

Message from Mayor Michael B. Hancock

Since day one of my administration, I have identified economic development as a top priority for the City and County of Denver. Given these tough economic times — indeed the largest economic downturn since the Great Depression — it's critical for us to have a laser-sharp focus on building Denver's business climate, to advance economic prosperity for the City of Denver, its businesses, neighborhoods and residents.

We have worked tirelessly over the past several months to drive private sector growth and job creation for the City. During my first 100 days in office I met with over 200 CEOs and business leaders to identify obstacles and opportunities. The energy and ideas captivated in these meetings has proved invaluable, as we have set a strategic course to rebuild the Office of Economic Development to be a stronger resource for our entire community.

This new strategic plan for the OED marks a new day for Denver's development efforts. It builds on our regional approach of working with our neighboring communities to build the metro economy, while advancing our business climate specifically within the City and County of Denver. The plan clearly outlines major steps the OED will make to build business development, lending and investment in our community, and talent development for a world-class workforce.

Economic development plays a key role in delivering a world-class city where everyone matters. I invite you to take part in this strategy through the OED.