

# Memo

**To:** Jennie Stapp, State Librarian  
Montana State Library Commission

**From:** Tracy Cook, Statewide Library Resources Director

**Date:** June 5, 2017

**Re:** **2018-2022 LSTA Plan**

Statewide Library Resources staff from Library Development and the Talking Book Library worked with the Network Advisory Council to create a 2018-2022 plan for Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) funds. The new plan needs to be adopted by the Commission no later than June 27, 2017 in order for staff to meet the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

A draft of this plan was shared with the Montana library community in mid-May. We asked for public comment during that time. The attached document includes comments and suggestions from the library community. Staff and members of the Network Advisory Council have also reviewed the document, and their edits are also included.

One question that I have for you and the Commission is about the addition of a fourth strategy. The three strategies of MSL's *Strategic Framework* describe a lot of what we do with our LSTA funds. However, staff found a need for a fourth strategy about "people development" or what is referred to as "institutional capacity" by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This particular strategy involves building the skills of librarians and trustees to support the other three strategies of foster partnerships, create critical infrastructure, and secure sufficient funding within local communities. Staff really liked the idea of "develop the library community" as an additional strategy. It crosswalks quite well with IMLS priorities and the goals and objectives created by the Network Advisory Council.

Is the Commission okay with adding this fourth strategy? Or would they prefer that it be deleted? Or something else such as adding it as a sub-strategy of fostering partnerships?