CONSTRUCTION & Design

Project Round Up
MOBs/Hospitals & Senior Living

Aerotropolis
A Game Changer for Aurora

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Inside AGC Colorado page 54
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In this Issue

Publisher's Letter
Mike Branigan & Polly Emmons

AEC Industry News

Project Updates

People News

Healthcare Project Round Up

Aerotropolis | “A Game Changer for Aurora”
by Paul Suter

Placemaking for Healthy Cities
by Sean O'Keefe

American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC)
Quarterly Report

Good Works

Product News

Columnists
ACEC, USGBC, Expert Insight, CCIG

Inside AGC Colorado

Parting Shots
Industry Events in Colorado

Advertiser Index

On the cover:
The River Mile Development
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Dear Industry Partners,

Fortunately, our government officials and leaders continue to hold construction as “essential business” and our workforce is considered safe with adequate social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. This virus has played a part in cancelling our meetings and postponed social gatherings, such as the AGC Associates’ Rockie’s Opening Day tailgater at Ken’s Reproductions, and the annual Déjà vu Rendezvous. It may be a bit early to determine exact dates to reschedule some of the events, but the tentative dates for the Rockie’s Opening Day tailgater will be in June, and the Déjà vu Rendezvous has now officially moved to September 11th.

In this issue, CCD’s contributing writer, Sean O’Keefe conducted a round table, panel discussion with some of the best urban planners and landscape architect firms in the region; “Placemaking for Healthy Cities” takes a closer look at long-range perspectives on design for healthy places.

We also welcome our newest contributing writer/reporter, Paul Suter; albeit he is not new to the A/E/C industry. He has represented some of the most respected companies in the area, for example: Mortenson Construction, Fentress Architects, GH Phipps, and Zeppelin Development. As his first assignment for CCD, Paul dives deep into the 21,000-acre Aerotropolis, located south of Denver International Airport and reports on the work being done to pave the way for new development and the continued growth of the communities that surround the airport.

Every edition of CCD includes a project round up, and this issue features a collection of Healthcare projects recently completed, in-progress, or in the design-phase. If you’re interested in having a project featured in one of our project round up sections, send your project description and photo/rendering to Polly@ccdmag.com for consideration. Our next issue features a multi-family project round up with a deadline of May 9th for ad materials and content. Projects for the project round up section need to be no more than 300 words max with a photo/rendering and caption(s).

During this time of social disconnect, CCD helps to keep those in the A/E/C industry connecting with every turn of a page. Not at the office to receive our printed publication? That’s ok, you can access and view each issue online via our digital eMagazine; read it from the comfort of your home office on your computer or mobile device whenever it is convenient for you!

While we have extended our deadline for the Spring issue our print schedule remains on target for the remainder of 2020 and beyond. A BIG thank you goes out to our loyal advertisers and business partners as this issue marks our 10-year Anniversary! A 10-year Anniversary Celebration is being planned for later this year.

Remember, that getting published is easy with CCD Magazine. Send us your construction and design news, project updates, people news, and event photos. We’re here to help you build your business.

Sincerely,

Mike Branigan, Publisher
Tel. 303-914-0574
Email: mike@ccdmag.com

Polly Emmons, Associate Publisher/Editor
Email: polly@ccdmag.com

Publisher’s Letter
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McWhinney and Landmark Homes Expand The Lakes at Centerra with 32-Acre Land Purchase

450 condos and townhomes will meet homebuyer demand for attainability in northern Colorado.

McWhinney, master developer of Centerra, and Landmark Homes are pleased to announce the purchase of 450 homesites in the Centerra master-planned community in Loveland. Landmark Homes plans to deliver townhomes and condominiums in The Lakes at Centerra neighborhood, further progressing the homebuilder’s residential offerings within Centerra.

With this land purchase, Landmark Homes will launch its first collection of Discovery Series homes, the homebuilder’s newest product type, which focuses on delivering low-maintenance homes at its most cost-effective pricing. Of the 160 Discovery Series homes the builder will deliver, 80 sites will debut stacked ranch-style condos and 80 will be two-story condominiums, priced from the high $200s. Landmark Homes will also deliver 196 elevator-served condominiums from the $200s to $300s, and will diversify its offerings with 94 townhomes priced from the mid-$300s to mid-$400s.

Landmark Homes plans to break ground in spring 2020 to provide northern Colorado residents with a more diversified and affordable selection of products.

Newmark Knight Frank Multifamily Arranges Sale of Development Site on South Broadway in Denver

Newmark Knight Frank (NKF) Multifamily announces the sale of a 2.68-acre land parcel on South Broadway in Denver. The site is located in the heart of Broadway Park – a mixed-use infill redevelopment totaling 75 acres and entitled for up to 10 million square feet of future development. NKF Executive Managing Director Chris Cowan and Transaction Manager Mackenzie Walker represented the seller, D4 Urban, in the sale to AMLI Residential (AMLI).

AMLI, which focuses on the development, construction and management of environmentally responsible, luxury apartment communities, plans to develop the site with a 300+-unit multifamily community.

The “Southern District” at Broadway Park has an approved Concept Site Plan for up to 850,000 square feet of NRA build-to-suit office and a pending Concept Site Plan for an additional 90,000 square feet of five-level office fronting South Broadway, proximate to additional apartment community sites.
ECI Site Construction Management Celebrates 40 Years in Business

From on-man landscaper to leading outdoor spaces general contractor.

Over the past four decades, ECI has grown to become the largest northern Colorado and Denver-area general contractor that specializes in the construction of landmark parks, sporting fields and other premier outdoor spaces that bring communities together and boost local economies. Since its formation as a one-person landscaper in 1980, ECI has undergone numerous company changes that have shaped its rich history and ultimately led to its success as a $48 million dollar construction company with 50 employees.

With only a pickup truck and wheelbarrow as his “heavy equipment,” Loveland resident Brian Peterson founded ECI in 1980 under the name of Environmental Concerns. His passion for beautifying the northern Colorado community through expert landscaping work earned him small commercial jobs in the region – a stark contrast from the 100+ acre parks, river regeneration projects, and complex downtown improvements ECI builds today. In the mid-1980s, Peterson brought on business partner Rick Coulter, who helped launch ECI into its next era.

Here are some top highlights from the past 40 years:
- ECI was founded by Brian Peterson as a one-man landscaping contractor in 1980 and is now a $48 million dollar outdoor spaces general contractor with 50 employees.
- ECI took the leap into the construction industry in the early 2000s and built Broomfield County Commons Park as its first CM/GC project.
- ECI has built more than 100 iconic projects in northern Colorado, Denver and across the Front Range, including Twin Silo Park in Fort Collins, Confluence Park in downtown Denver, Woodbriar Park in Greeley, Mehaffey Park in Loveland, and the Poudre River Whitewater Park in Fort Collins.

CD Specialty Contractors Wins Scaffolding Bid for Renovation of the USAFA Cadet Chapel

CD Specialty Contractors has received a contract to provide scaffolding for a $158 million renovation of the famous United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Cadet Chapel in Colorado Springs.

CD Specialty Contractors began erecting scaffold structures at the Chapel in early February. The unique scaffold design required engineers and planners to work around the intricate details of the chapel’s infrastructure. Scaffolding will be in place for the delicate removal, cleaning and restoration of all stained glass and aluminum panels, as well as for the organ disassembly which is comprised of 4,000+ pipes.
JE Dunn Construction’s West Region Headquarters has a new Denver home, recently relocating to Colorado Center Tower III at I-25 and Colorado Blvd. While they are not moving far, formerly residing in Colorado Center Tower I, this move is significant as JE Dunn served as the original general contractor for 16-story Tower III office building, which completed construction in 2016. The move is a result of the growth of the office and the region, and will continue to provide accessibility, visibility, and connectivity to the employees of JE Dunn and their partners.

Self-perform was an important element in completing the new space. Ultimately, JE Dunn was able to perform 1/3 of the tenant finish work including framing, drywall, ceilings, case work, and millwork with their own forces. Dan Bickhard, JE Dunn Superintendent, and Superintendent for the tenant finish of the new space stated, “As Owners and now tenants, our space has been built with care by the craftsmen of JE Dunn.” JE Dunn prides itself on not only its General Contractor expertise, but also its long history as being a true self-perform builder.

Howell Construction Celebrates 85 Years of Always Great Performance

This year Howell Construction celebrates its 85th anniversary. James Robert Howell founded the firm in Denver during the Great Depression in 1935. He was deeply committed to thriving and growing in any economic situation. The firm has continued his legacy through his philosophy of creating client-for-life relationships, never outstretching company resources, and principal involvement from project start-up through completion.

During its first year of business, Howell employed a staff of six and saw a volume of approximately $50,000. Eighty-five years later, Howell has 100+ employees with an annual revenue of $120-$140 million. Howell credits its success to unwavering company values, Always Great Performance brand promise, and keen focus on employee satisfaction and retention. Company growth has allowed Howell to move to the newly renovated 17,000 square-foot office located at 8085 E. Harvard Avenue in Denver, which includes open-office space, several conference rooms, golf simulator, and a gym.

Today, Howell Construction remains a privately owned business, with Joe Slavik serving as the company’s fourth President. The company continues to specialize in bringing creative solutions and value engineering to challenging projects.

I-25 Environmental Remediation Cited in National Engineering Competition

Atkins North America of Denver, Colorado, and Pinyon Environmental, Inc., of Lakewood, Colorado have earned a National Recognition Award for exemplary engineering achievement in the American Council of Engineering Companies’ (ACEC) 53rd annual Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) for the I-25 Ilex Design-Build project in Pueblo, Colorado.

Atkins represented CDOT for the project, while Pinyon oversaw environmental compliance. Other participants include HDR, Inc. (Design), Flatiron Construction Corp (Construction), and Empirical Environmental, LLC (Environmental Monitoring).

The project is eligible for additional honors as part of a record 203 entries this year representing engineering excellence from throughout the nation and the world.

Judging for the awards program—known industry-wide as the “Academy Awards of the engineering industry”—took place in February and was conducted by a national 35-member panel of built environment leaders, along with experts from government, the media and academia. Award criteria focused on uniqueness and originality, technical innovation, social and economic value, and generating excitement for the engineering profession.
The story is in the numbers. With a growth in membership of over 93% since 2010, it’s no wonder Contractors Health Trust is regarded as Colorado’s best health insurance program for contractors both large and small. And with an 8-year average of rate increases of 3.9%, we’re just getting started.

