Building a Technology Education and Research Network
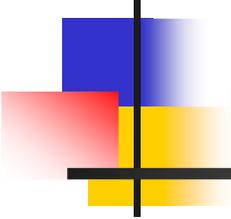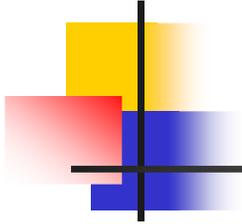
Dick Clark – Montana Chief Information Officer

Board of Education Meeting

January 10, 2008

Information Technology is an Asset

Montana's on the *Move*

Trends In Other States

- Multiple states created statewide networks.

- Many of our neighbors - ND, SD, WY, CO, NE, WA, ID, UT, and more across the country.

- Information can be found on State web sites or at www.statenets.org

Montana's on the *Move*

Trends In Other States

- Quality of Education
- Maximize technology investments through the adoption of a shared vision.
- Increased educational collaboration between schools districts, teachers, students and parents.
- Extension of Professional development opportunities.
- Supports Efficient use of scarce resources.
- Distance Learning – increased access (Education for Life)

Montana's on the *Move*

Trends In Other States

- Education Network Boards established in law.
- Chaired by State CIO, Office of Education or Commissioner of Higher Education.
- Includes representatives from Governor's Office, Legislature, State CIO, University System, Office of Public Instruction, Board of Education, Secondary and Elementary Education, private sector and citizens.
- *Montana is on track and similar to Best Practice states.*
- *Montana is positioned appropriately to leverage resources.*

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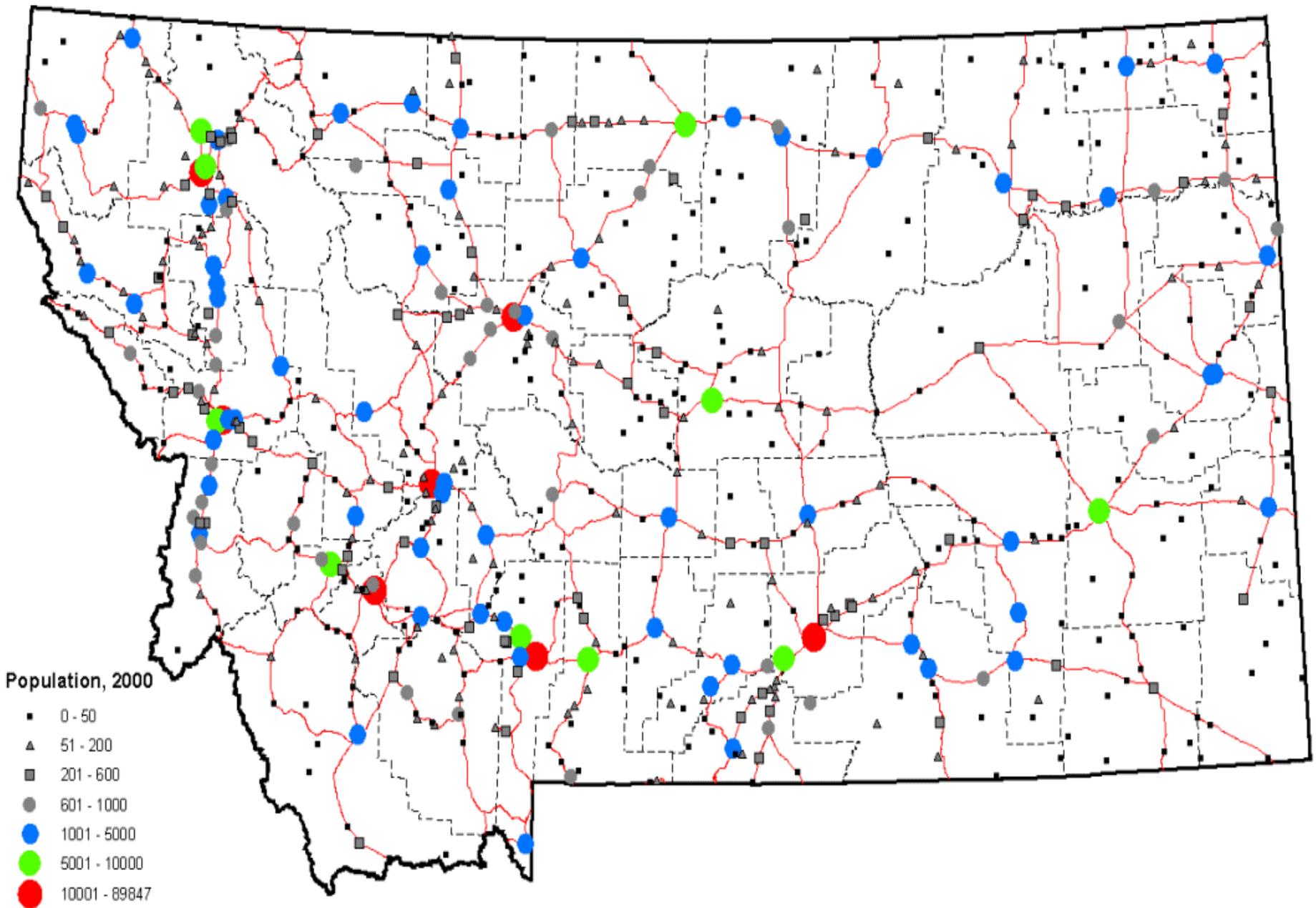
Building Blocks for the Future

