



---

## Director's Report

September 23, 2024

In addition to our normal weekly economic development activities, updates on our major projects include:

- Business Expansion and Relocation
  - We assisted an existing Delta County startup business to find a new location for expansion of their business. We recommended a location and a lease was negotiated between the business owner and property owner. We expect to introduce the business with a press release within the next two weeks. They may qualify for Rural Jump Start.
  - We are holding discussion with a new business which may be relocating to Delta County from out of state. If they do, it appears they will qualify for Rural Jump Start.
  
- Workforce Housing Project
  - A redesign of the 7.88-acre site is in process. Once the new design is completed, additional Community Outreach meetings to include potential buyers and employers will be held
  - We are considering having a video made to help explain the project proposal
  - We are working on additional grant opportunities to fund sources for additional pre-planning expenses
  
- Industrial Park Expansion
  - Completion of the Preliminary Plat is in process
  - We have started discussion with sources for construction funding
  - A construction start of spring 2025 is anticipated

- “The Positive Employee Program”
  - We were approved for a Workforce Resilience grant to fund a Train-the Trainer program and two Spanish translated classes. The Grant was finalized on August 7, 2024 in the amount of \$29,290. The first class is expected to be held in the first quarter of 2025.
  - I gave a presentation to the Rural Consortium Board of Directors in Pueblo on August 5 concerning The Positive Employee Program and the upcoming Train-The-Trainer program. The presentation resulted in three interested attendees for the Train-The -Trainer program.
  - An Employer Overview was held in Hotchkiss on August 28.
  - The next Delta employee class will begin October 2 and has 23 attendees enrolled.
  - An employee class will be held in Hotchkiss beginning October 22. Registration closes on September 25. We presently have 19 reservations.