental quality, office of state lands and investments and other departments, boards, commissions, authorities and agencies of the state of Wyoming to assure efficient use of state resources in execution of Wyoming's economic diversification strategy;

(iv) Compile detailed information on all programs and projects undertaken for the purpose of measuring trends, development and progress in the diversification of the economy of Wyoming;

(v) Initiate, implement, sponsor, promote and coordinate policy research, policy development and economic analysis to support diversification of the economy of Wyoming;

(vi) Where appropriate and authorized by the governor, make use of the services and facilities of other departments, boards, commissions and agencies of the state of Wyoming.

9-12-1404. Economic diversification account created; authorized expenditures.

(a) There is created an economic diversification account. All monies in the account are continuously appropriated to the office of the governor to be used for the purposes of this article and as otherwise specified by law, including per diem, mileage and other administrative expenses of the ENDOW executive council. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 and 9-4-207, funds in the account or subaccounts of the account shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal period. Interest earned on funds in the account shall be deposited to the account or appropriate subaccount.

Commented [31]: this position no longer exists at the Governor's Office.

Commented [32]: Keep 1404. Funds remain. However, we should discuss moving the funding out of the governor's office, since there is no longer a coordinator of economic diversification, and to the WBC.

Within the account shall be subaccounts. For accounting and investment purposes only all subaccounts shall be treated as separate accounts. The subaccounts are as follows:

(i) The agriculture marketing subaccount. Funds within this subaccount may be expended as requested by the Wyoming business council and approved by the governor or his designee to provide funding for purposes of W.S. 9-12-109 and as specified by law;

(ii) The broadband development subaccount. Funds within this subaccount may be expended as requested by the Wyoming business council and approved by the governor or his designee to provide funding for agreements entered into pursuant to W.S. 9-12-1501 through 9-12-1510;

(iii) The Wyoming workforce development-priority economic sector partnership subaccount. Funds within this subaccount may be expended:

(A) As approved by director of the department of workforce services for administrative costs incurred by the department of workforce services associated with administration of the Wyoming workforce development-priority economic sector partnership program under W.S. 9-2-2609 through 9-2-2611; and

(B) As approved by the governor or his designee to provide funding for agreements entered into pursuant to W.S. 9-2-2609 through 9-2-2611;

(iv) The Wyoming research and innovation subaccount. Funds within this subaccount may be expended as requested by the Wyoming business council and approved by the governor or his designee to provide funding for agreements entered into pursuant to W.S. 9-12-1405;

(v) The "startup:Wyoming" subaccount. Funds within this subaccount may be expended as requested by the Wyoming business council and approved by the governor or his designee to provide funding pursuant to W.S. 9-12-105(b) through (f).

(b) The governor may accept, and shall deposit to the account, or to the appropriate subaccount within the account, any gifts, contributions, donations, grants or federal funds specifically designated for purposes of this article or other ENDOW related program.

9-12-1405. Wyoming research and innovation program fund created; authorized expenditures from the fund; rulemaking.

(a) The council shall administer a Wyoming research and innovation program under which matching funds necessary to access federal research and development grant funds or other nonstate funds may be provided as specified in this section. To be eligible to receive funding under the program an entity shall present to the council its proposal to apply for or an existing application for an externally funded grant specific to a priority economic sector identified in the approved twenty (20) year comprehensive economic diversification strategy under W.S. 9-12-1402(a) (iv). The entity shall demonstrate that further research funding from nonstate funds is likely to be provided if funding is provided under this section.

Commented [33]: Add rule making authority here if we remove (b)

(b) The Wyoming business council, in consultation with the ENDOW executive council and the University of Wyoming shall promulgate rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The rules shall include but not be limited to application procedures, eligibility requirements, the amount of funding which may be provided for any single project, provision for ensuring adequate consideration to the state in exchange for funding any project which does not solely involve a state agency or institution or political subdivision of the state, recapture of funding if the recipient of funds breaches any agreement under the program and prioritization for funding requests. In establishing provisions for adequate consideration to the state, the council may include, but is not limited to, assessment of the following:

Commented [34]: ENDOW Executive Council no longer exists.

(i) The potential for the creation of a high-growth company and number of new jobs created;

Commented [35]: Regarding items i-iv: Section 1405 is all about rulemaking authority. These items are already in rules.