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The new branch in DTC is the bank’s fifth Colorado location. Piper Pierce, a banking industry veteran with more than 20 years of experience, will serve as the bank’s President. The DTC branch has also hired five new employees and intends to continue to grow its banking team. Customers will enjoy easy access to the DTC location, which is located near the intersection of I-25 and Belleview near the Landmark Retail Center.

The new building was developed by Urban Esprit, a Colorado homebuilder since 1989. That company will occupy the top floor of the building. The architect that represented the bank is Surround Architecture of Boulder. The architect that represented Urban is BWS Design Group and the general contractor was Bryan Construction of Colorado Springs.

Collegiate Peaks Bank Opens a New Building in the DTC

Encore Electric Wins AGC Build America Award for Gaylord of the Rockies

Encore Electric is proud to announce that the organization has won a 2020 Associated General Contractors (AGC) Construction Risk Partners Build America Award in the category of Specialty Contractor for their work on the Gaylord of the Rockies Resort in Aurora, Colo. This is the first national project award Encore Electric has received from the National Associated General Contractors, and the second national AGC award overall. In 2019, Encore Electric was named the Grand Award Winner at the AGC Willis Towers Watson Construction Safety Excellence Awards.

The hotel’s one million square-foot space on 86 acres of property proved to be extremely complex, topping out at 15 floors with nine restaurants, one lazy river, one spa, one pool atrium and one caboose.

Encore Electric was contracted by Mortenson Construction and WELBRO (MWJV) to safely provide quality, comprehensive design-assist services and installation of power, lighting and life-safety systems to the hotel as well as its 30 acres of remaining outdoor space around the hotel, which was a significant effort.

Encore Electric Wins AGC Build America Award for Gaylord of the Rockies

Pinnacol Assurance Announces New Actions to Provide Support for Businesses and Frontline Responders to the Coronavirus Pandemic

Colorado’s largest workers’ compensation insurer, Pinnacol Assurance, launched an array of new efforts to support Colorado businesses and their employees as they navigate the unique threat of the coronavirus. These efforts will help address the needs of first responders and frontline healthcare workers, and alleviate financial pressure for the Colorado businesses Pinnacol insures. Pinnacol also provided additional guidance to its customers whose employees may have been exposed to the coronavirus.

Covering the needs of first responders and frontline healthcare workers: Pinnacol feels strongly that workers who are at the greatest risk for contracting COVID-19 through their work should be covered for the time of their quarantine. Accordingly, Pinnacol is instituting an emergency policy to provide wage replacement benefits to first responders and frontline healthcare workers for up to 14 days of quarantine. The cost of this benefit will not be applied to the premium calculation of our healthcare and first responder policyholders. This is a time-limited benefit, and no benefits will be paid after the quarantine period has ended unless the worker develops COVID-19. In those cases, the existing statute regarding payment of work-related infectious disease will apply. Note that all claims of exposure, regardless of profession, must demonstrate by a preponderance of evidence that the exposure resulted from the course and scope of the employee’s work in order to be admitted.

Guidance about COVID-19 testing: Pinnacol will pay for provider-ordered COVID-19 testing for employees of Pinnacol insureds who may have been exposed through their work. Should the test results be positive, current state law regarding workplace exposure will apply in order for Pinnacol to pay for further COVID-19-related treatment and benefits.
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The future of sports is here! Galloway is excited to be providing full architectural, engineering, landscape design and survey services for Future Legends Complex, a 118-acre sports park complex in Windsor, Colorado.

Opening in 2021, this project is the first of its kind in the country to provide an elite sport complex that features a professional sports stadium, almost 20 outdoor sport fields, an indoor multipurpose dome stadium with a bar and lounge area, and combines it with three on-site hotels and over 80,000 square feet of retail and restaurants.

Galloway is proud to see their multidisciplinary approach in action in partnership with HENSEL PHELPS as Colorado’s premiere sporting destination comes to fruition.

Kiewit Corporation recently placed the final beam in its construction of a new 252,000-square-foot regional headquarters located in the City of Lone Tree’s RidgeGate mixed-use, master-planned community, ahead-of-schedule. Kiewit’s own building group serves as the project’s general contractor.

Kiewit is also looking ahead to the anticipated completion of multiple vertical construction projects in the metro area on behalf of its clients, including the 9th and Colorado mixed-use neighborhood and Market Station in downtown Denver.

Kiewit was founded in 1884 as a masonry company, when two brothers built the foundation for what would become one of the largest and most respected construction and engineering organizations in North America. The company has had a presence in Colorado for nearly 80 years, maintaining a strong workforce to lead many of the major projects that have supported the state’s exponential growth — from the Interstate 25 expansion with T-REX to Union Station transit improvements, and more recently, the Central-70 project to reconstruct the 10-mile section of I-70 between I-25 and Chambers Road.

This first phase of construction is expected to be completed in summer 2021, with plans to break ground on a second building this summer as part of the campus build out.
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**Kieding Completes Interior Design for Fidelity National Title**

Kieding, a Denver-based interior architecture and design firm has completed new offices for Fidelity National Title Insurance Company, located in Denver Tech Center.

Fidelity required a space with abundant natural light for both management and staff and they found it in a 9,600 square foot spec suite on an upper floor of the building at 8055 East. Tufts Avenue. The plan called for a number of fixed perimeter offices with mobile workstations around the core. The suite had already been designed with a conference room, break room, and undefined open area. Kieding’s team expanded the break area, created a secure reception space, and added a huddle room and all-hands space. The perimeter offices have full glass panels and glass doors with dropped ceilings, which allow light to flow freely into the space without compromising privacy. Reception area, conference and huddle rooms have open ceilings and polished concrete floors. A sizeable break area flanks the workstation space.

The suite’s color palette is comprised of neutral grays, blues and browns with splashes of bright red, orange and yellow in area rugs, furniture, and artwork in the reception and other common areas.

Overall, the suite is clean and modern with a casual feel and wide views of the mountains, which Fidelity wished to attain for recruitment and retention.

**Howell Construction Completes AHEC | Metro State University Locker Rooms & Bleacher Renovation Project**

Howell Construction and Perkins+Will recently completed the State of Colorado’s, Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) | Metropolitan State University Locker Room and Bleacher renovation project located in the heart of downtown Denver. The project was built in the occupied PE Building on the AHEC campus. The 18,000 square-foot locker room renovation was a total gut and re-build. The overall intent of the project was to re-orient the space to provide student locker rooms, visiting team and referee locker rooms, and gender-neutral bathrooms. The project scope included the complete removal of everything, including the floor slab, repouring the new slab, extensive underground, in-wall and overhead plumbing, a new air handling unit set in the penthouse, all new finishes including masonry, drywall, paint, tile and carpet, and all new phenolic lockers.

The existing bleachers in the event center were stripped down to structure. New decking, railings and seating were installed prior to the fall NCAA volleyball season home opener. A new digital scoreboard was also added.

**Denver KTGY-Designed Sustainable TOD 318-Unit Apartment Community Breaks Ground in West Oahu**

KTGY Architecture + Planning, an international, award-winning architecture firm, is pleased to announce that a groundbreaking ceremony was held on February 25, 2020, for The Element, a $125 million residential rental community located on West O’ahu in Ho’opili, Hawai’i. Developed by Alaka’i Development, a Hawai’i-based residential development firm, The Element is located at the entrance to D.R. Horton’s Ho’opili master-planned community and across the street from the University of Hawai’i’s West O’ahu campus and the new rail station, which is expected to open in late 2020.
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Project milestone supports plan to develop a next-generation workforce for Stantec leading transformational design overhaul of fifth-busiest airport in the U.S. Colorado and the Mountain West.

In alignment with its 25th anniversary, Denver International Airport (DEN) construction has recommenced on the Great Hall Project, with Stantec—a global integrated design firm—serving as lead designer. The work will include a renovation of the airport’s Jeppesen Terminal to create an airport for the future with enhanced safety and security, a more intuitive passenger flow, and increased capacity to accommodate continued growth. Hensel Phelps is serving as construction manager and general contractor.

The design will consolidate two TSA checkpoints to one end of the terminal and create efficiency by allowing for balanced redistribution of passengers. Boutique queuing zones and lane management will humanize the passenger experience while queuing. Beautifully clad state-of-the-art Automated Screening Lanes (ASLs) will incorporate innovative technology—including automated tray returns, alarmed bag diverters, and remote screening—that is less intrusive and speeds up passenger screening processes.

The implementation of hybrid ticket counters that feature self-service bag drop capability or agent assistance at every counter will allow passengers a choice of check-in process. This will be combined with amenities such as repack stations with built-in scales and tables for passengers to rearrange their luggage contents to avoid weight overage charges.

Stantec is providing architecture, interior design, design management, and project control services. The firm’s Denver office will collaborate with aviation experts from Stantec’s Vancouver and Toronto offices to verify existing designs, identify design innovation opportunities and budget and schedule efficiencies. Stantec will also provide construction observation services.

Hord Coplan Macht | Clovis Point Multifamily Taking Shape

The clubhouse at Clovis Point is a new multifamily community in Longmont, Colorado. It is being developed by McWHINNEY and has been designed to evoke a “Scandinavian mountain resort-inspired feel.” It will offer 208 apartments and 10 townhouses. Along with the clubhouse, amenities will include a central green, a pool and spa, an “alpine” pond, family play area and dog park.

JHL Constructors | Kit Carson Replacement Facility

This project includes a new 60,000 square foot facility on the existing campus. Site improvements will include a new bus loop and drop off area, new parking lots, and athletic fields. At completion of the new facility, the existing building will be demolished and final site improvements will be installed. The new school is being built to CO-CHPS Verified Leader Certifications.
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Kiewit Promotes Chris Stolzer to Senior Vice President

Kiewit has new leadership for its mountain operations as Project Executive; **Chris Stolzer** was recently promoted to senior vice president.

In his new role, Chris will oversee all of Kiewit’s vertical building and redevelopment projects in the mountain region, including the 9th and Colorado mixed-use neighborhood (9+CO), Market Station in downtown Denver and work at Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora. He will also continue to oversee the buildout of Kiewit’s new 400,000-square-foot regional campus in Lone Tree.

