

## MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Janice Brown  
Special Projects Manager  
Fremont County Planning & Building Department  
208-624-4643 - [jabrown@co.fremont.id.us](mailto:jabrown@co.fremont.id.us)



## WORKSHOPS ON DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMING TO FREMONT COUNTY

National Main Street Center training events set for November 18 & 19 in St. Anthony and Ashton

National Main Street Center trainer Kathy LaPlante will be the featured speaker at two community training events scheduled for the evening of November 18 in St. Anthony and all day in Ashton on November 19. These sessions will introduce the National Main Street program and describe how downtown revitalization is being achieved in both large and small cities across the country. Joining Ms. LaPlante for both events will be Jerry Miller from the Idaho Department of Commerce and Doug Self, Community Development Director in Driggs. The two events are being co-hosted by the City of St. Anthony and the Ashton Community Foundation and funded by the HUD Sustainable Communities planning grant administered by Fremont County.

The first event is a 2-1/2-hour free orientation scheduled from 6:00 – 8:30 pm on November 18 at the St. Anthony City Hall to introduce the National Main Street program and why Idaho's Department of Commerce has become a cooperating partner. Entitled, "**Investing in Prosperity**", this session is open to the public, but pre-registration is requested either online or by calling City Clerk Patty Parkinson at 624-3494.

A full-day workshop entitled, "**Success Stories from Small-Town America**" is being offered the following day, November 19, at the Ashton Community Center. The workshop will feature both classroom-style and hands-on learning and will include a walking tour of three buildings in downtown Ashton that are in various stages of restoration or renovation. A \$20 registration fee is requested to cover lunch and refreshments that may be paid online in advance or at the door. More information is available from Sara Reinke, co-chair of the Ashton Community Foundation, at 208-652-7552. Go to [www.sustainableyellowstone.org](http://www.sustainableyellowstone.org) to preregister for this event.

The National Main Street Center is a national organization committed to historic preservation-based community revitalization. Through education, outreach, hands-on training, online resources, facilitating connections and conferences, the Center inspires and enables leaders across the country to build strong communities. For the past 34 years, the National Main Street Center has equipped more than 2,000 communities with an organizing framework to preserve and revitalize their traditional downtowns and commercial districts.

By using the Main Street Four Point Approach®, the affiliated Main Street organizations that make up the Main Street Network have rehabbed more than 246,000 buildings, produced \$59.6 billion in investment, and created 502,728 jobs. Building on this successful foundation, the National Main Street Center is committed to expanding the impact of the Main Street program by providing a new generation of research and resources to existing Main Street programs and extending its reach to other commercial districts that are not yet part of the Main Street Network.

