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January 23, 2023

Roger Lovell, Building Official
Pikes Peak Regional Building Department
2880 International Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Dear Mr. Lovell,

The mission of the Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs (HBA) is to promote and support policies that allow for the production of safe and attainable housing for all aspects of our community. We support Pikes Peak Regional Building's 2023 Building Code.

As you know, building professionals who are participants of the HBA Code Review Committee have spent more than a year reviewing the code changes. They have worked alongside RBD and other agency partners to come to a consensus that allows for reasonable construction practices while working towards our common goal of energy conservation. We appreciate RBD's acknowledgment of upcoming codes that will be implemented from the State Energy Board, and their willingness to offer the building community this interim code that allows both the industry and the market to transition before we are required to adopt more stringent and costly codes.

It is important to note that the HBA represents 120 builders, remodelers, and developer member companies. In 2022, these members pulled just over 80 percent of all single-family permits through the RBD in the Pikes Peak region. The HBA includes 465 companies that represent over 8,000 related jobs in all aspects of the building industry. This positions the HBA and its members as having the highest level of expertise on the impacts of these code changes, specifically with respect to safety, livability, and cost of new homes and remodels.

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The bottom line for our members, including the board members represented in this letter, is that we are working to meet the housing needs of the Pikes Peak region while building to standards that promote life safety and attainability. We experience firsthand the barriers to entry for prospective homeowners; cost savings suggested by supporters of stringent energy code changes are irrelevant if prospective homeowners cannot afford to purchase a home. We have been working together with elected officials to address the region's housing challenge, especially in the "missing middle," where housing is needed for key members of our local workforce.

The HBA and its members offer our support to RBD for the proposed code and its amendments as the unified opinion of the region's building industry. Our members will continue to volunteer their time in support of this code as RBD presents it to the governing bodies of the jurisdictions we work in.

It's critical for the future of our shared efforts to provide more housing in this region that any code changes are considered only after balancing between cost and overall benefit. We appreciate the time and effort of the Regional Building Department to draft a fair and balanced code that ensures the safety of the homeowner and the health of the building community.

Respectfully,

Mark Reyner, Land Title

Mark Regner

2023 HBA President

Kort Henderson, Vantage Homes

Kort Henderson

HBA Code Review Committee Chair