

NEW DATE! Joint Way to Go! Together and Local First Workshop is Friday, October 20, 1-3 PM.

Transit Service Reduction Open House at the Transit Center is Wednesday, November 1, 5-7 PM.

# MOMENTUM

## e-newsletter



OCTOBER 2017

### IN MULTIMODAL NEWS

## Durango Transit needs your help!

### Public process initiated to address 2018 service cuts

Due to budgetary constraints, which include a decrease in funding from state transit grants, Durango Transit will not be able to operate at current service levels in 2018. In order to be fiscally sustainable, service cuts are necessary.

The City has launched a public process with the goal of finding preferred transit service alternatives that will best meet the needs of our community. It is our sincere desire to align the necessary service cuts with the transportation needs of the community to every extent possible.

#### What will the process look like?

From now until the end of December, Durango Transit will be hosting an extensive process to ensure that our ridership, our community, our staff and our stakeholders are engaged in the process. The public outreach process will take a multifaceted approach in order to ensure that all affected parties are identified and that their voices are heard. We will survey the community and our ridership, host public meetings and host targeted stakeholder meetings.

#### This is where you come in!

It is essential that we hear from **YOU**. We invite you to take the [Virtual City Hall survey here](#). Please join us for a **Transit Open House at the Transit Center on Wednesday, November 1 from 5-7 PM** to hear more about the proposed cuts and to offer your feedback.

## PROCESS TIMELINE FOR SERVICE CUTS



For more information, please contact Sarah Dodson at (970) 375-4901 or [sarah.dodson@durangogov.org](mailto:sarah.dodson@durangogov.org).

## Thank you to our bike-ped count volunteers!

Check out this year's results and why they matter

Every other year, the City of Durango performs bicycle and pedestrian counts as part of the [National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project](#). Thanks to each of our 76 volunteers who helped us out at 11 locations around Durango in 2017!

While [traditional traffic counts](#) are useful for understanding traffic volumes and identifying traffic issues, they do not accurately reflect mode-share, since bicycle and pedestrian data is not collected. Without accurate and consistent figures, it is difficult to measure the positive benefits of investments in these modes.

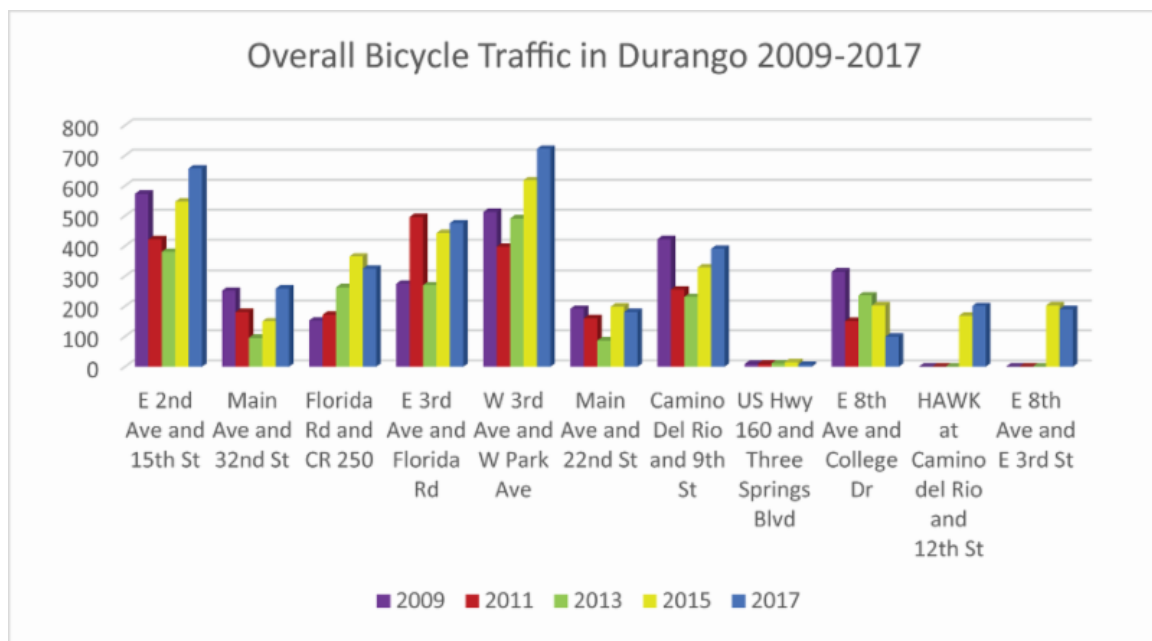
Having accurate data helps the City of Durango know how infrastructure is being used and is necessary to secure grant funding for projects such as sidewalk repair, bicycle facilities and transit system improvements.

