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For Immediate Release

Contact: Jane Nelson 303-441-3200
Jodie Carroll 303-441-3090
www.ci.boulder.co.us

City of Boulder Partners with U.S. EPA and U.S. DOT in Nationwide Program

The city of Boulder has been designated as one of the Best Workplaces for CommutersSM, a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

Boulder joins a nationwide effort of more than 500 employers representing more than 1.1 million employees with the goals of reducing traffic congestion, air pollution, and fuel consumption through the provision of commuter benefits.

As part of its comprehensive commuter benefits program, the city of Boulder offers commuting options and support services such as Eco Pass transit passes to all employees, carpooling and vanpooling programs, bike lockers and pool bikes, shower facilities, on-site pool cars for business meetings during the day, variable and flexible work arrangements and an Employee Transportation Coordinator to answer any transportation questions that employees have.

"We are proud to make this commitment to our employees and to the environment," said Director of Public Works for Transportation Tracy Winfree.

According to Margo Oge, EPA director of the Office of Transportation and Air Quality, the effects of incentive programs like this can be dramatic. Oge said, "If just half of all U.S. employees were covered under commuter benefits such as these, traffic and air pollution could be cut by the equivalent of taking 15 million cars off the road every year, saving American workers about \$12 billion in fuel costs. That's both cleaner air and real savings for families."

Best Workplaces for CommutersSM was launched in 2000 to address the impacts of growing traffic congestion and traffic-related pollution across the country. The program has been highlighted as an effective tool to address environmental, energy, traffic congestion, and safety concerns. EPA also recognizes seven Best Workplaces for Commuters Districts that meet the *National Standard of Excellence*; the districts provide commuter benefits to more than 4,700 additional employers.

For more information on the city of Boulder's programs, contact GO Boulder/city of Boulder at 303-441-3266 or go online at www.goboulder.net. Updates on Best Work Places for CommutersSM program can be found at <http://www.bwc.gov> or call (888) 856-3131.

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