

NATIONAL WESTERN CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 30, 2015

Richard Monfort, Chair Colorado Economic Development Commission Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade 1625 Broadway, Suite 2700 Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Monfort:

It is with great optimism and enthusiasm that we submit our support of the City and County of Denver's application for the Regional Tourism Act (RTA). We are a collective group of community leaders and representatives who have an interest in the Elyria, Swansea and Globeville neighborhoods and have been engaged with planning processes for the National Western Center for over a year.

Elyria, Swansea and Globeville are three historically rich neighborhoods that currently surround the National Western Stock Show Complex. Settled by immigrants, these residential and industrial neighborhoods have made fundamental contributions to Denver and the broader State culture and economy and remain strong communities due to their welcoming and resilient nature and pride in maintaining our diverse culture.

As our neighborhoods continue to prosper the master plan for the National Western Center has become an important and necessary link to continue uplifting this part of the city in collaboration with the converging portfolio projects along Mayor Hancock's "Corridor of Opportunity" stretching from Union Station to Denver International Airport. The National Western Center is truly the center piece of this vital vision, and, with our input, the City and County of Denver has initiated a plan for its development that will create a campus that collectively benefits our neighborhoods, our city and the entire Rocky Mountain region.

As a community of collaborating neighborhoods, our interest in this plan has ultimately been to uplift our own historic neighborhoods while simultaneously creating a campus at the National Western site that is attractive to visitors from around the state, across the nation, and internationally.

The plan calls for improved connections through the site to assure a welcoming environment for residents and visitors alike. Access to the South Platte River is another plan element of shared









importance to the campus and our neighborhoods. With Colorado State University as a partner, visitors and residents will be able to enjoy the South Platte River while learning about water quality, wastewater treatment and water conservation. This same partnership will also bring to the campus educational programming around agriculture and how to address the global challenges of food production and distribution.

These are just a few of the examples to highlight how the new National Western Center will create a world class and unique set of experiences drawing many residents and visitors alike. We fully support the City and County of Denver in its quest to acquire support from the Regional Tourism Act. Our neighborhoods are excited to showcase to the world the many cutting edge and delightful elements of our emerging and unprecedented National Western Center Complex, and we hope you will consider helping us advance this vision.

Sincerely,

The National Western Center Advisory Committee

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