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## Property Management

# Auraria Library completes largest single-roof solar array

The Auraria Sustainable Campus Program, in partnership with the Auraria Higher Education Center and Namasté Solar of Boulder, is nearing the completion of a 779-kilowatt solar array installation atop the Auraria Library.

The installation is the largest single-roof solar array in downtown Denver, according to Xcel Energy. It will be fully functional this month and will power two-thirds of the library's electricity needs.

"When institutions such as [AHEC] and groups like ASCP partner with local businesses like Namasté Solar, it magnifies the impact on the local economy, and it creates well-paying green jobs within the community," said Jason Sharpe, CEO at Namasté Solar.

The 2,100-panel array will produce approximately 1 million kilowatt hours annually – or enough energy to power 100 average U.S. homes each year. It will supply 2.5% of the annual campuswide power consumption, increasing the Auraria Campus solar capacity tenfold to 854 kW.

"Auraria Campus is fortunate to be situated in one of the most solar-friendly climates in the country and the new solar



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array reinforces our ongoing commitment to renewable energy initiatives on campus," said Colleen Walker, AHEC CEO.

The array also will play a role in lowering Auraria Campus greenhouse gas emissions by saving an estimated 1.2 million pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere each year. Additionally, the energy savings from the project will help increase the ASCP's annual funding by 10% to 15% and

allow for other impactful projects on campus.

### Other News

■ **NAS Properties**, a development and property management company based in Arapahoe County, leveraged Colorado Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy financing for a major rehabilitation of its 96,190-square-foot office building located at 9351 Grant St. in Thornton. The proj-

ect includes the installation of new rooftop heating, ventilation and air-conditioning units, an energy management system and LED lighting.

■ **Group14 Engineering** provided engineering and energy savings analysis for the project. Greenwood Village-based **Integro** supported NAS Properties with project development and consulting services.

The \$1.8 million in C-PACE financing was provided by **FirstBank**.

"We have been hearing good things from owners and developers that used C-PACE to upgrade their buildings," said Nate Schnabel, principle of NAS Properties. "When we decided it was time to address the old and inefficient HVAC and lighting at our Thornton building, we felt confident that C-PACE could give us a way forward without tying up our capital."

■ Registration is open for Colorado Preservation Inc.'s **2020 Saving Places Conference**, one of the largest preservation conferences in the nation. The event will take place Jan. 29-Feb. 1 at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel. The conference will be held in the historic portion of the hotel, designed by renowned architect I.M. Pei.

The four-day event features educational content and networking opportunities for individuals interested in historic preservation including historic homeowners, architects, realtors, students, community leaders, business owners and preservationists. The event is designed to provide engaging, varied content that will equip attendees with the knowledge and tools they can integrate into their lives, work and communities. ▲