

LONG-RANGE BUILDING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Long-Range Building Program (LRBP) is Montana’s process for identifying, prioritizing, and funding **Major Repair** and **Capital Development** projects for state-owned facilities. It is authorized under **MCA 17-7-201 through 17-7-224**.

The LRBP functions as a **six-year capital planning framework**, identifying facility needs, estimated costs, and funding sources. The first two years of this plan form the **Capital Construction Program**, which aligns with the biennial legislative appropriation cycle.

Agencies submit LRBP requests through the **LRBP Submission Portal**, which opens on **October 1 of odd-numbered years** and closes on **March 31 of even-numbered years**. Each agency must rank its projects in order of importance.

After the portal closes, the **Architecture & Engineering Division** and the **Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)** review requests for feasibility, agency needs, and operating cost impacts. A prioritized statewide list is submitted to the **Governor by October 1 of even-numbered years**. During the first week of the legislative session, the Governor includes this comprehensive program in the **executive budget submission**.

In addition, under **MCA 17-7-202 (as amended by HB 5, 2025)**, each agency must prepare a **6-Year Capital Development Facilities Strategic Plan**, due by **April 1 of the year preceding a legislative session**. Except for major repair projects greater than \$2.5 million, a capital development request cannot be considered unless it is included in the 6-Year Plan, unless OBPP approves an exception.

Montana Code Annotated (Key Provisions)

MCA 17-7-201 – Definitions

Provides definitions of terms used throughout the LRBP statutes, including capital development, major repair, preventive maintenance, and high-performance building.

MCA 17-7-202 – Building Programs; 6-Year Plan Requirement

- Agencies must submit proposed long-range building programs and 6-Year Capital Development Facilities Strategic Plans to A&E by **April 1 of the year preceding a session**.
- The plans must identify all anticipated projects for the next six years and indicate which projects are intended for the upcoming session.
- Capital development projects must be included in the 6-Year Plan to be considered, unless OBPP grants an exception.

MCA 17-7-203 – Submission to Legislature

- Requires the Governor to submit the comprehensive long-range building program as part of the executive budget during the first week of each legislative session.

MCA 17-7-204 through 17-7-224

- Establish provisions for capital development, major repair funding, submission of priorities, emergency funding, and reporting requirements.
- Notably, **MCA 17-7-213** requires a minimum level of funding for major repair projects.

17-7-201	Definitions
17-7-202	Preparation of building programs and submission to department of administration -- statewide facility inventory and condition assessment
17-7-203	Submission to legislature
17-7-204	Long-range building program for capital developments
17-7-205	Renumbered 17-7-221
17-7-206	Repealed
17-7-207	reserved
17-7-208	Capital development funding -- transfer as present law base
17-7-209	Capital developments long-range building program account
17-7-210	Required funding for maintenance of newly authorized state buildings
17-7-211	Expansion to be authorized -- budget amendment
17-7-212	Reappropriation of capital projects
17-7-213	High-performance building standards
17-7-214	High-performance program for operations and maintenance of existing buildings
17-7-215	Transfer of budgeted utility funds -- special revenue account -- university plant subfunds
17-7-216 through 17-7-220	reserved
17-7-221	Major repair long-range building program account
17-7-222	Minimum funding for major repair -- restriction of capital developments -- transfer to satisfy minimum as present law base
17-7-223	Major repair -- submission of list to legislature -- priorities
17-7-224	Funding for major repair -- emergency funding
17-7-225	Capitol complex executive branch state special revenue account
17-7-226	Eligible use of funds
17-7-227	Capitol complex legislative branch state special revenue account
17-7-228	Eligible use of funds

Definitions (per MCA 17-7-201)

- **Capital Development** – A capital project costing \$2.5 million or more, or new facility construction costing \$250,000 or more, or the purchase of real property.
- **Major Repair** – A project to repair, alter, replace, or renovate a facility, site, or utility with a total cost less than \$2.5 million, or new construction costing less than \$250,000.
- **Preventive Maintenance** – Activities that preserve a facility in its current condition, prevent deterioration, or restore it without significantly extending its useful life. Preventive maintenance is funded from agency operating budgets, not LRBP.

- **High-Performance Building** – A facility designed, constructed, and operated to integrate and optimize attributes such as energy performance, durability, life-cycle cost, occupant productivity, and environmental sustainability.
- **Fixed Equipment** – Equipment permanently attached to or built into a facility as an integral part of the structure.
- **Movable Equipment** – Equipment not permanently attached to a structure, typically funded through agency operating budgets.
- **Major Alteration** – A project that increases capacity, significantly changes the use, or extends the life of an existing facility.
- **Operations and Maintenance** – Costs of operating and maintaining a facility, including utilities, routine repairs, and minor upkeep. These costs are part of an agency’s operating budget, not the LRBP.