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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From Denver Parks + Recreation and Better Denver Bond Program
Central Park Regional Recreation Center to Open with Ribbon Cutting Jan. 29

DENVER, CO — January 19, 2011 — Mayor Bill Vidal and the Denver Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) are proud to announce a ribbon cutting and open house to celebrate the new Central Park Regional Recreation Center, Saturday, Jan. 29, 2011.

Located at 9651 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., the 56,000 square foot center will benefit the northeast/north central Denver region.

“This marks another Better Denver Bond project that came in on time and on budget,” says Mayor Bill Vidal. “In addition to providing better access to wellness and recreation activities, we’re improving our neighborhoods. This center will serve as an important community asset benefitting several surrounding neighborhoods for years to come.”

A regional recreation center is defined by its capacity to serve multiple surrounding communities along with a unique combination of features. The new facility boasts on-site child care, an indoor 4-lane adult lap pool, indoor leisure pool, group exercise facilities, cardio equipment areas, spinning studio, community room, family lounge, party rooms, an NCAA-certified gymnasium, and a public art showcase.

An environmentally sustainable approach was used in the design and construction of the facility in order to seek and achieve LEED Certification, which is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating from the US Green Building Council. Pending formal approval, the facility could be the first LEED Gold-certified recreation center in Denver.

“This facility is a great example of public and private partnerships coming together to create a regional resource for Denver,” says Denver City Councilman Michael Hancock. “The Park Creek Metropolitan District was instrumental in getting this project off the ground by providing the initial seed investment.”

The \$19 million facility is funded with \$10 million from the Better Denver Bond

Program and \$9 million from the Park Creek Metropolitan District (PCMD). PCMD is a quasi municipal government that provides roads, drainage, alleys, pools and parks for the residents of Stapleton.

All are invited to celebrate the center's ribbon cutting, Jan. 29, at 9 a.m. A community celebration will continue throughout the day. The recreation center will open to the public Sunday, January 30, 2011.

For visuals and more information on the project, visit:
<http://www.denvergov.org/betterdenver/Projects/CentralParkRecreationCenter/>

DPR has evolved from the early years of jungle gyms and swings to more than two dozen recreation centers and 16 outdoor pools offering high-quality programs. DPR includes nearly 3,000 acres of traditional parks and parkways, 2,000 urban natural acres and close to 8,000 acres of urban forest within the city alone. It is also unique in that it also offers nearly 14,000 acres of mountain park land.

The City & County of Denver's Better Denver Bond Program works to preserve, renovate and create amenities that touch citizen's lives – including roads, libraries, parks, recreation centers, child care sites, hospitals, city buildings, and cultural facilities. Approved by voters in 2007 and led by Mayor John Hickenlooper and civic leaders throughout the City, the bond program pumps millions of dollars into the economy, helps to preserve and create jobs and is making Denver a more attractive place to live, work, and invest in the future. For more information about the Better Denver Bond Program, visit www.denvergov.org/betterdenver.