Pasta Montana Announcement

Max S. Baucus

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(1) Subject*: Economy
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(2) Subject* Pasta Montana Announcement

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* "required information"
Good afternoon. And this is a very good afternoon for Great Falls and the Golden Triangle -- because today a dream that so many of us have worked for is about to come true.

Last year, we all worked together to save Malmstrom Air Force Base. While we saved the missile wing, there was no denying that the loss of the tanker refueling mission was a setback.

But I think there's still a lot of that old frontier spirit alive in Montana and Great Falls today. We are tough. We work hard. We work together. And we bounce back.
That’s always been the Montana way. And this project proves it. This plant will mean jobs and economic stability for the community. And it will also mean a good market for our wheat farmers right here at home.

I am deeply honored to have played a role in securing part of the financing that will help make Pasta Montana the newest addition to Great Falls’ business community. Frankly, some within the Economic Development Administration did not understand this project and were reluctant to support it. But, through a lot of persistent persuasion, I was able to get EDA on board with the $1.5 million in financing that was necessary to help close this deal.
Yet this was very much a Montana team effort. The federal, state and local governments worked together with High Plains Development and the private sector to bring a new business, new jobs, and new opportunity to Great Falls.

It was not easy. But we got the job done. And that is a credit to a lot of hard work by a lot of good people.

Tim Ryan and the entire board of High Plains Development.

City Manager John Lawton.
County Commissioners Jack Whitaker, Peggy Beltrone, and Roy Aafedt (prn. OFFIT).

And Keith Cook from First Interstate Bank, to name just a few.

Again, this was a team effort. And I am very proud to have been a player on this winning team.

Congratulations to everybody, and let’s get to work.