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Mission Viejo Celebrates Its 35th Anniversary With Exhibit From California

AURORA, CO – The Mission Viejo Homeowner’s Association, Inc. in Aurora, Colorado will be celebrating the 35th anniversary of the community by bringing in an exhibit prepared by the City of Mission Viejo, California’s Heritage Committee. The exhibit will be on display in the newly re-named “Mission Viejo” Aurora Branch Public Library, with another component on display at the Aurora History Museum from March 2, 2007 – June 17, 2007.

The community of Mission Viejo Aurora was officially opened on September 25, 1972 and was built and designed by the Mission Viejo Company of California. The Mission Viejo Company was the developer of the master planned community Mission Viejo, California in Orange County California, which at the time, was part of a large undeveloped area of ranchlands known as Rancho Mission Viejo. The Company was soon purchased by the Philip Morris Company who continued with the California development and expanded operations into Colorado. Mission Viejo Colorado was their largest venture at that time outside California until they embarked on the Douglas County suburban development of Highlands Ranch.
With Mission Viejo Colorado, the developers built a master planned community that incorporated many of the same design elements found in their development of Mission Viejo, California, including unique California contemporary architecture, “Mission Bell” street lights (designed as at tribute to Mission San Juan Capistrano and California’s El Camino Real (Spanish for Royal Road also known as the California Mission Trail)), “Barcelona” entrance walls (inspired by courtyards in Spain), greenbelts, neighborhood shopping, library, firehouse, a recreation center, parkways and ranch-inspired split-rail fences. Two streets within Mission Viejo Colorado, Alicia and Marguerite Parkways, are even named after two matriarchs of the O’Neill family, the owners of Rancho Mission Viejo.

With its innovative designs Mission Viejo Colorado soon influenced residential building patterns throughout the Denver metro area. The Mission Viejo branch library display is a photo exhibit featuring the history of the Mission Viejo Company and the founding of Mission Viejo, California. The Aurora History Museum component continues focusing on Mission Viejo Colorado and will feature photo essays of the community as seen through the eyes of current students from Mission Viejo Elementary School.

The current list of sponsoring organizations includes the Mission Viejo Homeowners’ Association, Inc., the City of Mission Viejo, California, the Aurora History Museum, the Aurora Public Library, Shea Homes Inc., Mission Viejo Shopping Center, Mission Plaza Aurora, and Remax Masters Inc. Paul Finger Realtor. For more information on the history of Mission Viejo, California visit http://www.cmvl.org/history/localhistory.html. For information on the history of Mission Viejo Colorado as well as the Homeowners’ Association please visit http://www.missionviejohoa.org.

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**Background:** The purpose of this Mission Viejo HOA is to unite the unit owners of the Mission Viejo subdivisions in Aurora, Colorado; to encourage civic improvements within said area, to encourage community activities including, but not by way of limitation, the beautification, maintenance, and general appearance of vacant and improved lots, streets, parkways, entrances, open and recreational areas situated within the area and used in common by its residents; enhance the safety of Mission Viejo; facilitate enforcement of any and all building restrictions, protective covenants, and to otherwise act in the interests of the members of the Association. The Mission Viejo Homeowners’ Association Inc. proudly celebrates 2007 as the 35th anniversary year for the community. For more information please visit us at www.missionviejohoa.org.