

RESOLUTION NO. ____-23

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR BOB COPE

WHEREAS, the City has benefitted greatly from the dedicated service of Bob Cope, the City's Economic Development Officer, for the past 15 years; and

WHEREAS, Bob Cope began his 15-year career with the City at the onset of the Great Recession on Mach 17, 2008 as a Senior Analyst for Economic Development, and led the City's Retail Enhancement Program and the South Academy Blvd Revitalization initiative; and

WHEREAS, Bob has led the Economic Development Division since 2011 under three mayors; and

WHEREAS, Bob's leadership in guiding a team of great individuals has brought economic vitality, new business and primary employers to Colorado Springs; and

WHEREAS, Bob's professionalism and positive attitude have enabled stakeholders to come together to create new jobs and has led to stronger relationships between the State of Colorado, El Paso County, the Chamber of Commerce, economic development partners, and our military partners; and

WHEREAS, Bob's work has led to the successful retention and expansion of businesses, including keeping Space Command in Colorado Springs; and

WHEREAS, past projects of significance included the Copper Ridge Urban Renewal Plan (now Polaris Pointe), the Mining Exchange Hotel redevelopment, Lowe's at Citadel Crossing, the retention of Kinder Morgan in downtown Colorado Springs, the Wal-Mart Corporate Data Center, the Bal Seal Engineering Manufacturing facility, and the Agilent Technologies expansion; and

WHEREAS, during Bob's tenure recent projects of significance include the attraction of Scheels All Sport, the Entegris Manufacturing Center for Excellence, the Microchip Expansion, and the Meyer Burger solar manufacturing facility; and

WHEREAS, Bob was the City's lead and project manager for the City for Champions initiative resulting in the construction of five unique and extraordinary venues including the US Olympic & Paralympic Museum, the William J. Hybl Sports Medicine and Performance Center, Weidner Field, Robson Arena, and the United States Air Force Academy Gateway Visitor Center; and

WHEREAS, during Bob's tenure he led 215 Rapid Response projects supporting approximately 23 million square feet of new or renovated facilities, 21,000 new jobs, 20,000 retained jobs, and private investment of \$4.4 billion; and

WHEREAS, during Bob's tenure, he led the completion of 23 Economic Development Agreements supporting approximately 1.5 million square feet of new or renovated facilities, 5,600 new jobs, 8,800 retained jobs, and private investment of \$2.6 billion; and

WHEREAS, Bob has a love for the city of Colorado Springs and a passion for economic development, job creation, wealth creation and an outstanding quality of life for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Bob has been a proud advocate for the private sector within City government; and

WHEREAS, we appreciate his dedication, commitment, leadership, mentorship, and stewardship of taxpayer dollars throughout his years of service to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes him happiness and success in all his future ventures.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. That City Council recognizes BOB COPE for his 15 years of service, leadership, and contributions to the City of Colorado Springs.

DATED at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 22nd day of August 2023.

Randy Helms, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk