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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Archuleta County and Town of Pagosa Springs
Approve Programs to Inject Life Into the Local Economy

In the past week, both the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners and the Town of Pagosa Springs Town Council have unanimously approved an economic development plan waiving development fees and offering construction-related sales tax rebates.

Archuleta County and Pagosa Springs are leading southwest Colorado by making innovative decisions which will have a positive impact on the local community. The Archuleta Economic Development Association is collaborating with the County as well as the Town of Pagosa Springs encouraging the rapid implementation of the program and providing supporting data.

County Resolution 2009-38 and Town Ordinance 742 will provide economic development incentives by means of waivers and partial waivers of development activity and building and impact fees. It also authorizes the partial rebate of sales tax revenues received by the Town and County for construction or building related materials purchased locally as well as hiring local labor.

Details of the two-year program include:

- **100% Development Fee Waivers:** For any development activity for which an application is made on or after July 1, 2009, and for which construction begins on or after July 1, 2009 and is completed in calendar year 2009, 100% of the development fees will be waived.
- **50% Development Fee Waivers:** For any development activity for which an application is made on or after July 1, 2009, and for which construction begins after July 1, 2009 and is completed in calendar year 2010, 50% of the development fees will be waived.

- **25% Sales Tax Rebate for Locally Purchased Construction and Building Materials:** For any development activity for which an application is made on or after July 1, 2009, and for which construction begins after July 1, 2009 and is completed in calendar year 2009 or 2010, 25% of the sales tax received will be rebated for construction and building materials used in the development activity, provided the applicant can satisfactorily demonstrate that the project related construction and building materials were purchased within Archuleta County or Pagosa Springs and subject to the respective sales tax. For any qualifying development activity, the rebate of sales tax authorized shall be in addition to any waiver of development fees allowed.
- **25% Sales Tax Rebate for Use of Local Labor:** For any development activity for which an application is made on or after July 1, 2009, and for which construction begins after July 1, 2009 and is completed in calendar year 2009 or 2010, 25% of the sales tax received for construction and building materials used in the development activity will be rebated provided the applicant can satisfactorily demonstrate to the County or Town that not less than 50% of the labor costs associated were paid to residents of Archuleta County and/or the Town of Pagosa Springs..

Archuleta County Commissioners, Pagosa Springs Town Council, staff, local business leaders and community citizens have united in the challenge to stimulate the local economy by preserving and creating jobs and increasing sales tax revenue as a result of buying and hiring local. Town Council member Mark Weiler reflected on the enthusiasm of this action by stating "It is our responsibility to lead and be responsive. The time to act is now...." and Commissioner John Ranson quoted "If you don't start somewhere, it will greatly diminish your chances to finish."

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