



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRAND AND CLEAR CREEK COUNTIES AWARD EDA ECONOMIC RESURGENCE AND RESILIENCY PLAN GRANT TO MASS ECONOMICS

Hot Sulphur Springs, CO – Tuesday, February 7, 2017-

Grand and Clear Creek Counties, in conjunction with the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, are pleased to announce the award of a \$200,000 Economic Development Administration (EDA) Economic Resurgence and Resiliency Plan grant to Mass Economics, out of Boston, MA. The Counties received the \$100,000 EDA grant last fall with a \$100,000 match from Freeport McMoRan. With the declining production at the Henderson Mine and Mill and the loss of assessed value and jobs in Clear Creek and Grand Counties, the grant will identify opportunities to create sustainable communities through identification of economic opportunities.

Mass Economics brings to the Counties deep experience and knowledge of strategies for economic development and resilience particularly during a period of economic transition. Each County will be considered on their own unique basis with strong stakeholder and community input to increase the success of the project. Mass Economics is also experienced in comprehensive stakeholder engagement processes and the use of data-driven analytics to frame economic conditions, challenges, and opportunities. “This is really an exciting project for Clear Creek County and our neighbor Grand County”, said Peggy Stokstad, President of the Clear Creek Economic Development Corporation. “This effort should take us further along on our goal for economic diversity with solid data and a real path forward,” she added.

The project consists of five phases: 1) Economic assessment to determine the most important assets and economic clusters for each county; 2) Market analysis to determine opportunities for expanding and/or adding new economic opportunities to the respective counties; 3) Final Report with recommendations and an action plan for utilizing the information gathered from phases one and two; 4) Feasibility/Implementation Analysis on the top 1-2 implementation initiatives for each

County; and 5) Methodology to monitor effectiveness of plan implementation and economic development.

“Grand County is excited to work with Mass Economics to create this Economic Resurgence and Resilience Plan,” DiAnn Butler, Grand County Economic Development Director, stated. “With a solid plan in place we hope to establish a solid economic blueprint for the future.” Representatives from Mass Economics will be meeting with the Board of County Commissioners on February 28th in the Commissioners Boardroom in Hot Sulphur Springs.