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## NWCCOG Teams Earn Special Recognition



The Regional Transportation Coordinating Council was recently honored with an award in the "Open Category" at the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies annual conference.

Susan Juergensmeier, Mobility Manager, and Laurie Patterson, Mobility Assistant -- shown here -- accepted the honor on behalf of the team. The RTCC was recognized for their enthusiasm, participation, financial contribution of members, and their overall results in moving their projects forward.

The RTCC is nearing the launch of Mountain Ride - a mobility project helping Veterans, Seniors, Lower Income folks, and people with disabilities get to their medical appointments throughout the region and to the front range.

We are proud of their accomplishments and look forward to a successful launch project.

### The Weatherization Team

In late August, Energy Management Director Steve Getz received some excellent news from the Colorado Energy Office (CEO). The CEO and the Office of the State Controller have implemented a policy to evaluate contractor performance for all contracts valued at \$100,000 or more, and also to post all ratings at a State of Colorado website. NWCCOG's performance was based on overall compliance with contract requirements and obligations throughout the contract period.

Results are measured for Quality, Cost and Timeliness -- and most Overall Ratings are ranked in the "Standard" category. However, for the time period in question, Steve's team was ranked "ABOVE STANDARD."

As you might imagine, Steve is very proud of the accomplishments of the entire Weatherization Team, (shown at right) and CEO's acknowledgement that recognizes how hard the NWCCOG Weatherization staff works, every day at every house at every task.



**CONGRATULATIONS NWCCOG  
WEATHERIZATION STAFF!!!!**

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# We Need Your Vote!



The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, AAA, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce announced that the Colorado Department of Transportation's response to the Sept 2013 Floods was selected as one of the **2014 America's Transportation Awards competition top 10 projects.**

"These 10 projects are the best of the best," said Bud Wright, AASHTO executive director. "This competition recognizes excellence in project delivery. It's about saving time and taxpayers' money and improving the ability of people, manufacturers, farmers and service providers to move themselves and their goods, reliably, every day."

The 10 finalists received the highest number of overall points during four regional competitions. The nation will decide through online voting which of the projects will receive the People's Choice Award.

CDOT's \$50 million quick and efficient response to damage caused by the major September 2013 floods was recognized for the impact it had on the lives of state residents. CDOT coordinated with the National Guard, local leaders and residents, and private contractors to reopen the last of the closed roadways in December 2013, just 10 weeks after the catastrophic event.

The People's Choice award winners will earn a \$10,000 donation from AASHTO on behalf of the winning state DOT to a charity or scholarship fund of its choosing. Should CDOT win, the funds will be donated to United Ways of Colorado Flood Recovery Fund.

**We don't have the luxury of huge population numbers to help us win this award here for Colorado, but we do have "all for one and one for all" spirit. This is a national, public competition. Let's see if we can't make up for small numbers by spreading the word and turning out the vote on Colorado's behalf!**

Online voting has begun and will continue through Friday, Oct. 24, at

<http://AmericasTransportationAwards.org>. Individuals are welcome to vote up to 10 times per day for their favorite projects.

**VOTE EARLY, VOTE OFTEN!!**

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# NWCCOG Region Shows very positive Economic Signs

NWCCOG EDD just released the September 2014 Regional Economic Update. The report is available [HERE](#) and on the [EDD website here](#).

## Some highlights:

- **JOBS:** The region showed very positive job growth comparing Q1 2014 to Q1 2013; the total number of jobs, in all industries, increased by 3,026 jobs, or 3.9%, from Q1 2014 to Q1 2013. Statewide job growth was 3.3% over the same period.
- **KEY INDUSTRIES:** There was significant job growth in the construction industry (+14.4%), with positive growth in Accommodations and Food Service, Healthcare, Arts/Entertainment/Recreation, and Professional/Technical Services. There was a decrease in job growth in both the Finance sector as well as Agriculture.
- **UNEMPLOYMENT:** The regional average unemployment rate for the most recent month reported (July 2014) was 4%, down from 5.4% in July 2013. The unemployment rate in all 5 counties in NWCCG EDD's region for July 2014 was lower than the reported rate the same month one year ago. It was also lower than both the State (5.3%) and U.S.(6.2%) rate.
- **LABOR FORCE:** As of July 2014, the region's total labor force is reported at 68,810. This is a 3% increase over the total labor force reported one year ago in July 2013.
- **ANNUAL EARNINGS:** Annual earnings for all industries, when averaging all counties, is \$35,485 for the 1st quarter of 2014. This is a 3.8% increase over the first quarter one year ago. The highest paying jobs are in the Finance & Insurance (\$88,296), Professional/Scientific/Technical (\$59,634), Construction (\$45,323) , and Healthcare industries (\$44,086).
- **REAL ESTATE:** In all counties reporting, median residential price for a single family home increased when comparing Q2 2014 to Q2 2013. Median residential price for the second quarter of 2014 is reported as follows: Eagle - \$480,000; Grand - \$230,000; Pitkin - \$1,151,125; Summit - \$382, 500.(no data available for Jackson County).
- **SALES TAX:** Total taxable sales were up 8.6% for the region as a whole, comparing the most recent month reported (March 2014 vs. March 2013.) The largest increase was seen in the Food and Beverage category, showing a 9% increase year over year for the month of March. Retail sales were up 5.6%.