**Counts matter** for considering Complete Streets and other infrastructure improvements as data collection is important for [understanding how people use a transportation system](#) and how integrated bicycling and pedestrian modes are part of the system.



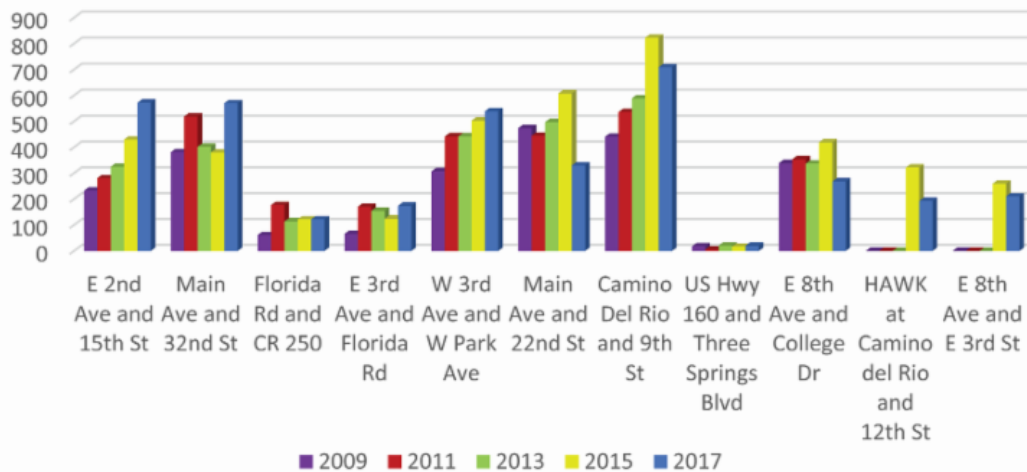
*Bicycles passing College Dr and E 8th Ave during the bike-ped count week September 12-16, 2017.*

In the data below, we can see how bicycle and pedestrian traffic has changed overall since 2009. It is interesting to note overall bicycle traffic increased from 3,241 trips in 2015 to 3,508 trips in 2017.



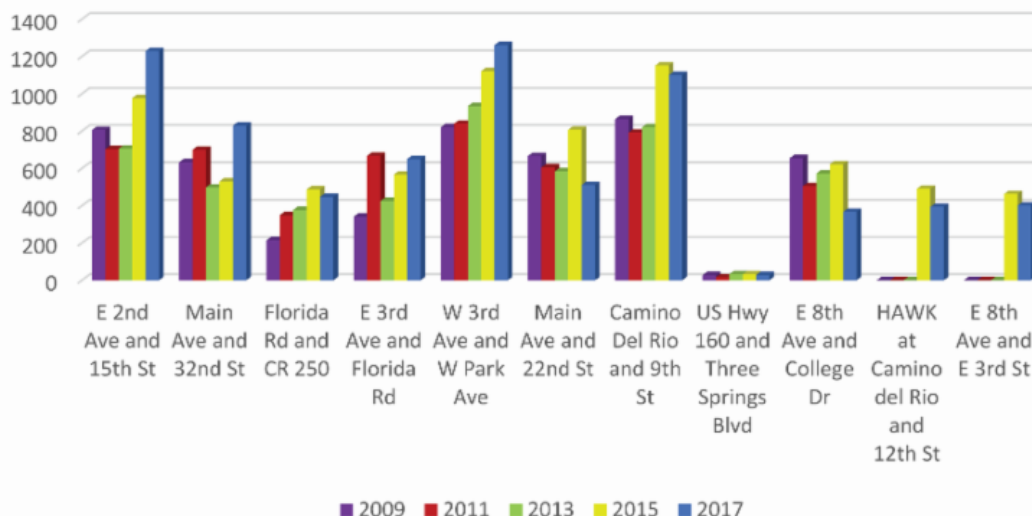
However, overall pedestrian trips decreased from 4,008 trips in 2015 to 3,708 trips in 2017.

