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Economic Development Council of Colorado Awards Adams County Economic Development and Denver Office of Economic Development for Excellence and Partnership

DENVER – October 18, 2016 – Adams County Economic Development (ACED) and the Denver Office of Economic Development (Denver OED) received the first shared ‘Large Community of the Year’ award today by the Economic Development Council of Colorado (EDCC). This is the first time in its history that the EDCC recognized the combined efforts of two communities for this award.

ACED and Denver OED were recognized largely for their unprecedented partnership in the 1A for DIA campaign and assisting in redeveloping the former ASARCO Globe Smelter property which is located in both jurisdictions into Crossroads Commerce Park.

“This award further validates the culture of collaboration that was necessary to earn overwhelming voter support in both jurisdictions on the effort to pass ballot question 1A. That partnership is an example of how instrumental these relationships are in achieving other impactful projects like ASARCO,” said ACED Executive Board member and Adams County Commissioner Steve O’Dorisio.

The 1A for DIA campaign was the product of the unanimous DIA/ACC agreement between Adams County, members of the Airport Coordinating Committee and the City and County of Denver. The campaign was successful in securing voter approval for a major amendment to the 1988 Intergovernmental Agreement for Denver International Airport that will open development opportunities on and around the airport, bringing new jobs and investments to the region.

“The Large Community of the Year Award not only acknowledges our success, but also the many years of hard work and effort by others who laid the groundwork for these

achievements,” said Barry Gore, President/CEO of ACED. “It reminds us that visionary thinking can yield catalytic results.”

The two governments came together and successfully modified state law regarding urban renewal, adopted a joint urban renewal plan for the site in 2011, and developed a creative package of financing tools that included a HUD Section 108 loan of up to \$10,000,000 from Adams County and a CDBG grant of \$750,000 from the City and County of Denver. The result is a 78-acre urban infill site that will add 1 million square feet of Class A industrial space to the local market and approximately 1,000 jobs.

ACED and Denver OED received the award today at the EDCC’s Drive/Lead/Succeed Conference in Vail, Colorado.

About Adams County Economic Development (ACED)

ACED is a 501(c) 6 public/private, nonprofit, full-service economic development agency serving Adams County, its ten municipalities, more than 10,100 businesses, and more than 480,000 residents. ACED is committed to attracting and retaining primary employers by offering support in business development, workforce development, and real estate opportunities in order to create a pro-business community.

About Adams County

Adams County, located in the northeastern quadrant of the Metro Denver Region, offers a rich diversity of communities, lifestyle, employment, and business opportunities. It surrounds the Denver International Airport on three sides, and is served by multiple highways and two railroads. Major employment sectors include aerospace and aviation, healthcare and life sciences, energy, logistics, manufacturing, and wholesale/trade. Boasting diverse housing opportunities, a highly educated workforce, and close proximity to the region’s major colleges, universities and research facilities, Adams County offers a strong pro-business climate and outstanding quality of life for employees and companies.

About Economic Development Council of Colorado

The Economic Development Council of Colorado (EDCC) is a state-wide, nonprofit organization dedicated to successful, responsible economic development. EDCC professionally represents the collective economic development interests of both the private and public sectors. Our mission is to be the premier state-wide organization for strengthening Colorado’s economy by promoting the highest standards of knowledge and skill for ED professionals, educating local and state leaders about the realities of economic growth, and advocating public policies that enhance economic opportunity for all of Colorado.

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