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For Immediate Release

Mobius Science Center To Select New Location
Decision enables 2011 opening in existing building

Spokane, Wash. December 18, 2009 – The Mobius Spokane Board of Directors announced today that it is withdrawing from lease negotiations with the Spokane Park Board and will seek an alternative location for the science center. Mobius has decided that the best course of action is to identify a location with an existing building that can be retrofitted for the science center, thus enabling an opening in early 2011.

“We have continued to evaluate how we can best make the vision of a science center a reality for our community and a number of factors have led to our decision to seek an alternative approach. We appreciate the Park Board’s time and energy throughout the negotiations,” said Mobius Board President, Dr. Neil Worrall.

A committee of the Mobius Board has studied twenty possible locations for the science center in and near the downtown core. A list of finalist candidates has been developed and due diligence is underway. A final location is expected to be chosen by early 2010. The finalist locations are existing buildings that would be remodeled to accommodate the science center. This approach will allow for an opening in early 2011, earlier than the original planned opening in 2013.

Worrall continued, “The success of MobiusLab, a trial mini-science center of 1,000 SF in the Northtown Mall that was open this summer, demonstrated the community’s pent-up demand for a science center. To meet this demand in a more timely manner, Mobius has decided to pursue a phased approach to a science center and feels it is in the best short and long-term interest of the project to move forward with the development on our own.”

The phased approach will allow for future expansion as the organization grows. Mobius Kids Children’s Museum will remain in its Riverpark Square location.

A national search is underway to select an executive director for the organization. The Board expects to hire a candidate in 2010.

Mobius Science Center's exhibits will focus on areas that reflect the region's natural and technological resources and showcase the best of science from the Inland Northwest and around the world. Through hands-on, interactive experiences and experiential exhibits, visitors will learn about human inventions and innovations, life processes and life cycles of living things, and more. Visitors will have the opportunity to see and experience the wonders of science, understand its relevance to their daily lives and be inspired.

About Mobius Science Center

Mobius Science Center will be home to a one-of-a-kind science center designed to provide youth and adults with a unique blend of experience, education and entertainment that brings science and technology to life. It will feature interactive exhibits reflecting the region's natural and technological resources and showcasing the best of science from the Inland Northwest and around the world. Through hands-on, interactive experiences and experiential exhibits, visitors will have the opportunity to see and experience the wonders of science – and understand its relevance to their daily lives. To learn more, go to www.mobiuspokane.org.

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