

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Update: Status of Butterfly Pavilion Move to Broomfield** 

**WESTMINSTER, Colo. - February 27, 2025** – Butterfly Pavilion, the first Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)-accredited, stand-alone, non-profit invertebrate zoo in the world, has made the difficult decision to withdraw from the Baseline community project, led by the real estate investment and development firm McWhinney. Unfortunately, the business landscape has changed significantly since the project was first proposed in 2018, making that original vision no longer feasible in today's economy.

While Butterfly Pavilion is disappointed to part ways on this project, our commitment to supporting local communities remains strong. Butterfly Pavilion, Broomfield, and McWhinney will continue to collaborate on the first-ever, certified Pollinator District™, which serves as a model for integrating pollinator conservation into everyday spaces. This effort has already increased pollinator populations and community engagement at the Baseline development.

"We also look forward to continuing our work with Broomfield on impactful projects like the Urban Prairies Project, which, with the support of their community volunteers, helps restore pollinator habitat in partnership with the Broomfield Open Space Action Network," said Nathalie Brochu, Interim CEO of Butterfly Pavilion. "Our communities have supported our mission for 30 years, and we are deeply grateful. We hope to strengthen these partnerships for years to come."

"Butterfly Pavilion remains an important partner to our Baseline community. Although we are saddened by this change in direction, we understand the challenges they faced and respect their decision. We look forward to continued collaborations aimed at improving the biodiversity of Baseline, as the country's first Pollinator District, as well as supporting Butterfly Pavilion's mission in the broader Broomfield community," said Kyle Harris, Senior Vice President of Master Planned Communities at McWhinney.

Butterfly Pavilion's Board of Directors is working diligently on its expansion plans and will continue to share updates as they evolve.



## **About Butterfly Pavilion**

Butterfly Pavilion, celebrating its 30th year in 2025, has been part of the Colorado community since 1995 and is the first Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)-accredited, stand-alone, non-profit invertebrate zoo in the world, located in Westminster, Colorado. Butterfly Pavilion's mission is to foster an appreciation of invertebrates by educating the public about the need to protect and care for threatened habitats globally, while conducting research for solutions in invertebrate conservation. Beyond Colorado and the United States, Butterfly Pavilion conservationists are doing important invertebrate research, conservation and education projects around the world from Mongolia and Mexico to Tanzania and Sumatra, Indonesia. <a href="https://www.butterflies.org">www.butterflies.org</a>

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