



Update and Overview
City Council Work Session
December 13, 2016





Mission & Overview

- Regional coalition comprised of committed community businesses, public organizations, and associations
- Focused on strategic action at the federal level
- Dedicated to ensuring a strong voice for the Pikes Peak Region and creating public policy centered on advancing our regional priorities

13 Members of the Coalition

- **Public Sector**
 - City of Colorado Springs
 - Colorado Springs Utilities
 - El Paso County
 - Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
 - Pikes Peak Regional Building Department

➤ **Private Sector**

- Colorado Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Colorado Spring Chamber & EDC
- Ent Credit Union
- Penrose St. Francis
- Pikes Peak Association of Realtors
- Pikes Peak United Way
- UCH Memorial
- Bryan Construction

Facilitator: Stephannie Finley-Fortune, UCCS

Strategy – Two-Prong Approach

1. The Coalition has retained **the lobbying firm of Mehlman, Castignetti, Rosen, Bingel and Thomas (MCRBT)** in Washington, D.C. to work with the executive and legislative branches.
2. The Coalition is developing **a federal grant strategy** to secure valuable resources for regional priorities (i.e. cyber, innovation, transportation, etc.)

Broad Priorities

1. Protect and Expand the Region's Military and National Security Assets
2. Secure Funding for Regional Priorities that Create Economic Opportunity

Targeted Priorities

- **Protect and Enhance Our Military Assets**
 - BRAC—Protect Installations
 - Sequestration/Defense Cuts
 - VA Impacts Related to Business

- **Flood/Fire Mitigation**
 - Waldo Canyon/Black Forest Fire & Flood Response Funding
 - Forest Mitigation and Forest Funding

Targeted Priorities

- **Economic Development**
 - Innovation
 - National Cybersecurity Center
 - Commercialization and Research & Development
 - Sports Economy
 - Workforce/ Education
 - South Academy/North Nevada
 - EDA Planning Grant

Targeted Priorities

➤ Healthcare

- Wellness Programs
- Aging
- Integrated Care
- Provider Reimbursements
- Wounded Warrior

➤ Transportation

- Widening I-25 Monument to Castle Rock
- Grants
- Air Space
- Airport

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- **Established working groups** on priority issues for 2016; aging and wellness/prevention health issues, innovation and cyber
- **Convened working group that led to establishing the National Cybersecurity Center and continue to access opportunities at the federal level**

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- **Annual trip to Washington, D.C. to work with Colorado delegation and other federal officials on key initiatives (City Council has regularly participated)**
- **Secured \$19Million in funding for the Emergency Watershed Protection program to allow Waldo Canyon and other areas to implement flood and fire recovery efforts**

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- **Sequestration** work with Colorado's Two US Senators, Congressman Lamborn and other congressional members
- Influenced delegation to force United Health Care to repair damage during transition from **Tri-Care**

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- Inspired the federal **Economic Development Administration** attention to region and conducting follow up action for funding
- Worked with delegation on **flood insurance** issue
- **Combat Aviation Brigade** at Fort Carson
- Work on the **AFA flight pattern noise** issues

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- Helped change **Local Contractors Bid Process** at the federal level
- Partnered to move **widening I-25** north of Colorado Springs
- **Met with US Secretary of Transportation** about regional needs

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- **Relationship building with Colorado Congressional Delegation** for sound, effective outcomes- oriented work
- **Access to lobbying firm subject-matter-experts and resources on priority issues (i.e. phone calls, information, congressional action and/or process on issues such as air service, flood insurance, health care, etc.)**

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- **Vast array of tools** in approaching delegation, committee staff, executive staff, etc.
- **Firm accommodation of members of mPACT during individual visits to Washington, D.C.**

Highlighted Actions & Resources

- Poised to **spontaneously address any situation or issue** of relevance to the Coalition
- **Annual local Political Briefing** with Principals of the Firm and Stakeholders