

PRESS RELEASE

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THE HISTORIC CABOOSE RETURNS TO SALIDA

Dateline: [Salida, CO] —

Salida's Historic Red Caboose, that has resided at the end of F Street, is returning home early this summer. In 2014, the caboose was designated a Local Landmark within the City of Salida by City Council. In 2019, a Historic Structure Assessment was performed for the Caboose that identified the need for restoration. The following year, architectural documents were prepared to ensure that restoration would be completed in a manner matching historical design elements.

In 2023, Council approved the project to restore the caboose to move forward. Even though, there are limited contractors to perform this type of historical preservation, the City was able to work with Klinke and Lew Restoration Contractors in Silverton. They were experienced with historical preservation work and agreed to take on the project. As a result, the caboose has been temporarily relocated to Silverton, Colorado where work is currently underway. Improvements to the caboose include restoring the roof framing, updating exterior finishes, and reassembling or replicating original truck parts and other iron work. The interior has also been restored and the original wood fired stove, donated to the City by the Margos Brothers, will be reinstalled.

The City of Salida is currently readying the site at the end of F Street for the caboose's return. There will be fencing upgrades, site grading, landscaping enhancements, replanting of trees, lighting improvements, relocation of the water fountain, and informational signage, as part of the project. We look forward to having a part of our history restored and back for the public to enjoy.

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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.