

STATE OF COLORADO

GOVERNOR'S JOBS CABINET

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June 5, 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

SAN LUIS VALLEY REGIONAL OUTREACH MEETING GOALS

Alamosa, Thursday, June 5, 2008

Access, Opportunity and Identity	Infrastructure and Tools	Entrepreneurial Vision	Regional Partnerships	System Sustainability and Funding
To preserve and develop the diverse cultural heritage of the SLV in a manner that attracts economic opportunity and partnerships, retains our human capital and celebrates the unique identity of our individual communities.	To evaluate the current workforce infrastructure and develop a coordinated and integrated system of web-based tools;	To become the lead entrepreneurial partner for compatible and sustainable economic and community development	To create meaningful outcomes between education, government and employers to make sure that the needs of the employer and community are being met by the various institutions	To find or create a stable funding stream that creates and sustains programs based on local strengths that support and promote a continuum from education, to employment to quality of life
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
Critical thinking skills will be increased; Recognize the diversity in needs throughout the 6 county area.	Effective Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology • Transportation • Education 	Creation of alternative energy partnerships and Ag-based research partnerships	Locally-led regional partnerships of business, education and workforce	Adequately fund education and workforce development
Have life long learning imbedded in public policy & culture	Best web-based employment site in the country	Entrepreneurial growth and support	Increased training/education availability to create a demand-driven system that retains local flexibility	Aligned and coordinated strategy and funding for both public and private sectors
Engage youth (High School & College)	Reduction in unemployment rate	Become a leader in alternative energy employment and training	Increase by 10% the number of students who graduate from college and enter the workforce	Support structures for families (bank loans, housing, start-up)
“Special” populations are included from the start				Local Financing – Grow Your Own

ISSUES, DEMOGRAPHICS, INDUSTRIES, AND PARTNERSHIPS

Alamosa, Thursday, June 5, 2008

Targeted Demographics	Regional Economic Drivers over the next 10 years	Issues in the Valley	Existing Partnerships
Pre-school aged children	Energy	Cultural Diversity	EPIC Program (Oil Industry partners with TSJC)
At-Risk Youth Population	Agriculture	Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complacency • Time Commitment 	TJSC and ASC both partner with Healthcare industry
Physically and Mentally disabled population	Tourism/Recreation	Changing the territorial mentality	County Commissioners meet monthly
Fragmented families	Healthcare	Poverty of Expectations	EDC's, CoC have a forum to partner for specific deals
Undocumented Workers	Education	Young People Want to Leave	Foundations partner with communities
Elderly		Geographic Location <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation or Insulation? 	
Returning Veterans		Below Average Education Levels	
Ex-Offenders		½ of Colorado Average Household Income	
Substance Abusers		Low Density Population	