



COLORADO

Governor Jared Polis

Dear President Biden,

Colorado is the best and *only* home for U.S. Space Command (USSPACECOM). Just as we, and over 600 Coloradans, businesses, and leaders [called on](#) your predecessor to keep U.S. Space Command in Colorado, we once again urge you to do so.

In 2022, the Department of Defense Inspector General (DoD IG) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) released two reports on the flawed USSPACECOM basing action. These reports asserted that the Department of the Air Force used an untested process which lacked transparency and credibility. The reports identified Colorado Springs as the preferred location based on the best military judgment of our nation's most senior national security space leaders, as well as the inclusion of "Mission Impacts to Full Operational Capability (FOC)" as a decision factor. In fact, the USSPACECOM Commander expected Colorado Springs to achieve FOC approximately 4 to 6 years sooner than other candidates. It was only after the January 11, 2021 meeting with the White House that the basing office was directed to change the preferred recommendation.

Two years later, USSPACECOM has continued to prove its ability to ensure our national security in the space domain from Peterson Space Force Base. The threat landscape has changed considerably since January 2021, including Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, and China's global saber-rattling. These realities make the achievement of FOC as quickly as possible vital to our national security. We face an immediate and existential threat in the space domain. We cannot allow a flawed and costly political decision to threaten our national security and military readiness.

Colorado is home to North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and U.S. Northern Command (NORTHCOM), U.S. Space Force Space Operations Command (USSF SpOC), and the majority of operational USSF Deltas. It hosts multiple additional space domain entities, including the Aerospace Data Facility - Colorado and the Space Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Space ISAC) which are critical to our national security. Basing USSPACECOM in geographic proximity to these capabilities offers significant strategic and operational benefits, especially in twenty-first century conflicts.

Colorado Springs provides the existing infrastructure and the secure and redundant communications platforms necessary to successfully host this vital mission without committing restrictive additional funds. The financial cost of attempting to rebuild what Colorado has spent decades developing will require significant taxpayer dollars. In addition to the pre-existing infrastructure, since January 2021, the Department of Defense has invested further funds in Colorado Springs to develop the mission capabilities necessary to successfully operate USSPACECOM.

Beyond infrastructure, Colorado is also home to the largest private aerospace economy per capita in the nation, providing the innovation and workforce necessary to ensure the current and future

success of the mission. USSPACECOM would face immense challenges recruiting and retaining the workforce already present in Colorado in any other location without costly investments. In an increasingly difficult fiscal situation, it is critical that the Department of the Air Force provides a justified topline and the confidence necessary to consider significant fiscal outlays.

We the undersigned strongly urge you to keep USSPACECOM at Peterson Space Force Base in Colorado.

Respectfully,



Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado



Dianne Primavera
Lt. Governor of Colorado



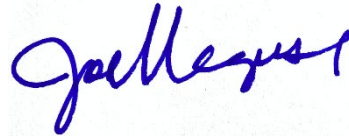
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Diana DeGette
Colorado 1st Congressional District



Joe Neguse
Colorado 2nd Congressional District



Lauren Boebert
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Colorado 5th Congressional District



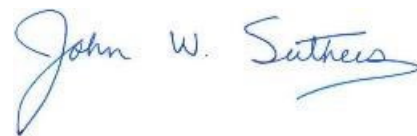
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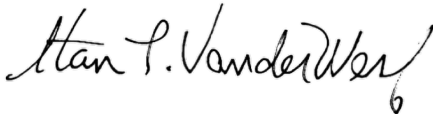
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City of Aurora
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Brad Pierce
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Council Member Juan Marcano
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J. J. Ament, President & CEO,
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Gonzalez Jr., Lt Colonel, USAF
(retired) County Commissioner
District 4, El Paso County

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Lisa Hough, President/CEO,
Adams County Regional
Economic Partnership

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Joshua Medina, Arapahoe County
Veteran Service Officer

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Rene J. Simard, CMSgt
(retired), USAF
Executive Vice President, Aurora
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Kevin Hougen, President/CEO
Aurora Chamber of Commerce

Wendy Mitchell
Wendy Mitchell, President and
CEO, Aurora Economic
Development Council and
Accelerate Colorado

John Swartout
John Swartout, Executive
Director, Colorado Counties,
Inc.

