

## Workforce Development Board Meeting

**Thursday – April 7, 2022**

**Hybrid Meeting: – In person in the Arapahoe Board Room at 6954 S Lima St., Centennial, CO 80112 and Virtually via Zoom**

11:00 a.m. **Welcome/Call to Order**

Peter Hancock, **PEG**

11:02 a.m. **WDB Member Announcements (In person and VIA Mentimeter)**

Peter Hancock, **PEG**

When you join the Zoom meeting, please log into Mentimeter (Login information will be presented on the slide when you join). In order to record attendance and capture updates, please input your name, organization and announcement, if you have one.

- Bill Gilmore- Broke ground on new Epic Campus this week & having great preliminary conversations with industry partners.
- Peter Hancock- Received the DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program) certification for his business
- Andrew Bercich – Shared that Dr. Mordecai Brownlee testified in front of Congress regarding WIOA reauthorization. Stephanie Mufic shared in the chat a link to the YouTube video and stated Dr. Brownlee's testimony starts at 28:01 of the video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98O1L7VUwaY>)

11:12 a.m. **Presentation: Growing Forward: Initial Census 2020 Results and Population & Economic Trends in Colorado** Elizabeth Garner, **State Demography Office, Department of Local Affairs**

- Overview of 2020 census results, trends that are occurring, and how the trends & census results affect the workforce
- Reviewed things to watch for in the next 10 years as a result of the 2020 census
- Spoke about Housing, Aging, Race and Ethnicity, Forecasting and risks that could affect the forecasting

12:13 p.m. **County Updates**

Arapahoe - Commissioner Warren-Gully

- Strategically planning ARPA dollars to spend in a way that is most helpful to our community for economic recovery, education system, mental and behavioral health system, housing market and housing systems.
- Both (Arapahoe & Douglas counties) are working to stand up our own individual county health programs. We have to consider housing, aging, workforce, and how are we going to support those systems through public health management that looks at the system as a whole versus individuals
- In partnership with Douglas County, splitting up the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District to be only Arapahoe County, while the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District will encompass Douglas County, Lincoln County, and Elbert County
- Doing work in community around community members experiencing homelessness. Big focus and the workforce program is a very big component of that and how we transition people; looking at this in a regional way since this doesn't just happen in Arapahoe County or just Aurora, it happens all over the region. How will we work with different counties and different systems that help support our community? Schools are a big influence on our ability to work with our vulnerable populations and support them before they experience homelessness.

- Settlement case related Opioid funds: the Attorney General setup an amazing system of making it so it's not a State run program, but that the dollars will come into regional partnerships from the Attorney General's office.
- Arapahoe County is reaching out to our neighbors in the Arapahoe Tribe and continuing to build a relationship with them that honors and respects the fact that they were the people that were here first, and that our county is proud to be named after them. Planning how we celebrate those relationships and provide education on our history.

#### Douglas - Commissioner Laydon

- Acknowledged Commissioner Warren-Gully for her leadership of MAC (Metro Area County Commissioners). Represents over half of the State's population and is composed of the counties in the Metropolitan area. The MAC has become a force for impactful good in our communities and we are thankful that Arapahoe County is the current chair and Commissioner Warren-Gully is leading the organization.
- We are working on becoming the 50<sup>th</sup> (out of 64) county to have its own health department, and this is a top priority.
- Judicial District 23 and Judicial District 18 will have its own judicial district that will reflect the needs of its own citizens.
- Douglas County has \$68.2 million ARPA dollars and we are trying to engage the public through public work sessions, live town halls, website, traditional platforms, social media, NextDoor, on how we will spend the funds to make sure we are making the decision as a community.
  - We have identified "buckets" for funding allocations: water infrastructure, broadband, economic development, community development, and the health department
- Broadband is critical and has become the 4<sup>th</sup> utility that is critical especially for rural communities. Much of the county is underserved and we want to ensure everyone has access to high-speed internet, as this can be both a workforce and traffic resolution.
- Continue to work on commissioner-led initiatives: the wildfire initiative and the homelessness initiative.
  - Affordable housing is a significant topic statewide and priority for commissioners. Trying to work regionally with partners throughout the state. We signed the bill for Zero Pledge - commitment to keep homelessness rare, infrequent and non-reoccurring, and we are beginning with the veteran population by identifying them through our point-in-time calculations, and working on programs that can have an immediate impact.
  - Developed 4 C's: lead with compassion, code enforcement, community services and communication. Homelessness is not a crime, but we do want uniformed code enforcement that reflects the metrics and the desires of our citizens, and will then provide relevant community services. We have developed co-responder teams, mental health initiative, and expanded to the youth. It pairs a peace officer with a professional from human services. We are not just focused on providing food and shelter for a night, but providing mental health counseling, substance abuse counseling, and job counseling.
- Success story – Representative Crow allocated and awarded Douglas County a \$1 million dollar grant for a GOALS facility, located in Arapahoe County at the old Xavier Women's school. This is an amazing model when you can think of the whole person and continuum of care. That particular facility is a partnership with Arapahoe Douglas Works! and Arapahoe County. It provides basic needs and provides shelter but also provides mental health substance abuse and job placement and job counseling. We are thankful for that and will be celebrating with A/D Works and Arapahoe County soon.



# Arapahoe/Douglas WORKFORCE BOARD

C O L O R A D O Sasha Easton, A/D Works!

## 12:36 p.m. Director's Report

### Action Items:

- Investments in Reskilling, Upskilling, and Next-Skilling Workers (RUN Grants) Incentives
- Pathway Home Grant Incentives

### Informational Items:

- Registered Apprenticeships in WIOA
- Supportive Services for Arapahoe/Douglas Works! (WIOA Specific)
- Training Completions and Training Related Employment

- Bill Gilmore moved to approve the Investments in Reskilling, Upskilling, and Next-Skilling Workers (RUN Grants) Incentives. Vice Chair Lynn Myers seconded. The board voted and the motion was approved.
- Bill Gilmore moved to approve the Pathway Home Grant Incentives. Vice Chair Lynn Myers seconded. The board voted and the motion was approved.  
\*An electronic voting option was provided.

## 1:00 p.m. Meeting Adjournment

Peter Hancock, PEG

**Next WDB Meeting: June 2, 2022 • 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Arapahoe Board Room 6954 S. Lima Street, Centennial, CO 80112**

**OUR MISSION** is to create a best in class regional system that is responsive to business/industry that results in a skilled workforce equipped with a work ethic, academic proficiency, and occupational specific talent that rivals our competition.