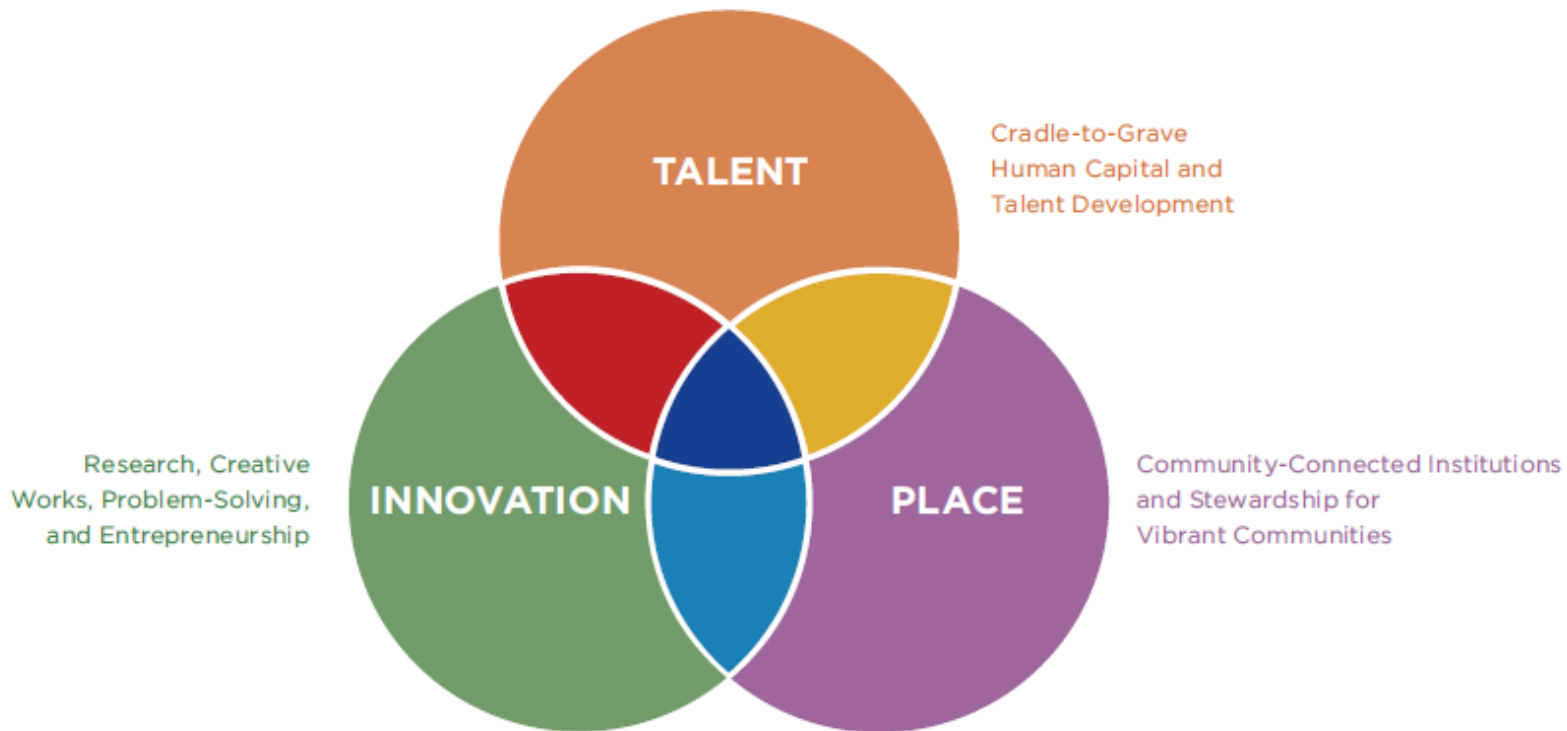




- **Innovation Community & Current Projects**
- **What We've Learned**
- **Questions and feedback from City Council**





- Awarded by **APLU Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness & Economic Prosperity.**
- Recognizes process of institutional self-study and engagement with stakeholders to identify strengths of economic engagement enterprise, areas for growth, and opportunities for improvement.



