

STATE OF COLORADO

GOVERNOR'S JOBS CABINET

136 State Capitol Building
Denver, Colorado 80203
(303) 866 - 5800
(303) 866 - 2003 fax



Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Jim Lyons
Co-Chair

Teresa Taylor
Co-Chair

Ruth Ann Woods
Co-Chair

July 30, 2008

The rise of globalization in the 21st century has created an entirely new marketplace for talented individuals – one where Colorado not only competes with Massachusetts and California, but with India and Japan as well. In order for Colorado to compete nationally and internationally, we need to create a sustainable workforce for this state – and to do that, we must align the goals of our business community with the goals of our education and workforce communities.

One of the strengths of this state is our diversity – we cannot find a one-sized fits all solution that will benefit the people of this state. Each region in this state has its own needs and interests, strengths and weaknesses, challenges and opportunities. To address this issue, the Jobs Cabinet has been split into five subcommittees by economic region: the Eastern Plains, Western Slope, Mountain Resorts, San Luis Valley and the Front Range. As part of the first phase of its work, the Jobs Cabinet has been holding community outreach meetings in these regions over the past two months.

Each community outreach meeting includes representatives from higher education, K-12, workforce, local business and economic development. During these meeting, the group is asked to identify their long-term goals for the Jobs Cabinet, as well as potential issues, demographics and industries in their regions. The matrix below summarizes the group's discussion and goals for this particular session.

Thank you for taking the time to visit our website.

Sincerely,

The Jobs Cabinet Co-Chairs

Jim Lyons

Teresa Taylor

Ruth Ann Woods

MOUNTAIN RESORTS OUTREACH MEETING GOALS

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Five Year Indicators of Success	Five Year Indicators of Success	Five Year Indicators of Success	Five Year Indicators of Success	Five Year Indicators of Success
Housing Opportunities (employer sponsored?)	Adjust education system for ELL	Fruits of our efforts (action, not just talk)	More robust and visible partnerships with the state	Web based employment tools
Child care and early childhood programs	Trained workforce out of HS	Measurable outcomes	Stronger business – education partnerships (including HS graduation as part of solution)	Diverse employment opportunities
Improve Immigration System	Improved soft skills	Demand = supply	Better communication and funding to create more successful partnerships	Business ombudsperson in governor’s office
				Address seasonal employment issues

ISSUES, DEMOGRAPHICS, INDUSTRIES, AND PARTNERSHIPS
July 30, 2008

Targeted Demographics	Regional Economic Drivers over the next 10 years	Issues	Partnerships	Strengths
Retirees/Wealthy Immigrants	Tourism	Lack infrastructure to support growth (infrastructure broadly defined)	Apprenticeship programs Need all trades & craft	Quality of Life – outdoor activities, arts, humanities
Blue collar/families	Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pellet Plants • Biomass 	Transportation to rural areas	State DMV & DOL to help with seasonal employees	Quality of Community – low crime rate
Highly educated Especially in lower paying jobs	Mining	Housing (lack of affordable)	Custom fit programs to serve business (e.g., culinary classes on Mondays)	Captive Audience – skills learned often specific to mountain industries
Seasonal	Construction	Seasonal/Transient Employees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to attract skilled workers • Dependence on external workforce 	Businesses need to understand child care tax credits	Employer doesn't face labor competition like metro markets
Substance abusers	Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-12 • Post secondary • Adult 	Demand exceeds supply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees are hired before they complete high school, degree or other program 	Dedicated land parcels for education – multiple levels nearby	High level of education
ESL				Weakness – cost of living and housing
Second Homeowners				