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**Business Activity Continues to Gain Momentum in Downtown Fresno**

*Flurry of New Activity is Building the Foundation for a more Vibrant Urban Core*

**Fresno, CA (3/8/19)** - 2019 is shaping up to be an exceptional year in the revitalization of Downtown Fresno. Since the beginning of the year, several major developments have been completed, or are nearing completion. Many of these projects are located in buildings that have sat vacant for decades and are creating the infill needed for a vibrant urban core in Fresno. Among the most notable recent developments are;

**Renovations Nearing Completion at Guarantee Building** – Downtown Fresno’s historic Guarantee Building on Fresno and Fulton St. is in the final stages of a renovation project. The building was bought by State Center Community College District in 2018 to house their administrative offices. Once completed, the building will boast over 12 stories and 82,000 square feet of office space and add a significant amount of daytime office workers that will help support businesses in the area.

**Pro Culinary is Open for Business** – This brand-new commercial cooking space and restaurant incubator opened at 373 N Fresno St, Fresno, CA 93701 in Downtown Fresno. It is the perfect starting point for people looking to open a restaurant and provides a low-cost option for people just starting out in the industry. It's a commercial kitchen, a licensed commissary, and culinary incubator all wrapped into one.

**Plans to Renovate Mariposa Plaza with TCC funds are in the Works** – As part of the Transformative Climate Communities Grant, Mariposa Plaza (at the corner of Fulton & Mariposa) will be receiving a major facelift in 2019. TCC committee member Jordan Sanchez explains;

**Quail State Set to Open this Fall** – Last week there was a major buzz in Downtown Fresno, as the Pacific Southwest Building announced their newest tenant, Quail State. The rooftop craft cocktail bar will be the first of its kind in Fresno, and will feature Palm Springs resort style décor, and locally sourced seasonal ingredients. Plan are set for the bar to open in Fall 2019.

**Libelula Soft Opening at March 7<sup>th</sup> ArtHop** – One of Downtown Fresno’s newest restaurants held its soft opening during the evening of the March 7<sup>th</sup> ArtHop. Libelula, located at the historic Crest Theater (1154 Broadway Plaza Fresno, California 93721) is the passion project of local award-winning Chef Ian Cookson (formerly of The Vineyard Restaurant in Madera) and his family. The restaurant will feature locally sourced ingredients and will be set to open fully in the coming months.

**Completion of Bitwise 41, Beginning Development of State Center Warehouse** – One of the most active developers in Downtown Fresno is showing no signs of slowing down. Bitwise is nearing completion of their new facility, Bitwise 41, on Ventura and R St. Much of the building already in the process of being

leased and Bitwise is set to start work on the nearby State Center Warehouse Building. The 90,000 square foot project will be the Biggest project yet for Bitwise.

**Dart Reality Open for Business** – The Virginia Hotel Building on Kern and L street in Downtown Fresno has an exciting new tenant. Dart Reality, in collaboration with New American Funding and New Horizon Insurance recently opened their doors, and offer comprehensive real estate services all under one roof.

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