



December 6, 2019

Tasha Weaver  
Colorado Housing and Finance Authority  
1981 Blake Street  
Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Ms. Weaver:

By way of this letter, the Independence Center (The IC) is expressing support for the Draper Commons project, which is applying for Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) from the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority. The IC is delighted to be partnering with BCR Management, Inc., as part of the project will be developed on a 9 acre parcel of land in downtown Colorado Springs. This development is slated to be designed using Universal Design (UD) principles which will allow people with disabilities of all ages to live there easily and independently.

The site will be transformed from vacant land into an intergenerational community. Over the past few years, housing costs have increased considerably in the Pikes Peak region. These increased costs have had a significant negative impact on both seniors living on fixed incomes and people with disabilities seeking to live close to commercial employment opportunities as well as public transportation. So many housing projects are not built to include people with mobility, sight, hearing, and other functional limitations. We are thrilled that BCR Management has agreed to build a building that is entirely accessible in a downtown setting. This project will powerfully demonstrate to local builders and construction policy makers that such design is feasible, affordable, and very beneficial to the entire community. It is The IC's vision that all multiple family housing is designed using UD principles-this is the first step. It is vitally important that the downtown area establish and maintain affordability as well as accessibility and this project will do just that.



Draper Commons will provide a significant benefit to people of all ages and abilities, and the entire downtown area. We hope the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority committee will be supportive of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Yeager". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Patricia Yeager, CEO

The Independence Center