

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



TYLER CARLSON, MANAGING PRINCIPAL, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, EVERGREEN DEVCO

Tyler Carlson is a Managing Principal, manages Evergreen's Denver office and leads the acquisition and development of all commercial properties in Colorado. During his tenure with Evergreen, Tyler has been involved in all facets of real estate development from initial site identification and contract negotiation through construction close out and tenant opening across a multitude of projects throughout the country. Tyler has significant experience in structuring joint ventures and public private partnerships, the financial underwriting of complex real estate transactions and an extensive network of tenant, consultant, government, owner and brokerage relationships. He is a licensed and active real estate broker in Colorado and is a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) and the Urban Land Institute (ULI). Tyler graduated Magna Cum Laude from Brigham Young University with dual Bachelor's degrees in Finance and Economics and earned a Master's of Real Estate Development (MRED) from the University of Southern California, graduating at the top of his class. Tyler joined Evergreen in 2003.



MICHELLE CLAYMORE, CEcD, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, EDCC'S BOARD CHAIR

Michelle Claymore is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) with over 25 years of experience. She joined the City of Commerce City in August of 2014 and previously served as Vice President of the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation from 1995-2014. Some of the companies she has worked with on expansions or relocations include Lockheed Martin Space Systems, Ball Corporation, Terumo BCT, Trimble Navigation, The Coleman Company and CoorsTek. Michelle received the Economic Developer of the Year award from the Economic Development Council of Colorado in 2010 and founded Colorado's Basic Economic Development Course in 2008. She is also a member of the International Economic Development Council. Starting her career at the Denver Chamber of Commerce, Michelle worked in public policy, economic development, communications and membership throughout her six-year tenure. During that time, she was fortunate enough to work on special projects that included bringing the Colorado Rockies to town as an expansion team and site selection conferences around the Denver Grand Prix. She is a Colorado native and a graduate of Colorado State University. Michelle has also received a Certificate in International Marketing and Management from Front Range Community College.



MAX DAFFRON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ADAMS COUNTY

Max Daffron joined Adams County in May of 2019 and has jumped headfirst into the many regional economic development initiatives taking place in Adams County. In addition to helping develop and lead the Adams County Opportunity Zones Task Force, Max has been actively involved with development efforts at the Colorado Air and Space Port, has partnered with the County's various municipal partners on several major projects, and has made significant progress in developing relationships with the Adams County business community. Currently, Max is working collaboratively with County staff on developing Neighborhood Economic Development Strategies that address the development needs of historic communities while also ensuring that nobody is left behind in the increasing tide of regional growth. Before working at Adams County, Max served the City of Huntington Beach where he oversaw business retention efforts, the City's robust film industry permitting, and the City low income housing programs.



ALEJANDRO GARCIA, BUSINESS SERVICES SPECIALIST, BROOMFIELD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Alejandro is the Business Services Specialist for the City and County of Broomfield where he connects, expands, and retains businesses within Workforce Development. Alejandro believes that a confident workforce will empower all people through all walks of life, will assist communities to reach their highest level of independence, and will thrive opportunities and forthcoming advancements. Alejandro has lived in Colorado for twenty years and counting, he graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 2017 -- Sko Bears! -- and he uses the Bison Ridge Rec Center regularly!



ELIZABETH GARNER, STATE DEMOGRAPHER, COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS

Elizabeth Garner is the State Demographer and joined the Colorado Department of Local Affairs in 2004. She has over 20 years of experience analyzing population and economic trends in the state. The State Demography Office produces population and economic estimates and forecast for use by state agencies and local governments and agencies. Current areas of research include aging in Colorado, characteristics of migration, and poverty. Elizabeth is an economist and received her B.A. in Business at the University of San Diego, her masters in Agricultural and Resource Economics at Colorado State University. Elizabeth is a Denver native.



PAUL HARTER, OWNER, CAMP CREEK HOLDINGS & PAST CHAIR, NoCO MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP

Paul Harter, former owner of Aqua-Hot Heating Systems, was a founding member and chairperson for the NoCo Manufacturing Partnership. This partnership started in 2013 and has grown to over 700 individual members, representing approximately 250 manufacturing companies. The partnership's annual trade show, NOCOM, has become the premier showcase for Colorado's manufacturing community. Formerly a member of the Colorado Workforce Development Council, Paul also served as the steering committee chairperson for all of Colorado's sector partnership activities. Working with Next Gen Sector Partnerships, he has become a frequent speaker and mentor on lessons learned in sector partnership development.



