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**URBAN TRAILS COMMITTEE AGENDA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ROOM, 135
250 NORTH 5TH STREET**

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019 @ 5:30 PM

Call to Order/Announcements

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE UTC MEETING WILL START AT 5:00 P.M.
TO ALLOW THE COMMITTEE TO ADJOURN TO THE
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMUNITY MEETING AT 6:00 P.M.**

Approval of Minutes

Consideration of the March 12, 2019 Minutes

Discussion Items

New Mobility West Letter of Support

Colorado Parks and Wildlife/Bicycle Colorado Meeting Update

Standing Committees

Updates

Bike Month Activities and Shirt Order

Bike/Ped Counts Schedule

Other Business/Public Comment

Adjournment

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

Minutes March 12, 2019

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Chair, Orin Zyvan. Those present from the Committee were:

Orin Zyvan, Chair
Shana Wade
Sarah Johnson

Gary Stubler, Vice-chair
Devon Blat
Steve Meyer

Dr. Kristin Heumann
David Lehmann

Also present Kathy Portner, Andy Gingrich, Paul Jagim - City of Grand Junction, Bennett Boeschentien, Mayor Pro Tem City of Grand Junction, Libby Collins, Colorado West Land Trust and Michele Rohrbach.

Announcement – Orin showed the group the Ride Magazine featuring the Bike Routes Map and thanked Paul for getting signs up and painting done.

Approval of Minutes – Shana/Kristin. Motion was approved.

Finalize 2018 Accomplishments/2019 Action Plan/Priorities – The group discussed the proposed sharrows and how to best educate the community, as well as the need to collect data on the effectiveness. The 2018 Accomplishments/2019 Action Plan/Priorities was finalized as discussed at the last meeting.

Standing Committees for Strategic Plan Goals – Gary prepared a proposal to have four standing committees rather than having ad hoc committees. Each standing committee would be for one year. He explained the reason for his thinking and how he hoped it would help formalize all members' participation and help get tasks done. He asked everyone to review the proposal for discussion at the April meeting.

New Mobility West Study – Kathy and Paul provided an overview of the New Mobility West Study that was done in 2015 to provide a conceptual design for I-70B through downtown. The Plan provides for 4 lanes of traffic with improved pedestrian and bike connections, as well as a design that fits the context of downtown. The Plan is in contrast to CDOT's proposal for a 6 lane section through this area. Having heard both proposals, UTC will be writing a letter to City Council supporting the New Mobility West study. Staff will supply a list of bullet points and Kristin and Devon volunteered to do a first draft of a letter for the Committee's review.

Safe Routes to School Prioritization for CDBG funding – Kathy passed around a 2019 Potential Project list for the UTC members to vote on ranking 1 to 9. Kathy told the group not to worry about where the funding was coming from but more on the merits of the project.

SRTS

- A – 27 ½ Road and B ½ Road – Intersection and curb ramp improvements, creating a pedestrian crosswalk across B ½ Road Overpass at Highway 50. (CDBG eligibility? Pending survey). -
- B – W. Orchard Avenue near West Middle School and Westlake Park – Curb, gutter, and sidewalk improvements, creating continuous sidewalk around the cul-de-sac. This fills in a missing segment of sidewalk between the Middle School and the multi-use trail through Westlake Park. (Within a CDBG eligible tract). -
- C – Lorey Drive from Westlake Park to 1st Street – Curb, gutter, and sidewalk improvements. This fills in a missing segment of sidewalk between 1st Street and the multi-use trail through West Lake Park. (Within a CDBG eligible tract).
- D – B Road near Mesa View Elementary – from Fairway View Drive to 30 Road. Curb, gutter, sidewalk and curb ramp improvements, creating a pedestrian crosswalk and continuous sidewalks connecting new subdivisions along B Road to the Elementary School (not eligible for CDBG). -
- E – 29 Road near Independence Academy – from F ½ Road to Brodick Way. Curb, gutter sidewalk and curb ramp improvements, creating a pedestrian crosswalk and continuous sidewalks connecting new subdivision along 29 Road to the Charter School (not eligible for CDBG).

Other

- F – Struthers Avenue from S. 7th Street to the Riverfront trailhead connection on the east side of Botanical Gardens – Curb, gutters, sidewalk and curb ramp improvements, creating a pedestrian crosswalk and continuous sidewalk. This fills in a missing segment of sidewalk to complete an accessible route from Downtown to the Riverfront. (CDBG eligibility? Provides accessibility benefits).
- G – Grand Avenue and 2nd Street – Median refuge and curb ramp improvements, creating a pedestrian crosswalk across Grand Avenue. (Within a CDBG eligible tract, if the tract extends to the south side of Grand Avenue).
- H – Traffic signal bike detection enhancements – Technology upgrade at traffic signals to provide reliable detection of bicycle traffic. There is a list of prioritized signals along key bike routes that, if thermal imaging/video detection cameras were installed, the level of service for bicyclists would be improved. (CDBG eligibility? Provides accessibility benefits).
- I – ADA Accessibility improvements, various locations – Curb ramp improvements. This correct missing or deficient ADA accessible routes into key community destinations such as City Hall, Mesa County's building on Rood Avenue, and Tope Elementary School. A list of locations has been compiled based on citizen reports/requests. (CDBG eligibility? Provides accessibility benefits).