- Technology is an everyday necessity for Montana.
- Technology is integral part of Math and Science at any level
- However, a strategic plan for building a technology and research network to deliver 21st century capability for Kindergarten to College is non-existent.
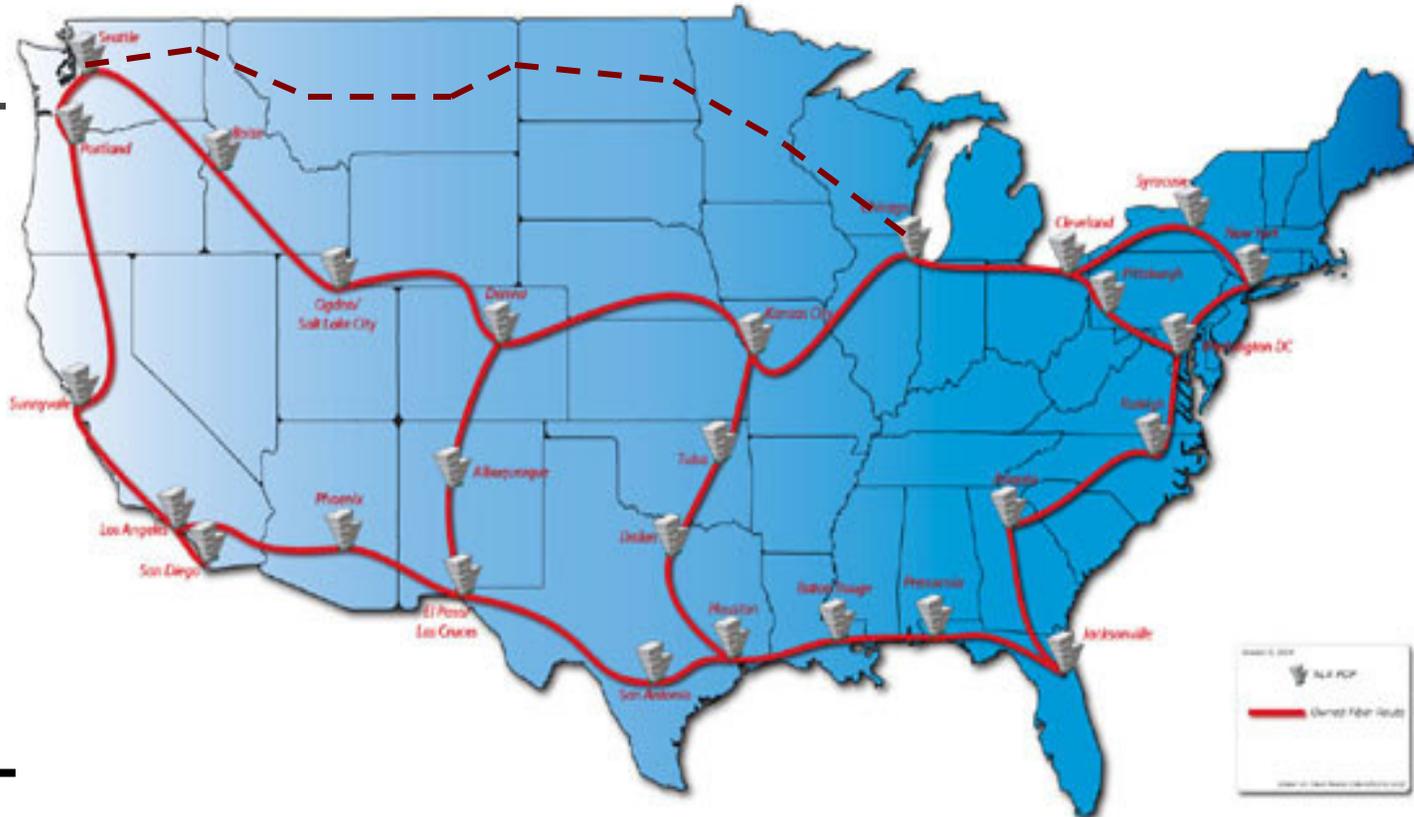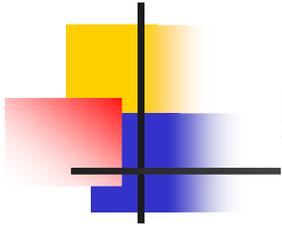
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Investing in Montana