Chris is a veteran in the construction industry with more than three decades of experience. Notable projects on Stolzer’s resume include the Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center; Olde Town Arvada transit hub; Alpine Village Apartments on the campus of the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs; and SCL Health Community Hospitals. He holds a bachelor’s degree in construction engineering and technology from the University of Nebraska.

R&R Engineers - Surveyors, Inc. Adds New Survey Manager to Team

R&R Engineers - Surveyors, Inc., a Denver-based land survey and civil engineering firm operating primarily in the Rocky Mountain Region, announces that **Mark Gabert** is R&R’s new Survey Manager. Mark is an experienced Survey Team and Project Manager, licensed in Colorado and Kansas, with over 30 years’ experience in the Land Surveying profession.

Mark attended the College KU School of Business and is a member of the Areas of Critical Environment Concern (ACEC) Emerging Leaders Program. His accomplishments include participation with Engineers Without Borders, the Kansas Society of Land Surveyors, and the Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado.

Brady Burleson Appointed to Fiore & Sons, Inc.’s as CFO

Fiore & Sons, Inc. is pleased to announce the appointment of **Brady Burleson** as Chief Financial Officer. As a member of the Executive team, Brady is responsible for the finance and accounting functions including planning, budgeting, forecasting, risk assessment, cash management, and financial reporting.

With more than 20 years of financial management experience in the construction industry, Brady is a CPA, and obtained his Accounting Degree from the University of Denver. He previously served as President of the Colorado Chapter of CFMA (Construction Financial Management Association), and as a member of the National Executive Committee.

Piper Pierce of Collegiate Peaks Bank Joins Colorado Succeeds’ Board of Trustees

Collegiate Peaks Bank, Division of Glacier Bank, is pleased to announce that **Piper Pierce**, President of the DTC branch, has joined the Board of Trustees for Colorado Succeeds.

“It’s an honor and a pleasure to join such an outstanding Board of Trustees and contribute to the important effort of helping the Colorado public education system to thrive,” said Piper, who has more than 20 years of experience in the banking industry. “Collegiate Peaks Bank is committed to being highly involved in the communities we serve, and what better way to do so than by helping to ensure the students of today meet the workforce demands of tomorrow.”
Déjà Vu Rendezvous

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Déjà vu Rendezvous benefits the Center for Inclusive Design and Engineering (CIDE), formerly Assistive Technology Partners. CIDE aims to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve their highest potential through technology.

Center for Inclusive Design and Engineering (CIDE)
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS
JVA, Inc. is pleased to announce that Derek Pedersen, P.E. has been promoted to Structural Principal and Boulder Structural Department Manager.

Derek has been with the JVA structural team in Boulder since 2000 and has completed the design of multiple healthcare, education, municipal, and commercial projects throughout the country. As a technical and corporate leader, Derek will continue JVA’s strong commitment to quality with a focus on BIM and drawing and design standards. Derek’s role in the Corporate Management Team and as an advisor to JVA’s Young Professionals Employee Resource Group demonstrates his dedication to mentoring the next generation and strengthening JVA’s cohesive culture.

Jeremy Wilson Promoted to Vice President at Guarantee Electrical Contracting

Jeremy Wilson has been promoted to Vice President at Guarantee Electrical Contracting (Guarantee). Wilson, a 28-year industry veteran who joined Guarantee in 2003, was previously Director of Guarantee’s Colorado Branch.

Wilson holds numerous professional certifications, including a State of Colorado Journeyman and Masters License. He is a member of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 68, the International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering (ISPE) as well as a board member of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Rocky Mountain Chapter.

MOA Architecture Announces New Hires

Kaye Mullaney, RA, LEED AP (L) has joined MOA as a Senior Project Manager on the firm’s Healthcare Team. Kaye brings over 30 years of experience in design and project management for a range of clients, including healthcare, office, retail, and residential. A Registered Architect, Kaye holds a Master of Architecture from the University of Colorado Denver.

Luis Martinez, AIA, NCARB (M) is returning to our firm as a Senior Project Architect. A native of Colombia, Luis has over two decades of architectural experience in designing educational and healthcare facilities.

Britney Sulzen, Assoc. AIA (R) joins the firm as an Architectural Designer in the firm’s Casper office, bringing over five years of experience with a focus on municipal projects. Britney obtained her Master of Architecture from Montana State University. She was recently appointed Associate Director of AIA Wyoming.

OLC Announces New Associate Principal

OLC (Ohlson Lavoie Collaborative) is pleased to announce that Jodi Ross has been promoted to Associate Principal. Jodi has been involved in the AEC industry since 2000 and has been with OLC for 4 years, serving as the Director of Marketing. She graduated from the Metropolitan State College of Denver with a B.A. in English in 2015. Jodi is a current member of SMPS.
1. How did you get started in the A/E/C Industry?

After college at the University of Kansas, I began working in Denver as a draftsman for an office design—or tenant finish--firm and rose through the ranks to senior project manager. I loved it. It was a rewarding career path, and frankly, one which I knew very little about. Designing office interiors is generally a quick-turn activity and the project manager is usually engaged throughout the entire process to tenant occupancy and beyond. That has always been appealing to me, that sense of control to completion, and working very closely with all the trades that are engaged in a project.

2. Was your current position/career your first choice? Or... As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

Technically yes, since I own the firm and still work as an active senior project manager. When I moved to Denver from Kansas to finish my master’s degree in architecture, the industry was in a slump. The only job I could find was in a firm that specialized in landlord-based office design and architecture. By pure chance, that turned out to be my dream job. I loved the pace, the diversity of projects, and the length of time it took to complete a project. It was a lucky break that I found it on my first try.

3. What would you say was the biggest challenge and/or accomplishment in your career?

I would say staying current, staying fresh and innovative. The speed of technology and communication are dizzying. We’ve always been proactive in terms of maintaining the latest production equipment and systems and educating our people. We also partake in as many industry and community events as we can. I want our people to be engaged, well-rounded, and fulfilled. There is no pride in keeping people tied to a job just for a paycheck. They need to enjoy coming to work and to stay competitive in this market. It’s a challenge but a good challenge.

4. Where do you hope to be when you retire?

Seems like retirement is a long way off. I love what I do, and I love working in Denver. I want to continue to ensure that Kieding will be around for a long time and thrive without me at the helm. I have much more to accomplish, and I’m the kind of person who focuses on the today, not on what may happen years down the road.
Michelle Liebling and Jon Gambrill Appointed to Co-Managing Directors of Gensler Denver

Co-Managing Directors, Michelle Liebling and Jon Gambrill will be exemplars of this leadership model as they form a collaborative team, they will bring diversity of thinking and drive innovation to positively impact projects, clients, and staff. Michelle and Jon will each bring their unique strengths to their collaborative approach focusing on the continued growth of 75+ architects and designers in the Denver office.

Michelle, previously a studio leader, brings 24 years of experience and is recognized for designing innovative workspaces across a range of industries from technology, media, financial and professional services to hospitality. She is recognized for her ability to create inspired design strategies that are tailored to support each client’s vision and business objectives.

Jon has been with Gensler for 20 years, with a focus on delivery of a diverse range of projects, from complex commercial office buildings to corporate headquarters and high-performance work environments. Engaged in numerous civic, community and industry organizations, Jon is actively involved in the Downtown Denver Partnership as a part of their Civic Ventures board and is the Chair of the Public Realm Council, and the Colorado Chapters of NAIOP, AIA and ULI.

Flintco Welcomes Three New Hires

Harry Knight (L) has recently joined the Flintco Denver team as Senior Project Manager. Harry brings 18 years of preconstruction and operations experience in the healthcare, industrial, long-term care, and private development markets. His natural leadership to plan and execute robust projects has proven valuable to clients such as Swedish Medical Center, Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center and to the USDA and Bureau of Reclamation.

Wayne Saiz (M) is a Colorado native and a 30-year veteran in the front range commercial construction market. Joining Flintco as superintendent, he brings a strong healthcare resume including new construction as well as technical additions and renovations. Wayne is strong in the development of skilled-craft workers and implementing strategies for self-performed work, ensuring quality and schedule for clients such as Centura Health and United States Air Force Academy.

Michelle Koca (R) joins the Flintco Denver team as corporate marketing manager. Michelle offers our team 14 years of relationships and strategic marketing expertise. Michelle will manage marketing and communications.

SM&W Denver Continues to Grow

Our Denver office is thrilled to announce the addition of two new team members, building upon our integrated team of innovative and creative design professionals.

William Scabara has seven years of experience in designing information technology and audio-visual infrastructure to SM&W. He performs predictive and investigative analysis in the areas of voice/data topologies to support campus infrastructure, network, CATV, BAS, WiFi, nurse call, PA, AV, CCTV, PoE, access control, intrusion detection and VoIP.

Robert Healey, P.E. brings over seven years of experience in designing audio, video, rigging, and performance lighting systems. He has designed for performing arts facilities, convention & civic centers, cultural facilities, higher education institutions, and K-12 schools. He holds a B.S. degree in architectural engineering.
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Collegiate Peaks Bank, Division of Glacier Bank, is pleased to announce that Dre Hall an assistant vice president/commercial lending with the bank has joined the Maria Droste Counseling Center’s Young Professionals Board (YPB). As a YPB member, Dre will have the opportunity and obligation to support the growth and sustainability of the organization.

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Vertix Builders, a culture-focused construction company, is underway with construction of the new Parker MOB III medical office building on the Parker Adventist Medical Campus. As a healthcare construction specialist, Vertix Builders is working with a team that includes RTA Architects, Med Development and Parker Adventist.

Some of the construction updates include:

- The start of work on the caisson foundations.
- Half of the site utilities (water and sewer) are complete.
- Storm sewer work is underway.
- Steel for the new building has been delivered to the site.

“It’s exciting for everyone on the team that construction is well underway on the Parker MOB III medical office building and we have a very active construction site,” said Ryan Bonner, president of Vertix Builders. “Centura Health and Parker Adventist will be bringing a tremendous healthcare facility to the people who live and work in and around Parker. The building will meet the community’s healthcare needs for years to come.”

