BRIGHTON BOULEVARD OFFICIALLY REOPENS WITH CEREMONY, STREET PARTY

DENVER— Following a 20-month transformative construction project, Brighton Boulevard, in the heart of the RiNo Art District, will celebrate a grand opening this Thursday, June 21st between 29th Street and 38th Street. An official ceremony and ribbon cutting with Mayor Michael Hancock, Council President Albus Brooks, and RiNo General Improvement District (GID) Chair Anne Hayes is followed by a street party at businesses up and down the corridor to celebrate the end of this significant project and to welcome people back to Brighton.

“We know that being in the midst of a construction zone has required tenacity on the part of our west-side businesses over the past two years,” said RiNo Art District President, Jamie Giellis. “We want to celebrate and commemorate this momentous project wrapping up and remind visitors and residents alike that this side of RiNo is bursting with life and activity.”

The formal ribbon cutting will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the intersection of 35th Street and Brighton Boulevard, with the street party starting immediately afterwards from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Various activations are planned at:

- City Gate (2890 Brighton Blvd)
- Industry Denver (3001 Brighton Blvd.)
- Converge Denver (3327 Brighton Blvd.)
- The Source (3350 Brighton Blvd.)
- Urban Cyclist (3434 Brighton Blvd.)
- Whole Meds (3450 Brighton Blvd.)
- Plinth Gallery (3520 Brighton Blvd.)
- Catalyst (3513 Brighton Blvd.)
- Great Divide Brewery (1812 35th St.)
- Mockery Brewing (3501 Delgany St.)
- Collegiate Peaks (3655 Brighton Blvd.)
- Natural Grocers (3757 Brighton Blvd.)
- Blue Moon Brewing (3750 Chestnut Pl.)
- Zeppelin Station (3501 Wazee St.)
- RiNo Made Store (3501 Wazee St. #109)

Party locations will entertain guests with free food, libations, live music, art activations, special discounts, and giveaways.

“The businesses have really stepped up during this period of construction,” said RiNo Co-Founder and Creative Director, Tracy Weil. “They have planned some amazing activations including a pop-up skate park, live mural painting, DIY t-shirt printing, and have really embraced bringing their parties out onto the street for the evening to showcase the vibrancy of RiNo.”
The event will also feature a party passport. Guests who make it to at least eight party stops along Brighton can return their passport to the RiNo Made store to be included in a drawing to win one of several giveaways, including new bicycles, a free night stay at The Source Hotel, food and beverage gift certificates, and more.

Party guests can also search for 100 commemorative ceramic medallions, made by RiNo artist Jonathan Kaplan of Plinth Gallery. The medallions will be hidden along Brighton Boulevard and, if found, become a keepsake. Station 16 Gallery, opening later this summer at The Source Hotel, is bringing in Parisian artist, Le Diamantaire, to create a “diamond hunt” to help visitors rediscover Brighton. Guests will also be able to contribute items, predictions, and memories to a time capsule to be buried along the corridor.

“This opening signifies so much more than construction of Brighton Boulevard being done,” said Giellis. “This is a chance to move into a new era for the west side of RiNo and celebrate the past and future of the area.”

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About the RiNo Art District
The RiNo Art District is a distinctive area of north Denver that is inclusive of four historical neighborhoods: Globeville, Elyria-Swansea, Five Points and Cole. The RiNo Art District started as a grass roots movement by local artists that wanted connect the arts organizations in the area. Fresh off the heels of celebrating its tenth anniversary, and completing the creation of both a Business Improvement District (BID) and General Improvement District (GID) to support the neighborhood, the RiNo Art District is ready to step into a new decade driven by the creativity and tenacity that is its hallmark. With more than 30 district stakeholders sitting on RiNo’s boards, six staff leading strategic projects, and an annual budget of $3 million+ to invest, RiNo is moving forward on critical initiatives that will shape the neighborhood for years to come, while investing in programs to activate this gritty district.

About Brighton Boulevard:
The $30 million Brighton Boulevard revitalization project was funded by significantly by the City of Denver with the support of $3 million from the RiNo General Improvement District. The project delivers 2.6 miles of sidewalks and separated cycle track, two new traffic signals, new pedestrian crossings, wayfinding signage, and safety improvements as well as over 400 trees, 300+ streetlights, 100+ benches, 30+ bike racks, and 80+ on-street parking spaces. This first phase of the project (29th Street to 40th Street) reaches substantial completion this week, with final amenities being added through summer. The second phase of Brighton Construction (40th Street to 44th Street) wraps up in the Summer of 2019.