

EDCC's REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM
Showcasing Adams County, Bennett, Brighton, Commerce City, & Thornton
Bison Ridge Recreation Center, Commerce City
February 14, 2020 | 8 - 4 p.m.

AGENDA:

Brought to you by **SCL Health**

- 8 – 8:30 a.m. **REGISTRATION, NETWORKING & BREAKFAST**
Presented by **Cowley Companies – Third Creek Community**
- 8:30 a.m. **OPENING COMMENTS AND WELCOME FROM COMMERCE CITY**
Presenter: Mayor Benjamin Huseman, City of Commerce City
- 8:45 - 9 a.m. **WELCOME & EDCC OVERVIEW**
Michelle Claymore will present an overview of EDCC and its core mission, including how the EDCC engages at the state level and its impact on communities around the state.
Presenter: Michelle Claymore, EDCC's Board Chair & Economic Development Director, City of Commerce City
- 9 – 9:45 a.m. **REGIONAL OVERVIEW**
Elizabeth Garner will give an overview of the geographic region through its proximity to markets, demographics, and industry cluster base.
Presenter: Elizabeth Garner, State Demographer, Colorado Department of Local Affairs
- 9:45 – 10:15 a.m. **JOINING THE CONVERSATION - OIL AND GAS OVERVIEW**
Matt Sura will present an overview of new oil and gas rules and regulations as well as what the landscape looks like for the industry and for the county.
Presenter: Matt Sura, Attorney, Matt Sura Law
- 10:15 - 11 a.m. **THIS REGION IS UNIQUE COMPARED TO THE REST OF ITS FRONT RANGE COUNTERPARTS**
In this session, attendees will learn what makes this region vastly different from its front range counterparts including development & redevelopment opportunities unique to this area. Learn what it takes to meet the market requirements.
Presenter(s):
Tyler Carlson, Managing Principal, Executive VP, Evergreen Devco
Susan Stanton, Principal, The Stanton Solution
Matt Trone, SIOR, Managing Director, Industrial Brokerage
- 11 – 11:10 a.m. **NETWORKING BREAK**
- 11:10 – 11:50 a.m. **WHAT ARE OPPORTUNITY ZONES AND HOW DO WE TAKE ADVANTAGE?**
Originally introduced in the Investing in Opportunity Act, the Opportunity Zones Program was enacted as part of the 2017 tax reform package. The program is designed to drive long-term capital to rural and low-income urban communities throughout the nation and uses tax incentives to encourage private investment in impact funds. This session will cover the new Federal guidelines just introduced as well as discussing what investors are looking for, and what communities can do moving forward.

Presenter(s):

Max Daffron, Economic Development Manager, Community & Economic Development, Adams County

Joseph Libkey Jr., President & CEO, Blueprint Investment Group

11:50 – 12:35 p.m.

TOOLS FOR MAKING PROJECTS WORK

All of our economies – municipal, county, or state – are in a constant state of change. In order to develop prosperity within every changing community, we need to adapt to their growing needs. This session will cover various tools available to communities to attract redevelopment and investment, and ways community leaders can steer a course for long-term growth and economic vitality.

Presenter: Carolynne White, Shareholder, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

12:35 – 1:30 p.m.

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON

Presented by Brighton Economic Development

Attendees will learn more about visioning for the future and how to make it a reality. How can we shift our thinking about the drivers for economic prosperity and our roles in achieving that? Nick will share powerful lessons from his experiences as a successful government innovator and its nexus with economic development.

Presenter: Nick Kittle, Government Performance and Innovation Coach

1:30 – 1:55 p.m.

WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS OVERVIEW

Alejandro Garcia will give an overview of the workforce of this region through its workforce demographics, ability to compete in a tight labor market, and overall challenges companies face to attract talent.

Presenter: Alejandro Garcia, Workforce Specialist – Business Services, Broomfield Workforce Development Center

1:55 – 2:35 p.m.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO MEET THE WORKFORCE DEMAND PRESENT TODAY?

Sector partnerships have been launching and growing in Colorado over the past 11 years. They are a framework of companies in the same industry and natural labor market region that focus on workforce development, education, B2B activities and industry collaboration. It's through this collaboration that the "tide raises all boats" for the industry. Paul Harter will present on NoCo Manufacturing Partnership, its impetus to form, what it took to become successful, and where the manufacturing industry has gone in Northern Colorado since its inception.

Presenter: Paul Harter, Owner, Camp Creek Holdings & Past Chair, NoCo Manufacturing Partnership

2:35 – 2:45 p.m.

NETWORKING BREAK

Presented by Schuck Communities – Nexus and Nexus North Communities

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

COLORADO BUSINESS ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Now in its 55th year, the CU Business Research Division produces an economic forecast of Colorado's economy. Rich Wobbekind, executive director of the Business Research Division will present an overview of this year's forecast. You won't want to miss this!

Presenter: Rich Wobbekind, Executive Director, Business Research Division – CU Leeds School of Business

3:45 - 4 p.m.

CLOSING COMMENTS