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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020 @ 5:30 PM

Call to Order/Announcements

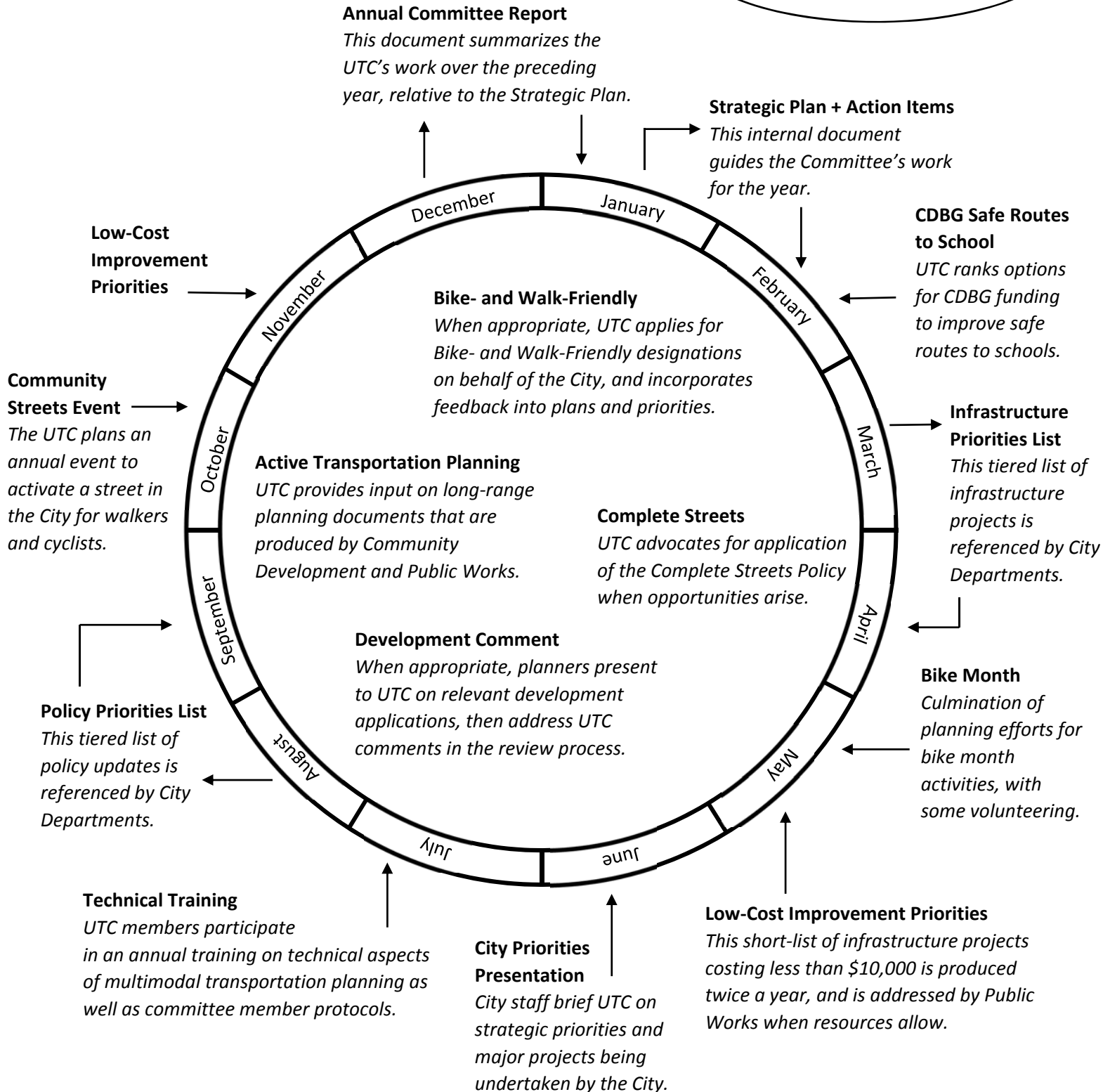
Other Business

Workshop Update to Strategic Plan

Adjournment

Urban Trails Committee Annual Roadmap

Some UTC Projects are produced annually, while other responsibilities are handled on an as-needed basis.



