

EL PASO COUNTY

COLORADO

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June 14, 2013

Colorado Economic Development Commission
c/o Mr. Ken Lund, Executive Director
Office of Economic Development and International Trade
1625 Broadway, Suite 2700
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Commission Members:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express El Paso County's support of the City of Champions' application as a Regional Tourism Act (RTA) project. As you will see, the City of Champions is truly a large scale project, one that will attract many out-of-state, and even international, tourists to Colorado thereby generating significant additional sales tax.

The four components of the project capitalize on some of the most unique attractions and aspects of our area.

- The Air Force Academy's Gateway at Falcon Stadium project will showcase the Academy. Since 9/11, the ability of the Academy to host visitors has been compromised due to security and this new project will once again provide insight to the only place in country to train cadets.
- The Sports Medicine and Performance Center, slated for the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, will ensure that Colorado is able to gain its share of the growing medical tourism market. The Center will bring together Olympic and Paralympic athletes as well as Wounded Warriors for training and research.
- The Colorado Sky Sox, a AAA affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, will anchor the Downtown Stadium and Event Center with a highly visible presence off I-25.
- There is no better place in the country to locate the proposed United States Olympic Museum which will leverage the fact that we are home to the United States Olympic Committee and an Olympic Training Center. The Museum will draw visitors from around the world, bringing international attention to Colorado.

We at El Paso County believe that the City of Champions has the potential to take Colorado's tourism to the next level and we hope you agree. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dennis Hisey
Chair, Board of County Commissioners

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