

### Green Bike Tour Includes Stop at César E. Chávez Memorial Building

The Rocky Mountain Green Conference and USGBC Colorado hosted a “Surprisingly Green” bike tour of green projects in and around downtown Denver recently. A group of about 20 conference enthusiasts picked up their B-cycle bikes and rode short distances before stopping at a handful of places including the César Chávez Memorial Building, the Metropolitan State Hotel & Learning Center, 1800 Larimer, REI, and ending at the Denver Beer Company.

Riders had a chance to hear about the innovative sustainability features that each project includes. The César Chávez Memorial Building is in the process of getting a \$37.4 million modernization which will transform it into a high performing green building and garner a Silver LEED certification.

In addition to modernizing the existing office building, the project included the construction of a new parking garage that frees up remaining surface parking lots for redevelopment into denser mixed-use properties. The parking structure also touts a sculpture—a one-of-a-kind rooftop solar installation with a swooping open-air truss frame. Photovoltaics on the garage will produce 115 kilowatt-hours of electricity that will offset annual energy consumption by 5 percent and offset hot water energy use by 30 percent.

The construction team includes GE Johnson as design-builder, Tryba Architects as design architect.

