FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dayna Ashley-Oehm

Email: dashleyoehm@aurorahousing.org

Phone: 303-929-9591 (cell)

Affordable Housing Development to Hold Formal Groundbreaking Ceremony



On Monday November 5, 2018, the Housing Authority of the City of Aurora will formally kick off construction of its newest development, Peoria Crossing. The 82-unit affordable housing complex exemplifies positive proximity as residents will be in close proximity to: employment at Anschutz Medical Campus, transportation on RTD's A and R Lines, neighborhood schools, and recreation at Sand Creek Park.

Peoria Crossing is also in close proximity to the new VA hospital and the network of veteran's services in Aurora, thus ten units are reserved for formerly homeless veterans. "This project will make a real difference in helping veterans and their families by providing them with affordable housing next to VA services. This is just another example of what we can accomplish when the federal government and local housing authorities work together to help our veterans get back on their feet," said U.S. Representative Mike Coffman.

The multimodal project will include: interior bicycle storage, a community garden, public art, an active playground, and fitness center. Aurora City Council has been working on a housing needs assessment over the past year while examining how to allocate \$1 million in revenue to affordable housing projects. Peoria Crossing will add affordable units to the City's inventory and will benefit working families in stabilizing housing costs. A mix of housing choices is good for Aurora, City of Aurora Mayor Bob LeGare says, "Rent-burdened households in Aurora are growing in number. While our economy is thriving, the demand for affordable housing is on the

rise. Peoria Crossing represents the best of what we can do as a community to support and retain our diverse workforce."

The \$24 million dollar development is an example of a public-private partnership funded with federal and state low income housing tax credits, federal HUD funding, City of Aurora HOME funds and State of Colorado Housing Solutions Program funding. Craig Maraschky, Executive Director of the Housing Authority, said, "We are very excited to see Peoria Crossing starting construction. These deals take a great deal of collaboration, financial creativity and patience. But when they are done, we immediately see the positive contribution to people's lives and the community as a whole." The project will provide integrated housing serving households earning between 30 and 60 percent of Area Median Income.

Groundbreaking Ceremony details: Monday, November 5, 2018 at 1:00 PM Peoria Crossing (enter site from Quari Street) 3002 N. Peoria Street Aurora, CO 80011