Parker MOB III will be a four story, 86,000 square foot building located on the Parker Adventist Medical Campus. Tenant spaces will include medical oncology services, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, and an Ear, Nose, and Throat practice. Construction is scheduled for completion in Early 2021.
Healthcare Round Up

Boulder Community Health Medical Office #1 in Erie, Colorado

New medical office building in Erie marks the expanding healthcare provider’s first presence in the city.

The 41,628 sf, 2-story building features steel frame with glass and brick façade, as well as pre-cast concrete and sandstone details. The airy, light-filled interior includes a glass curtain clerestory, solar shades, and a sweeping, terrazzo staircase with precast treads and radius glass panels.

The project also involved 30,000 sf of tenant finish. These include a 6,900 sf Diagnostic & Imaging Suite with a shared-use lab and equipment such as an MRI, CT, and X-ray, all installed by GTC; a 3,000 sf Urgent Care buildout; a 6,040 sf Outpatient Pediatric Rehabilitation facility; and a 10,730 sf Integrat-ed Clinic suite on the second floor with cardiology, family practice, and women’s care.

Located at 101 Erie Parkway, adjacent to the Erie Community Library, construc-trion for the new facility also encompassed full site development with a new parking lot and utilities. The parking lot includes a 2-car electric charg-ing station, with utilities in place for another potential station in the future.

PEH Architects, Montgomery Electric (Electric), AP Eberlein (Masonry), Steel City Glass (Glaz-ing), Marxaire (HVAC), Delta Drywall (drywall), Quality Mechanical (plumbing), Zimkor (steel fab), BEST Steel Erectors (steel erection) and Bee-Line Sprin-kler, Inc. (irrigation/landscaping)

Boulder Community Health Medical Office #2 in Lafayette, Colorado

The second medical office building at Boulder Community Health’s Lafayette campus (bottom left) included core and shell, a pair of tenant finishes, and sitework. Systems of the 30,000 sf core and shell are designed to allow for future short-term in-patient care. The project was constructed adjacent to BCH’s existing medical center, which provides emergency services as well as outpatient services. Sitework and staging for the new building was coordinated closely to maintain patient access and emergency services throughout construction.

Premier Eye Surgery Center, one of the new MOB’s tenant finishes, is a 7,026 sf ambulatory surgery center on the first floor, located on the west side of the building. The ASC includes one Class B and one Class C operating room.

The second tenant finish, Colorado Retina Lafayette, is a 4,600 sf buildout for a retina practice that includes specialty care for macular degeneration, dia-betic retinopathy, retinal detachment, eye tumors and uveitis. GTC’s project included exam rooms, OCT scan rooms, a laser room, and other facilities to support the diagnosis and treatment of retinal conditions.

Boulder Associates, Inc., Marxaire (HVAC), Barnes Electric (electrical) ZPS (plumbing) John Low (dry-wall), Pepper Tank (steel fab) and Best (steel erection) and Beeline (irrigation/landscaping)
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Healthcare Round Up

Front Range Community College’s New Health Care Careers Center

Front Range Community College’s new Health Care Careers Center is underway by the design-build team of Hord Coplan Macht and Haselden Construction. The 61,000 gross square foot center located on the Larimer Campus in Fort Collins consolidates the College’s health sciences programs into one state-of-the-art facility that accommodates a multi-disciplinary healthcare curriculum to address key health care workforce needs in Northern Colorado. The Health Care Careers Center houses the following programs: Registered and Licensed Practical Nursing, Certified Nurse Aide, Phlebotomy, Medical Assisting, Medical Careers Exploration, Emergency Medical Services, Dental Assisting, Holistic Health, and Health and Wellness. The Center includes the Front Range Dental Clinic, staffed by licensed dentists and dental hygienists, and offers additional clinical experience to students enrolled in the Dental Assisting program.

The newest addition to the Larimer Campus anchors the northwest corner of the campus adjacent to a busy intersection and provides increased visibility to the community. The building design includes a high-profile atrium at the core of the building that reaches out toward the community and also pulls students into the building at the main south entry. The atrium will accommodate campus events as well as provide a comfortable community space for students. The new facility is scheduled to open this summer.

Denver Health & Hospital Authority’s Gipson Eastside Family Health Center

Howell Construction teamed with TavenousHL in renovating Denver Health & Hospital Authority’s (DHHA) Bernard F. Gipson Sr. Eastside Family Health Center located at 501 East 28th Street, in the heart of the Five Points neighborhood. Named after the first African American surgeon in Denver, the Gipson clinic has been caring for generations of patients since 1966. It is the second oldest U.S. community health center west of the Mississippi dedicated to providing high-quality healthcare for the underserved for the past 53 years.

Although the clinic is suited to provide healthcare services to 500 patients per week, they typically serve 2,000. To keep up with the growing needs of the community, Denver Health hired Howell Construction to revitalize the property. The clinic remained open during the 58,000 square-foot multi-phased renovation. The project scope included modernizing exam and procedure rooms, updating common areas and restrooms, and improving ADA access and sidewalks. Additionally, Howell installed new lights, HVAC systems, roof solar panels, along with flooring, paint, and wall coverings.
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Michael Gifford, President and CEO AGC Colorado

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Colorado Construction & Design | 31
The infrastructure is going into place for the 21,000-acre Aerotropolis, located south of Denver International Airport, and the work is beginning to pave the way for new development and important new interchanges and arterial roadways for the communities that surround the airport. Until now, many of these communities didn’t have the needed infrastructure in place that would contribute to the economic growth and certainly didn’t have a means to pay the cost to build its initial infrastructure.

In 2015, the ACC and Denver agreed to amend the IGA regarding development in and around DIA. This was supported by the elected officials in City of Aurora as well as the Counties and later approved 80 percent of the voters. This agreement opened up 1,500 acres for development, creating an estimated 12,500 new jobs. It has and will continue to attract great interest in the area, making approximately 21,000 acres just to the south of DIA to I-70 prime for development. An independent study estimated that the location can create 10 million square feet of retail, 30 million square feet of class A office space and 46 million square feet of industrial. This would bring more than 170,000 new jobs to the area and increase market value by $18 billion.

The barrier to achieving this economic opportunity has been identified as the lack of connectivity from DIA to I-70 and E-470 to Airpark Road. This lack of connectivity has been studied by the City for more than a decade and studies have placed the cost to overcome this barrier at $200 million and updated engineering estimates place the cost of optimal connectivity at closer to $300 million.

In order to address this cost, the Aerotropolis Regional Transportation Authority (ARTA) was formed after attempts to pass infrastructure bonding through the voters failed. It established a private investment with a tax strategy to repay a portion of the private sectors investment tied directly to the success of the development. It places the risk on the private sector and avoids "a build it and hope they will come" situation for the City. As a result, a $20 million bond was issued for infrastructure work to begin last July.

According to Matt Hopper, Chairman, ARTA, “Traditional development would most likely emerge as a patchwork of unconnected growth over the next 80-plus years and would minimize the area’s economic potential, whereas ARTA will stimulate a succinct growth pattern that can more quickly provide economic windfall to all engaged.”
The E-470 Full Interchange is progressing, with the interim interchange complete and a design review planned for mid-April with ongoing analysis related to fiber relocation and protection, waterline relocation and right-of-ways. Construction of the E470 Interchange is projected to begin in 2021/2022.

The full I-70 Interchange final design has been contracted and has been progressing with plans completed in 2021. Informational meetings have taken places with Adams County and CDOT. Construction of the I-70 Interchange is projected to begin in 2021/2022.

“The work being done has already engaged and encouraged residential, commercial and industrial development by providing important interchange connections to DIA,” said Todd Johnson, the Program Manager for ARTA and The Aerotropolis Area Coordinating Metropolitan District (AACMD).

Some of the infrastructure work that is currently underway or already completed includes:

- E470 Interchange with The Aurora Highlands Parkway (FHU)
- I-70 Interchange with Powhaton (BLN)
- The Aurora Highlands Parkway/38th Avenue (HRG)
- Design of the horizontal, vertical and intersection geometry, along with utility design for the Aurora Highlands Parkway
- Storm drainage has been completed and road work is underway for 26th Avenue
“Beyond the positive economic impact, the work will also provide the surrounding communities with easier access to DIA and E470, while alleviating traffic on Pena Boulevard and tolls on C-470. Without ARTA, none of this would be happening as rapidly as it is. ARTA alleviates the financial burden on the surrounding communities and will also ensure that housing prices during future residential development will stay low for homebuyers.”

According to Aurora Councilmember Dave Gruber, the formation of ARTA was critical. It has provided a tremendous resource that will pave the way for growth.

“The roads and interchanges will allow for density and drive ongoing development. This will bring new business and retail to the area, and result in more attainably-priced homes,” said Councilmember Gruber. “The eastern section of Aurora is a food desert when it comes to restaurants, retail and other services. Fortunately, Aurora is evolving and the Aerotropolis will continue to make the city a destination for people who want to live, work and play in a new and exciting community that is being designed and built with the future in mind.”

In addition to the infrastructure that is being built, active housing development is also underway. Marked by a 110-foot clock tower, The Aurora Highlands master planned community is projected to be built out over the next 15 – 20 years and include 12,000 residential units with the first coming on-line in May of this year. Similar to Highlands Ranch and Stapleton, homebuyers will be lured by a range of single-family and multifamily designs, offered in eight residential villages. There will be a mix of homes for families wanting affordability, as well as move-up homes and semi-custom designs, providing an amenity-filled community for all homebuyers.

The Aurora Highlands will also include 400 acres of parkland and over 500 acres of open space, miles of trails, dozens of parks and a recreation center complete with a climbing wall, basketball court and ice rink. A Water Theme Park is also planned, with indoor pools, play structures and a sun deck. Four school sites are also planned for the community.

As many as 700 units a year will be built as the project ramps-up, and three to four million square feet of commercial and retail development will occur within its core area along E470. That work is projected to begin in 2021 with absorption happening over the following ten years. Additionally, the Aurora Highlands area will provide for 10 to 12 million square feet of industrial space, with work scheduled to begin as early as next year, and absorption taking place during the following 10 to 15 years.

With a grand opening scheduled for May of this year, the Painted Prairie master planned community will have a selection of homes from five custom builders, offering seven styles of traditional and contemporary designs. It is being designed with future homeowners and families in mind as a great place to live by creating a system of meaningful places for residents to come together. It will feature the High Prairie Park, a capstone of the community’s philosophy. This large park is designed for people of all ages to enjoy. Design concepts were based on celebrating the heritage of the high prairie and did so by preserving the natural ridge along the property and designing the park around it to provide for fantastic vistas and changes vistas from every view in the park.