(ii) The amount of nonstate or private financing leveraged to be used by the business in Wyoming;

(iii) Potential increase in Wyoming based patents;

(iv) Increase in Wyoming higher education institutions' capacity to respond to new research developments.

ARTICLE 15 - BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

9-12-1501. Broadband development program established; purposes; eligibility; definitions.

(a) A broadband funding program is established under the Wyoming business council to provide funds to eligible applicants in order to promote the expansion of access to broadband service in unserved areas of the state.

(b) Funds may be provided under this article for the acquisition, deployment and installation of infrastructure that supports broadband service at a minimum of at least one-hundred (100) megabits per second download and ~~twenty (20) three (3)~~ megabits per second ~~upload~~ in residential areas and ~~one (1) gigabit (1,000 Mbps) nine hundred (900)~~ megabits per second speed in business corridors.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, eligible applicants for funding awarded under this article are public private partnerships which include:

(i) A business entity authorized to be formed under title 17 of the Wyoming statutes, or the laws of another state that are the functional equivalent, which is authorized to transact business in this state and has experience installing broadband infrastructure and providing broadband services in rural areas; and

(ii) A government entity specified in the following:

(A) A city, town, improvement and service district or county or joint powers board;

(B) A tribal government of either the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribes of the Wind River Indian Reservation or the cooperative tribal governing body; or

(C) A state agency as defined by W.S. 9-2-1002(a) (i).

(d) A governmental entity specified in subparagraph (c) (ii) (A) or (B) of this section shall develop a request for proposals, as prescribed by the council, on such a form as may be promulgated by the council, inviting business entities to participate in a project proposed for funding under this article. If no eligible business entity responds to the request for proposal with a proposal meeting the requirements specified, the governmental entity specified in subparagraph (c) (ii) (A) or (B) may apply individually, or jointly with any other governmental entity specified in subparagraph (c) (ii) (A) or (B) of this section.

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(e) As used in this article, until established otherwise by rule of the Wyoming business council pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, "unserved area" is an area in which there exists no fixed terrestrial broadband service, or in which the maximum fixed terrestrial broadband speed available:

(i) To residential customers is at speeds less than twenty-five (25) megabits per second download and three (3) megabits per second upload;

(ii) To a business corridor within a municipality:

(A) With a population of less than two thousand (2,000), is twenty-five (25) megabits per second download and three (3) megabits per second upload;

(B) With a population of two thousand (2,000) or more, is fifty (50) megabits per second download and five (5) megabits per second upload.

(iii) To a business corridor in an unincorporated area of a county, is twenty-five (25) megabits per second download and three (3) megabits per second upload.

(f) The Wyoming business council may, by rule effective on July 1, 2022, modify the definition of "unserved area" for purposes of this article. The rule shall only modify the definition by providing for upload and download speeds exceeding those specified in subsection (e) of this section as the business council determines appropriate for technological conditions prevailing as of July 1, 2022.

(g) The Wyoming business council shall by rule establish a definition of "business corridor" for purposes of this article. An area shall not be considered a business corridor unless multiple businesses are, or have undertaken permitting, construction or other substantial steps to be, located in proximity to each other.

(h) As used in this article:

(i) "Last-mile" means a broadband project for fixed terrestrial infrastructure, including fixed wireless infrastructure, the primary purpose of which is to provide broadband internet service to end users or end-user devices;

(ii) "Middle-mile" means a broadband project for fiber-optic infrastructure the primary purpose of which is to connect last-mile broadband infrastructure and networks to network service providers.

9-12-1502. Application process.

(a) An eligible applicant shall submit an application to the council on a form prescribed by the council. The council shall develop administrative procedures governing the application and funding process by September 1, 2018. The council shall be responsible for receiving and reviewing applications, entering into contracts and authorizing the distribution of funds under this article, subject to approval by the governor or his designee.

(b) The council shall provide for funding periods not less frequently than biannually. At least thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the funding period for which applications may be submitted, the council shall publish on its official website the specific criteria and any quantitative weighting scheme or scoring system the council will use to evaluate or rank applications.

