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## Transit-Oriented Development Adding Affordable Housing Inventory to Aurora

The Housing Authority of the City of Aurora (AHA) will break ground on Peoria Crossing, an 82-unit affordable housing development near Fitzsimons and CU Anschutz Medical Campus. The project provides integrated housing serving households that earn between 30% and 60% of the area median income. Peoria Crossing is a transit-oriented development located a half mile from RTD's A and R rail lines, numerous bus routes, growing employment sectors, neighborhood schools, and Sand Creek Park.

Anticipating growth, the vacant lot was purchased 10 years ago with hopes to further expand AHA's affordable housing portfolio. Today, the vision to expand has come to fruition. "We know there is a huge demand for affordable rental units and we are excited to get this project underway," said Craig Maraschky, Executive Director of AHA. Upon completion and lease up of the first phase, construction on the second phase will follow once funding is secured.

The \$24 million development is an example of a public-private partnership funded with federal and state Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, City of Aurora HOME funds, and State of Colorado Housing Solutions Program funds.

Peoria Crossing is located within the Morris Heights neighborhood in Ward II, at Peoria Street and East 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue. "The site will provide much needed affordable housing in a growing part of the City," affirmed Council Member Nicole Johnston. The multimodal project will include interior bicycle storage, a community garden, public art, an active playground, and fitness center. Project completion is set for August 2019.



