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April 30, 2024

The Honorable Jason Crow
1323 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC, 20515-0606

Re: Adam's County's Application for Congressionally Directed Spending

Dear Representative Crow and Staff:

On behalf of the City of Aurora, please accept this letter of support to Adams County in their application for Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funding for FY25.

Adams County seeks funding to build a workforce training center in Aurora, Colorado. Colorado has a deficit of qualified workers across many sectors, including healthcare, the skilled trades, transportation, and emerging green sectors of the labor market. Across the Denver metro region, more than 350,000 people live in economic poverty, and many are looking to train or retrain into jobs that pay a living wage in these high-demand sectors. Requested funds would support the development of a workforce training facility in Adams County, which will have the capacity to train 200 Coloradans a year through an evidence-based, no-cost training program which has already seen over 900 graduates.

The 6-month program provides soft skills training, access to an industry-recognized credential, and includes job seeking support. The program offers numerous wraparound supports, including stipends to offset costs incurred during training, state-certified mental health counseling, recovery programming, and financial coaching.

The City of Aurora supports Adams County in this request. This CDS request would fund \$1,000,000 of an \$8.3M project, allowing the facility to be completed and begin providing training in 2025. This critical investment will strengthen the labor market in Adams County, supporting dozens of employers each year with skilled workers. Adams County residents, particularly those looking to exit poverty, will gain access to better paying jobs and become sustainably self-sufficient.

Sincerely,

Mike Coffman, Mayor
Aurora, Colorado