



## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Kestrel Affordable Housing Community to Receive Metro Vision Award

*Award recognizes Louisville development for advancing a positive vision of Metro Denver's future*

Louisville, CO – The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) is recognizing the Kestrel affordable housing community in Louisville for its innovation in a number of areas important to the future of metro Denver. A collaborative team from Boulder County and the City of Louisville will receive DRCOG's Metro Vision Award on April 24th in honor of Kestrel's forward-looking approach to incorporating safe, affordable, and beautiful homes with free transportation, environmental sustainability, active lifestyle opportunities, and other on-site services they may need.

Construction on the Kestrel community, located at Highway 42 just north of South Boulder Road in Louisville, is being completed now and leasing is already underway for many of the 200 affordable rental homes. Kestrel features high quality permanently-affordable housing for both families and seniors, a community center, gardens, and walking trails. It also boasts sustainability features such as geothermal heating and cooling and low-energy-use appliances, and each resident receives an RTD EcoPass for free bus transportation. Kestrel residents will also have access to many other supports –including food assistance, health coverage, and help with child care- to help ensure they have a better chance to thrive for many years to come.

"We're so excited to receive this recognition, as Kestrel is the result of years of effort to create an affordable housing development that improves the diversity and livability of our community," said Louisville City Manager Malcolm Fleming. "Kestrel represents what we're able to do when community and government come together to create positive and lasting solutions for the issues we face."

Boulder County purchased the 10-acre Kestrel property in 2013, and soon after the Boulder County Housing Authority began working with City Council representatives and City staff from the City of Louisville as well as community members to develop a collective vision for affordable housing on the site. A series of community and City meetings provided helpful feedback and input that BCHA and the City incorporated into Kestrel's design and unit makeup.



“The high cost of housing in our community is a tremendous and growing concern, and we’re working hard to address it through the development and preservation of affordable housing,” said Boulder County Housing Authority Director Frank Alexander. “At the same time, we’re also committed to creating high quality, environmentally sustainable affordable housing that helps build and support community. This recognition from DRCOG tells us we are accomplishing both of these goals, which is great news.”

Each year, DRCOG recognizes projects for their work to improve the quality of life of metro Denver region residents. This year’s Metro Vision Awards honor collaborative projects that help further DRCOG’s shared aspirational vision of the future of the metro area, including initiatives that foster local innovation around transportation and personal mobility, growth and development, community resiliency, and access to opportunity and aging and disability resources. The 2017 Metro Vision Awards celebration will be held on Wednesday, April 26th at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Denver.



An interior view of one of Kestrel’s units.



An under-construction external view of the Kestrel development.



In February 2016, a U.S. Department of Commerce-led delegation from Eurasia visited Kestrel to see the industry-leading energy efficiency being incorporated into the affordable housing development, including geothermal heating and cooling and low-energy-use appliances.



A Community meeting held for the Kestrel development in April 2015.

More information about Kestrel is available at [www.BoulderCountyKestrel.org](http://www.BoulderCountyKestrel.org).

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