Grand Junction Urban Trails Committee
Strategic Plan
Adopted November, 2015/ Updated January, 2019

Introduction

Resolution No. 48-94 created the Grand Junction Trails Board in 1994 to serve as the principal coordinating body for the development of a trails and pathway system throughout Grand Junction and connecting to trail systems outside the City; to plan, develop and promote such a path system and help coordinate the implementation of the Multi-Modal Plan; and to actively pursue the development of new trails both in the City and in areas which may be annexed.

Since 1994, the Urban Trails Committee (UTC) has participated in transportation planning through the RTPO, including all modes, and review of development projects, as well as promoting safe and efficient active transportation through a number of programs and projects. With the City's recent focus on Safe Routes to School projects and other bicycle/pedestrian planning efforts, the Council requested that UTC be a committee of the City rather than a subcommittee of the Riverfront Commission. Resolution No. 48-14 was adopted by the Grand Junction City Council on December 17, 2014, re-establishing the Urban Trails Committee and adopting Bylaws.

Our Vision

The UTC envisions Grand Junction as a vibrant walkable and bikeable community for all ages and abilities. The convenience, efficiency and safety of our active transportation network will be an attraction to everyone who lives here or comes to visit.

Our Mission

The purpose of the Urban Trails Committee 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 Urban Trails Committee will act in an advisory capacity to the Grand Junction City Council on matters pertaining to the safe, convenient and efficient movement of pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages and abilities throughout the community, as well as other forms of transit.

Goal 1: Improve the built environment by providing safe and efficient active transportation options for people of all ages and abilities by increasing the number of miles of connected sidewalks, bike lanes and pathways within the City.

Strategies:

- Review and comment on land development applications to ensure compliance with the Urban Trails Master Plan

- Maintain a prioritized list of on and off street trail improvements, emphasizing Safe Routes to School and underserved areas of the City
- Identify and assess conditions of major active transportation corridors and connections throughout Grand Junction
- Act in an advisory capacity to the Grand Junction City Council on policy, priorities and funding issues pertaining to active transportation
- Identify safe routes and look for opportunities to provide connectivity and access to the Riverfront Trail
- Identify safe routes and look for opportunities to provide connectivity to public lands trailheads, including Tabaguache trails, Old Spanish Trail and the Bookcliffs/North Desert area
- Maintain and update, as needed, the Urban Trails Master Plan
- Develop and implement a Complete Streets Policy

Goal 2: Increase Programming to promote Safe Walking and Biking Opportunities

Strategies:

- Promote Bike Month and Bike to Work Day activities
- Participate in Share the Road activities
- Support Safe Routes to School activities, including audits, Walking and Wheeling events, bike rodeos, education and safety campaigns, Walk and Bike to School activities
- Support the development of a sustainable Safe Routes to School program to be implemented district-wide
- Develop a standardized bike/pedestrian wayfinding program using signage, maps and GIS applications
- Develop a community Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan

Goal 3: Increase the number of citizens utilizing active modes of transportation and promote the health, livability and economic benefits of a Walkable/Bikeable Community

Strategies:

- Organize and participate in the Walking and Biking Summit and other community forums
- Participate in Healthy Mesa County's Active Communities initiative to promote the health benefits of active transportation choices
- Pursue a Bicycle Friendly Community Designation and continue to work toward improving the rating
- Promote the economic benefits of a walkable/bikeable community by participating in local studies and assessments

2018 Action Items/Projects/Accomplishments

Goal 1: Improve the built environment by providing safe and efficient active transportation options for people of all ages and abilities by increasing the number of miles of connected sidewalks, bike lanes and pathways within the City.			
	Action Items/Projects	Progress	
1	Participate in public process for adoption of Complete Streets Policy and Active Transportation Corridor Plan	Completed/adopted July 18, 2018	
2	Identify SRTS projects for CDBG funding and other funding sources	1. Bookcliff Middle School—29 ¼ Road ramps and sidewalk; 2. Grand Ave. at 9 th and 10 th curb extensions; 3. Pinyon from 13 th to 15 th sidewalk	
3	Review street construction and maintenance projects for opportunities to improve bike/ped facilities	Reviewed River Road shoulders, S. 7 th Street painted bike lanes, recommended W. Main sharrow, N. 7 th Street project—not room for bike lanes but discussed alternatives	
4	Develop protocols, priorities and funding for maintenance and repair of existing infrastructure	City increased street sweeping	
5	Provide recommendations for bicycle/pedestrian improvements along 10 th Street and S. 7 th Street and other innovative projects	10 th and 9 th /Grand extended safe crossings funded; Enhanced bike lanes on S. 7 th Street	
6	Provide input on City development projects	Ongoing	
7	Research innovative techniques for safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities, including sharrows and bicycle boulevards	Ongoing	
8	Review and revise as necessary UTC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Priorities	Completed with 2019 discussion	