Kathy Ford
Kathy Y. Ford, CDLE, RVER
Veterans Employment
Representative, Denver Region,
Colorado Department of Labor
& Employment

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

Kelly Leaverton
Kelly R. Leaverton
S VP Operations, Colorado
Springs Chamber & EDC

George Peck
George H. Peck
Lt Col, USAF (Ret), Defense
Council, Aurora Chamber of
Commerce

Jerome Davis
Jerome Davis, President, Denver
Metro Chamber Leadership
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Foundation

Mordecai Ian Brownlee
Dr. Mordecai Ian Brownlee
President, Community College
of Aurora

Randy Rocha
Randy Rocha, Director of
Athletics and Executive Director
HSDF
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Mark Seglem, Interim
Superintendent, Aurora Public
Schools

Eric McMartin
Eric McMartin, Interim
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School District

Cliff Klein
Cliff Klein, President, Air Force
Association - Mile High
Chapter 127

Thomas Smola
Thomas K. Smola, CMSgt,
USAF, Retired
CMSgt, USAF, Retired, N/A

Dick Wilson
CAPT Dick Wilson, USN (Ret)
Membership chair, United
Veterans Coalition of Colorado

Omar Lyle
Mr. Omar Lyle
12B1P Combat
Engineer/Paratrooper, US Army
Veteran

Sylvio Gamache
CMSgt Sylvio J. Gamache,
Chief Master Sergeant, USAF
Retired

Richard Klodnicki
Richard H. 'Doc' Klodnicki,
PhD - AERETI, Inc.
President & CEO, AERETI, Inc

Vanessa Johnson
Vanessa Johnson, President,
AFCEA Rocky Mountain
Chapter

Lisa R. Buckley
Lisa R. Buckley, CEO,
American Automation, Inc

Reggie Ash
Reggie Ash, Vice President,
Caliola

Jennifer Halford
Jennifer Halford, CEO, Caliola
Engineering

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Rick Crandall, Executive
Director, Colorado Freedom
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Paul Deaderick, CSBR
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Richard D Ward Chair, CSBR
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Shane Deichman
Shane Deichman, CSBR Vice
Chair
Colorado Space Business
Roundtable

Morgan B. Alu
Morgan B. Alu, Director,
Colorado Space Coalition
Director of International
Development, Colorado Space
Coalition

Becky Takeda-Tinker
Becky Takeda-Tinker, Ph.D.
President & CEO, Colorado
State University-Global

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James P Ross
CEO, Coros Enterprises

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David J Barber, Sr., President,
D.J. Barber Corp.

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Keith C. Klachn, Chairman,
Defense Mission Task Force

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Thomas Brook, President and
CEO, Denver South

Linda Walters
Linda Walters, Senior Sales
Manager, Doubletree by Hilton
Denver Complex

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David A. Hollenbach, President
and CEO, DSoft Technology,
Engineering & Analysis, Inc.

Hailie Hyde
Hailie Hyde, Military Relations
Liaison, Ent Credit Union

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Shaun C. Kennedy, Partner,
Holland & Hart LLP

Kyle Ellington
Kyle Ellington, Executive,
LeafTech Consulting

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Betty Dee Gibson, Director of
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Economic Development
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Brian M. Holland, Director of
Business Development,
Mortenson

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Robert K Traylor, Principal,
Multi-Domain Integrated
Solutions, LLC

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Tod Fenner, IT Director,
Nelnet

Paula Sarlls
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Marines Association CO-1 And
USMC Memorial Foundation

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Russell Fellers, VP, Education,
Rocky Mountain AFCEA
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CEO, RTL Networks, Inc.

Lisanne McNew
Lisanne McNew, President &
CEO, SAFE Engineering

Clay Turner
Clay Turner, Principal
See Turner Design

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Steve Coffin, Owner, Steve
Coffin Strategies, LLC

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Bryan Rose, Stinson LLP
Partner, Stinson LLP

Hayley McGuire
Hayley McGuire, Space
Partnerships Leader, The
Boeing Company

Ron Fitch
Ron Fitch, President, PPRH,
GV and Military Affairs,
UCHealth

Tami McVay
Tami McVay, Lifetime
Member, Women Marines
Association

Dirk Wallinger
Dirk Wallinger, York Space
Systems, CEO

Jason Simmons
Mr. Jason W. Simmons