- Already lots of activity in technology going on in Montana.
- Governor supports technology.
- Substantial strategic investment already made by the Governor.
- Opportunity to leverage resources for the 21st century.

Montana Cities and Towns

Population, 2000

- ▪ 0 - 50
- ▲ 51 - 200
- ◼ 201 - 600
- ● 601 - 1000
- ● 1001 - 5000
- ● 5001 - 10000
- ● 10001 - 89847

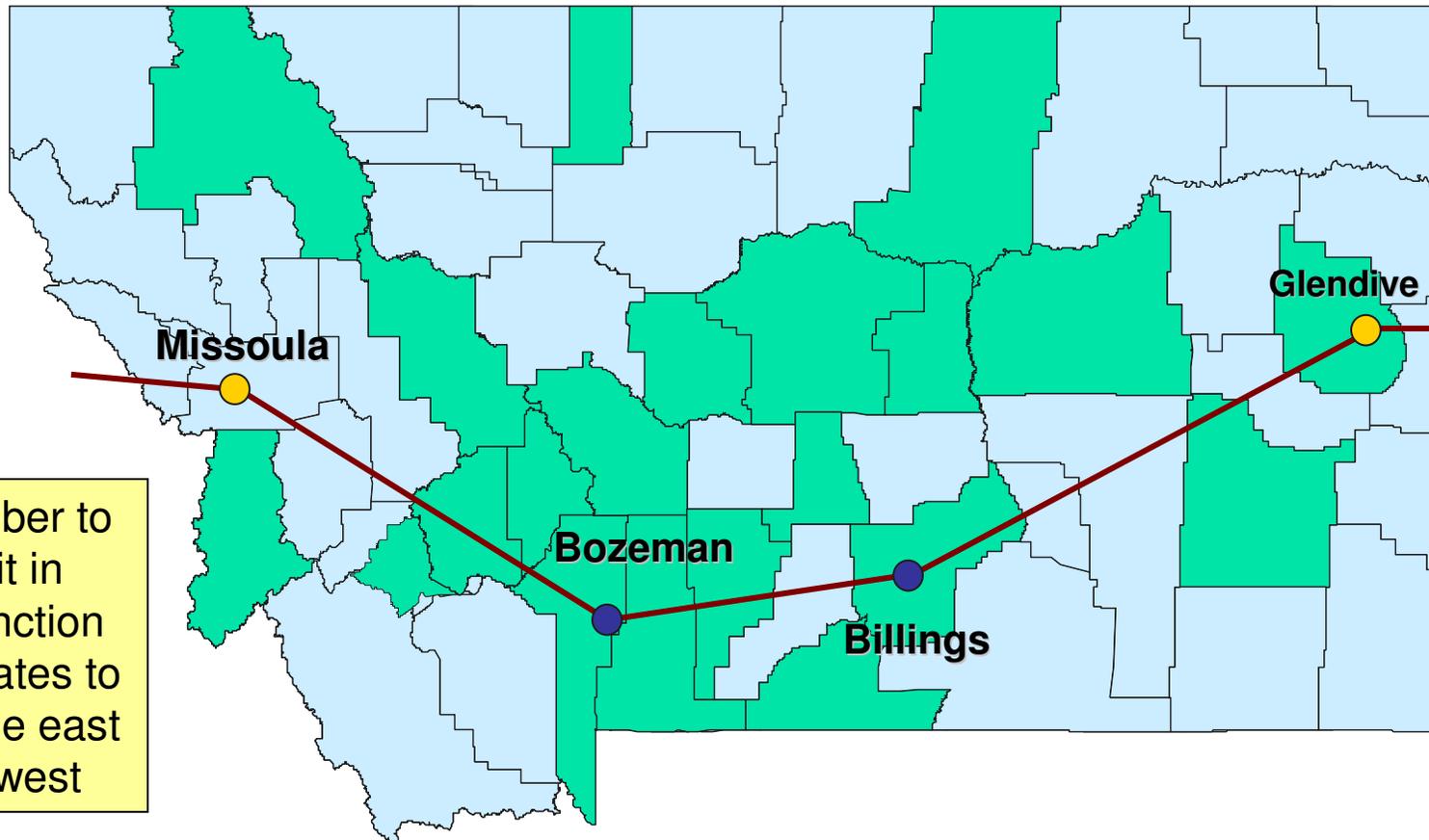# MT University Research & Education Network

