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The Downtown Denver Partnership Welcomes First-to-Market UNIQLO to Downtown Denver

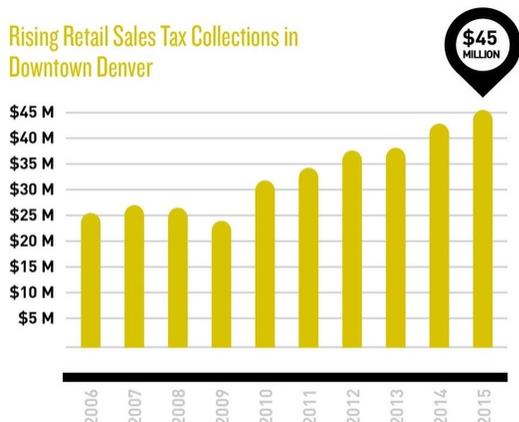
On Friday, October 28th, international retailer [UNIQLO](#) will open its first store in the Rocky Mountain region at the Denver Pavilions in Downtown Denver, the brand's second non-coastal location in the U.S. Attracting first-to-market retailers is a key priority of the Downtown Denver Partnership's retail recruitment strategy for Downtown Denver, and their arrival highlights the strength of our retail market.



"The Partnership joined several partners over the span of the past few years to help bring UNIQLO to Downtown Denver, and we are thrilled to see this first-to-market and destination retailer open in the heart of our center city," said Tami Door, president and CEO of the Downtown Denver Partnership. "As we share the facts, data and demographics of Downtown with prospective retailers like UNIQLO, we are showcasing the success of our place-based economic development strategy that is building a place where people want to live and work, and where businesses and retailers want to locate."

With a workforce of nearly 124,000 and residential base of nearly 76,000, high-quality amenities – including retail – will continue to play a critical role in the economic vibrancy of Downtown Denver. As detailed in the [Partnership's 2016 State of Downtown Denver report](#), Downtown Denver has more than 3.3 million square feet of office space with a 5.4 percent vacancy rate and a direct average lease rate of \$22.53 per square foot. New development projects like the Dairy Block and Market Street Station will also add more than 130,000 square feet of new retail space in Downtown.

Rising Retail Sales Tax Collections in Downtown Denver



UNIQLO's 23,000-square-foot flagship store takes residence on a prominent corner on the 16th Street Mall, which serves as an economic engine for not only Downtown, but the city as a whole. With nearly 200 retailers and restaurants, the Mall generates one third of Downtown's sales tax to a total of \$16.2 million in 2015, a 58 percent increase from 2010. The store is also another impactful success of Denver Pavilions which has been the chosen location for a succession of first-to-market retailers including H&M.

"The opening of first-to-market global retailer UNIQLO at Denver Pavilions kicks-off the next great chapter in the story of Downtown Denver, the 16th Street Mall and Denver Pavilions,"

said Mark Sidell, president of Gart Properties and Partnership Board Member. “As part of their strategy to build an international store network, UNIQLO is opening flagship stores in major cities around the world. Their selection of Denver Pavilions reflects the progress we have all achieved in making Denver a world-class city.”

For those not familiar with UNIQLO, the brand’s philosophy is to create high-quality, functional and reasonably-priced clothes that meet the demands of a wide range of people around the world. Established in Japan in 1984, UNIQLO has more than 1,700 stores worldwide. The first flagship store in the U.S. opened 10 years ago in New York City, and the company now operates in 18 markets around the world.

The Partnership will continue to advance its retail recruitment strategy and anticipates the attractiveness of the center city to first-to-market retailers will continue, as national exposure from H&M coming Downtown has helped recruit new retailers like UNIQLO, whose announcement they were joining Downtown’s retail ranks led to discussions with other first-to-market retailers taking a hard look at the center city. Partnership staff meets annually with national and international retailers to tell the story of, and showcase Downtown Denver, as a desirable retail location for new and expanded stores.

UNIQLO, located at 16th and Tremont Streets, will celebrate its grand opening in Downtown Denver beginning with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:45 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 28 and continuing throughout the weekend. [Click here](#) for details on the grand opening events and promotions.

Welcome to Downtown Denver, UNIQLO!