On the industrial front, the Majestic Commencenter in Aurora will more directly benefit from ARTA where Shamrock Foods is building a new distribution center on the west side of E470 and will have a direct connection via ARTA’s 38th Avenue and E470 interchange.

Benefits are already being realized by the formation of the ARTA and more people will enjoy its full value in the years to come.
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Some of the companies that are currently actively involved with the current work include:

Ecological Resource Consultants, Inc. (ERC), a full service Colorado based consulting firm formed to offer innovative solutions for environmentally sensitive projects. As part of the Aerotropolis project, ERC completed baseline documentation of natural resources present within the site. ERC completed aquatic resource delineation, wildlife assessments and threatened and endangered species screening to ensure project compliance with local, state and federal environmental regulations.

Felsburg Holt & Ullevig which provided traffic modeling and analysis for the Aurora Highlands development. This analysis demonstrated the need for a new E-470 interchange near 38th Avenue to accommodate the projected traffic demand for the surrounding area. The FHU team designed multiple interchange configurations, with and without frontage roads, and varied the location with the intent to maximize operations and safety while minimizing impacts and costs. FHU is currently completing the preliminary and final designs for the interchange including hydrology and hydraulics, bridge and retaining walls, roadway and roadside design, tolling infrastructure, traffic signals, signing and striping and construction phasing plans. The construction plan package will be completed early 2021.

Merrick & Company has prepared design for approximately 6,000 feet of new open channel improvements for The Aurora Highlands project in the first phase and more than 4,000 feet will be included in the second phase. As part of these improvements, Tributary T will function as an open space amenity for the parkway. It will include a regional trail system, overlooks, frisbee golf, and passive recreation. Merrick has designed four crossings of the tributary, including two pedestrian underpasses along the main tributary. All crossings have enhanced aesthetic features such as rock facia and local landscaping walls designed to enhance the open space experience. A rock drop structure feature is designed to be visible from the parkway, and it will include a cascading waterfall.

Beam, Longest and Neff (BLN) is assisting ARTA with important network elements by providing the project guidance and engineering design services to satisfy project goals and objectives, including: Create regional connectivity; Establish Harvest Road as a key North-South arterial; Increase mobility to handle projected trips associated with growth; Connect local residents to job opportunities in the area, and Minimize congestion & vehicle travel time.

Contour Services (Contour) is the construction management firm for the Aerotropolis Area Coordinating Metropolitan District for The Aurora Highlands project. Contour has completed preconstruction services for nearly all the major initial infrastructure packages and much of this scope is under construction or completed. The initial infrastructure packages will allow for the first homebuilders to begin construction. Contour has managed (in just the 1st year) a team of 20 plus different Colorado contractors to complete the construction of over 3 miles of large diameter interceptor sewer, 110 foot tall iconic clock tower and 9 earthwork and erosion control projects. There are 11 different utility and roadway construction projects currently ongoing, large channel improvements with multiple culvert crossings, and a dynamic landscape package starting in April 2020.

SRM Holdings, LLC, the new parent company of Stormwater Risk Management, ComplianceWise and Stormwater Logistics, is handling all aspects of stormwater permit compliance and all on-site sediment and erosion control management for The Aurora Highlands project. Contour selected SRM Holdings, LLC companies to manage all aspects of regulatory management.

ComplianceWise, LLC, a 14-year old Colorado company whose stormwater management software makes successfully managing a project of this magnitude possible. Its web-based software allows teams in the field to schedule and track all inspections and collaborate on compliance activities including pre-activity planning and corrective actions using paperless site-maps and reports. Stormwater Risk Management, LLC provides the project’s overall stormwater coordination and oversight including permit acquisition, monthly program audits and quality assurance using ComplianceWise to clearly communicate environmental needs to all project stakeholders. Stormwater Logistics, LLC performs preconstruction budgeting, weekly permit-required inspections, and weekly maintenance immediately following each inspection. By working closely with the City of Aurora, and by pre-planning stormwater activities with the construction teams in the field, the entire project team is able to meet stringent regulatory expectations while still achieving aggressive construction schedule commitments and reducing overall compliance costs and risks.
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Colorado Construction & Design | 37
Placemaking for Healthy Cities

Long-range perspectives on design for healthy places

By Sean O’Keefe

From an intersection of interests, healthy cities rely on a combination of good places populated by good people and strong economies propelled by sustainable practices and balanced policy. In this Round Table conversation, Colorado Construction & Design’s esteemed panel of experts explores the micros and macros of placemaking for healthy cities in a fascinating reveal of what matters and why.

Image courtesy of Wenk Associates
What makes design more than design, what is placemaking?

“I think of placemaking in terms of place revealing,” says Craig Vickers of Civitas. “If a place has a deep continuum of history, so many things go into that community’s evolution. Finding and revealing an authentic story of a place is essential to creating something catalytic.”

The City of Broomfield engaged a design competition in selecting Civitas to establish a new Town Center as a central mass that is authentic to their community. The elaborate rethink of place includes reusing a Safeway perched above the site as market hall and connecting it to the town center via cascading Spanish Steps. Reclaiming the site’s geomorphological heritage involved filling in a poorly sited lake and replacing it with a more centrally accessible lake amenity of immense ancillary value. Planning for the possibility of onsite agricultural opportunities is being influenced by current trends in farm-to-table concepts as notions of healthy community expand.

“The first step is looking at the site and influences. We see a property line on paper, but that doesn’t exist in the real world where the boundaries of place are fuzzy,” adds Wenk principal, Greg Dorolek. “It’s important that we aren’t inserting foreign places into neighborhoods. We really have to take quite a few steps back from the site to get a broader perspective on context.”

All agree on the difficulty of defining placemaking without having a specific place in mind. Denver Union Station quickly comes to the collective consciousness as the city’s most recognizably successful new place. The beautiful restoration of the iconic historic Union Station repurposed as a multimodal hub of commerce and connectivity has fundamentally shifted Denver’s epicenter from the east end of the 16th Street Mall to the west. While it’s easy to recognize a placemaking success, less than successful places also exist. Skyline Park bisects Denver’s 16th Street Mall at Arapahoe, roughly halfway between Civic Center Park and Union Station. Bedecked in a collection of hard edges, hard surfaces, and hard luck, Skyline Park was envisioned as a connective ribbon through the cityscape that has instead long felt tread bare. Offering no innate attraction of its own, from the German Christmas bazaar to the ice rink and craft-beer garden, the park requires near-constant over programming to be of any use at all.

“Placemaking can also be determined by addressing community deficits. Is there a need for a specific resource like an amphitheater, pavilion, or plaza,” says Bonnie Niziolek of Norris Design. Paul Shoukas of PCS Group nods in agreement.

“I like that there is no mention of style or form here. We have elevated our practice to curating vibrant, healthy communities,” says Shoukas. A bigger ambition than design alone, the discussion suggests the success of a publicly made place is ultimately determined by the users and usage rather than the owners or designers.

“Placemaking requires community buy-in,” continues Shoukas. “Without buy-in, there is no emotional attachment.”

What comes to mind when you think about placemaking for healthy cities?

“Partnership is the first thing,” says Niziolek. “We enjoy working with schools, neighborhood groups, the library or historical society; people who can point out the gaps and illuminate amenities that will add value to the community.”

Consider it city-building micronized, placemaking requires a multi-dimensional approach to planning, designing, and managing publicly accessible spaces. Building buy-in requires enhancing community assets, both existing and needed, but it also requires integrating community inspirations, aspirations, and imagination to promote health, happiness, and well-being. Connecting, or perhaps, reconnecting, people with nature within cities seems another critical component of what it takes to make places healthy. A cross-pollination of living vegetation, advantageously aesthetic materiality, purpose, circulation, and people seem fundamental ingredients in adding value to the urban gumbo.

At Uplands in south Westminster, Norris Design is several years into planning for a transformation of more than a century in the waiting. Built in 1893 and once envisioned as the Princeton of the West, the lonely castle has sat unchanged adjacent to 220 acres of open space with pristine views as Westminster, Denver, and everywhere else emerged around it. The Norris Design plan proposes a higher-density mixed-use neighborhood of urban greenspace permeated by connections through the site to surrounding neighborhoods and multimodal transit in every direction.
Meet the Panel

Craig Vickers, RLA – Civitas
Craig Vickers, a principal at Civitas, enjoys practicing on a diverse mix of scales and challenges across a wide range of planning and design assignments. Over the last 30 years, his work has frequently straddled urban design and landscape architecture precepts on complex community activators. Commissions include the Bemar Town Center, the Charles Schwab campus in Lone Tree, and the Salt Lake City Government District Master Plan. Founded in 1983, Civitas is focused on making cities better through design that improves sustainability and facilitates healthy, engaged living.

Bonnie Niziolek, LEED® AP – Norris Design
Norris Design principal, Bonnie Niziolek is focused on master planning, entitlements, and big-picture visioning for high-density infill. She leads well-rounded teams to assess specifics and deliver strategic solutions that balance contending interests. In 2020, Norris Design celebrates 35 years of success while integrating planning, landscape architecture, and branding in their work. The firm’s recent work includes Frisco Main Street, Miller’s Landing, and Midtown. Nizolek takes special pride in being a part of the places where people celebrate life’s most memorable moments.

Paul Shoukas – PCS Group
Paul Shoukas, a principal at PCS Group loves positively impacting the lives of others and sees urban planning and landscape design as fundamental to successful community development. Shoukas along with partners, John Prestwich and Alan Cunningham, founded PCS Group in 2002. The firm is intent on creating communities where people are proud to live through planning and urban design, landscape architecture, graphics, and animation. PCS Group’s projects range from small 15-acre reclaimed brownfield parcels such as DeLO in Louisville, Colorado to Sterling Ranch - a 3,000-acre 12,000-unit community with more than 2,000,000-SF of commercial space in Douglas County, CO. No matter the size, the intent is to always foster a sense of place, and pride within a community.