MAYOR BENJAMIN HUSEMAN, CITY OF COMMERCE CITY

A lifelong public servant and community volunteer, Mayor Benjamin Huseman was elected to serve as mayor of Commerce City in November 2019 after previously serving as a city councilmember at large from November 2017-2019. He was appointed to the National League of Cities' Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee for 2019 and 2020. Prior to holding public office, Mayor Huseman served more than 20 years in the United States Air Force, retiring as the Operations Flight Superintendent for the 460th Civil Engineer Squadron at Buckley Air Force Base in 2014. Mayor Huseman has a M.S. in Security Management, a B.S. in Computer Information Systems, and an A.A. in Mechanical and Electrical Technology. He currently serves as lead project manager performing facility condition assessments for Bureau Veritas in the Building and Infrastructure Division. A native of Lakeside, CA, he and his wife and daughter have resided in Commerce City since 2013. In his spare time, he enjoys photography, traveling, cooking, and spending time outdoors.



NICK KITTLE, GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND INNOVATION COACH

Nick is the author of the best-selling government innovation book “Sustainovation: Building Sustainable Innovation in Government, One Wildly Creative Idea at a Time,” and spent the last 15 years in government, most recently as a Chief Innovation Officer. He has won three national innovation awards and founded one of the first five government innovation offices in the country. During his government career, Nick directed 17 different divisions and developed over 65 unique or first-of-their-kind pilot projects while directly generating \$7.8 M in savings and pioneering the concept of Innovation Value.

Nick founds innovation offices in a variety of political climates and geographies across the US, and has consulted with cities such as Kansas City, Austin and San Jose on government innovation. He has written and spoken extensively as a government thought leader and motivator, including pieces for the Harvard Government Innovators Network, Alliance for Innovation, Exago, and Governing Magazine, as well as podcasts with StrongTowns, National Research Center and ELGL and a Top 10 DISRUPT talk. Nick now keynotes and trains across the country on building Sustainovation™ in government, and delivers the concepts of High-Performance Government to Cartegraph’s customers. Nick is a dynamic TEDx speaker (Life 2.0), keynote and government performance and innovation coach from Colorado, delivering a powerful message—and in his main time, he is a father, husband, BBQ champ and avid disc golfer.



JOSEPH LIBKEY JR., PRESIDENT & CEO OF BLUEPRINT INVESTMENT GROUP LLC

Joseph Libkey, Jr. has experience as a Residential/Commercial General Contractor, Real Estate Investor, and Real Estate Developer for the last 10 years. He has experience with over 150 residential and commercial projects to include Public Schools, Specialty Hospitals, Universities, Multi-Tenant fit out, Luxury Homes, Urban row-home re-development, Multi-Family apartments, Condominiums, and Land Planning for Sub-divisions.

Joseph Libkey, Jr. had the fortunate experience to partner with the Baltimore City Housing authority as a certified developer in coordination with Johns Hopkins Hospital residents and staff for housing placement. In 2014, Joseph worked hand in hand with Assistant Commissioner of Code Enforcement for Baltimore City Housing, Eric Booker to develop vacant properties into custom townhome living for residents and staff of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Early in 2015 Mr. Libkey decided to expand to Denver, Colorado to focus on residential rehabilitation projects after learning Denver was experiencing tremendous growth. His business model grew to encompass new construction spec homes, commercial, and multi-family condo/townhome developments in 2018. These developments were focused in the City of Denver as well as the North Metro Denver area.



SUSAN STANTON, PRINCIPAL, THE STANTON SOLUTION

Susan has built a reputation for excellence in real estate development, land use, public-private partnerships, market analysis, governmental affairs and economic development. Susan currently works with both public and private sector entities. Susan has unique expertise in airport area development shaped by a multi-dimensional perspective. She worked for Denver International Airport during its development, then for economic development entities surrounding DEN, both from a regional and local perspective. Currently, she consults with multiple property owners on airport development opportunities. As a long-time advocate and supporter of Denver’s Airport, she and her clients were supporters of the Denver 1A campaign to help DEN achieve its economic development potential.



MATT SURA, ATTORNEY, MATT SURA LAW

Matt Sura is an oil and gas attorney who specializes in the representation of landowners, mineral owners, and local governments. From 1996-2008 Matt worked with Western Colorado Congress – a non-profit organization based in Grand Junction, Colorado. During his time on the Western Slope, Matt worked with rural residents and communities that were struggling with oil and gas development that was occurring on their land and throughout the region.

