



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE
SPACE BASE DELTA 1**

21 May 2025

Dear Pikes Peak Community Partner

The United States Space Force was established a little over five years ago in response to the rapidly evolving and highly competitive strategic environment of the 21st century. As we continue to mature as a warfighting service, our greatest risk lies in maintaining the status quo, relying on legacy systems and outdated processes that no longer meet the demands of the space environment.

To ensure operational success in the space domain, we must embrace change, build readiness, invest in our Airmen and Guardians, and strengthen our partnerships, especially with the local communities that host our critical installations. The Pikes Peak Region's three Space Force installations—Peterson Space Force Base, Schriever Space Force Base, and Cheyenne Mountain Space Force Station—are foundational to U.S. national security. These bases support a range of essential missions and are home to major military organizations including North American Aerospace Defense Command & U.S. Northern Command; U.S. Space Command; two U.S. Space Force Field Commands; U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command; U.S. Missile Defense Agency; two Reserve Wings; multiple Joint Force Component Commands, and shared runway operations with the Colorado Springs Municipal Airport.

These installations were strategically placed in the Pikes Peak Region to leverage unique geographic advantages, such as uninterrupted horizon-to-horizon satellite tracking, low electromagnetic interference, separation from dense urban development, and the capability to support expanding Department of Defense (DoD) space mission. When these installations were first established, no one could have predicted the scale and scope that the Space Force would eventually reach. Today, these installations host the preponderance of U.S. space operations. With the pace of technological advancement in U.S. military capabilities and adversarial threats exponentially accelerating, it is likely we will continue to grow and evolve the capabilities assigned to the Pikes Peak Region Space Force Bases. Ensuring the long-term viability of these critical missions requires foresight, flexibility, and strong collaboration with our local communities.

Space Base Delta 1 installations support critical Space Force missions including: Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance; Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (GPS); Satellite Communications; Missile Warning; Electromagnetic Warfare; Orbital Warfare; Space Domain Awareness; Cyberspace Operations; and Test and Evaluation of emerging space technologies.

These missions are sensitive to external factors, such as electromagnetic and radio frequency interference, horizon and physical obstruction, ambient noise and vibration, incompatible land use and zoning, environmental impact and cultural resources, and other forms of development encroachment. If unaddressed, these potential threats may degrade operational effectiveness and jeopardize U.S. national security.

To preserve mission capability, the DoD employs tools like the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program, and we engage with state and local partners through mechanisms such as Colorado Revised Statute 29-20-105.6(3), which mandates military review of developments within two miles of an installation. The El Paso County Master Plan, PlanCOS, and where appropriate,

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Residential Rural (RR-5) zoning have protected critical military infrastructure for over 75 years, and they will continue to play a critical role in the future as populations centers move closer to the fence line of Space Base Delta 1 installations.

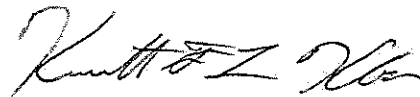
Community support remains essential to our success. Affordable and appropriate housing for our junior service members, lower wage grade and civil service employees is crucial. DoD housing allowances define a budgetary expectation, but many new developments are priced beyond what these individuals can afford. The higher cost housing market often trickles down into the rental market. The gap between available and accessible housing puts our personnel at risk of substandard conditions, long commutes, and financial stress. These challenges reduce quality of life, hinder retention, and ultimately distract from mission focus and execution. They also make it more difficult to recruit and retain the talented civilian workforce essential to sustaining and advancing our national defense missions.

Accessible childcare, transportation infrastructure, and meaningful employment opportunities for military spouses and family members is very important. When families are supported through affordable housing, quality childcare, and a strong community, our service members can focus on their space missions, knowing their loved ones are safe, stable, and thriving.

Space Base Delta 1 does not aim to impede regional growth and cannot endorse specific developments. We are an essential part of the Pikes Peak Region, and our continued success depends on a thriving economy, strong infrastructure, and collaborative leadership. The defense of America is our top priority, and our presence in the Pikes Peak Region is not incidental, it is vital. The unique combination of operational capability, geography, and community support in this region is not easily replicated. Space Base Delta 1 installations are the epicenter of the Space Force, and our mission must thrive in an ever-evolving space domain.

As guardians of the space domain, we are committed to working with local government and engaging early in the development process near our installations to ensure our service members, their families, and civilian employees have the support they need. Your proactive partnership is essential to sustaining U.S. national defense capabilities and ensuring the Pikes Peak Region remains a beacon of innovation. Consistent with CRS 29-20-105.6(3), we look forward to reviewing and providing technical input on development proposals in the vicinity of our installations.

Together, we will continue to protect our nation while building a resilient, vibrant future in the Pikes Peak Region.



KENNETH F. L. KLOCK, Colonel, USSF
Commander, Space Base Delta 1