9	Provide recommendations for wayfinding signage	Subcommittee working on it	
Goal 2: Increase Programming to promote Safe Walking and Biking Opportunities			
1	Actively participate in Bike Month Activities	Completed	
2	Community Streets Event	Completed	
3	Update and publish bicycle/pedestrian map	In process	
4	Create a UTC calendar of events	Decided to coordinate with other event calendars	
Goal 3: Increase the number of citizens utilizing active modes of transportation and promote the health, livability and economic benefits of a Walkable/Bikeable Community			
1	Pursue Walk Friendly Community Designation	Application completed	
2	Apply for Bicycle Friendly Community designation upgrade in rating	Application completed	
3	National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project	Completed for 2018	
4	Develop a bibliography of resources on bicycle and pedestrian topics	On-going	
5	Update UTC webpage to include agendas, minutes, resource bibliography, public comment and link to "Fix It"	In process; google drive created	

2019 Action Items/Projects

Goal 1: Improve the built environment by providing safe and efficient active transportation options for people of all ages and abilities by increasing the number of miles of connected sidewalks, bike lanes and pathways within the City.			
	Action Items/Projects	Progress	
1	Identify SRTS projects for CDBG funding and other funding sources		
2	Review street construction and maintenance projects for opportunities to improve bike/ped facilities		
3	Provide recommendations for innovative bicycle/pedestrian improvements		
4	Provide input on City development projects		
5	Review and revise, as necessary, UTC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Priorities		
6	Signage/Wayfinding standards and pilot project implementation		
7	Work with Orchard Mesa Irrigation District to identify one or two sections to plan as a pilot project		
8	Improve Code requirements for bicycle parking, design and location (Bicycle Friendly Community Implementation)		
9	Provide input and recommendations on implementing the Complete Streets Policy		
	Participate in the Comprehensive Plan update and 2045 Transportation Plan		

Goal 2: Increase Programming to promote Safe Walking and Biking Opportunities			
1	Actively participate in Bike Month Activities		
2	Community Streets Event		
3	Update and publish bicycle/pedestrian map, including SRTS maps and mobile apps		
4	Host a Bicycle Colorado training in Grand Junction (Bicycle Friendly Community implementation		
Goal 3: Increase the number of citizens utilizing active modes of transportation and promote the health, livability and economic benefits of a Walkable/Bikeable Community			
1	National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project		
2	Update UTC webpage to include agendas, minutes, resource bibliography, public comment and link to “Fix It”		
3	Participate in CMU’s America Walks Project and continue to build cooperation and communication to enhance bike/ped connections through and around campus		
4	Encourage local businesses and CMU to pursue Bicycle Friendly designation		
5	Develop a work plan to achieve the next level of Bicycle Friendly Community designation		

A recommended strategy to increase the Bicycle Friendly Community designation is to “Appoint a staff member Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator or create a new position-- UTC is proposing to develop a job description to include a focus on bicyclist/pedestrian issues, SRTS and Healthy Communities

UTC Strategic Plan Update Workshop—January 22nd, 5:30p - 7:00p

Vision Statement—An aspirational description of what an organization would like to achieve or accomplish in the future. It is intended to serve as a clear guide for choosing current and future courses of action. **I think the current UTC Vision Statement is concise and provides a clear direction to guide our organization.**

UTC Vision Statement—The UTC envisions Grand Junction as a vibrant walkable and bikeable community for all ages and abilities. The convenience, efficiency, and safety of our active transportation network will be an attraction to everyone who lives here or comes to visit.

Mission Statement—Describes the purpose of the organization and what it is currently doing to achieve the vision. **I think the current UTC Mission Statement is a bit wordy. The first sentence basically restates the first sentence. I tried to maintain the original sentiment of the mission and tried to simplify it.**

UTC Current Mission Statement

The purpose of the Urban Trails Committee 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 Urban Trails Committee will act in an advisory capacity to the Grand Junction City Council on matters pertaining to the safe, convenient and efficient movement of pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages and abilities throughout the community, as well as other forms of transit.