(c) Funding under this article to a public private partnership shall not require of the partnering business entity:

(i) An open access network;

(ii) Rates, terms and conditions that differ from those the provider offers in its other service areas, except as provided in W.S. 9-12-1510;

(iii) Rate regulation; or

(iv) Time constraints to build which are not technologically feasible.

9-12-1503. Application contents; application modification.

(a) An applicant for funding under this article shall provide the following information on the application:

(i) The location of the project, including a shapefile depicting the location and boundaries of the proposed project area or, for a middle-mile project, a map depicting the location and endpoints;

(ii) The kind and amount of broadband infrastructure to be deployed for the project, including initial speeds to be achieved and initial price of the service to be provided;

(iii) Evidence regarding the unserved nature of the area where the project is to be located;

(iv) The number of households and businesses passed that will have access to broadband service as a result of the project, or whose broadband service will be upgraded as a result of the project;

(v) Significant community institutions and industries that will benefit from the project;

(vi) Evidence of community support for the project;

(vii) The total cost of the project, including a business plan;

(viii) Sources of funding or in-kind contributions for the project that will supplement any funding under this article, including an examination of any federal grants available to the project. The application shall identify the amount of funding for the project to be provided by each governmental entity and by any business entity participating in the project. Funding provided by any other state source shall be specifically identified;

(ix) Repealed by Laws 2021, ch. 139, § 3.

(x) Repealed by Laws 2021, ch. 139, § 3.

(xi) Acknowledgement by the governing body, and any partnering business entity by a person with legal authority to bind the business entity, that funding may only be provided in accordance with a contract executed in conformance with this article and is subject to availability and approval of distribution of funds;

(xii) If the application is not submitted jointly with a business entity, an account of the request for proposals issued by the governmental entity applying and responses to the request, if any;

(xiii) Additional information requested by the council.

(b) The council may require an applicant to submit additional information to enable the council to properly assess the application for funding. The council may request an applicant to modify an application based on current broadband access in the proposed geographic broadband service area before awarding funding under this article.

(c) The council shall, after providing opportunity for public comment, promulgate rules on or before September 1, 2021 that identify the nature and type of information provided by broadband providers to the council that shall be treated as confidential, trade secret or proprietary and that shall be protected from disclosure to the public. The following information shall not be considered confidential, trade secret or proprietary and shall be subject to disclosure to the public:

(i) Publicly available information;

(ii) The name of a broadband grant applicant and the amount of funding sought in their application;

(iii) Information which is to be publicly posted, provided to other carriers or provided to a legislative committee pursuant to W.S. 9-12-1504(a), 9-12-1507 or any other provision in this article;

(iv) The recipient and the amount of any broadband grant award;

(v) Information supplied by a broadband provider with consent from the provider to treat the supplied information as public information; and

(vi) Information deemed public information by the council after a hearing on the issue.

9-12-1504. Challenge process.

(a) Within three (3) business days of the close of the funding application process, the council shall publish on its official website the proposed geographic broadband service area and the proposed broadband service speeds for each application submitted and shall notify each broadband provider who is listed with the council as providing broadband service in the proposed

project area of the application and proposed project. The notification to each listed broadband provider shall include the shapefile or map submitted by the applicant under W.S. 9-12-1503(a) (i). An existing broadband service provider may, within fourteen (14) business days of publication of the information, submit in writing to the council a challenge to an application. A challenge shall contain information demonstrating that:

(i) The provider currently provides or has begun construction, undertaken permitting or has received, obtained approval for or won an option for other federal or state funding for a project in the proposed geographic broadband service area to provide broadband service comparable to that in the proposed project at speeds equal to or greater than the speeds proposed in the application and with other capabilities and project size comparable to the project proposed in the application; or

(ii) The provider commits to complete construction of broadband infrastructure and provide broadband service comparable to that in the proposed project at speeds equal to or greater than the speeds proposed in the application and with other capabilities and project size comparable to the project proposed in the application no later than eighteen (18) months after the funding determinations are to be made under this section for the application submitted.

(b) The council shall evaluate the information submitted in a provider's challenge under this section, and is prohibited from funding a project if the council determines the provider is currently providing broadband service or the provider's commitment to provide broadband service that meets the requirements of subsection (a) of this section in the proposed project area is credible.

