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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, OCTOBER 5, 2020

# NEWS RELEASE

## Needham Connect Phase 2 is Complete Ahead of Schedule

**Durango, CO:** The City of Durango's project contractor, Ridgway Valley Enterprises, Inc., has completed construction of the Safe Routes to School Needham Connect Phase 2 Project ahead of schedule. This project improves safety and accessibility by calming traffic and replacing sidewalks and curb ramps on Columbine Drive from Cottonwood Drive to Clovis Drive.

City staff will host a construction follow-up meeting on Thursday, October 22 at 5:00 p.m. to provide landscaping options and a roadway reconstruction update. The meeting will be held outdoors on the City-owned parcel on the corner of Columbine Drive and Cottonwood Drive to allow for social distancing. Please wear masks.

Columbine Drive is scheduled for roadway reconstruction in 2021 from Cottonwood Drive to Clovis Drive. It will be funded through the 2019 Half Cent Sales Tax. A representative from the City Streets division will be present at the October 22 meeting to answer questions related to the project. The City's Parks Division will be installing landscaping along Columbine Drive in conjunction with the road reconstruction project. Staff will present landscape options to property owners who live adjacent to the new landscape strips during the October 22 meeting.

The Needham Connect Phase 2 project included installation of bump-outs along the length of Columbine Drive. Bump-outs are curb extensions that help calm traffic, increase safety, and provide more opportunity for green space in the neighborhood. Please note that it is illegal to park adjacent to bump-outs, and No Parking signs will be installed. Cars parked in No Parking zones at bump-outs are in violation of City Code of Ordinances (O-2014-44, § 2, 12-16-14) and subject to fine.

Needham Connect Phase 2 was identified in the Multimodal Transportation Plan as a high priority safety project. It was funded through a Safe Routes to School grant (\$350,000), a Transportation Alternatives grant (\$552,192) and the 2015 Half Cent Sales Tax (\$1,297,808).

If you are unable to attend the meeting or have any questions or concerns, please call (970) 764-5994 or visit [DurangoGov.org/needhamconnect](http://DurangoGov.org/needhamconnect)

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