BUSINESS IS A FORCE FOR GOOD

A Seat at the Table with Colorado's Congressional Delegation

Colorado Business Roundtable (COBRT) recently hosted our annual series of small-group meetings with members of Colorado's congressional delegation. COBRT Partners had the opportunity to engage directly with **Representatives Joe Neguse (CD-2)**, **Lauren Boebert (CD-4)**, **Jeff Crank (CD-5)**, **Jason Crow (CD-6)**, **Brittany Pettersen (CD-7)** and **Gabe Evans (CD-8)** on the issues shaping Colorado's economy.

Topics top of mind throughout the meetings included energy, housing, healthcare, immigration, trade and tariffs, aerospace, workforce and other issues affecting Colorado's competitiveness. As decisions in Washington continue to have a direct impact on employers, workers and communities across our state, it's important that Colorado's business community has a voice at the table and the opportunity to share firsthand perspectives with policymakers.

Thank you to our COBRT Partners **Sundyne**, **Mortenson**, **Comcast**, **Volunteers of America Colorado** and **United Launch Alliance** for hosting meetings and helping make this year's series possible.

In the News

The Denver Gazette

GUEST OPINION: Opportunity Now apprenticeship program builds a skilled workforce

By Debbie Brown and Eve Lieberman

Last summer, a handful of graduating seniors from Jefferson County and Denver Public Schools walked onto CoorsTek's manufacturing floor and began a 15-month apprenticeship in Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining. When these students complete the program this fall, they will be eligible for entry-level roles at the 13 Colorado manufacturing companies that make up the NextGen Manufacturing Alliance.

This innovative apprenticeship program solves problems that employers and job seekers across Colorado face: too often workers are trained for jobs that do not exist while employers have open roles with no pipeline. Business leaders see that gap first, and they are the ones positioned to close it. **READ MORE**

Denver Business Journal

Table of Experts: Open for business? Colorado leaders discuss the state's economic future

Colorado has historically been recognized as one of the nation's best places to live, work, and build a business. But as competition among states intensifies, business and civic leaders are asking a fundamental question: What will it take to ensure Colorado remains a premier destination for innovation, investment, talent, and long-term economic growth?

Hosted by the Denver Business Journal and facilitated by the Colorado Business Roundtable, this discussion brought together leaders from across Colorado's business community to examine the opportunities and challenges shaping the state's economic future. Participants shared perspectives on Colorado's competitive advantages, emerging headwinds, and the actions needed to foster a business climate that supports long-term growth, innovation, and prosperity for communities across the state. **READ MORE**

Business Roundtable

Business Roundtable Launches Cybersecurity Resources for the AI Era

Business Roundtable launched its new **Cybersecurity Resources for the AI Era** hub, an online resource featuring tools and best practices from its member companies. The hub is designed to help organizations of all sizes, including small and medium-sized businesses, better understand the cybersecurity risks presented by increasingly capable AI models and strengthen their cyber resilience.

The collection contains technical tools, open-source resources, evaluation frameworks and cybersecurity playbooks to help organizations navigate the rapidly evolving cybersecurity landscape. **READ MORE**

Happening Around COBRT

Artemis II Crew at Red Rocks Amphitheater

On August 3, COBRT had the opportunity to sponsor the STEM/Industry Fair at the Artemis II Crew Visit to Red Rocks Amphitheater.

Colorado isn't just watching this mission unfold, we're helping make it possible. More than 350 Colorado aerospace companies support NASA missions, with nearly 300 directly contributing to the Artemis program. The Orion spacecraft was developed by Lockheed Martin, which employs more than 14,000 people in Colorado. Northrop Grumman's solid rocket boosters were built with Colorado talent.

We're proud to celebrate the people, companies, and partnerships that are helping write the next chapter of space exploration. The future is being built right here in Colorado.