Proposed Mission Statement

The purpose of the UTC is to act as an advisory council to the Grand Junction City Council, focused on helping to plan, prioritize, and promote the City's goal for developing an interconnected active transportation network throughout the urbanized areas that emphasizes safety, connectivity, and efficiency for pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages and abilities.

Goals—The stated goals should support a path for achieving the mission. **Currently, I think our first goal is spot on, but the second and third goals really don't point towards the stated mission of developing the urban trail network. Eventually programming and participation may become very important, but at this juncture these activities have a tendency to send us down various "rabbit holes" at times. For this reason, I tried to come up with goals that will help us stay focused on the mission of developing an interconnected network of urban trails.**

Goal 1: Improve the built environment by providing safe and efficient active transportation options for people of all ages and abilities by increasing the number of miles of connected sidewalks, bike lanes and pathways within the City.

Goal 1: To review the City's active transportation network on an ongoing basis and make recommendations for built environment enhancements for the purpose of increasing the number of miles of connected sidewalks, bike lanes, and pathways within the urbanized area.

Lists of the Safe Routes to Schools, Infrastructure Priorities, and Low-Cost Improvements would fit under here.

Goal 2: Increase Programming to promote Safe Walking and Biking Opportunities

Goal 2: To help develop a written Active Transportation Policy Guide for the City of Grand Junction with the objective of making the urbanized area more pedestrian and bicycle friendly for people of all ages and abilities.

Some of the MANY policy topics that could be addressed are Connectivity, Complete Streets, Public Transportation, Active Transportation Count, Wayfinding, Bicycle Parking, Safety, Education...

Goal 3: Increase the number of citizens utilizing active modes of transportation and promote the health, livability and economic benefits of a Walkable/Bikeable Community

Goal 3: To promote the plans and accomplishments of the active transportation network and policies to the community.

Redefine the Community Streets Event to focus on this concept and utilize the Bike Month event as well.

Goal 4: To search-out and foster relationships with other community organizations and individuals to further the advancement of the UTC's active transportation mission and goals.

Developing strategic partnerships with organizations like the Mesa County Health, CO Riverfront Commission, Grand Valley Trails Alliance, Mesa County Bicycling Alliance, COPMOBA, Parks and Rec, GJ Police Department, CO West Land Trust, DDA, Horizon Drive Business Association could really leverage cooperative knowledge and strengths and help advance our mission.

Existing Strategic Plan

Goal 1. Improve the built environment by providing safe and efficient active transportation options for people of all ages and abilities by increasing the number of miles of connected sidewalks, bike lanes and pathways within the City.

Strategies

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- Maintain and update, as needed, the Urban Trails Master Plan [2018 Circulation Plan].
- Implement a Complete Streets Policy

Goal 2. Increase Programming to promote Safe Walking and Biking Opportunities

Strategies

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Goal 3. Increase the number of citizens utilizing active modes of transportation and promote the health, livability and economic benefits of a Walkable/Bikeable Community

Strategies

- Organize and participate in the Walking and Biking Summit and other community forums
- Participate in Healthy Mesa County's Active Communities initiative to promote the health benefits of active transportation choices
- Pursue a Bicycle Friendly Community Designation and continue to work toward improving the rating
- Promote the economic benefits of a walkable/bikeable community by participating in local studies and assessments

Proposed Strategic Plan [Drafted by Gary Stubler]

PROPOSED MISSION

The purpose of the UTC is to help plan, prioritize, and promote the City Council's goal for an interconnected active transportation network throughout Grand Junction and surrounding areas that emphasizes safety, connectivity, and efficiency.

Goal 1: To help develop a written Active Transportation Guide for the City of Grand Junction. This guide will be reviewed, updated, and shared with Council annually.

- Active Transportation
- Connectivity
- Safety
- Public Transportation
- Pedestrian Issues
- Bicycle Issues
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Friendly Designation

Goal 2: To review the City's active transportation network on an ongoing basis and make recommendations for built environment enhancements.

- Infrastructure Priorities List
- Low-Cost Improvement List

Goal 3: To promote the plans and accomplishments of the active transportation network.

- Bike Month
- Community Streets Event

Goal 4: To search-out and foster relationships with other community organizations to further the advancement of the UTC's active transportation mission.

- Host Annual Active Transportation Workshop

UTC Road Map Calendar

The purposed road map, with a few changes, would be the UTC's guiding document.