BIG SKY ROAD ASSOCIATION

MONTANA HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION

Association Brochure 2026

Official Publication · Annual Industry Overview & Division Directory

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW · PURPOSE & CONTEXT

Built for Northern Climate Realities

The Big Sky Road Association was established to address the unique challenges of constructing and maintaining highway networks across Montana and the northern Rockies. With more than twenty-four thousand lane miles of state-administered highway connecting agricultural valleys, timber regions, and mountain passes, transportation is the physical backbone of our economy.

Montana's climate presents some of the most punishing operating conditions in North America. Winter storms bring sub-zero cold, blowing snow, and high winds across exposed plains and mountain passes, followed by rapid spring freeze-thaw cycles that stress asphalt pavements and bridge decks. The association brings together field practitioners and materials scientists to share proven specifications that extend asset life and reduce emergency repairs.

HEADQUARTERS	CORRIDORS SERVED	CONTACT
2038 Stadium Dr, Bozeman, MT	24,500+ Lane Miles	503-421-8333

MONTANA INFRASTRUCTURE BENCHMARKS

$580B
Annual U.S. Output

24,500
State Highway Lane Miles

4M+
U.S. Jobs Sustained

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Our Vision & Mission

OUR VISION · Modern and Resilient Highways

A stronger, safer, and more connected America powered by modern and resilient highway infrastructure.

- Modernized rural road corridors with intelligent sensing and rapid winter alerts.
- Bridges and structures engineered for severe freeze-thaw cycles and seasonal runoff.
- A united transportation sector delivering lasting public value on every single mile.

OUR MISSION · Convening the Transportation Ecosystem

To bring together stakeholders across the transportation ecosystem, promote collaboration, and improve safety.

- Convening public DOT engineers, county road supervisors, and heavy civil contractors.
- Championing proven roadway departure and work zone safety countermeasures across Montana.
- Fostering technological adoption that improves travel reliability for rural communities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

What We Stand For

Safety First

Every worker returns home safely, and every rural traveler reaches their destination without harm.

Shared Expertise

The best solutions emerge when field contractors, consulting engineers, and state agencies solve problems collaboratively.

Stewardship of Public Dollars

Transportation investments must be transparent, fiscally sound, and engineered for maximum service life.

Resilience for the Long Haul

Designs must endure sub-zero temperatures, intense freeze-thaw cycles, and heavy agricultural freight.

PROGRAM DIVISIONS

Service Catalog & Industry Support

01. Advocacy & Policy

Representing transportation builders and public agencies before state legislative bodies and federal agencies.

- Legislative Affairs: Direct advocacy on long-term funding and highway policy.
- Regulatory & Legal: Environmental permitting, Clean Water Act, and DBE compliance.
- Funding Watch: Tracking IIJA grant disbursements and gas tax allocations.

02. Safety Center

Providing life-saving training, roadway departure countermeasures, and winter operations standards.

- Work Zone Safety Training: ATSSA-certified flagger and traffic control courses.
- Winter Operations Safety: Mountain pass driving protocols and chain-up procedures.
- Roadway Departure Countermeasures: Rumble strips and forgiving roadside designs.

03. ITS & Innovation

Accelerating the deployment of smart traffic monitoring, connected vehicles, and road weather data.

- Corridor ITS Planning: Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) telemetry.
- Connected Vehicle Pilots: Dedicated short-range communications for rural fleets.
- Road Weather Data: Pavement sensor telemetry feeding statewide driver portals.

04. Workforce Development

Recruiting, training, and retaining equipment operators, surveyors, and civil construction technicians.

- Heavy Equipment Apprenticeships: Certified equipment training with local unions.
- Tribal Transportation Partnerships: Skills workshops across Montana reservations.
- Engineering Scholarships: Annual grants for civil engineering students in Bozeman.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE ASSOCIATION

Whether joining a technical working group or attending a regional roundtable, your expertise strengthens our industry.

Visit bigskyroad.org/contact or call 503-421-8333 to connect with our committee directors.