



News Release

U.S. General Services Administration

July 2, 2010

GSA contact: Sally Mayberry 303-236-8000 ext. 2322
Sally.mayberry@gsa.gov

After Sixty-Nine Years, The Denver Federal Center Continues to Evolve *The Denver Federal Center Remains A Staple In The Lakewood Community*

LAKESWOOD, Colo. – The Denver Federal Center (DFC) has a long and colorful past dating back to World War II. The Center has experienced much change since its inception as a cattle ranch turned ammunition plant turned thriving federal office campus to more than 5,000 people. Many new projects are underway that are setting the framework for an exciting 20-plus year master plan for the 575-acre campus and the City of Lakewood.

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) completed the Final Federal Center Site Plan Study and Environmental Impact Statement for the campus in January 2008. GSA received more than 330 individual comments on the April, 2007 Draft Study. The comments covered a wide range of topics from open space, to traffic, to site security. GSA and its team worked diligently to review and consider all of the comments, evaluate and respond to questions and concerns, and develop the Final Master Site Plan. In August 2008, the City of Lakewood incorporated the Federal Center Plan into the overall Comprehensive Plan for the City.

Since then, the DFC has begun its transformation. GSA sold a 65-acre parcel of land in the southwest portion of the campus allowing St. Anthony Hospital to build Lakewood's first hospital and for the Regional Transportation District to construct a light rail station. The first phase of the new St. Anthony Medical Campus is complete and the hospital opened its doors to OrthoColorado, a unique specialty hospital offering orthopedic and spine services. Following this first phase, the campus will grow to include a 222-bed replacement hospital for St. Anthony Central Hospital, two medical office buildings and a wellness center. The hospital is helping provide more than 2,000 new jobs to the community. Later this year, the existing Cold Spring park n' Ride bus facility will relocate to a new location along Center Avenue, just east of Union Boulevard. Work along the light rail line will continue, and in early 2013, RTD's West Corridor line and GSA's Federal Center Station will open.

With all of the campus changes, concern has been expressed over the prairie dog removal. Earlier this year, GSA completed an updated Wildlife Management Plan for the site. The purpose of the plan is to provide effective management strategies and guidelines for all wildlife at the DFC. This includes integrating GSA's facility management and operations with the long-term vision for the site and meeting the goals and land uses outlined in the Master Plan. In accordance with the plan, GSA has managed the prairie dog population with a two pronged approach. Our first and preferred choice was to live trap and relocate them to a site outside of the Center; however, we exhausted all efforts to find a relocation site that would accept the prairie dogs. We then implemented our second option, which was to live trap and euthanize the prairie dogs and donate them to a raptor program in Ft. Collins. The program uses them as food for injured raptors which in turn are used for educational purposes. When possible, the raptors are released to get a second chance at freedom. To date, there are no more prairie dog colonies on the campus.

T

The DFC received approximately \$109 Million of Recovery Act funding, and of this approximately \$36 Million is directed towards solar energy. GSA will be installing an additional 30,000 solar panels for ground mounted solar in the north and southeast areas of the campus, roof mounted solar on three buildings, and solar carports overall several surface parking lots. The combined capacity of the projects is 6 Mega Watts DC, which will generate

9,026,638 Kwh per year, representing about 15% of the DFC electrical energy needs. The 6 Mega Watts of solar production will result in reduced emissions of 8,951.3 tons of carbon dioxide, 11.01 tons of sulfur dioxide, and 13.3 ton of nitrogen oxide.

This is just the beginning, additional projects will continue on the DFC over the next several years. It is GSA's vision to make the Denver Federal Center the most green campus by 2020. GSA continues to look for new and innovative opportunities to embrace this vision and to implement the redevelopment master plan, providing increased amenities for our federal and local partners. Interested parties can engage with the DFC via www.facebook.com/DenverFederalCenter and receive a quarterly campus newsletter via email by signing up at www.gsa.gov/dfcnews.

#

GSA provides a centralized delivery system of products and services to the federal government, leveraging its enormous buying power to get the best value for taxpayers.

- Founded in 1949, GSA manages more than 11 percent of the government's total procurement dollars and \$30 billion in federal assets, including 8,600 government-owned or leased buildings and 213,000 vehicles.
- GSA helps preserve our past and define our future, as a steward of more than 480 historic properties, and as manager of USA.gov, the official portal to federal government information and services.
- GSA's mission to provide superior workplaces, expert technology solutions, acquisition services, purchasing and E-Gov travel solutions, and management policies, at best value, allows federal agencies to focus on their core missions.