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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Denver Municipal Animal Shelter Achieves LEED Platinum Certification

GTC is pleased to announce that a project we recently completed achieved Platinum certification in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. This new state-of-the-art animal shelter for the City and County of Denver went through numerous stringent measures to meet criteria for the LEED program, and it is currently the only animal facility in the United States achieve the prestigious Platinum certification.

Some sustainable aspects of the shelter that lead to the certification include: remediation of the site's contaminated soil, use of recycled-content and locally purchased materials, use of low volatile organic compound (VOC) materials, skylights and daylight-sensing lighting as well as radiant heated floors to reduce energy use, sustainably harvested wood products, water efficient fixtures, and use of native plants in landscaping.

The new animal shelter was funded by the Better Denver Bond Program and designed by Animal Arts, a leader in architectural design of animal shelters and veterinary hospitals. At 36,040 square feet, it more than doubles the size of the original shelter. So much new space means over 300 animals can be cared for at any given time. The site, located along the South Platte River, includes outdoor exercise space and houses a barn that allows the shelter to accommodate more uncommon animals like horses, cows, and goats, as well as other urban wildlife. It also includes an on-site surgery center to provide for the medical needs of the animals.

The new Denver Municipal Animal Shelter is an eco-responsible facility, and GTC's project team worked with City and County of Denver officials and the architect, Animal Arts, to ensure that the new shelter achieved LEED Platinum Certification. Because a chemical plant once operated on the site, extra precautions needed to be taken to rehabilitate the site and ensure any potential contaminants in the soil did not reach nearby storm water reservoirs. The Denver Animal Shelter hosted Grand Opening celebrations in June of 2011.

Golden Triangle Construction (GTC) has been a general contractor in the Colorado Front Range commercial construction market since 1977 and is a proud member of the U.S. Green Building Council. For more information about GTC or about GTC's Green Building Program, please call Dennis Richard at (303) 772-4051, or email drichard@gtc1.net.

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