## Overall Pedestrian Traffic in Durango 2009-2017



From 2015 to 2017, overall combined bicycle and pedestrian traffic remained stable, with 7,249 overall trips in 2015 and 7,216 overall trips in 2017.

## Overall Bicycle and Pedestrian Traffic in Durango 2009-2017



For more info, please contact Jennifer Hill at (970) 375-4955 or [jennifer.hill@durangogov.org](mailto:jennifer.hill@durangogov.org).

## Mark your calendars for these upcoming events

- **Way to Go! Together! and Local First Workshop, Friday, October 20, 1-3 PM at the Carnegie Building, North Conference Room.** Join us for a joint [Way to Go! Together](#) and Local First workshop!
- **Transit Service Reduction Open House, Wednesday, November 1, 5-7 PM in the Durango Transit Center lobby.** Join Durango Transit staff and community members for an Open House on transit service.
- **Noel Night, Friday, December 1, 1-9 PM in our Durango Transit Trolley at Main Ave and 8th St.** Pickup your discounted 2018 transit and parking passes during Noel Night!

Visit [www.durangogov.org/multimodal](http://www.durangogov.org/multimodal) for more information.

## Commuter of the Month

Riding the Opportunity Bus is one of Zach Thompson's favorite things to do.

Zach independently rides the Roadrunner bus in from his home in Ignacio. Once he's in Durango, he likes to ride the Opportunity Bus to the Powerhouse Science Center and to Fort Lewis College to go swimming. Zach says "I like the bus and I think it's great!" He appreciates the bus drivers and how they take care of him to get him where he wants to go.

If you or someone you know would make a great **Commuter of the Month**, please email your nomination to [getarounddurango@durangogov.org](mailto:getarounddurango@durangogov.org).



## IN TRANSIT NEWS

### Durango Transit wins Medium Transit Agency Award!



Congratulations to the Durango Transit team for being named the 2017 Colorado Transit Medium Community Transit Agency of the Year by the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies (CASTA).

Durango Transit not only provides essential service by getting people to work, to school, to the doctor, to the grocery store and all around town, but they also provide smiling faces that go beyond the bus. Durango Transit drivers know many of their riders by name and go out of their way to provide over 500,000 safe and friendly rides a year. This dedication to service has paid off, as ridership continues to grow and feedback improves. In the ridership survey this year

Durango Transit's approval rating was 8.98 out of 10, up from last year!

The Durango Transit team was awarded at the CASTA Fall Conference on September 21, 2017. Thank you CASTA!

### Find your route on Google Transit!

#### Durango Transit is on Google!

Durango Transit routes will be live on Google Maps in October.

Also remember, you can track your Durango Transit routes using Ride Systems. The Ride Systems app shows bus riders where the bus is and when it will pick them up. It provides live location of buses, arrival predictions, and other important bus route information. Riders are able to view the live tracker map using the Ride Systems app or a website from desktop or mobile device.



To download, to go the App Store on your smartphone and search for "Ride Systems."

