

Relocation of U.S. Space Command Headquarters to Huntsville

Following President Trump's announcement on Sept. 2 that U.S. Space Command Headquarters will relocate to Huntsville, AL, the Chamber & EDC released the following statement:

"While we are disappointed with this decision, given Colorado Springs' strong case for national security and responsible use of taxpayer dollars, we also respect the President's decision. The enemy is not another U.S. state; it is foreign adversaries. That's where we must focus our efforts knowing there will be many other opportunities for mission growth in Colorado Springs. In fact, the Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC will be traveling with a delegation of business and defense industry leaders in the next two weeks to visit Washington, D.C. and meet with Congressional delegation members and federal agencies to make our case on why Colorado Springs will remain a top location for aerospace and defense jobs and research and development."

– Johnna Reeder Kleymeyer, Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC President & CEO

Colorado Springs uniquely focuses on space surveillance and military operations. Five of Colorado's six military bases are located here, along with key installations like NORAD and US Northern Command, providing comprehensive defense and security for North America against threats from air, space, and maritime domains.

Colorado Springs remains one of the nation's top locations for space, aerospace, and defense.

The city is home to over 150 private aerospace and defense companies and 18,800 private sector aerospace and defense employees many of which operate in government, defense, and commercial sectors generating \$3.1 billion in regional GRP.

Our region is mission ready and continues to grow critical space and defense capabilities.

We are confident many future opportunities remain for mission expansion in Colorado Springs and El Paso County.

Earlier this summer, we announced the launch of the Colorado Aerospace & Defense Economic Council to ensure that we are prepared to attract new missions and companies to the region while retaining and growing the aerospace and defense businesses already here.

The announcement made by the President was specific to Space Command Headquarters and was not regarding Space Force operations.

Energy, Water & Natural Resources

Ensure water sufficiency for future growth.

Work to address Colorado River basin water shortages and drought mitigation

Support federal efforts to fund wildfire mitigation

EPA should recognize background ozone from western wildfires and offer more flexibility in mitigation actions

Defense

Post Space-Command decision, our community remains mission ready, with unmatched aerospace, defense, and space assets, and we remain confident in future opportunities remain for future mission growth in the Pikes Peak region (such as Golden Dome). We must make our case on why Colorado Springs will remain a top location for aerospace and defense jobs and research and development.

Pikes Peak area Basic Allowance for Housing very low compared to other major military towns

Need additional childcare options for DoD personnel - capacity not adequate on or off base

More aggressively include industry in the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) legislation to facilitate keeping more people in the Pikes Peak Region

Cyber

Continue or expand funding and support for cybersecurity initiatives

Support for security and hardening of critical national assets from cyber attack

Support more resources to expedite credentialing for secure facilities (SCIFs) more rapidly

Security Clearances- Expedite security clearance timelines and reduce cost to employers who seek clearances

Transportation

COS Airport-COS airport is optimized to take traffic pressure off DIA and serve the needs of Southern Colorado regionally

We would like to see COS airport prioritized in FAA spending for support and expansion

Roads- Southern Colorado should receive our fair share of highways funds and receive prioritization accordingly

Rail- Support for Southern Rail Project and Fort Carson Rail project additional spur

Housing

Please thank HUD and legislators who supported the Big Beautiful Bill Act for their support of LIHTC funding for affordable housing. The Act provides a permanent 12% housing credit increase, beginning in 2026. The Act also reduced the bond financing threshold for 4% housing tax credit projects.

Please let our legislators know that land use policy is best accomplished and enforced at the local level.

Please voice support of the Senate Banking Committee's comprehensive housing package, The ROAD to Housing Act. This bill has several provisions that will make housing easier to build:

- a. Section 206 - allows CDBG funds to be used for new housing developments
- b. Section 208 - Reduces or waives costly environmental reviews for affordable housing developments

Encourage legislators to support the removal of Davis Bacon Act requirements for affordable housing projects.

Build American, Buy American (BABA) - requires subsidized housing developments to use 100% American made products. Please recommend a reduction of the 100% requirement and make reporting simpler for affordable housing projects.

Delegation Thank You

All

Fighting for the interests of our military, veteran, and defense industry communities, and continuing to fight post-Space Command

Senator Bennet ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for your efforts to support wildfire recovery.

Thank you for your legislative efforts to bolster semiconductor manufacturing

Thank you for your legislation seeking to help state and local governments finance infrastructure

Rep. Evans ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for your *Global Investment in American Jobs Act*, seeking more foreign direct investment

Thank you for your support of our law enforcement and military communities

Thank you for your efforts to reduce energy costs and make Colorado an example of successful energy policies

Rep. Neguse ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for your bipartisan efforts to bolster Colorado's aerial firefighting capabilities

Thank you for your efficiency at getting sponsored legislation passed in the House

Thank you for efforts in receiving federal funding for Front Range Passenger Rail

Rep. Petterson ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for your efforts to fight the opioid epidemic.

Thank you for your sponsorship of the *Identifying Regulatory Barriers to Housing Supply Act*, seeking to reduce burdensome regulations.

Thank you for your passion and actions to expand Childcare Access in Colorado

Rep. Crank ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for taking the reins and representing the bulk of El Paso County in Congress

Thank you for your budget victories to benefit our community, benefiting the El Paso County Sheriff, UCCS, and our local infrastructure

Thank you for your steadfast support in protecting Space Command's HQ and your overall advocacy for Colorado Springs as a beacon for space

Rep. Crow ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for your tireless work to support and recognize our veterans and service members

Thank you for seeking to improve our national defense through the creation of a Space National Guard and prevent the loss of Colorado Air National Guard capabilities

Thank you for efforts with Senator Bennet to support law enforcement and improve mental health crisis response

Rep. Hurd ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for your efforts towards conservation and natural resource management

Thank you for embracing your role as chair of the Subcommittee on Indian and Insular affairs

Thank you for being a voice for Colorado as a freshman member

Rep. Turner (of Ohio) ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for being a long-term supporter of our military, their families, and the shared sense of duty our cities share.

Senator Hickenlooper ([Official Page](#))

Thank you for your efforts to improve snowpack monitoring and conserve our water supply

Thank you for commitment to protect American technology and energy infrastructure

Thank you for your role in championing Colorado as a leader in space