Greg Dorolek, PLA, ASLA – Wenk Associates
Principal, Greg Dorolek, of Wenk Associates began his fascination with cities while growing up in suburban Atlanta, where he craved a more dense, urban lifestyle. After earning a master’s in landscape architecture at Harvard, he moved to Denver and joined Wenk Associates in 2002. Building on a strong portfolio of urban waterway restorations established during the firm’s first two decades, over the last 15 years Wenk has moved beyond a floodplain specialty to practice on the city scale. Wenk’s strong local portfolio includes notable landmarks TAXI, Westminster Central Plaza, and Confluence Park.
A key consideration in healthy placemaking is a hierarchy of purpose. For more than a century development has favored cars over people and vehicle-centric mobility and accessibility have dominated decision making on every level.

“Streets could be thought of as valuable public space if we can reduce our car-first mentality,” says Dorolek. Wenk Associates is working with real estate development firm Revesco on re-imaging Elitch Gardens amusement park as a vibrant mixed-use ecology called The River Mile. The plan will reanimate 66-acres along the eastern edge of the South Platte as a walkable destination living of residences, parks, promenades, dining, entertainment, and retail.

“At The River Mile, we are going to design neighborhood-size streets using permeable pavers to achieve natural water infiltration and eliminate detention ponds,” says Dorolek.

Walkability is being prioritized in Revesco’s plan. “The site is serviced by two light rail stops. We’ll have dedicated bike lanes, a trail-system, and an abundance of plazas and public gathering. We’re anticipating 15,000 people living there in 25-years, so it’s imperative that we begin with a good connective framework.”

“As planners and designers, we sort of set the conditions of place and then people do what they want to naturally,” says Shoukas. “When you come back many years later and see that people have made it their own, then you know you got it right.”

Who is leading the charge for healthy placemaking in Colorado?

“In a very refreshing way, it’s sort of everyone,” shares Vickers. “People have come to recognize that we don’t live in a wet place. Water is such an important resource; we have to think twice about how we use it.”

The Round Table sees this as a fundamental shift in commercial development since the start of the century. “All of us are working with developers...”
who understand the value of sustainability and placemaking in healthy communities. As a result, the industry is shaping more interesting spaces that better embrace water, wind, and Colorado’s prairie ecology.”

“In the early 2000s, part of a landscape architect’s job was to educate others on the need for low-water landscaping. Today in Denver, I don’t have to do that anymore,” says Dorolek to the group’s bemused agreement. On the concept of healthy cities, as in most things, well-known wisdom is the market dictates direction.

“There has been a shift in families seeing the value of raising their children in a city versus suburbia,” says Shoukas. “Places need to support the physical and mental health of communities. That can mean streetscapes that give residents an opportunity to meet neighbors and intermingling pedestrians safely by creating spatial awareness through strategic design. There are a lot of design steps being taken to create and encourage healthy places.”

In Louisville, CO PCS Group borrowed from a Dutch design strategy called a Woonerf to create a curbless streetscape. The unusual flat interface between street and sidewalk gives equal priority to all modes of transportation – vehicular, foot, bicycle, and wheeled. The idea is that the curbless environment necessitates eye-contact interaction between motorists and pedestrians rather than relying on physical delineations of street and sidewalk, signage, or traffic rules.

Invariably, metro-Denver’s housing shortage is leading developers, municipalities, and stakeholders to better appreciate the need to activate adjoining public spaces. The responsibility for creating and maintaining community greenspace has historically been governmental. However, keeping pace with Denver’s population explosion amid soaring inner-city land values has proven overwhelming in some areas.

“Who builds the park, who owns the park, who maintains it,” asks Dorolek of the changing dynamics shaping placemaking today?
“In 2003 land in RiNo was $5 a square foot. Now some of it is $250 a square foot. The city can’t purchase land at that cost for parks. So, they partnered with a developer, vacated a street, and created greenspace. These are the challenges of denser development and a lack of land, so placemaking is going to continue to get more creative.”

What does the industry need to know about placemaking for healthy cities?

“A professor once said, ‘the magic is in the details’,” says Niziolek. “If little things that seem unimportant aren’t built as designed the space doesn’t come to life.”

“Craftsmanship and quality matter quite a lot. People know quality when they see it and they certainly seem to desire it,” Vickers continues. “We try to manage quality in balance with available resources. If there is a message to the industry, it is to build for the ages because it matters to the users.”

The Round Table applauds the continual increase in collaboration across all lines of responsibility throughout the industry. As negotiated construction contracting strategies like Design-Build and CM/GC have been increasingly implemented, contractors have added great insight and value during design. By the time construction begins, design personnel are teammates and appreciated as allies rather than advisories.

“If it is complicated on paper, then you can be sure it’s complicated in the field; so good communication is critical,” says Niziolek.

Another great positive is the growing number of professionals in the field with degrees in construction management. This learned approach to construction builds a collaborative mind frame and the talent approaches challenges from a different perspective. Industry-wide BIM integration also now permeates commercial construction, a facet of project delivery that clearly further enhances collaboration and results.

“We used to draw sections and elevations as a way to translate our ideas to their field,” laughs Shoukas of BIM’s revolutionary impact on the
industry. “With today’s tools and technology, owners, contractors, and subcontracts can all see very clearly the whole story and design intent of a project at any scale.”

What is the most important take away from this conversation?

“I think placemaking is fundamentally about more seats at the table for better collaboration and coordination,” says Dorolek. “The designer, the developer, the city engineer - everyone is looking to have an influence because parks and infrastructure are blending in new and interesting ways. Perhaps we started with buy-in from communities and ought to finish with buy-in from teams because it takes everyone from the developer to the guy who fits the stone to pull these things off.”

“Teams have to be built around the strengths of the participants,” continues Niziolek. “While we may have tremendous expertise in thoughtful water use and water quality, we still benefit immensely from collaborating with the civil engineer and contractor building the space. Placemaking brings out the best in all of us because everyone understands how impactful it will be in the lives of the users.”

“We tear so much material out of the earth to make the places we are creating,” adds Vickers. “There are a lot of materials and energy used. What we design really, really matters and so does craftsmanship. These places need to last and to last, they need to have genuine meaning to the people who use them.”

“The most important thing to me is the passion within our profession,” finishes Shoukas. “Some of us come from an urban point of view, others from a natural perspective but common to every voice and every specialty among us is a desire to generate better spaces for healthy, human function.”
Five major steel industry groups today strongly urged Congress to include significant infrastructure investment in the next phase of COVID-19 stimulus legislation to provide a clear path toward our nation’s recovery.

“American businesses will not likely feel the full economic impact of COVID-19 until later this year, as social distancing and shelter-in-place measures undoubtedly save lives but continue to slow economic activity in the manufacturing and construction sectors,” the groups said in a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and Senate Democratic Leader Charles Schumer. “Making a long-term and robust infrastructure investment now will not only respond to the urgent transportation system needs that are well known, but it also will create high paying jobs allowing businesses and families to recover from this extremely difficult economic shock.”

The letter, written by the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA), The Committee on Pipe and Tube Imports (CPTI), and Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA), reiterated that 38% of America’s 616,000 bridges are in need of replacement or rehabilitation, according to the Federal Highway Administration’s National Bridge Inventory.

“With such a staggering backlog of substandard bridges, there is significant opportunity to put Americans back to work and back on the road to economic recovery,” they wrote. “We can…improve quality of life in our cities, towns and rural areas and drive commerce and supplies across our nation by making infrastructure investment a critical component of the next stimulus package by including Buy America provisions and using domestically produced and fabricated steel.”

The groups concluded that the infrastructure supply chain for steel products used in highway and bridge construction “starts with American steel producers, who have revolutionized the industry by developing clean and efficient steelmaking processes at mills located strategically throughout the country,” noting that steel is sold directly or through national distributors to construction companies and to approximately 1,000 American steel fabricators who have built plants, and created jobs, in virtually every congressional district in America.

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at aisc.org/discover.

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structural steel specialist at:
Rex Buchanan
Senior Structural Steel Specialist – Denver Market
303.598.7764 | buchanan@aisc.org
Burns & McDonnell Foundation Announces $1.5 Million in COVID-19 Relief Funding

Design and Construction Firm Bolsters Support of Communities, Clients and Employee-Owners During Coronavirus Pandemic.

As organizations and community members face significant challenges during the coronavirus pandemic, Burns & McDonnell is providing additional resources and services to communities, clients and employee-owners throughout the U.S.

To bolster the support of those on the front lines providing critical resources to those who need it most, the Burns & McDonnell Foundation is donating $1.5 million to the United Way COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund.

“United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community by providing the resources and information unique to individuals’ needs,” says Ray Kowalik, chairman and CEO of Burns & McDonnell. “Our employee-owners’ desire to give back and empower others is the heartbeat of our firm and our Foundation. During this pandemic, we are committed to protecting and supporting the most vulnerable in our communities.”

United Way has a presence in 95% of U.S. communities and is mobilizing to providing food, shelter and other vital resources throughout its network. During the past decade, Burns & McDonnell employee-owners have given more than $10 million to the organization through annual United Way campaigns.

In addition to providing relief funding nationwide, the Burns & McDonnell Foundation also is matching donations from individual employee-owners, further supporting employee-owners’ ability to make an impact within the organizations and causes they are most passionate about.

How does United Way Help?

United Way steps up whenever our communities need us. All over the world, United Way is connecting people to resources and up-to-date, accurate information. We’ve always been focused on the underlying social problems, and those problems are magnified now. When shuttered schools mean children from low-wage families may not be eating enough healthy meals, United Way is stepping up. When food pantries are overwhelmed, partially because people who used to donate are now in need of food, United Way is stepping up. And when people who’ve lost hours or jobs need help getting by, United Way connects them to available local resources.

There is no other network with a similar pulse on people’s needs. In the U.S., calls to 211 for help have increased 200-400% due to COVID-19. Calls for help are changing from coronavirus information to requests for essentials like food, financial assistance and housing. The 211 network is answering more than 75,000 calls per day, compared to a typical call volume of 35,000 calls per day, and communicating with more than 300,000 people by text. At the current rate, 211 will handle as many requests for help in 6 months as we expect in an average year. The need is not going away.

You can choose to donate to communities most in need internationally or in the U.S. Together, we can make sure the most vulnerable are protected.