Most oil and gas attorneys work for the oil and gas industry. Matt became an attorney so he could better assist families, communities, and local governments in their negotiations and legal disputes with the oil and gas industry. Matt's practice also emphasizes real estate law, environmental law, and administrative law.



MATT TRONE, SIOR, MANAGING DIRECTOR, INDUSTRIAL BROKERAGE, CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD

Mr. Trone specializes in representing landlords and tenants in the sale and leasing of warehouse, distribution, and manufacturing facilities. He has a strong background in structuring lease transactions, property dispositions and build-to-suit projects. Taking a comprehensive approach, he is able to deliver solutions that align with the overall objectives of an organization and help them gain a competitive advantage. Mr. Trone also is skilled in leveraging C&W's broad platform and capabilities to provide a high level of service to his clients.

Prior to joining Cushman & Wakefield, Mr. Trone worked as a White House Intern for the office of Strategic Initiatives, under Karl Rove. He is an Eagle Scout and former board President for the Rocky Mountain Down Syndrome Association, which helps to assure inclusion and enhance independence of people with Down syndrome. Mr. Trone is also an avid bow hunter and competitive pistol and rifle shooter.



CAROLYNNE WHITE, SHAREHOLDER, BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK

Carolynne White is an experienced land use and public policy attorney, with strong state and local government relationships, and cutting-edge expertise. Her specialty is managing complex, controversial and challenging projects and navigating multiple regulatory environments for optimal outcomes for clients. Her strong local and state relationships with elected officials and staff statewide ensure that clients always have the best information and the best opportunity to be heard. Additionally, Carolynne is one of only 23 LEED-accredited attorneys in the state of CO.

Carolynne's practice focuses primarily on the zoning and entitlement process, with an emphasis on complex projects involving redevelopment, infill, brownfields, urban renewal, eminent domain, mixed use, transit-oriented development, PIFs and other public financing tools, and special challenges such as historic preservation. She has obtained entitlements for projects ranging from high-rise hotels to large-tenant retail to mixed use developments involving retail, office and residential components. Carolynne has also handled permitting for pipelines, compressor stations, and other mining and oil and gas-related facilities. She also serves as special and general counsel to a variety of governmental and quasi-governmental entities, such as urban renewal authorities, special districts and redevelopment authorities.

Prior to joining Brownstein, Carolynne was the staff attorney for the Colorado Municipal League, where she worked on state legislation dealing with growth management, comprehensive planning, impact fees, zoning, annexation, subdivision, urban renewal, condemnation and special districts. Before that, Carolynne was a staff attorney for the

Denver Water Board, where she focused on litigation in federal, state and administrative courts; drafting policies and procedures; and handling real estate transactions dealing with Denver Water property.



RICH WOBBEKIND, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BUSINESS RESEARCH DIVISION – CU LEEDS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Richard L. Wobbekind is Executive Director of the Business Research Division and Associate Dean for Business & Government Relations, and Senior Economist at the University of Colorado Boulder. He joined the faculty at the Leeds School of Business in 1985 and has served as Associate Dean since 2000.

As Executive Director of the Business Research Division his responsibilities include developing an annual consensus forecast of the Colorado economy and performing various economic impact assessments of the Colorado economy. Wobbekind also produces the quarterly Leeds Business Confidence Index for Colorado.

Rich is currently the president of the National Association for Business Economics. He also participates annually in the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank Regional Economic Roundtable and is a contributor to the Western Blue-Chip Economic Forecast newsletter. He is a member of the Governor's Revenue Estimating Advisory Committee, the Denver Regional Council of Governments' Forecast 2035 Advisory Committee, the Colorado Tourism Office Education and Research Committee, the Boulder Urban Renewal Authority and the Boulder Economic Council.

For his efforts in community development and outreach, Wobbekind was awarded the 1997 University of Colorado Bank One Community Outreach Award. In 2006 he was awarded the Robert L. Stearns award for lifetime contributions in teaching, research and service.

Wobbekind teaches MBA students in macroeconomics, public policy, entrepreneurship and managerial economics. He has received three awards for teaching excellence from the students of the Leeds School. Wobbekind has lived in Colorado for more than 34 years and has spent much of his time studying the development of the Colorado and regional economies. He received a BA in economics from Bucknell University and an MA and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder.