



June 13, 2023

## 30th Street Corridor Project Celebrates with Ribbon Cutting Event

Citizens, dignitaries, stakeholders, and the project team gathered near the new Gateway Road roundabout and Foothills Trail underpass last week to celebrate the official reopening of the 30th Street Corridor.



The ribbon cutting ceremony was preceded by a tribal blessing by Cassandra Atencio, Southern Ute Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, in homage to the ancestry of indigenous Ute people. The Ute Trail passes through Garden of the Gods and the Rock Ledge Ranch site. The area has served as a Native American crossroads with numerous nomadic tribes gathering there in peace.

“I’d like to thank the residents and community members for their participation in the project and for their patience during construction,” said City of Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers. “The improvements to 30th Street benefit our Colorado Springs residents with a safer, more functional evacuation route for the surrounding neighborhoods in case of emergency.”



With more than 4 million visitors from all 50 states and more than 60 countries coming to discover the beauty and history at this city park, Garden of the Gods is the most visited attraction in Colorado Springs and rivals many national parks,” said Suthers. “The improvements and enhancements to critical components of transportation along 30th Street will benefit all users visiting the majestic Garden of the Gods Park and the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center,” he said.

30th Street fully reopened May 25 prior to the busy Memorial Day weekend. However, drivers should expect periodic lane and shoulder closures for finishing work this summer. In particular work on two retaining walls on the east side of 30th Street between Mesa Road and Gateway Road continues through August.



## Project Improvements

- The wider road and addition of paved multi-purpose shoulders improves safety for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists, and creates another option for safe evacuation if needed. Drivers are now able to pull over more easily in the event of a minor roadside emergency, and emergency vehicles, like ambulances and fire trucks, can pass more safely.
- Intersection improvements were made at Fontanero Street, Westmoor Drive, Water Street, and Gateway Road, and a new roundabout was constructed at Gateway Road to better ease congestion into/out of Garden of the Gods Park and to create a distinctive “sense of arrival.”



- Better connectivity to Foothills Trails and safety features were added such as an underpass of Gateway Road.

- A new storm sewer system, water quality pond, and stormwater runoff treatment; water, sanitary, gas, and electric utility upgrades overall; and six retaining walls were added to improve slope stability.
- The main monument sign was moved to a plaza area north of the park entrance intersection for a safer environment for photos.



## 30th Street Corridor Project Schedule

- Contractor Selected (Wildcat Construction): August 2021
- Construction Began: October 22, 2021
- Construction Completion: Summer 2023

### Funding

- Design funded by City Public Works capital funds
- Construction funded primarily from The Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program

For more information on the project: [ColoradoSprings.gov/30thStreet](https://coloradosprings.gov/30thStreet)



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