Kathy said in interest of time, members could fill in the form or take it with them and email it back to her by Friday.

Results of the ranking are as follows:

1. I—ADA Accessibility Improvements
2. H—Traffic signal bike detection enhancements
3. D—B Road near Mesa View Elementary
4. A—27 ½ Road and B ½ Road

5. C-- Lorey Drive from Westlake Park to 1st Street
6. F-- Struthers Avenue from S. 7th Street to the Riverfront trailhead connection
7. B-- W. Orchard Avenue near West Middle School and Westlake Park
8. E--29 Road near Independence Academy
9. G-- Grand Avenue and 2nd Street – Median refuge and curb ramp improvements

Impact Fee Letter – UTC considered a draft letter to support the City's proposed transportation impact fee increase. Orin/Steve made a motion to approve the letter. Motion passed.

Updates: There were no updates.

Other business/Innovative Ideas/Public Comment:

- Sarah commented on Orin's great article in The Ride Magazine.
- Devon said he's started a Full Moon ride and invited everyone to participate.
- Sarah said Mesa County Public Health is working with Zoma Foundation to fund a Trails Coordinator position.
- Shana stated that on May 21st Bicycle Colorado will be doing a presentation at the central library at 6:00pm.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:10 pm

Draft letter of support for New Mobility West concept plan for the downtown I-70B corridor.

Urban Trails Committee letterhead

Date

City Council recipient information here

Regarding the Urban Trails Committee (UTC) support for the New Mobility West (NMW) concept plan for the I-70B corridor through downtown.

The purpose of the Urban Trails Committee (UTC) is to plan and promote the City Council's goals for an interconnected network of sidewalks, paths and routes for active transportation and recreation throughout the Grand Junction urbanized area. The UTC acts in an advisory capacity to the Grand Junction City Council on matters pertaining to safe, convenient and efficient movement of pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages and abilities through the community.

As plans for I-70B corridor through downtown have reemerged, UTC was recently presented with the New Mobility West (NMW) concept plan as well as the Colorado Department of Transportation's plan for the corridor. Of the two proposals, UTC supports the vision for the corridor established in the 2015 NMW concept plan. The NMW concept plan better aligns with the goals and objectives of the UTC Strategic Plan, as well as other plans adopted by the City of Grand Junction, such as the Comprehensive Plan, Greater Downtown Plan, the Circulation Plan, and the Complete Streets Policy, all of which envision a downtown environment that promotes active living by accommodating the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders, as well as motorists. More specifically, UTC supports the NMW plan for the following reasons:

- the CDOT plan for six-lanes is inappropriate for the urban context of downtown, especially considering that most of the Central Business District's streets are only two-lane sections;
- the NMW plan provides a better balance for traffic flow, local access, livability, and connectivity in the downtown area;
- the NMW plan improves connectivity through downtown to the residential areas, train depot, the Riverfront and the West Main bicycle/pedestrian bridge; and
- the NMW plan provides better access for all modes of transportation while being sensitive to the character of downtown.

UTC respects the need to accommodate current and anticipated automobile traffic volumes, however the needs of motorists must be balanced with the needs of other modes, especially in a downtown context. The NMW I-70B concept plan, which proposes a 4-lane roadway, strikes a balance between the needs of all modes by creating pedestrian and bike connections to downtown while still efficiently moving automobiles. These bicycle and pedestrian connections provide a critical link from downtown to the Riverfront Trail and beyond.

The UTC has reviewed the matter carefully and fully supports the vision for the I-70B corridor through downtown established by the 2015 New Mobility West study/plan.

Sincerely, UTC Chairs and members

DRAFT

PROPOSAL - UTC Shifting from Special Subcommittee to Standing Subcommittee Organization

There are two basic types of organizational committees—special committees and standing committees. Traditionally the UTC has operated using the special subcommittee model. Each time a new task is identified, a new ad hoc group or task force is developed to work on the project and UTC members are asked to volunteer. Once the objective is reached, the subcommittee is discontinued.

Another organizational option for the UTC to consider would be to develop standing subcommittees that serve an ongoing, continuous function and operate indefinitely. The idea would be to develop four standing subcommittees based around the stated UTC goals:

- 1) UT Development
- 2) UT Programming and Promotion
- 3) UT Participation and Safety
- 4) UTC Organization

When tasks or projects are identified, they would be assigned to an appropriate standing subcommittee to research, prioritize, and act upon. Every December, UTC members would be asked to commit to serving on at least one (with a suggestion of two) of the standing subcommittees for the upcoming year. The members of each standing subcommittee would communicate and meet as necessary to prioritize projects and work on assigned tasks. Each standing subcommittee would also provide a status update at each regular meeting. Here is a comparative look at the two ways of organizing the current UTC To-Do list:

Current SPECIAL Subcommittee Organization	Proposed STANDING Subcommittee Organization
Wayfinding Sub-Committee (only active SC at this time)	UT DEVELOPMENT Grand Ave/9th and 10th Design I-70B Proposed Improvements Potential Trails on Orchard Mesa Irrigation Ditches Complete Streets Policy Implementation and Oversight
CURRENT LIST OF UNASSIGNED TASKS: Grand Ave/9th and 10th Design Tour of the Moon Byway Safety Assessment Old Spanish Trail Presentation Potential Trails on Orchard Mesa Irrigation Ditches I-70B Proposed Improvements Bike and Pedestrian Safety Partnership with Parks & Rec Coordinate with CMU on Multimodal Campus Corridors Idaho Stop Legislation Google Drive Upkeep Monitor Complete Streets Policy Implementation Bike to Work/School Month Activities Community Streets Event Bike and Pedestrian Friendly Community Designations System for Determining UT Participant Counts Coordinate Efforts w Fruita, Palisade, County, State UTC Database of Partners and Supporters UTC Policy Review and improvements	UT PROGRAMING and PROMOTION Bike to Work/School Month Activities Community Streets Event Bike and Pedestrian Friendly Community Designations Old Spanish Trail Presentation
<i>Currently the only way to make progress on these tasks is to create a subcommittee and ask for volunteers.</i>	UT PARTICIPATION and SAFETY Wayfinding Policy and Implementation Coordinate with CMU on Multimodal Campus Corridors System for Determining UT Participant Counts Bike and Pedestrian Safety Partnership with Parks & Rec Tour of the Moon Byway Safety Assessment Idaho Stop Legislation
	UTC ORGANIZATION Google Drive Upkeep Outreach/Relationships w Fruita, Palisade, County, State, One Riverfront, Land Trust, etc. UTC Policy Review and Improvements UTC Database of Partners and Supporters

Shifting from a special subcommittee, to a standing subcommittee organization, could make the UTC a more effective agency. Assigning new tasks and projects will become automatic at the monthly meetings—insuring that items won't fall through the cracks or unnecessarily take up valuable meeting time. Once assigned to a subcommittee, each task will be reviewed, prioritized, and then reported back, with recommendations, at one of the general UTC meetings. In addition, working for a full-year in small standing subcommittees will promote teamwork, commitment, and ownership among the members of the group. Finally, concentrating on specific areas of concern for a full-year will encourage learning, capitalize on experience, and consolidate knowledge. All of these benefits will be realized within the first year of implementation and for years to come.

GRAND VALLEY

Colorado

2019 BIKE MONTH - MAY

BIKE TO WORK DAY - Wednesday, May 8



healthymesacounty.org

Presented by the Colorado Department of Transportation's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, the Federal Highway Administration and Healthy Mesa County.

 **healthy**
MESA COUNTY
healthymesacounty.org

May 8: Bike to Work and School Day

May 22: Grand Valley Bike Month Celebration at Las Colonias Park

Grand Junction

State of Colorado

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Colorado is a premiere bicycling state and Grand Junction offers some of the most diverse bicycling opportunities; and

WHEREAS, May has been designated as Grand Valley Bike Month to celebrate bicycling for transportation, fun and health, joining a nationwide effort to encourage cycling novices and enthusiasts to experience the fun and freedom of safely riding a bike to work, school, errands and recreation; and

WHEREAS, the bicycle is a viable and environmentally sound form of transportation and studies have shown that biking to work is associated with a lower risk of cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and all other causes of death; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Junction Urban Trails Committee is taking actions to improve safety for bicycle riders and pedestrians of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, bicycling activities and attractions have a positive impact on Grand Junction's economy and tourism industry and stimulates economic development by making the area attractive to businesses and citizens who enjoy the out-of-doors and healthy lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, Grand Junction has been designated a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists and recognizes that bicycle-friendly communities improve citizens' health, well-being, and quality of life, boost community spirit, improve traffic safety, and reduce pollution and congestion, all of which contribute to Grand Junction "Becoming the Most Livable Community West of the Rockies"; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Trails Committee and Healthy Mesa County, along with other local organizations throughout Mesa County will be promoting bicycling as an environmentally-friendly and healthy alternative to the automobile with a number of activities during Bike Month and on Bike to Work and School Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim the month of May and Wednesday, May 8th as

"BIKE MONTH AND BIKE TO WORK AND SCHOOL DAY"

in the City of Grand Junction and call upon all citizens to participate by biking as an alternative form of transportation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 1st day of May 2019.

Mayor