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First Southwest Bank Breaks Ground On New Durango Building *Adds to East Second Avenue Revitalization*

Durango, CO (December 2, 2015) - First Southwest Bank hosted a ground breaking ceremony today at the site of what will be their new three-story, approximately 9500 square foot building on the corner of East Second Avenue and College Drive in Durango, Colorado. The bank's current Durango branch is located across the street in the Mayer Building at 654 East Second Avenue. Attending the ceremony were city and county officials, business leaders, project participants and bank executives.

"First Southwest Bank is pleased to be part of the East Second Avenue revitalization," Kent Curtis, Chief Executive Officer of First Southwest Bank said. "Our new building will be a magnificent end cap on a street that has seen a great deal of growth and refurbishment over the years. The bank will occupy the first and second floors and we intend to offer the third floor as residential space," Curtis added. The bank will have two drive-up banking lanes as well as walk-up automatic teller machines.

Earlier in the month, Classique Builders orchestrated the demolition of the old Second Avenue Sports Building, making way for the construction of the bank. Second Avenue Sports moved into their new facility this past summer, a project financed by First Southwest Bank.

Architect for the new First Southwest Bank project, expected to be completed in the fall of 2016, is The Bauen Group and FCI Construction is the general contractor.

First Southwest Bank is a privately held bank with shareholders located throughout Colorado from Alamosa to Durango. The bank has been serving the San Luis Valley and Southern Colorado for more than 100 years. With seven branches in the area, the bank offers personal and business banking with an emphasis on businesses supporting rural communities. First Southwest Bank is active in the communities it serves aiding more than 40 local organizations. More information about the bank is available on the bank's website, fswb.com.

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