Please contact [Rachel Lunney](#) if you have any questions about this data.

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## Northwest Loan Fund Update!

Anita Cameron, Director of Business Lending

[Anita@NorthwestLoanFund.org](mailto:Anita@NorthwestLoanFund.org)

## Insider Tips to a Bullet Proof Loan Application Workshop!

On Wednesday, September 17th, Anita Cameron, Director of Business Lending lead a class intended to help business owners understand the lending process. Topics covered were:

- The Art of Business Lending
- Why lenders need the items they require
- Cash flow vs. Profit and Loss Projections
- Management Verses Market
- Credit scores & Collateral
- Loan Term, Interest Rates, Balloon Payments
- How long will it take?

The Small Business Development Center sponsored workshop helped eight business owners understand terms, reasons for the documentation requirements, and the overall loan application process. Some of the feedback included these comments:

- "very informative"
- "great information"
- "I don't think anything was left out"
- "very pleased with what was covered"
- "casual but incredibly helpful"
- "absolutely will recommend to others"

The class will be offered again as part of "Show Me The Money" from 1-4:30 on October 28. The location is Granby Fire Department, 60500 US Hwy 40, Granby, Colorado 80446

Space is limited.

[RSVP to dbutler@co.grand.co.us](mailto:RSVPto@dbutler@co.grand.co.us)

If you think your business could benefit from additional capital and have questions if this program might be right for you to get additional information about the workshop call the SBDC at 970-968-5802 or

[Check out our website for additional information.](#)



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## Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative - SAVE THE DATE:

**October 24th - 9:30 to 3:00 Breckenridge, CO**

**"Creating Resilient Communities Within Changing Forests"**

The mountain pine beetle epidemic in the high country lodgepole pine forests has been declared over and hazard tree mitigation is off to a robust start. While there remains much mitigation work yet to do, the path forward is clear and local organizations working together with policy makers will be able to harness resources to get the work done.



The Colorado Bark Beetle Collaboration (CBBC) -- in partnership with the NWCCOG, Denver Water, USFS, and the Colorado Forest Service - is hosting their annual meeting which will be unlike any other!

[For more information CLICK HERE](#)

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# 5th Annual Northwest Colorado Women's Small Business Conference

Join the Colorado Small Business Development Center Network for the 5th Annual Northwest Colorado Women's Small Business Conference at Copper Mountain on Friday, October 10! This event sells out every year - don't wait to buy your tickets! Join other like-minded female entrepreneurs for an exciting, interactive day packed with hands-on business training seminars, free one-on-one consulting, exhibitor tables featuring area resources, plenty of networking opportunities, and more! Leave the conference feeling refreshed and rejuvenated, with plenty of action items, connections and inspiration to take your business to the next level of success!

**Friday, October 10, 2014 | 7:30 am-6 pm**  
**Copper Mountain Resort Conference Center, Colorado**

**\$50/Attendee | \$200/Exhibitor**

- 7:30 am Registration
- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Breakout sessions
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:45 pm Breakout sessions
- 4:30 pm Networking reception

**Sylvia Theisen**



*featuring...*  
*on...*

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Improve Your Bottom Line**

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**VISIT [WWW.COLORADOSBDC.ORG/EVENTS](http://WWW.COLORADOSBDC.ORG/EVENTS)  
TO VIEW A DETAILED AGENDA AND REGISTER**

*Use promo code "FLYER" FOR \$10 off before Sept. 30!*

# Why Don't You Just Take a Hike!



And we mean that in the very nicest way! At our offices in Silverthorne, we take wellness seriously -- thanks to our very active Wellness Team.

So last week, we just took a hike. We decided where to go, we asked people to pack a lunch and their hiking shoes, and we went out to enjoy the amazing scenery of Summit County. Once back to the office, we were refreshed and ready to end the day at a dazzling pace!

All in the name of wellness. Cool.

If you've got wellness tips in your workplace -- we'd like to hear about them.

You can send an email to [Judi@NWCCOG.org](mailto:Judi@NWCCOG.org)

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## 2014 NWCCOG Meeting Schedule

### **Thursday, September 25, 2014**

Full Council & EDD Board Annual Planning Meeting

Location: Frisco Adventure Park Day Lodge

Time: 9:00 a.m.-3:00p.m.

### **Thursday, October 23, 2014**

Conference Call to review draft 2015 budget

### **Thursday, December 4, 2014**

Full Council & NWCCOG Foundation Board Meeting

Location: NWCCOG Office / Conference Call

Time: 10:00a.m.-noon

**Northwest Colorado Council of Governments**

[www.nwccog.org](http://www.nwccog.org)

970.468.0295

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN NWCCOG!**

STAY CONNECTED