(c) If the council denies funding to an applicant as a result of a broadband service provider's challenge made under this section, and the broadband service provider does not fulfill the provider's commitment to provide broadband service in the project area, the challenging provider is prohibited from applying for funding for a project under this article for the following five (5) years and the council is prohibited from denying funding to an applicant as a result of a challenge by the same broadband service provider for the following five (5) years, unless the council determines that the broadband service provider's failure to fulfill the provider's commitment was the result of factors beyond the broadband service provider's control.

9-12-1505. Funding determinations.

(a) In evaluating applications and providing funding under this article, the council shall give highest priority to applications which the council determines are public private partnerships.

(b) In evaluating applications and entering into agreements to provide funding, the council shall give priority to applications that meet one (1) or more of the following criteria, with additional priority given for meeting multiple criteria:

(i) Offer new or substantially upgraded broadband service to important community institutions and businesses;

(ii) Serve economically distressed areas of the state, as measured by indices of unemployment, poverty or population loss that are significantly greater than the statewide average;

(iii) Include a component to actively promote the adoption of the newly available broadband services in the community;

(iv) Provide evidence of strong support for the project from citizens, government, businesses and institutions in the community;

(v) Provide access to broadband service to a greater number of unserved households and businesses;

(vi) Provide comparability to service offered in urban areas, both in speed and pricing by reference to standards published by the Federal Communications Commission;

(vii) Provide access to very high speed broadband service to business districts or other business areas and are likely to secure economic benefits for the surrounding locality;

(viii) Leverage greater amounts of funding for the project from other private and public sources;

(ix) Are for projects that are economically and technologically feasible for expanding broadband access in unserved areas of the state.

(c) The council shall endeavor to award grants under this section to qualified applicants in geographically diverse regions of the state.

9-12-1506. Limitations.

(a) Repealed by Laws 2021, ch. 139, § 3.

(b) No single project shall exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) in funding provided under this article.

(c) The council shall, by rule, adopt provisions to ensure that adequate consideration is provided for the expenditure of public funds on projects funded under this article.

9-12-1507. Application evaluation report.

(a) By June 30 of each year, following adoption of the state broadband enhancement plan, the council shall publish on its website and provide to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee a list of all applications for funding under this article received during the previous year and, for each application:

(i) The results of any quantitative weighting scheme or scoring system the council used to fund the applications;

(ii) The amount of funding requested; and

any.

(iii) The funding provided under this article, if

(b) Within ninety (90) days after a project's proposed completion date, the council shall review the project and provide in the report under subsection (a) of this section, its determination of whether the project was completed and services rendered in accordance with the agreement under this article. If the council reports that a project was not completed or services are not being rendered in accordance with an agreement, it shall report actions it has taken to enforce the agreement.

9-12-1508. Repealed by Laws 2021, ch. 139, § 3.

9-12-1509. Advisory council; broadband coordinator.

Commented [36]: Generally speaking, the BBAC has completed it's work, but I'll comment on each section just to be all-encompassing of the different tasks.

(a) The business council shall, in consultation with the economically needed diversity options for Wyoming (ENDOW) executive council, establish a broadband advisory council consisting of eleven (11) members. One (1) member shall be the state chief information officer or his designee. Remaining members shall be appointed by the council from the public at-large, with geographic diversity and to include diverse interests, including backgrounds in economic development, state or local government entities, broadband providers, technology related businesses, health care, education, library services and public safety. At least one (1) representative of the Northern Arapaho or Eastern Shoshone tribes of the Wind River Indian Reservation shall be appointed to the advisory council. One (1) senator appointed by the president of the senate and one (1) representative appointed by the speaker of the house shall serve as legislative liaisons to the advisory council. Legislative liaisons shall be paid salary, per diem and mileage as provided in W.S. 28-5-101 when attending meetings of the advisory council. Members of the advisory council shall receive no salary, but shall be reimbursed under W.S. 9-3-102 and 9-3-103 for per diem and travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(b) The advisory council shall provide advice and make recommendations to the business council on the following subjects:

(i) The development of an inventory and map of current broadband availability, as provided by voluntary submission from broadband providers and derived from other resources, including Federal Communications Commission reports, and identification of areas of the state unserved by broadband technology;

(ii) Needs, practices and technologies for providing broadband services in the most efficient manner possible, to accommodate economic growth, diversification and development, and enhance education opportunities;

