

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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April 25, 2025

Aurora, CO 80231

2170 South Parker Road Suite 280

Attn: Congressman Jason Crow (CO-06)

Dear Congressman Crow,

I am writing to express support on behalf of the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners for the Community College of Aurora's (CCA) Congressionally Directed Spending request for \$918,881 in funding for critical instructional equipment for science, engineering, math, and technology (STEM) labs, as well as a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) Mobile Lab, and Concrete and Soil Mechanics Mobile Lab. As Commissioners, we understand the critical importance of investing in education and workforce development, particularly in high-demand, high-wage fields that promote economic advancement and serve our communities directly.

CCA has a long history of providing opportunities for students across our state, through accessible and high-quality education that prepares individuals for successful careers in various fields. The proposed project aligns with the County's focus on meeting the evolving needs of our workforce and ensuring that our residents have the skills and training necessary to thrive in today's economy. Expanding the college's STEM, HVAC, construction and diesel technician training and education is a strategic investment in both our community's well-being and our future economic and workforce development. These programs play a vital role in addressing critical existing and projected workforce shortages.

Thank you for your consideration of this essential project. Recognizing the importance of CCA's work and investment in the community, we hope you will support this request.

Sincerely,

ARAPAHOE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Commissioner Leslie Summey Chair of the Board

Mike Coffman



City of Aurora

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Mayor 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, 5th Floor Aurora, Colorado 80012 office 303.739.7015 fax 303.739.7594 email mcoffman@auroragov.org

March 19, 2025

Dr. Mordecai Brownlee Community College of Aurora 16000 E CentreTech Parkway Aurora, CO 80011

Dear President Brownlee,

I am writing you to express my support for the Community College of Aurora's (CCA) Congressionally Directed Spending request for \$835,346 to provide critical instructional equipment for science, engineering, math, and technology (STEM) labs, as well as a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) Mobile Lab, and Concrete and Soil Mechanics Mobile Lab. For the city of Aurora, investing in career-connected education and workforce development in high-demand fields like engineering, construction, HVAC technician, heavy equipment technicians, and other STEM careers is critical for sustaining and growing our local businesses.

I commend CCA for its proven track record for providing high-quality, industry-aligned, hands-on workforce training and career pathways that prepare adult, college-age, and high school students for in-demand jobs within the Aurora metro area. The proposed instructional equipment, HVAC Mobile Lab, and Concrete/Soil Mechanics Mobile Lab align perfectly with the college's mission to meet the needs of employers and ensure that the local workforce has the knowledge, skills and hands-on experience to advance in their careers.

Expanding the college's STEM, HVAC, construction and diesel technician programs is a strategic investment in both our community's well-being and our future economic and workforce success. These programs play a vital role in addressing existing and predicted workforce shortages. The college's programs provide pathways to immediate jobs, as well as strong transfer partnerships for those careers requiring a bachelor's degree.

I fully support CCA's proposed project and the significant and critical investments it will make in Aurora's workforce. This project will create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and enhance the overall quality of life for residents in and beyond Aurora.

Sincerely,

Mrk_/M

Michael Coffman, Mayor Aurora, Colorado