

January 31st, 2015

Re: CoE Letter of Support

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control
Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting
Att: Interim Director Melissa Lineberger
690 Kipling Street, Suite 2000
Lakewood, CO 80215

Dear Ms. Lineberger:

The Colorado Space Business Roundtable (CSBR) is pleased to provide this letter of support for locating the Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting in Rifle, Colorado.

The Colorado Space Business Roundtable is an organization of over 400 business, educational institutions, and government and non-profit organizations that promotes the growth of space and space-related industry in Colorado, develops and strengthens relationships among members of the Colorado high-tech community, serves as a forum for the presentation and exchange of business-building information, and supports educational initiatives designed to satisfy Colorado's large growth in high-tech employment needs.

Rifle hosted the Colorado Space Business Roundtable as part of a four day CSBR Colorado Aerospace Road Trip across Southwest Colorado to identify suppliers and subcontractor for our Colorado Aerospace Industry. As part of our visit we toured and met with leadership at Colorado Mesa University (CMU), Colorado Mountain College (CMC), and the Rifle Garfield County Airport. Upon arriving in Rifle we were greeted by elected officials and business leaders. Rifle is a community of innovators with an unmatched collaborative spirit and Rifle Garfield County offers the perfect blend of the infrastructure, community, and strategic vision necessary to support the Center of Excellence.

CSBR has been an integral part of coordinating efforts among strategic partners in our Colorado UAS community ranging from Academia, Industry and Government. We are committed to the future support the Center of Excellence (CoE) and are delighted to be endorsing the City of Rifle.

Very Respectfully,



Stacey L. DeFore
Board of Directors, Colorado Space Business Roundtable