Council Senate Members GREGORY BARKUS VICKI COCCHIARELLA MIKE COONEY KELLY GEBHARDT DAN HARRINGTON COREY STAPLETON



Council House Members BOB BERGREN--Chair DENNIS HIMMELBERGER--Vice DEBBY BARRETT MARGARETT CAMPBELL DAVE MCALPIN SCOTT SALES

**Montana Legislative Council** 

PO BOX 201706 Helena, Montana 59620-1706 (406) 444-3064 FAX (406) 444-3036

September 8, 2008

To: Legislative Council

From: Susan B. Fox

Re: TVMT Subcommittee recommendation

The TVMT Subcommittee met on August 20, 2008, and has made a recommendation regarding the transmission of TVMT to communities across Montana. A chart with the options that were considered and the subcommittee's recommendations follows. An X marks the options that the subcommittee is recommending.

The recommendation for the 2009 and 2011 Sessions is to broadcast to the same communities that had coverage during the 2007 Session (approximately 27) and to add an additional 11 communities. The communities and the costs are on page 2 (Options A through E).

For the interim beginning July 1, 2009, the subcommittee recommends reducing the coverage to the 4 communities that received a signal during the current biennium (Option A1). Page 3 has the options that the subcommittee considered but did not include in their recommendation.

Stephen Maly, Steve Eller, and I will be in attendance to answer any questions. If you want to see the subcommittee materials, they are posted to the Legislative Council's website under the August 20, 2008, meeting date.

Cl0425 8252sfna.

## **TVMT Subcommittee Recommendation**

August 20,2008

Transmission Choices	Number of Cable Available	Recomm for 2009 Session	Recomm for Interim	Recomm for 2011 Session	2009 Cost	2010-2011 Cost
A1. <b>Hi Pop</b> Billings, Missoula, Bozeman, Helena (2007 and interim)	222,562 Bresnan	X	×	×	A1 and 2 \$23,388	A1 and 2 \$52,430
A2. <b>Hi Pop</b> Great Falls, Kalispell, Butte, Havre ('07)	116,490 Bresnan	X		×		
B. Lo Pop 19 ('07) Lewistown, Glendive, Miles City, Sidney, Baker, Harlowton, Fairview, Savage, Roundup, Terry, Wibaux, Ekalaka, Circle, Jordan, Lavina, Ryegate, Richey, Fallon	32,705 Mid-Rivers	X		×	\$150,840	\$135,840
C. <b>New 5 small size</b> Fairfield, Twin Bridges, Sheridan, Ennis, Browning	3,125 (+Fairfield) 3 Rivers	X		×	\$760	0
D. New PBS Bozeman and Missoula	PBS (over- the-air)	X		X	\$3,650	\$3,650
E. <b>New 5 Mid-Size</b> Hamilton, Cut Bank, Polson, Wolf Point, Glasgow	18,079 Bresnan	X		X	\$39,808	\$36,768
Transmission subtotals					\$218,446	\$228,688
Production Costs	HCTV				\$125,000	\$212,000
Total Cost (transmission and production)	(392,961)				\$343,446	\$440,688
Appropriations needed (*est)					\$150,117*	\$440,688

## OPTIONS NOT SELECTED

Transmission Choices	Number of Cable Available	Cost for 2009 session	Cost for Interim 18 months	Cost for 2011 Session
A2. <b>Hi Pop</b> Great Falls, Kalispell, Butte, Havre ('07)	116,490 Bresnan	(included above)	\$45,486	(included above)
В. <b>Lo Pop 19</b>	32,705 Mid-Rivers	(included above)	\$407,520	(included above)
C. New 5 small size	3,125 (+Fairfield) 3 Rivers	(included above)	0	(included above)
D. <b>New PBS</b> Bozeman and Missoula	(over- the-air)	(included above)	\$8,100	(included above)
E. New 5 Mid-Size	18,079 Bresnan	(included above)	\$95,094	(included above)
F. New remaining 13 Mid-Size Dillon, Anaconda, Stevensville, Livingston, Deer Lodge, Shelby, Choteau, Townsend, Malta, Chinook, Fort Benton, Superior, Conrad	40,588 Bresnan	\$96,099	\$236,232	\$78,744
G. <b>New Small Independent</b> <b>Cable</b> Belgrade, Libby, Hardin, Broadus, Pablo, Eureka	10,145 Bresnan	\$45,000	\$108,000	\$36,000
H. New Vision Net MPLS	any other telephone coop			\$4,872