

# PRESS RELEASE

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## RELEASE DATE:

May 3, 2024

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Marks Historical Restoration of Caboose

**Salida, CO-** The City of Salida proudly announces the completion of the historical restoration of the beloved Caboose, generously donated by the Gill Family. A ribbon-cutting ceremony, provided by the Salida Chamber of Commerce, will be held on **May 9th, 2024, at 1:00 PM**, commemorating this significant milestone in our city's history.

Former Mayor Jim Dickson's vision and leadership were instrumental in initiating the restoration project, advocating for budget allocation and planning. Thanks to his efforts, the City embarked on a journey to preserve this iconic piece of our heritage.

Over the years, staff members collaborated with the community to gather resources essential for the restoration endeavor. Staff worked with Barbara Darden, a renowned historical preservation architect, who conducted comprehensive condition assessments and meticulously documented the original design, ensuring authenticity in the restoration process.

The Salida City Council's unwavering support culminated in the approval of funding necessary to bring the restoration project to fruition. With the financial backing secured, the Caboose embarked on a transformative journey, relocating to Silverton, Colorado, under the expert care of Loran Lew from Klinker and Lew.

Lew's professional expertise guided the restoration efforts, encompassing iron fabrication, complete replacement of siding and roofing, and sourcing historical components such as trucks, couplers, and fittings. Every detail was meticulously attended to, ensuring that the Caboose would be restored to its original splendor.

The culmination of years of dedication, collaboration, and craftsmanship will be celebrated at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Join us as we honor the rich history of the Caboose and celebrate its restoration to serve as a lasting testament to our community's history.

### Event Details:

- **Date:** May 9th, 2024
- **Time:** 1:00 PM
- **Location:** End of F Street Bridge

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*The City of Salida, CO, is the statutory seat of Chaffee County with a population of approximately 5,700 residents. Salida is a family-friendly community ideally situated in central Colorado - known by many as the "Heart of the Rockies," both for its geographic location and the abundance of arts, cultural and recreational amenities found here. The city is dedicated to maintaining a safe, fiscally responsible and forward-thinking government where residents, businesses and visitors can thrive. Explore more about Salida at [www.cityofsalida.com](http://www.cityofsalida.com).*