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# NEWS RELEASE

## City Receives Grants for Urban Renewal Authority & EV Readiness Plan

**Durango, CO:** The City of Durango has recently been awarded the following grants supporting the City's Urban Renewal Authority and Electric Vehicle (EV) Readiness Plan.

### Urban Renewal Authority Grant

The City received a \$20,000 Administrative Planning Grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to assist with creation of a Housing Strategy. The Housing Strategy will recommend ways for the recently formed Urban Renewal Authority (URA), which is operating as the Durango Renewal Partnership, to facilitate development of housing in the community. URAs are redevelopment organizations which have been used across Colorado to facilitate housing, mixed-use, light industrial, infrastructure and other types of development in underutilized areas.

Durango City Council unanimously passed a resolution to form the Durango Renewal Partnership on May 5, 2020. The Partnership Board, consisting of members of City Council, La Plata County, 9R School District and the Business Improvement District (BID), meets on the third Tuesday every month from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Visit [DurangoGov.org/ura](http://DurangoGov.org/ura) for more information on the Durango Renewal Partnership.

### EV Readiness Plan Grants

The City received two State grants to support the development of an Electric Vehicle (EV) Readiness Plan in collaboration with La Plata Electric Association (LPEA). A Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Administrative Planning Grant for \$25,000 and Colorado Energy Office Grant for \$20,000 will cover 85 percent of the cost for a consultant to develop an strategic EV Readiness Plan, with the remaining project cost split 50/50 between the City of Durango Sustainability Program's budget and LPEA.

The EV Readiness Plan will establish a roadmap for increased electric vehicle adoption and ensure the City and LPEA are prepared to maximize the carbon reduction, economic and other benefits associated with a widespread shift to electric vehicles. Visit [DurangoGov.org/sustainability](http://DurangoGov.org/sustainability) for more information about other City of Durango sustainability initiatives.

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