GOAL

- Link the Montana University System to high speed telecommunication networks nationwide

- Connect the MUS to national research and education networks.
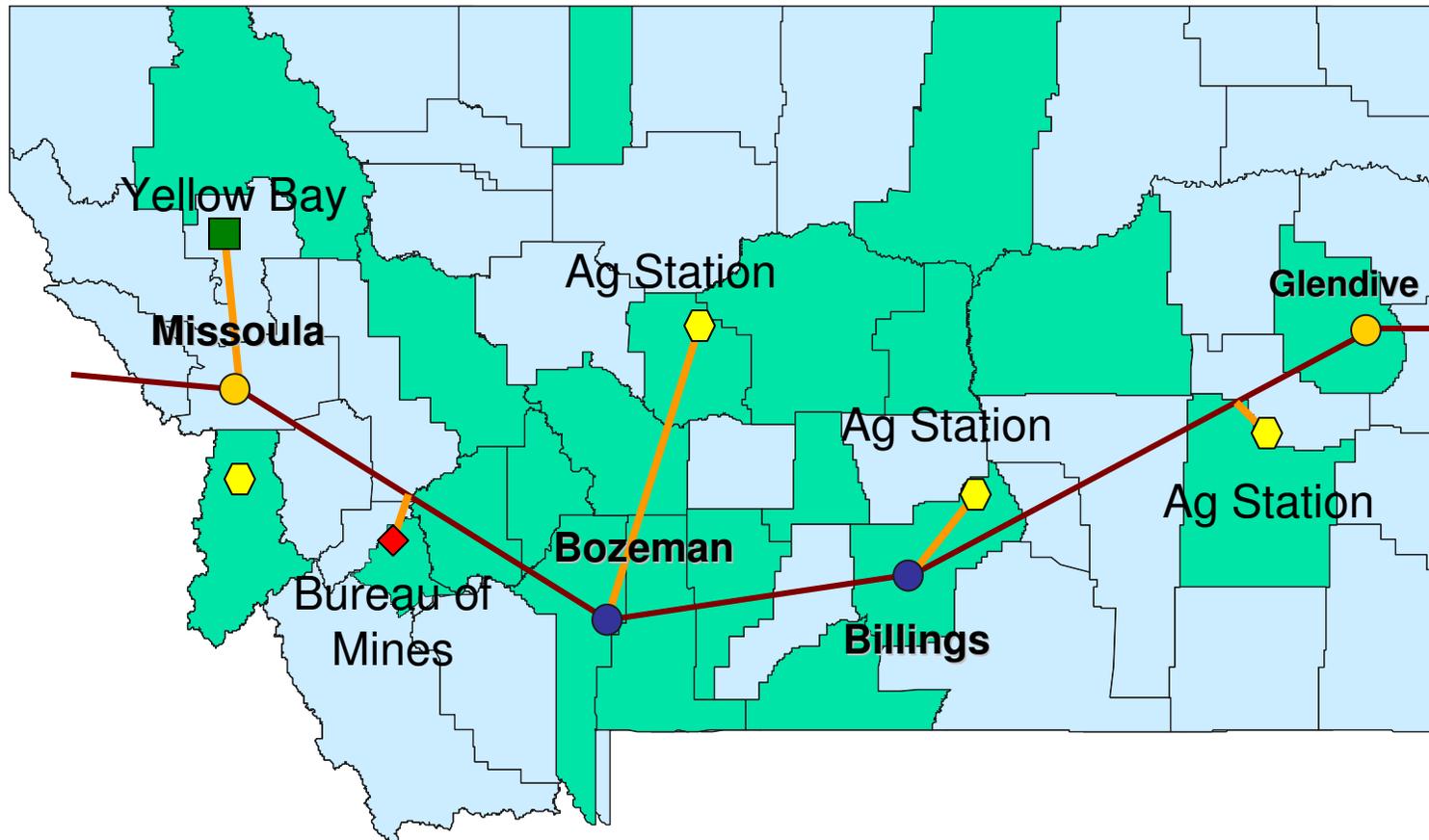
Education & Research Network

- Dark fiber connecting Spokane to Glendive (40 separate, 10 gigabit lines)

- Intended use: traditional internet usage to support **research & education** mission

