

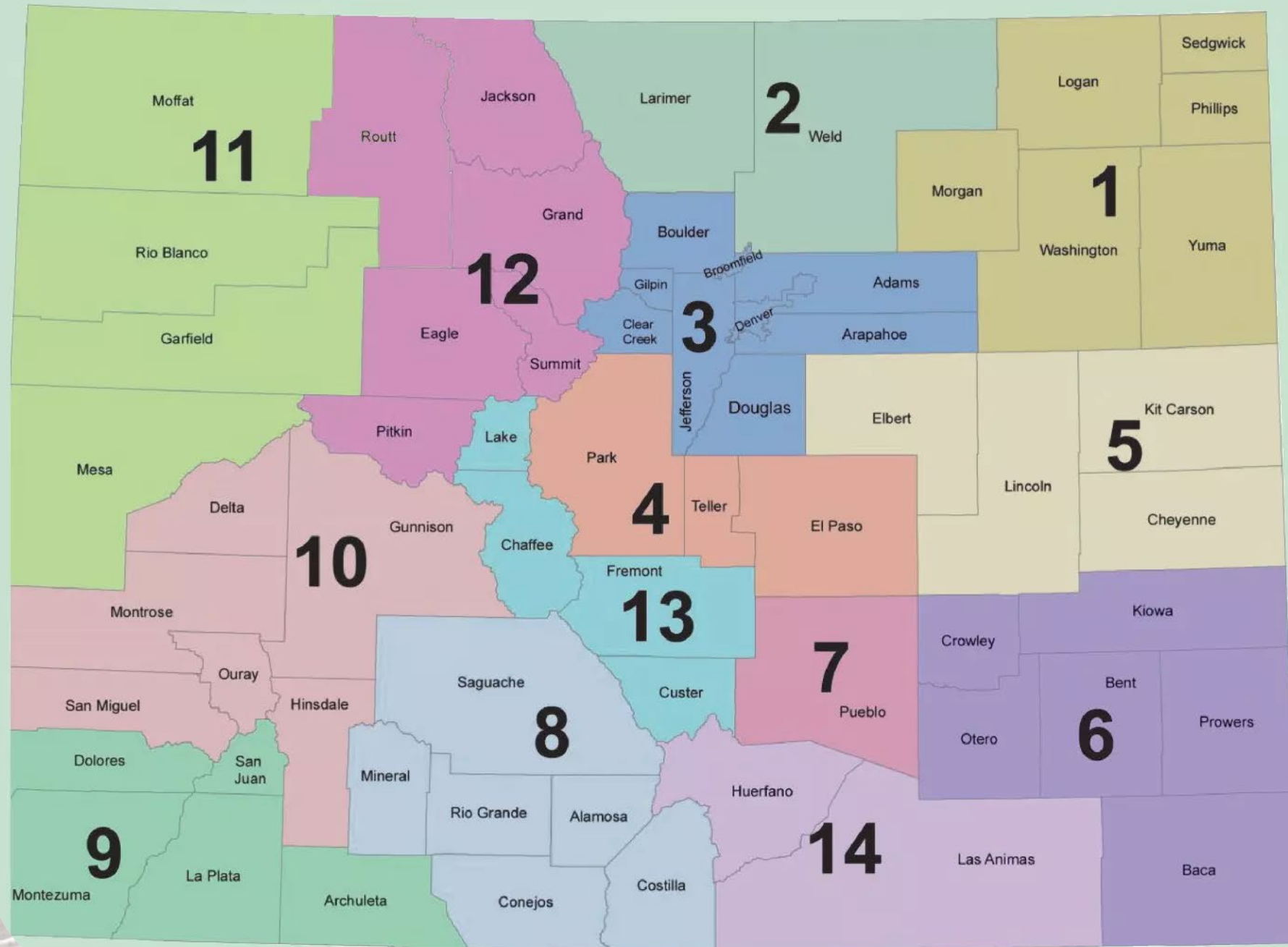


# Colorado Policy Academy

**Trish Thibodo, Deputy Director, Region 10**  
**[trish@region10.net](mailto:trish@region10.net)**

*The materials included in this presentation were prepared using Federal funds under award ED21HDQ3070060 from the Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Economic Development Administration or the U.S. Department of Commerce.*

# COLORADO PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT REGIONS



DRAGON GALLERY  
LOCAL ARTISTS

# Colorado Core Team



State Office of  
Economic  
Development

Statewide Eco Devo  
Industry  
Association

Two Economic  
Development  
Districts

A night landscape featuring a starry sky with the Milky Way visible, a calm lake reflecting the stars and surrounding mountains, and a dark forested hillside on the right. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

By FEBRUARY:  
Establish and promote a  
framework to guide  
enhanced communication,  
collaboration, and  
alignment of economic  
development strategies  
and actions within  
Colorado.

# Colorado Home Team



## Economic Development Districts/COGS

- Region 10
- NW CO COG
- East Central CO COG
- Pikes Peak Area COG
- Denver Region COG
- Upstate Colorado
- Southern CO EDD



## Higher Education

- Colorado State University
- Colorado Mountain College
- Pueblo Community College
- Morgan Community College



## State & Fed Offices

- Office of Economic Development and International Trade
- Department of Local Affairs
- Department of Labor and Employment
- CO Workforce Development Council
- EDA
- *Looking to add USDA State Office*



## Associations

- Economic Development Council of CO
- Colorado Association of Regional Orgs
- Manufacturer's Edge

# Our Why – Addressing Challenges

- Leadership turnover in appointed positions
- Influx of funding and programs have stressed both regional and state staff
- State agencies are working in silos particularly with so many dollars and initiatives coming down
- Need to streamline and eliminate duplication
- As a state we have a threat of losing economic competitiveness because of a lack of a unified voice
- Bring together the broader stakeholders who may not identify being part of the eco devo system
- Communication is challenging across the whole

# What we have going for us

- Pre-existing networks
- Collaborative Culture
- Willingness to jump in
- Innovative spirit across the state
- Active Colorado Association of Regional Organizations
- Active Economic Development Council of Colorado Industry Association
- Statewide CEDS and regions without a CEDS are working on a CEDS



# 2026 Vision

- Institutional coordination between Regional CEDS and Statewide CEDS
- Institutional links between the State – EDDs/CARO, EDCC and others
- This framework would serve as a critical touchpoint for legislation affecting local and regional economic development
- Regional CEDS advise the state CEDs to better align programs and incentives.
- Established capacity and resources for regional and local economic development efforts.
- Streamline efforts and eliminate duplication



# The next six months....



**Network  
Mapping**

**Create  
MOU**

**Communication  
Systems**

**Resources**  
funding  
capacity &  
policy

Thank you to EDA, CREC, NADO, State of Colorado and participating partners!



Trish Thibodo

[trish@region10.net](mailto:trish@region10.net)

[www.region10.net](http://www.region10.net)