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Denver Mayor's Office c/o Denver City Council Members 1437 Bannock St. Rm 350 Denver, CO 80202

Dear Denver City Council Members,

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of The Prosperity Denver Fund and the proposed ordinance changes within the program. The Associated General Contractors is a professional trade association for the commercial building industry. The membership of AGC/C is comprised of general contractors and specialty contractors, suppliers, and professional service providers. With over 350 Colorado commercial contractor members, AGC is the unified voice of the workforce needs of the construction industry.

AGC/C oversees the pipeline of youth into the construction industry by facilitating high school pre-apprenticeship programs across Colorado and the Denver metro. AGC/C focuses on the career prep of these high school students by hosting concurrent enrollment into construction apprenticeship programs. We currently are serving approximately 100 Denver residents each year in our Careers in Construction (high school pre-apprenticeship) program and our 2-Year USDOL Registered Rough Carpentry Apprenticeship program.

The Prosperity Denver Fund proposed ordinance changes will benefit Denver construction students in two major ways. First, the number of students entering apprenticeship programs will increase due to the fund expanding to cover the cost of USDOL-registered apprenticeship programs. Secondly, the proposed residency requirement changes of allowing Denver high school students or individuals that lived in Denver 6 months prior to be part of the fund will remove a major barrier to our most vulnerable construction students.

According to the 2022 Colorado Talent Pipeline Report "Construction and Extraction," occupations will grow 17.2% from 2021 to 2031 and will face 19,910 annual openings. As the Inflation Reduction Act infrastructure money flows into Colorado and Denver, construction worker demand will rise even higher. Our programming is designed to assist young adult

learners in acquiring the skills necessary to achieve economic self-sufficiency while fulfilling the huge demand for additional workers in the construction industry. The Prosperity Denver Fund ordinance proposed changes will allow our students and industry to thrive.

Sincerely,

Bryan Cook, Director of Operations

AGC of Colorado