

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 18, Series of 2008

Applauding Governor Ritter and General Assembly leadership for re-establishing state funding for the Auraria Science Building Renovation and Expansion for the 2008-09 fiscal year

WHEREAS, one fifth of all public higher education students in Colorado attend classes at Auraria Campus,--the diverse student population having doubled to 39,000 since the campus opened in 1976; and

WHEREAS, despite the growth in student population, there has been only a 15 percent increase in facility space during the same time and the campus has received only 8.9 percent of state capital construction funds distributed to higher education institutions in the past 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the current Auraria Science Building operates at double its capacity and is sometimes so unsafe that portions of it must be evacuated due to dangerous levels of chemical fumes caused by inadequate ventilation; and

WHEREAS, construction has begun on the new Science Building, based on an expected multi-year appropriation begun two years ago totaling approximately \$31.4 million so that stopping construction now would--at a minimum--result in very costly delays; and

WHEREAS, the renovated and expanded Auraria Science Building, will serve students from all three institutions --Metro State, University of Colorado Denver and Community College of Denver-- and will educate more future scientists of color than any other public education facility in the state; and

WHEREAS, the Auraria Science Building supports the training of future science and technology workers who are crucial to building the City, region, and state's new science and technology economy which constitutes the fastest-growing sector of the Colorado economy;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council hereby supports the reinstatement of the Auraria Science Building as a priority project and its adequate funding by the State of Colorado.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Governor Ritter, Todd Saliman, Budget Director, and members of the Joint Budget Committee.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL _____ 2008

PRESIDENT