### Upcoming Free Transit Days

On Free Transit Days, ride Durango Transit for FREE all day long thanks to our sponsors!

**Tuesday, October 31: United Methodist Thrift Shop**

**[See the Rider's Guide here!](#)**



Free Transit Day Sponsorship provides an excellent opportunity for your business to give back to the community.

By sponsoring a Free Transit Day, your business will provide fare-free transit service to the public, which is also a great advertising tool for your business.

For information on sponsoring a Free Transit Day, call (970) 375-4945 or [click here](#).

## IN PARKING NEWS

### Narrow Gauge Avenue is Walkable The Parking Division improves walkability

If you regularly walk Narrow Gauge Ave along the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad (D&SNGRR) train tracks, these sidewalk improvements are quite noticeable. However, you may not know the Parking Division took the lead on the parking meter relocation and fencing along Narrow Gauge in order to provide better sidewalk access and to bring the sidewalks into ADA compliance.



The project was a unique collaboration between the Parking Division, the [D&SNGRR](#) who donated rail for the fencing, [BP America Lower 48](#) who donated pipe for the fencing and the [Recla Metals](#) who donated time and delivery of the pipe. Thank you to all!

For additional information on Durango's parking laws, please see the [Municipal Parking Code](#). For more information, please call (970) 375-4960 or e-mail [parking@durangogov.org](mailto:parking@durangogov.org).

## IN SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

### Fall Cleanup Begins October 9th!

Leaves and tree trimmings are accepted

On October 9, the City of Durango will begin its annual Fall Cleanup with crews moving through the residential neighborhoods picking up the following materials:

- Tree trimmings and branches less than 8 feet in length and less than 8 inches in diameter
- Bagged or boxed loose brush and leaves

**This service is for City residents only and material placed by non-residents or outside of designated pickup times is considered illegal dumping and citations will be issued without warning.**

If you suspect illegal dumping in your neighborhood, please report it to City of Durango Code Enforcement at (970) 375-4930. For illegal dumping in progress, please try to obtain a description or license plate and call (970) 385-2900.

Material should be set out in the alley (or curbside in areas with no alleys) the weekend prior to your scheduled collection as once crews pass along your street, they will not return.

To assist the City crews, please place tree trimmings and bagged or boxed loose leaves and brush at least 2 feet from fences, trees, bushes, gas meters, hydrants, power poles and connection boxes and be careful not to block driving lanes or sidewalks.

**Urban foraging is encouraged during fall cleanup - leaves make great compost!**



Material collected by the City during Fall Cleanup will be chipped and given away to residents in Spring 2018.

Please see the City's [website](#) or call (970) 375-4839 for more information.

For more information about City of Durango Sustainability programs go to [www.durangogov.org/sustainability](http://www.durangogov.org/sustainability).

## WHAT WE ARE READING

**[From mountain trails to parks, how did it get built?](#)** How It Got Built, a new campaign from PeopleForBikes, brings you stories of the people, places, funding, design and construction behind nine awesome bike projects around the nation. [Read more.](#)

**[If you want your kids to do well in school, get them to bike there.](#)** More research conforming that physical activity can improve brain power in children and youth. [Read more.](#)

**[Why few people bike to and from transit, and how we can change that.](#)** Solutions include providing direct, low-stress bikeways that minimize delays, secure bike parking at high-ridership bus stops, park and ride lots and bus/rail stations. [Read more.](#)

**[Discover the gear that's getting us excited for the season ahead!](#)** Download Momentum Magazine's 2017 Autumn Gear Guide and click on the products to learn more. [Read more.](#)

**[Don't wait for transportation options, take them to the the people.](#)** Most people really don't think much about transportation options. They just get in the car and go. [Read more.](#)

**[Amazon's calls for a connected, pedestrian-friendly campus.](#)** The bid solicitation for their second home base in North America calls for infill or greenfield sites with direct access to train, subway/metro, or bus routes. [Read more.](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