- **May 2015:** Council Retreat identifying 'Innovation Community' as a priority
- **July 2015:** Council Futures presentation on the Innovation Ecosystem
- **Sept 2015 – Feb 2016:** IEP & IAM Process Refinement, Partnership Development, & Internal/External Stakeholder Engagement
- **Feb – April 2016:** IEP/IAM Improvement Plans and Project Narrative
- **May 2016:** Submittal of IEP/IAM improvement plans & Council Work Session

Convene

- 2004: Economic Vitality & Sustainability Action Group
- 2007/2008: Formation of FortZED
- 2006-2015: Brought together industry stakeholders; catalyzed Clusters

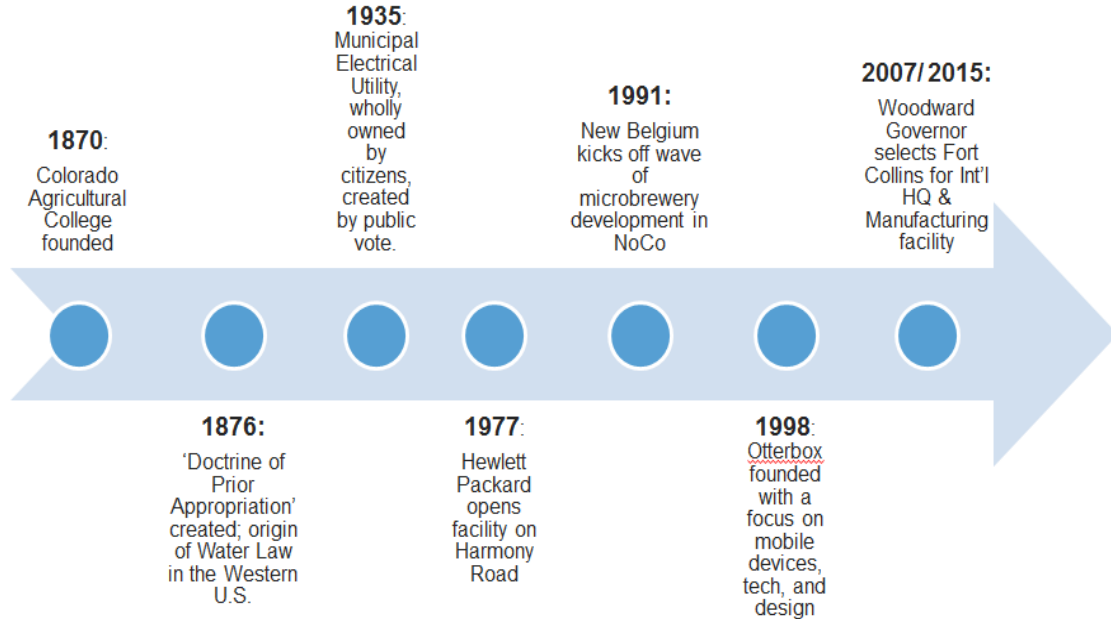
Catalyze

- 2006: City begins Industry Cluster \$ support
- 2009: City builds RMI building
- 2015: City matches State funding for CSU Ventures AI Grants

Collaborate

- 2012: City partners with CSU on Powerhouse Engines Campus
- 2014: City supports first annual Fort Collins Startup Week
- 2015: City contributes \$ to SBDC

## Fort Collins History



# What we have learned: Highlights

- **Successful Strategies** to enhance innovation include:
  - 1) an intentional approach to support existing & emerging industry clusters
  - 2) triple helix collaboration
  - 3) a focus on the creative class / cultivating a skilled workforce
- **Opportunities for Improvement** include:
  - a more intentional focus on the startup phase of cluster companies
  - and stronger ties to Federal / State Government agencies & programs

# What we have learned: continued

- **Measuring Performance:**
  - Fort Collins performed well in Tech Startups and New Businesses per capita.
  - Fort Collins did not perform as well in the number of businesses retained per 1,000 residents, and Utility Patents per capita have declined over the last decade.
- **Collaborative models:**
  - Durham, Boulder, Ann Arbor, and Madison all have integrated government, university, and community actors into autonomous entities tasked with managing and fostering innovation and economic prosperity.



## Next Steps

- **Jan - March 2016:** Finalize stakeholder engagement:
- **March - April 2016:** Finalize self-assessments and improvement plans:
- **May 2016:** Council Work Session to present final results

## Key Questions

1. Do you think Fort Collins is well positioned to support and emphasize innovation in our community and region?
2. Is there a specific industry/sector (clean energy, bioscience, water technology, manufacturing, software/hardware, creative, health, etc) that you would like to see a more intentional focus on?