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ColoradoBiz Q&A

Tracy Huggins, executive director of the Denver Urban Renewal Authority

By Mike Cote



The thousands of people who visited Denver this summer for the Democratic National Convention encountered a city that no longer rolls up the carpet at 5 p.m. The Denver Urban Renewal Authority has been behind many of the projects that have led to that renaissance, bringing new retail, lodging and housing downtown. (Watch video interview with Tracy Huggins) Since 2000, Tracy Huggins has served as executive director of the authority, which celebrated its 50th anniversary this year. Since 1958, DURA has provided more than \$649 million in tax increment financing for more than 75 projects valued at more than \$7.1 billion. The authority has been a catalyst behind such projects as the Denver Pavilions, the Denver Dry Building, the former Adam's Mark Hotel (now Sheraton Denver), Elitch Gardens and the Lowenstein Theatre. It also helped finance the Lowry and Stapleton developments and Highlands' Garden Village. We talked to Huggins recently about DURA's achievements. **The Denver Urban Renewal Authority celebrates 50 years. What do you consider some of its greatest successes?** I think one of the unique things about DURA's 50 years is the efforts they undertook in some of the earlier years and the foundation that those efforts laid for the transformation of downtown Denver.



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Page 1 Page 2

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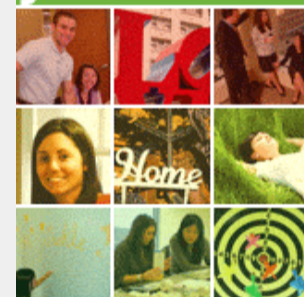
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