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Media Advisory

Buckley Bridge and extension of Buckley Road opens October 23

The Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners, The Farm Development Company and the Goodman Metropolitan District will celebrate the much-anticipated opening of Buckley Bridge and the extension of south Buckley Road between Orchard and Arapahoe Roads on Thursday, October 23 at 10:30 a.m. The connection of south Buckley Road from Orchard to Arapahoe Roads is an important regional transportation link for residents of Aurora, Centennial, Foxfield and a number of new neighborhoods in unincorporated Arapahoe County. It is designed to improve traffic flow to these surrounding neighborhoods and relieve congestion in the area.

When: Thursday, October 23, 10:30 a.m.

Where: Buckley Road at Orchard Road

How: The highlight of the celebrations will be the dramatic entrance of a candy-apple red 1959 Austin Healey convertible.

The project was completed in two phases. Phase I was the construction of 4,951 feet of Buckley Road from Arapahoe Road to the Lake Avenue/Ouray Street intersection, which was completed in 2002. Phase II includes the final segment of Buckley Road from the Lake Avenue/Ouray Street intersection to Orchard Road. The most integral component of Phase II was the construction of 213 feet of bridge across Piney Creek. An additional 1,700 feet of four-lane road was added in Phase II, including acceleration and deceleration lanes, left turn lanes, and raised medians. A great deal of care was taken during construction to protect the surrounding wetlands and stabilize erosion in Piney Creek. Volunteers planted willow cuttings prior to construction in an effort to further protect the wetlands.

This project is an outstanding example of the use of both public and private funds to add infrastructure required by new development and existing residents. The total cost of both phases of the project was \$7.9 million, 83 percent provided by the Federal Highway Administration with the remaining 17 percent coming from Arapahoe County, the Goodman Metropolitan District, The Farm Development Company, and the Colorado Department of Transportation. The Farm Development Company, with financial contributions from the Goodman Metropolitan District, developed The Farm at Arapahoe County, the community through which this extension passes.