(iii) Coordination with the ENDOW executive council, the state chief information officer and local and tribal governmental entities to ensure that state and local policies are conducive to development of broadband services;

(iv) Applications received under this article, as requested by the council;

Commented [37]: Recommend striking the entire council, title, and a. b (i-v). Keep C. only. Red Strike. Green Keep. @ron.gullberg@wyo.gov
Assigned to ron.gullberg@wyo.gov

Commented [38R37]: Recommendations are based on federal funding programs making the requirements irrelevant or duplicative, and ENDOW no longer existing, as well as the BBAC having no chairperson or active members.

Commented [39]: This task was initially taken by contracting with Ookla, the provider of speedtest.net. The mapping function of the BBAC is no longer necessary because the Federal Programs we're administering required mapping as part of their administration, and we've gone well beyond what was envisioned here in scope and quality of data, all funded with federal administration \$'s.

Commented [40]: ENDOW doesn't exist, and the BBAC has no chair person.

(v) Propose to the council:

(A) A state broadband enhancement plan, for adoption by the council not later than September 1, 2018;

(B) Not later than March 1, 2020, propose recommended changes to upload and download speeds specified in the definition of unserved areas, including unserved residential and business corridors.

(c) The business council shall, in consultation with the ENDOW executive council and the governor's office, designate an employee of the business council as coordinator of broadband services. The person designated shall have expertise in telecommunications and specifically in the provision of broadband services. As directed by the business council, the coordinator shall staff the broadband advisory council. The coordinator shall, with approval of the business council, accomplish the tasks set forth in paragraphs (b) (i) through (v) of this section and undertake other duties as assigned by the business council in consultation with the governor's office. The business council may contract with a consultant to provide services to the broadband advisory council and to the business council under this act.

Commented [41]: This is Chad's current role, and we do constantly coordinate with the Governor's Office. It would appear the BBAC has no actual role in this section, so maybe we should keep it.

9-12-1510. Middle-mile broadband projects.

(a) The council may fund middle-mile broadband projects upon receiving an application as provided under this article. The provisions of this article shall apply to middle-mile broadband projects except as otherwise provided by this section. The council shall not fund middle-mile broadband projects under this article unless:

(i) There is no middle-mile infrastructure or functional equivalent in the proposed geographic broadband service area to be served by the proposed middle-mile broadband project;

(ii) The middle-mile broadband project does not result in any overbuild of middle-mile broadband infrastructure or the functional equivalent;

(iii) The project enables broadband internet providers to provide or improve last-mile broadband internet service for end users or end user devices in unserved areas;

(iv) The broadband provider receiving funding under this article agrees to ensure that access to any infrastructure created or improved by the project is provided to other broadband providers at reasonable rates;

(v) The broadband provider agrees to:

(A) Allow the council to participate in arbitration of determining reasonable rates in the event of unsuccessful negotiations between the funding recipient and another broadband provider for access to the infrastructure; and

(B) Provide to the council upon the council's request any marketing information based on current leases to assist the council in determining reasonable rates for access to the infrastructure for the project funded under this article. Any information provided under this subparagraph shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed by the council.

(b) The council shall promulgate rules for the funding of middle-mile broadband projects as provided by this section.

W.S. 9-20-101 through 9-20-104 Minerals to Value Added Products
<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title09.pdf#page=837>
W.S. 9-4-715 (n) Investment of State Funds
<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title09.pdf#page=525>
W.S. 21-18-104 Small Business Development Centers
<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title21.pdf#page=438>
W.S. 35-12-110 (b) Industrial Facility Permitting
<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title35.pdf#page=744>
W.S. 37-5-502 through 37-5-504 Wyoming Energy Authority
<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title37.pdf#page=58>
W.S. 37-5-505 Bonds
<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title37.pdf#page=65>
W.S. 40-11-101 through 40-11-105 Foreign Trade Zones
<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title40.pdf#page=61>

CHAPTER 30 - WYOMING TOURISM ACT

ARTICLE 1 - TOURISM IN GENERAL

9-30-101. Wyoming Tourism Act; short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Tourism Act."
9-30-102. Definitions.

Commented [42]: Green indicates possible new section for Tourism.