



NORTHWEST COLORADO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM

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COLORADO FOR ALL

STATEWIDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Align state and federal resources to support local strategies

Provide support to spur business growth

Coordinate infrastructure investments with regional economic development plans

Support locally driven economic transitions

PLACE BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

\$5.15M in funding from OEDIT & OJT to support local economic development initiatives

Recent Coal Transition Community Grants:

- Craig Business & Industrial Park
- Rio Blanco Wolf Creek Reservoir study

Economic Development Commission Funding:

- \$2M to Moffat County Multi-Use Events & Resilience Center



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COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

Utilize the region-specific economic development strategies to build the statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

Incorporate the goals and outcomes within regional CEDS plans and build greater collaboration between all the regions and the state.

Anticipated timeline:

- Draft CEDS be released for public comment in early June 2025
- Final CEDS completed by the end of August 2025

UNLOCKING INVESTMENTS

RURAL JUMPSTART

Incentivize new businesses to start or move to rural counties in Colorado

Tax relief and grants up to \$25,000 per new business in coal transition communities

7 active RJS businesses in Yampa Valley:

- High Altitude Geothermal, LLC, *first RJS business in Moffat County*
- Harmonie House, LLC
- Epiveris, LLC
- Bar-U-Eat
- Magic Chonk
- Mica Creek Capital
- Nice Ice, LLC



UNLOCKING INVESTMENTS

CHIPS COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Three competitive grants:

- **Market Study Grants:** Funding to contract with a consultant to provide a market study. These studies will include a detailed analysis of the existing local industry, assets, and gaps relevant to the semiconductor and advanced industries sectors. They will help define the area's competitive positioning, value proposition, and salient opportunities for development, attraction, and retention.
- **Implementation Grants:** Funding to develop an asset or fill a gap relevant to the semiconductor and advanced industries ecosystem.
- **Marketing Grants:** Funding to support marketing and promotional activities targeted to semiconductors and advanced industries.

Routt County awarded \$50,000 Market Study Grant to evaluate the local advanced industry landscape

EXPANDING TOURISM

THE GREAT WEST DESTINATION STEWARDSHIP STRATEGIC PLAN

Assets & Infrastructure:

- Yampa Valley Regional Airport & Fraser-Winter Park, Granby Amtrak Station
- Four scenic and historic byways, four historic main streets, two creative districts
- Ten state parks and twelve state wildlife areas

Economic Impact:

- \$1.4 Billion in Visitor Spending
- \$533.5M in tourism industries' earnings supporting 10,440 jobs

Prioritize & Develop:

- Water conservation and river-based economic vitality
- Passenger rail service
- Identify solutions for affordable workforce housing
- Protect and restore wildlife habitats
- Improve outdoor recreation stewardship



EXPANDING TOURISM

MOFFAT COUNTY TOURISM

CTO Marketing Grant to support creation and production of marketing materials

MEEKER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CTO Grant to implement marketing strategy

TOWN OF HAYDEN

Destination Development Mentor Program participant

TOWN OF RANGELY

Dark Sky Certification Mentor Program to advance application for International Dark Sky Place Certification



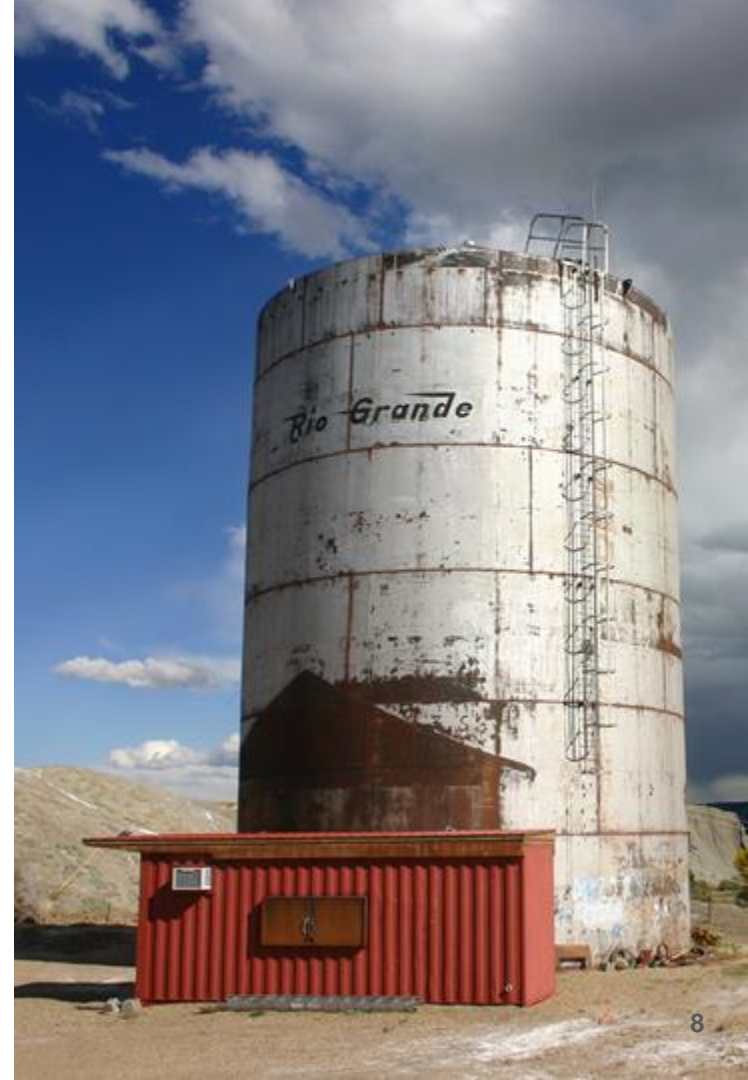
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

HAYDEN CENTER RENOVATION

\$1.7M Community Revitalization Grant to support renovation to the community space to support creative art programs, community health initiatives, and youth programming

TANK CENTER FOR SONIC ARTS IN RANGELY

\$13K in grant funding to support the unique work as a transformative audio laboratory for musician, sound artist, educators and residents



UNLOCKING INVESTMENTS

FREIGHT RAIL TAX CREDIT

Incentivize freight use of Craig Branch Line, and other distressed lines, by providing businesses with tax relief

Operate in or influence one or more industry: manufacturing, agriculture, repairing or refurbishment, recycling, energy production or distribution center for consumer products

Second Listening Session in Steamboat (date TBD)

Applications to open in June 2025

STRENGTHENING THE WORKFORCE

OPPORTUNITY NOW REGIONAL TALENT SUMMITS

Seven regional summits, held all across the state, to convene employers, business groups, education representatives, economic developers and government officials

Discuss regional workforce gaps and needs to create actionable plans

Yampa Valley split into two different regions:

- Moffat & Rio Blanco: May 12th at Mesa County Workforce Center
- Routt: June 3rd at Colorado Mountain College Edwards Campus

YAMPA VALLEY PARTNERSHIP FOR STUDENTS, STEWARDSHIP & SUSTAINABILITY

\$3M Opportunity Now Grant to support access to career-connected learning opportunities

Training in critical industries like healthcare, construction, education, and advanced industries

