Animas River Trail – North Extension
Memorial Park to Animas City Park

City Council Study Session
November 12, 2019

Presenters:  Cathy Metz, Parks and Recreation Director
            Scott McClain, Assistant Parks Director
            Scott Chism, City Landscape Architect
Why are we here?

City Council has requested a review and update of the proposed ART North Extension project between Memorial Park and Animas City Park following May 14 Council direction to develop project design.

The proposed ART North Extension alignment between the two public parks includes grade separated bridge crossings of the Animas River, railroad tracks and E. 32nd Street.
Why is the ART North Extension important?

Allows community trail connection between parks and north neighborhoods to central Durango separate from streets.

93% of Durango residents use the Animas River Trail.
What is the construction progress of the ART North Extension?

The ART North Extension from Animas City Park to Oxbow Park is approximately 51% complete with a scheduled completion date of June 29, 2020.

The Oxbow Park River Access is approximately 56% complete with a scheduled completion date of June 29, 2020.

Site work is anticipated to shut down for winter conditions between December 2019 – early March 2020. Limited site work will proceed as weather conditions allow.
New trail north of Silverton Street

New retaining walls for trail at railroad grade

Ongoing construction of trail between Animas City Park and Oxbow Park

Animas River Trail – North Extension: Current
Animas River Trail – North Extension to Oxbow Park: Current

- New boat ramp/river access
- New river bank, picnic areas
- Ongoing construction at Oxbow Park
Typical 12 regular train trips (crossings) per day during the summer

Animas River Trail – North Extension
Vehicular Traffic on E. 32nd Street

Average Daily Traffic at E. 32nd Street = 7,800 to 10,700

Animas River Trail – North Extension
Animas River: Spring Runoff conditions

Animas River Trail – North Extension
Options?

1. Underpass of E. 32nd Street; pedestrian bridge across Animas River; At-grade railroad track crossing.

Underpass of E. 32nd Street vehicular bridge was analyzed in 2011 and determined to not be usable during high water.
Options?

2. At-grade crosswalk street crossing of E. 32nd Street; At-grade railroad track crossing at existing location; Existing 5' wide sidewalks.

Modification of E. 32nd Street vehicular bridge was analyzed in 2011 and determined to have poor feasibility.
Options?

3. Implement a pedestrian bridge crossing the river and grade separated railroad crossing between E. 31st Street and E. 30th Street; and Implement a grade separated crossing at E. 32nd Street.

(Requires modification of existing E. 2nd Ave. sidewalk into a 10' wide trail, duplicating ART alignment in Memorial Park; Requires (2) sets of approach ramps)
4. Implement grade separated bridge crossings of railroad tracks and E. 32nd Street for ART connection. Existing sidewalks and crosswalks remain usable for non-trail traffic/neighborhood routes.

(Requires a single set (more efficient) of approach ramps; Similar to ART underpass crossing at Main Avenue –trail and Main Ave. sidewalk routes are connected, but separate)
Animas River Trail – North Extension: Proposed Alignment
Animas River Trail – North Extension: Vision Image
Animas River Trail: E 2\textsuperscript{nd} Ave. Spur Alignment: Vision Image
What is the cost of the ART North Extension between Animas City Park and Memorial Park?

- **E. 2ND AVE. SPUR**
  - $665,000 Est. Construction
    - (including $22,376 contract contingency)
    - $60,000 owner carried contingency
  - **$725,000 COMPLETE COST**

- **TRAIL PRIMARY ALIGNMENT**
  - $5,258,000 Est. Construction
    - (including $402,944 contract contingency)
    - $142,000 owner carried contingency
  - **$3,400,000 BUDGET**
How will the ART North Extension between Animas City Park and Memorial Park be paid for?

The proposed 2020 Budget includes $3.4 million for the pedestrian bridge connection using funds from the 2005 Open Space, Parks and Trails Fund; 2015 Half Cent Tax; and Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant funds.
Next Steps:

▪ Continued analysis of project components to ensure the project cost remains in budget;
▪ Completion of Phase 2 (pedestrian bridge) project construction documentation to allow bid solicitation in January 2020; and
▪ Establish a construction contract for project completion of pedestrian bridge connections in 2020.