



BUSINESS IS A FORCE FOR GOOD



ICYMI: COBRT State of the State with Governor Polis on Competitiveness, Collaboration and Growth



Last week, the Colorado Business Roundtable hosted our *State of the State: A Conversation with Governor Jared Polis on Competitiveness, Collaboration, and Growth*, bringing together top business leaders for a candid discussion on Colorado's economic landscape.

Governor Polis shared insights on key challenges and opportunities shaping the state's future, with thoughtful perspectives from industry leaders across multiple sectors. We extend our gratitude to

presenting sponsors, Verizon and Southwest Airlines, and to Luige Del Puerto from Colorado Politics and The Denver Gazette for expertly moderating the conversation.

A special thank you to our esteemed panelists for sharing their expertise:

- Tim Johnson, Chief Human Resources Officer and Vice President of Employee Services, Pinnacle Assurance
- Julie Smith, VP for State and Local Government Affairs, Verizon
- Shawn Osthoff, President, Bank of Colorado
- Mary Zappone, CEO, Sundyne

We appreciate everyone who joined us for this impactful discussion and look forward to continuing these important conversations.

[Event Photo Gallery](#)

[Event Video Recording](#)

Introducing the 2025 COBRT Board of Directors

COBRT is exceptionally fortunate to have world-class leaders on its Board. Professionals from the education, government, community, and business sectors enable COBRT to conduct its mission affecting Coloradans from every corner of our state. Their unique perspectives and leadership are invaluable to our overall success. [READ MORE](#)



COBRT Out and About

COBRT at the 2025 National Western Stock Show

Last month, Colorado Business Roundtable partners gathered for a fantastic day at the 2025 National Western Stock Show (NWSS), celebrating one of Colorado’s most iconic traditions. Guests enjoyed a special lunch hosted by Shawn Osthoff, CEO of Bank of Colorado, featuring an insightful presentation by NWSS CEO Paul Andrews. The discussion explored the Stock Show’s rich history, its exciting expansion plans, and the significant economic impact it brings to the region.

A special thank you to our hosts and everyone who attended.



Release of the 2024 Colorado Talent Pipeline Report



In January, the Colorado Business Roundtable joined industry and workforce leaders for the launch of the 2024 Colorado Talent Pipeline Report, hosted by the Colorado Workforce Development Council. The report provides key insights into workforce trends, identifies Top Jobs, and outlines strategies for balancing talent supply and demand across the state. COBRT remains committed to driving solutions that support both our workforce and economy.

[View the 2024 Colorado Talent Pipeline Report](#)

In the News

University of Denver Daniels College of Business

Colorado's 2025 Business Game Plan

By Lorne Fultonberg

The most successful executives, Debbie Brown says, have a few things in common. Through meetings with the governor, Congresspeople, diplomats and even the White House, the president of the Colorado Business Roundtable has an up-close look at how some of the most respected businesspeople carry themselves. In her role, Brown advocates locally and nationally on the issues she sees as most important for a thriving economy. On this episode of the Voices of Experience podcast, Brown shares some of her top priorities for the year ahead and explains what it takes to build relationships that bridge ideological differences. Plus, she shares the traits she needed to develop to get to where she is today. [READ MORE](#)

Colorado Politics

Bad policy threatens Colorado's tech advantage | OPINION

By Debbie Brown

It's no secret Colorado has carved out a dominant position when it comes to technological innovation. Our powerful ecosystem of small and large tech firms, universities and federal research institutions has transformed the Centennial State into a global tech leader. But though many think breakthroughs like artificial intelligence are confined to laboratories and science-fiction movies, in fact, this tech revolution has already made its way into everyday life. [READ MORE](#)

Podcast

New Episode!

Catching up with Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman

Catch up with Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman on A Seat at the Table as he dives into the past, present, and future of Colorado's third-largest city.

From his roots in Aurora to serving in the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, and public office at every level of government, Mayor Coffman brings a wealth of experience and passion to the table.



[Listen Here](#)

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE 

AEROSPACE DAY

AT THE COLORADO CAPITOL

Monday, March 17th, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
200 East Colfax Ave, Denver, CO 80203

LEARN MORE:
www.coaerospaceday.com

Co-hosted by:



Citizens for Space Exploration

Aerospace Day at the Colorado Capitol

Monday, March 17, 2025 at 9:00am

Join the Colorado Citizens for Space Exploration (CSE), Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT), Colorado Business Roundtable (COBRT), Aerospace States' Association (ASA), Colorado Space Coalition (CSC), AIAA Rocky Mountain Section, and Colorado Space Business Roundtable (CSBR) in coordination with our numerous aerospace partner organizations, for a day at the Colorado State Capitol.

Enjoy a full day of networking and dialogue with our Colorado Legislators discussing how Colorado became one of the largest space economies per capita in our nation and how they can effectively support aerospace in our state.

[Register](#)

Get Involved

Colorado Business Roundtable engages with elected officials, business and nonprofit leaders, and other strategic allies to strengthen Colorado's economic vitality by unapologetically amplifying the voice of business in Colorado. Inquire at contact@cobrt.com for partnership opportunities.



Colorado Business Roundtable (COBRT) leverages the experience of executives from Colorado's leading employers representing academia, business, community, and government. Together, we examine state challenges through a long-term, global lens, and we bring forward solutions to strengthen Colorado's economy and improve quality of life.

COBRT is the state affiliate of the Business Roundtable, an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. companies working to promote sound public policy and a thriving U.S. economy. Learn more and get engaged at cobrt.com.



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