

Date: February 17, 2010 Partnership Meeting

To: Partnership of Douglas County Governments

From: Mark Stevens, Castle Rock Town Manager

RE: Report of the Douglas County Economic Development Forum

The Partnership adopted 2010 economic development goals through its Douglas County Economic Forum. These goals include: CEO Roundtable Meeting; Facilitate creation of a Manufacturing Association; Identify gaps in economic development service delivery within the County; and Build relationships among economic development providers within the County. While not specifically Economic Development Forum responsibilities, support for economic gardening programs communication on business climate issues from the private sector to the public sector through the Douglas County Business Alliance and launching of the Douglas County business web site are also considered priorities.

The first CEO Roundtable Meeting was held on Friday, January 29 at the Sanctuary. Eight CEO's of Douglas County-based companies attended, hosted by representatives of Douglas County, Castle Rock, Castle Pines North, Larkspur, Lone Tree, Parker, Highlands Ranch, Douglas County Libraries and SEBP.

In response to discussion about why they located their business in Douglas County, responses included:

- Desire to live and work in a small community
- Location, not too far north or south, away from city, not Denver or Tech Center
- Access to a large airport
- Room to build and expand
- Quality of life
- Relationships/existing clients
- Access to an educated workforce
- E-470 Corridor
- Population growth
- Available land



In response to discussion about challenges faced doing business in Douglas County, responses included:

- Global air access
- Infrastructure and growth management
- Construction/permitting/zoning difficulties
- Long-term water
- Growing needs for transit and transportation, local and regional
- Access to quality employees
- More affordable housing
- Lack of knowledge of what Douglas County can do to help business

On a scale of 1 (best) to 10 (worst), the participating CEO's average rank of Douglas County as a place to do business was 2.7, with responses ranging from 2 to 4.

The Economic Forum will be de-briefing the CEO Forum at its next meeting later this month. Also scheduled for initial discussion are ideas for filling gaps in economic development service delivery.

Pursuant to direction from the Board of County Commissioners and work by County staff and the various economic development organizations and communities, much progress has been made in the past month towards the launch of the Douglas County business web site.

CEO Roundtable

CEOs:

Rick Jory,
President & CEO
Sandhill Scientific, Inc.

Steve Patterson
President/CEO
Broadnet

Giovanni(Gino) Greco
President and CEO
The Wildlife Experience

Russ McCombs
Sunset Stone

Mark Hansen
Commnet

Jenni Brown
Master Magnetics

Thomas Sandgaard
President and CEO
Zynex Medical

Rich D'Amato
OMI Senior Vice President/Dir. Bus
Dev
CH2M Hill

Scott Ingvoldstad
Director of Government Affairs
CH2M Hill

Terry Ford or Brian Moore
Centura Hospital

Forum Members:

Seth Hoffman
Kim Hoffman
Robert Estes
Chris Eppers
Steve Dyer
Frank Gray
Rochelle Logan
Mitch Trevey
Carla Kenny
Matt Krimmer
Lynn Myers
Meme Martin