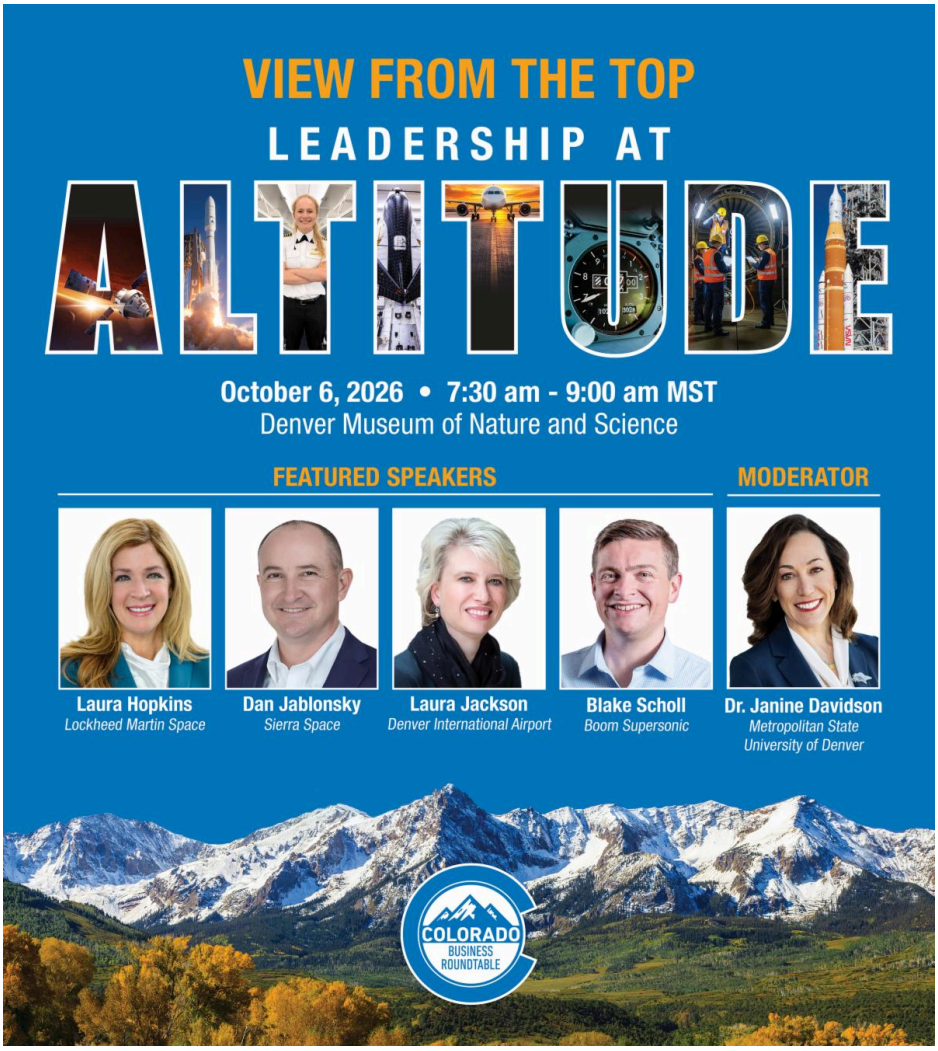
We are honored to have been a part of such an exciting day. Thank you, Lockheed Martin and Lisa Luedtke, for the opportunity to get involved!

Planning Your Organization's 2027 Budget?

Explore COBRT's 2027 Signature Event sponsorship opportunities.

Contact Stephanie Piko at stephanie@cobrt.com to discuss COBRT partnership opportunities.

Upcoming Events



Colorado Business Roundtable Presents

View from the Top: Leadership at Altitude

Tuesday, October 6, 2026
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM MST
Denver Museum of Nature and Science

Colorado's aviation and aerospace industries are one of our state's defining strengths, and this year's View from the Top explores the business strategies powering them forward. From the runway to orbit, top executives will share how they lead in fields defined by precision, ambition, and the drive to reach new heights.

Don't miss our incredible panel of speakers:

Laura Hopkins, Lockheed Martin Space
Dan Jablonsky, Sierra Space
Laura Jackson, Denver International Airport
Blake Scholl, Boom Supersonic
Moderated by Dr. Janine Davidson, Metropolitan State University Denver

Hosted by the Colorado Business Roundtable, this annual event brings together business, academic, government, and community leaders for a high-level dialogue on leadership, strategy, and the future of industry.

Sponsorship opportunities are now available. **Click here to view sponsorship levels**.

Register Here

Common Sense Institute Presents the Starter Home Initiative

During this year's Starter Home Initiative session, Common Sense Institute and Civic Results will be exploring solutions for Colorado's multifamily housing supply.

Stay tuned for updates on the panel that will be presenting during this event.

Register Now

Surveys - Opportunities for Feedback

Share Industry Feedback: State Credential List Updates

The Colorado Workforce Development Council, in collaboration with several other state agencies, is publishing the Credentials of Value List as directed by SB24-143. It is critical that the list is aligned with employer demand as it helps to direct public incentives toward credentials appearing on the list. The final list will be included in the appendix of the 2026 Talent Pipeline Report and updated annually. For credentials that are a fit for high school students, these are also tied to accountability metrics for school districts.

Complete the survey by September 11, 2026. In the survey, industry table conveners and employers are invited to share feedback. Participants should open the current List of Qualified Credentials to reference when answering the 4 survey questions about alignment with industry demand. The survey has embedded slides with additional details about the list. Industry input is critical to ensuring this list is responsive to industry demand in Colorado.

We value industry feedback and appreciate your organization's support with applying regional feedback to state initiatives.

Take the Survey

Feedback Opportunity: Colorado's Postsecondary Talent Development System

As a business community, we have a terrific opportunity to provide feedback to the Colorado Postsecondary Talent Development System Transition Advisory Committee. The state-wide committee exists to address the fragmented and siloed nature of Colorado's current workforce programs, which span more than 20 divisions across seven state entities and are often confusing for residents to navigate. Created through House Bill 26-1317, the governor's committee is tasked with leading a statewide process to lay the groundwork for a new, unified department that streamlines how Coloradans access education, training, and career support. Specifically, the group is responsible for developing implementable recommendations regarding the governance models, technology and staffing needs, data systems, naming, and implementation timeline for this unified department. By engaging with a diverse group of stakeholders, the committee aims to help the state effectively and efficiently support individuals transitioning from learning to high-demand careers. To learn more about the TAC, visit the TAC's website **here**.

We'd like to gather feedback from as many stakeholders as possible. There are two ways to provide feedback. First, share your thoughts on **this survey**, and share the survey with as many other stakeholders as possible. Responses are due by September 25. Second, reach out to schedule a 30-minute session for you, your business, other businesses, industry organizations, civic groups, economic development councils, etc. to learn more about the TAC and provide feedback through an interactive presentation. To schedule an opportunity for a feedback session, reach out to Lori Benton at lbenton@ent.com.

Take the Survey

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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