Source: https://www.unitedway.org/recovery/covid19
Faux Wood Façades
A beautiful and cost-effective design alternative
By Bob Cujé, President, Modern Materials

Rocky Mountain building exteriors are often defined by stucco, stone and wood claddings, a reflection of our natural resources and mountainous influence. Unfortunately, wood has drawbacks that include a shortened lifecycle and a fading aesthetic. We love the brand-new look of wood claddings, but maintenance, warping and discoloration make natural wood facades cost prohibitive. Owners, production builders and developers struggle with the expense of keeping wood siding presentable.

Fortunately, the façade industry has dedicated millions of dollars to create new dimensional textures and high-resolution printing processes. Given so, faux wood today has unsurpassed realism while meeting all life safety requirements including fire compliance and non-combustibility. Today’s faux wood systems are cost effective alternatives and “look great continuously”, so they eliminate maintenance, assessments and replacement headaches.

New faux wood technology is providing cladding systems with “digitized wood images” that are laser printed onto extruded aluminum. These high-definition images create photographic quality reproductions of natural wood with improved wood grains in an unlimited range of color variations. The process actually improves upon nature’s varieties of real wood with color highlights and variegated patterns in over 25 different species of wood.

This broad range of wood alternatives provide multiple choices for developers and architects to consider. One of the more popular selections includes a “ceramic baked” fiber cement panel, for the ultimate in color retention, anti-graffiti and life cycle. The ceramic baked surfacing is a hard-impenetrable barrier for UV protection, but protects the substrate and supports the 50 year structural warranty. These modular fiber cement planks have a three-dimensional texture, with real wood dimensions and raised grain, for a very natural appearance.

Traditional lap siding with “engineered wood” have also made dramatic advancements. Polymer resin technology has pushed EWP to a premium level of advanced service life, colorfastness and warrantability for the multifamily and homebuilder markets. In fact, the natural or “authentic wood colors” bring an entirely new aesthetic to the production builder. EWP is replacing commodity cement panels as life cycle costs have proven to be more advantageous and developers like the security of “no painting for 25 years”.

Most importantly, it addresses the Silicosis and OSHA demands, application restrictions and exposure procedures for crews and building tenants.

From a reliability standpoint, all of these cladding panels have defined ASTM testing criteria for UV stability as well as published warranties that outline performance standards. All defined with long term protection against sunlight, fading and some offer hail resistant coverages. So faux wood can provide guaranteed weatherability, fire ratings and a continuously clean and new wood appearance.

The final results are economical structures with great curb appeal and a true wood aesthetic.
Think about how often you use infrastructure. Whether you are catching a flight out of Denver International Airport for business or vacation, traveling over one of the state’s 8,786 bridges, or pouring a glass of water, Coloradans use infrastructure every day, and it’s not just individuals. Local businesses and industries are supported by infrastructure: it enables agricultural products and manufacturing goods to get to market. However, with constant use of our critical infrastructure systems, also come the effects of weather, wear-and-tear, and increased use from Colorado’s growing population which begs these questions: How will all of these people move around? Will they have adequate drinking water and electricity? As civil engineers, we focus on these types of infrastructure questions each day.

**Colorado Receives a C-**
As part of our pledge to hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public, the Colorado Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) evaluated 14 categories of Colorado infrastructure in the 2020 Report Card for Colorado’s Infrastructure, giving the Centennial State a ‘C-.’ The graded categories: aviation, bridges, dams, drinking water, energy, hazardous waste, levees, parks, rail, roads, schools, solid waste, transit, and wastewater. Schools received one of the lowest grades (D+), exhibiting needs that far exceed the funding available for necessary replacements, repairs or upgrades - adding up to an approximately $14 billion funding gap.

**Colorado’s Transportation Challenges**
Colorado’s transportation network has seen positive jumps since the 2010 report card, but faces challenges due to age, weather damage, and lack of investment. The overall condition of Colorado’s bridges (C+) is above average, but 5.4% are rated structurally deficient, compared to 7.6% nationally. 15.4% require repairs with an estimated cost of over $680 million. Environmental hazards such as freeze-thaw, rockfalls and scour have increased the rate of bridge deterioration, making it difficult to protect against these threats.

While Colorado has some of the costliest maintenance challenges in the country due to the large mountain passes and elevation changes, 44% of roads are in good condition as compared to the national average of 28%. Over the last 10 years, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and transit agencies have stretched limited funding to improve and increase the capacity of the state’s surface transportation networks, so the ability to sustain these conditions is uncertain as Colorado’s gas tax has not increased since 1991.

**Recommendations for Improvement**
The report also provides recommendations to raise these grades, which include prioritizing infrastructure during state and local budget decisions and in elections, using life-cycle costs assessments to clearly distinguish a project’s true costs over a lifetime, and looking at viable transportation alternatives to combat congestion and population growth, like robust transit and multi-modal planning and funding.

For more information and the full report, go to www.InfrastructureReportCard.org/Colorado .

**NOTE from ACEC Colorado:** More importantly, this report demonstrates that infrastructure as a whole needs improvement, not just transportation. After this COVID-19 crisis, infrastructure deficiencies are going to be more apparent. If anything, this crisis is showing the need to improve a range of infrastructure-related issues throughout the state that would help with healthcare/tele-health, schools in rural areas for better access to educational online learning resources, and better sources for renewable energy. Visit acec-co.org for more information.
If you’re like many Americans at the moment, you’re settling into a work-from-home routine and getting stuff done, COVID-19 or not.

And if you’re like many employers, suddenly having so many of your employees working from home is a new source of anxiety, regardless of how reliable and trustworthy the team might be.

One of the big questions of the moment: What happens if an employee were to get hurt at home during business hours? Would workers’ compensation insurance cover their injury?

It’s easy to conjure up all kinds of scenarios. Imagine the employee who trips over the cat while going to the printer for a work document.

She files a claim alleging that the injury resulted from her employment. Her argument is that if she was not working, she would not have been on her computer or using her printer. But if she had not been working at home, there would not have been a cat over which to trip on the way to the printer. So, is this a compensable workers’ compensation claim?

Well, it depends.

First, the insurance carrier would consider the time and location of the accident. Did her trip and fall occur during work hours or in a designated work area such as a home office?

What was the employee doing exactly when the accident occurred? Was she involved in a work-related task or a personal errand?

The thing to remember is this: workers’ comp will pay a claim if your worker was on the clock and they can establish a link between the duties of their employment and the injury.

So how can an employer minimize risks associated with working from home? What follows are steps companies can take immediately:

1. Make sure your employees’ homes are safe for business. Have your employees fill out a working-from-home safety survey, or, if practical, do an inspection yourself. Your survey should look at furnishings, equipment, lighting, ventilation and smoke detectors.

2. Encourage your employee to designate a dedicated work area in their home. This helps minimize the likelihood of injury claims. It also encourages the employee to set boundaries at home that will motivate them to remain productive.

3. Ensure their homeowner’s policy is up-to-date. Require employees to check their homeowner’s insurance coverage. This ensures that their homes and property will be covered in the event of damage done during working hours.

4. Focus on cybersecurity. Ensure that all employee devices including laptops, tablets, and desktops are protected from intrusion. Have an IT professional set up a secure connection from the employee’s home to your company network. Connections with weak or no security leave your company open to hacking. This can put your entire business at risk. Also, insist that only employees use the company’s equipment.

5. Stay in direct contact. Unless you check in with offsite employees regularly, you won’t know if they are having difficulties. Stressed workers tend to be less productive and can be prone to accidents. Make sure you have the right telecommuting tech tools in place to communicate and collaborate with your work from home employees. Check in daily and consider setting up weekly or biweekly video calls. This will enable you to see them in their home work environment.

6. Create a telecommuting policy. If you haven’t yet, make sure you’ve established clear guidelines regarding working from home to help prevent misunderstandings. Be sure to include specific work hours, regular breaks, and adhering to safety procedures. Also, include employee rights such as your workers’ compensation coverage.

Because of the coronavirus, millions of Americans who may have never telecommuted are doing so now. Remember, employers are responsible for providing the same safe work environment for telecommuters as for employees who work on company property. Following the above steps will help keep your employees safe and keep workers’ compensation claims to a minimum.

CCIG is a Denver-area insurance, employee benefits and surety brokerage with clients nationwide. We do more than make sure you have the right policy. We help you manage your long-term cost of insurance with our risk and claims management expertise and a commitment to service excellence.
Continuing LEED Education on Virtual Platforms

by Annie Hall
Program Manager, USGBC Mountain Region

This year, USGBC committed to delivering a slate of global, regional and local in-person events that offered the latest insights and perspectives on LEED and green building. Yet, the recent public health crisis made it clear we needed to shift course to ensure the health and safety of our communities. Now, in an unprecedented time when Americans find themselves connecting with colleagues and coworkers remotely, USGBC is providing robust online opportunities for networking and resources to support continuing education.

Rocky Mountain Green Offering Two-Day Virtual Conference

For more than 15 years, Rocky Mountain Green has been the premier green building event in the western United States. The conference’s engaging education sessions inspire attendees into action while focusing on the latest in LEED and USGBC’s mission to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated.

This year, Rocky Mountain Green will be offered as a virtual conference, taking place over two days. On April 30, experts will lead a workshop on reducing embodied carbon to zero by 2040, helping the community take steps to tackle one of the industry’s most pressing challenges. Then, on May 1, a half-day conference will feature live education sessions on mass timber, indoor air quality and resilience. Anyone already registered for Rocky Mountain Green will automatically have access to the two-day virtual conference, but registration is currently open to all.

While USGBC fully intends to hold Rocky Mountain Green in person in 2021, we don’t want to miss out on the opportunity to provide the community of builders, architects, designers and green building advocates with unique networking and educational opportunities. The two-day virtual conference is a chance to earn continuing education (CE) hours while engaging with each other and continuing the important work of creating a healthier, more sustainable future for all.

Online Webinars and Educational Resources

Through Education @USGBC, the green building community has access to over 900 hours of online continuing education content. Addressing all aspects of the LEED rating system and GBCI products, it serves as a one-stop virtual shop to advance your knowledge of green building and sustainability concepts and practices.

The platform provides virtual case studies and webinars where audiences can explore green building strategies that have been implemented in diverse places and building types. Many of the courses and resources allow professionals to pick up CE hours in the process.

