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NEWS RELEASE

Archaeological Mitigation for Development Projects Workshops Scheduled for June 1st

Durango, CO: The City of Durango's Community Development Department will be hosting two workshops on June 1 related to archaeological mitigation for development projects. The workshops will be in the Sunlight Room at the Durango Community Recreation Center, with local governments meeting from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the general public meeting from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

At the "Cultural Resources Workshop for Local Governments," local government officials can learn how local governments can work with Tribal, State, and Federal partners to implement sensitive treatment of cultural resources that also promotes redevelopment. Local government officials are invited to join the City of Durango's Community Development Department and the Colorado State Archaeologist, Dr. Holly Norton, to discuss best practices and specific case studies of creative mitigation of archaeological resources. Training will be held at the Durango Community Recreation Center on June 1, 2017, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

At the "Archaeological Preservation for Private Property Owners" workshop, members of the public can join the City of Durango's Community Development Department and the Colorado State Archaeologist to learn about funding and partnership opportunities for private property owners who may have archaeological resources on their property. Dr. Holly Norton, State Archaeologist, will clarify State and Federal requirements, which typically do not impact private property owners. She will also share partnership opportunities, methods of creative mitigation, and options for sensitive preservation of archaeology. Staff from the City of Durango will discuss the city's requirements for some development projects and previous successes that balanced preservation of cultural resources with new development. This workshop is free and open to the public. The goal of the public workshop is to demystify regulatory requirements and provide information about support for archaeological investigations or preservation on private property.

All of Colorado's communities contain historic and pre-historic archaeological resources. Durango has included preservation of archaeological resources since 1987 and has a record of creative mitigation in collaboration with both the Office of the State Archaeologist and our Tribal partners.

For additional information, contact Heather Bailey, City of Durango Planner, at (970) 375-4862.

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