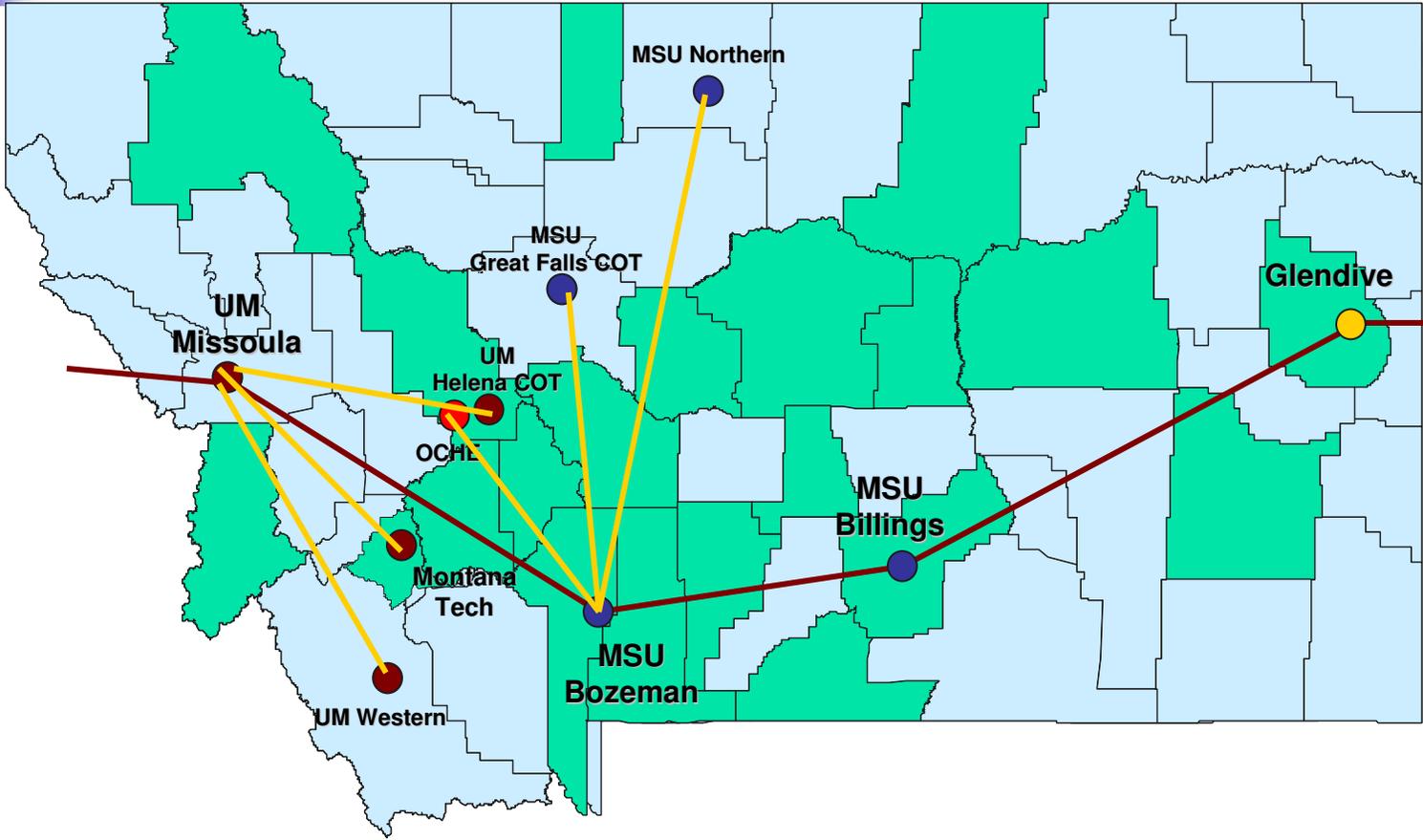Dark fiber to be lit in conjunction with states to both the east and west

Research Network

- Network linkages extended to University Research facilities
- Partnerships formed with Telecos to establish linkages --- linkages represented in

State Network Transport Contract

Department of Administration
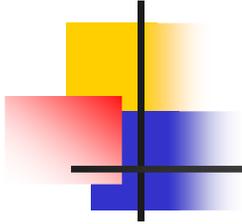
Montana's on the *Move*

Building a Technology Education and Research Network

- Governor has a vision for technology and connectivity.
- Partnership between K-12, Higher Ed and the Business community.
- Encompasses strategic needs and strategic points of view of the partners in a strategic plan for Montana.

Montana's on the *Move*

Building a Technology Education and Research Network – Next Steps

- Expect to be hearing from me.
- Seek commitment from key stakeholders.
- Develop a Statewide Technology Education and Research Network Strategic Plan.

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