USGBC has a variety of webinars, case studies and conversations guides that can be used to keep up with green building education and trends. There are several specific to Colorado and the Denver-area, including:
- Denver Housing Authority’s Community Solar Garden
- The Alliance Center’s path toward earning LEED v4.1 O+M certification
- Broadening the discussion about health and the built environment in Denver
- Turning a stormwater issue into a health equity opportunity

Additionally, for the remainder of 2020 the USGBC Mountain Region will host an educational webinar series with two webinars a month focused on issues relevant to our urban and rural communities. USGBC’s educational offerings also cover topics including LEED Zero, resilience, Arc, health, GBCI products and dozens of other topics that provide valuable CE hours for LEED professionals. Check usgbc.org/usgbc-colorado for details.

We’re living in a time where the ability to connect remotely with our colleagues across the country is easier than ever, and despite the inability to meet in person, USGBC is eager to provide these virtual opportunities for our partners and stakeholders to continue learning. Like others, we hope that we will be able to connect and collaborate with our colleagues in person again soon, but until then, USGBC will continue to provide high-quality virtual learning opportunities.
The last few months the world and our country has gone through what we hope to be a once in a lifetime pandemic. The Coronavirus consumed our minds, limited our activity, and affected our families and our workplaces, bringing on stress and uncertainty for our employees. Now, it is our job to bring life back to a norm as quickly as possible. At the peak of the pandemic a friend’s daughter asked me “When will this end?” My response was: it doesn’t end. It results in the rebirth of a country that will be forever changed. We will be stronger and more self-sufficient than ever. Life will never be the same, it will be better! It is critical that our employees know that we are here for them and will continue to ensure that Health and Safety is maintained on their job site.

On March 24, 2020 Denver Mayor Hancock issued his stay at home order, and in his speech, he stated, “As we have seen over the years… particularly in Denver’s history, 07, 08 era, where we had the most recent economic recession. It was the construction industry being expedited and accelerated that kept, really, the economy alive… we’re going to need them as we get on the other side of this to help service our foundation.” That is a bold statement and a testament to who we are in the construction industry. Be proud in the fact that what we are doing ensures the future of the US economy.

During this national crisis we implemented health standards throughout our projects that are here to stay. We don’t go back to how we did business in the past; we continue implementing our site health and safety protocols that have been put in place. Some of the standards that were implemented and need to be maintained were:

**Engineering Controls**
1. Ensure we have high-efficiency air filters
2. Increase ventilation rates in the work environment
3. In some settings specialized negative pressure ventilation may be necessary
4. Install physical barriers to restrict employees from entering areas that may have a health risk

**Administrative Controls**
1. Practice good hygiene
   a. Provide handwashing stations
   b. Provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
2. Handle food wisely
3. Stay home if you feel sick
4. Disinfect contact surfaces
5. Increase break area and office cleanings
6. Ensure we have developed emergency communication plans to ensure we are answering employee concerns

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
1. Ensure we are well stocked on PPE that may be needed. For example: gloves, safety glasses, face shields, and respirators
2. Ensure employees are properly trained on how and when to use the proper PPE based on the hazard
3. Ensure the PPE is properly fitted as applicable (respirators)
4. Ensure the PPE is consistently and properly worn and fit tested as required
5. Ensure the PPE is properly cleaned, stored, and removed from service as needed

Remember, the employer is required to provide their workers with the PPE needed to keep them safe.

Our employees are still going through and emotional and stressful time. They need reassurance that we are proactive in all our health and safety protocols and that they have a safe place to work. They need to know and feel that we actively care and we are doing everything we can to take care of them and their families. We are all in this together and we will only be successful if we continue to work as a team. Life as we know it has changed forever and that should ensure that we are better prepared for whatever comes next.
AGC Leads Industry with Four Point COVID-19 Response

by Michael Gifford

Author Michael Gifford is President and CEO of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Colorado.

During times of challenge, like we are facing with COVID-19, true leaders rise to the top to lead an industry through the choppy waters of our community and economy. I am proud to report that the AGC Board of Directors and many members truly collaborated and spoke with one voice to save our industry devastation.

On March 18 the AGC Management Committee met and quickly approved a four-point COVID-19 response plan. The plan centered on 4 ways to help the construction industry survive the pandemic:

1. Keep Construction Open
3. Building Inspections - Work with AHJ’s to keep building inspection/permit services safe and open
4. Business Continuation & Cash Flow - Develop and communicate programs to help contractors under stress from COVID-19

By 5pm on March 18 we had joined forces with 3 other leading construction associations and approached Governor Polis and CDPHE about a way to keep construction working safely and therefore open during the COVID-19 crisis. These 4 organizations are the Colorado Contractors Association “CCA” (highway, bridge, sewer, water and utilities), Colorado Association of Mechanical & Plumbing Contractors “CAMPC” (mechanical and plumbing contractors for commercial and residential), and the Colorado Association of Home Builders “CHBA” (residential development and construction), along with AGC.

The AGC Board then created the Jobsite Protocol Plan Best Practices Task Force, the AHJ Building Inspection Task Force, and the Business Continuation Task Force. These three Task Forces then developed the following deliverables on the COVID-19 website:
Keep Construction Open
1. Governor Stay at Home Executive Order
2. CDPHE Stay at Home Order 20-24
3. County Stay at Home Orders

Best Practices Section of the COVID-19 Website
1. Sample COVID-19 Plan & Jobsite Protocol (English and Spanish)
2. Jobsite Banner for employee and public education
3. Statewide Safety Stand Down in partnership with AGC America
4. Task Force members posted on website for individual questions from members
5. HR Information on new federal & state regulations
6. Ask a lawyer email hotline for HR questions
7. Two Labor Issues Webinars on new federal and state regulations

AHJ Building Inspection Task Force
1. AHJ Building Inspection Status Report for the industry
2. AHJ Building Inspection best practices letter for state & local permitting agencies
3. Task Force members posted on website for individual questions from members

Business Continuation & Cash Flow Webpage Provided by AGC Associates Council
1. Federal grant & loan programs
2. Local grant & loan programs
3. Ask a Banker & CPA email hotline for business continuation and cashflow services
4. Request to state & local government to speed cash to contractors via Prompt Pay Program

Other Services
1. 8-part webinar series on COVID-19 in partnership with AGC America
2. Commercial Real Estate Response to COVID-19 webinar in partnership with ULI

The group of four leading constructions worked as a team to communicate throughout the crisis with state and local officials to keep construction and building inspections open and operating safely through a coordinated communications plan in conjunction with our joint government and public relations teams.

Personally, I have worked on many election and legislative teams over my career but this was the finest team effort I have ever been a part of. AGC would like to thank CCA, CAMPC and HBA for the highest level of collaboration and professional performance under fire.

AGC COLORADO’S BREAKFAST with the BOARD & GC SHOWCASE
Friday | July 17, 2020 | 7:30am - 10:30am
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OTHER VIRTUAL CCN CLASSES TO REGISTER NOW:
- June 1, 2020
- July 6, 2020
- August 3, 2020
- September 7, 2020
- October 5, 2020
- November 2, 2020
- December 7, 2020
- January 4, 2021
- February 1, 2021
- March 2, 2021
- April 5, 2021
- May 3, 2021

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CONTACT OUR CCN TEAM!

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HIRING FAIR REGISTRATION: Visit www.buildcolorado.com or contact erika@agccolorado.org

TRADE PRESENTATIONS: Contact erika@agccolorado.org if a company representative would like to present to the CCN class.

RECRUITERS:
- Jim Spence
  Phone: 720-456-1845 • Email: jim@agccolorado.org
- Karen Espejo (Habla Español)
  Phone: 720-235-1915 • Email: karen@agccolorado.org

THANKS TO THE MANY SUPPORTERS WHO MAKE THIS PROGRAM POSSIBLE
Six Associated General Contractors of Colorado (AGC/C) member firms were honored as National Finalists at the 21st Annual Construction Safety Excellence Awards (CSAE), that took place March 11, 2020 at AGC of America’s Annual National Convention in Las Vegas, NV. These awards recognize AGC Members who have developed and implemented premier safety and loss prevention programs and utilize continuous improvement efforts to elevate their safety and health management systems. Ten AGC/C member companies applied and six were selected as finalists.

Members of the AGC Safety & Health Committee reviewed all of the submittals back in January, 2020 and finalists in each divisional category competed at the AGC National Convention for either a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place award. Finalists were also given the opportunity to present an oral presentation in front of five judges.

Two Colorado firms took home first place awards: Sturgeon Electric Company, Inc. in the Specialty Division for 2 – 7 million work hours; Encore Electric, Inc. in the Specialty Division for 1.2 – 2 million work hours.

Second place firms from the AGC/C membership include: Hensel Phelps in the Building Division for over 2 million work hours; Haselden Construction, LLC in the Building Division for 900,000 – 2 million work hours; Duro Electric in the Specialty Division for 275,000 – 650,000 million work hours.

HEI Civil, Inc. placed third in the Specialty Division for 1.2 million work hours.
AGC Colorado Members Dedicated to Educating Employees on Preventing the Spread of COVID-19

Pinkard Construction

Wells Concrete

Fransen Pittman

CFC Construction

Front Range Roofing Systems

Mortenson
Parting Shots

AGC Colorado Members Dedicated to Educating Employees on Preventing the Spread of COVID-19

Buildings By Design

Adolfson & Peterson

W.E. O’Neil

Colorado Barricade

Belair Sitework Services

HEI Civil
AGC Colorado Members Dedicated to Educating Employees on Preventing the Spread of COVID-19

Fiore at AGC COVID-19 National Stand-Down

Fiore Transportation Drivers and Logistics Managers at an early morning meeting to discuss COVID-19 Safe Work Practices (SWP). Organized by Roger Griebel, Resource Manager, Machelle Broughton, Logistics, and Maury Hennard, HSE-DOT Officer. #SafetyStandDown

Fiore & Sons, Inc. employees took part in AGC’s COVID-19 Safety Stand Down to highlight the roles and responsibilities to combat the disease spread. A special address and open discussion were held at Fiore’s project sites to talk about Speak Up/Listen Up including:

- Symptoms
- Transmission vectors
- Precautions and Assistance
- 6’ Social distancing
- Face coverings
- Being honest and responsible if symptoms appear
- Staying home to recover

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