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## Memorandum

To: Town Council

From: Gregg Barrie, Department of Public Works

Date: September 1, 2020

Subject: Information Update: Revegetation of East Vail Interchange and Red Sandstone Parking Structure

### INFORMATION UPDATE

The Red Sandstone Parking Structure and the East Vail Interchange Landscape projects were completed during 2019. However, the native grass areas on both projects have been slow to reestablish. The circumstances and proposed solutions for both projects are similar.

While both projects have drip irrigation systems for trees, shrubs and other landscape areas, the native grass areas do not have supplemental irrigation. It was anticipated that a combination of last summer's monsoons and winter snowfall would be sufficient to ensure establishment. Grass started off well this spring, unfortunately a hot, dry summer has significantly impacted growth and killed much of the new grass.

Staff is proposing to install temporary irrigation on both projects. Irrigation valves will be installed in late fall and the areas will be raked and reseeded just before the first snows of the season. Temporary, above-ground irrigation lines and heads will be installed in the spring. This will allow the new seed to take advantage of spring moisture and the new irrigation will ensure adequate water until establishment. Once the native areas are reestablished, the irrigation will be removed, likely in two or three years.

By comparison, the Sandstone Underpass project had a temporary irrigation system for two summers. Once the native areas were established, those above-ground lines and heads were removed. Both the East Vail Interchange and the Red Sandstone Parking Structure projects have adequate existing budget to fund the new systems.