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**URBAN TRAILS COMMITTEE AGENDA
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM, 250 N 5th STREET**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 - 5:30 PM

Call to Order/Announcements

Approval of Minutes

Action Items

Discussion Items

1. New Member Orientation
2. Glossary of Terms

Updates

Other Business/Public Comment

Adjournment



Urban Trails Committee

Member Orientation

Welcome!

Introductions

Committee Info & Rules

Annual Roadmap

Teams Folder

Recent & Ongoing Efforts

Background & Purpose

- Established in 1994 and re-established in 2014 under Council oversight and City administrative support.
- Members must either be a resident or a be employed within City limits.
- Members serve a maximum of 2 three-year terms.
- **Function:** Advisory

Mission: 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 acts 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 forms of transit.

The Urban Trails Committee (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.

Structure & Activities

Structure

- Officers: Chair and Vice Chair, elected annually in October.
- Current Chair: Athena Fouts
- Current Vice Chair: Steve Meyer
- Staff liaisons:
 - Henry Brown (Mobility Planner, Community Development Department)
 - Eric Mocko (Transportation Engineer, Engineering & Transportation Department)
- Ex-Officio roles:
 - Anita Sheetz, Mesa County Public Health
 - Andy Gingerich, Grand Valley MPO/RTPO
- City Council liaison: Councilmember Jason Nguyen

Activities

- Advise and make recommendations to City Council.
- Make recommendations to staff for policy and program priorities.
- Provide letters of support for City, County, or other organizations pursuing grant opportunities.
- Sit on subcommittees or represent UTC on broader/city-wide steering or stakeholder committees.
- Promote Active Transportation engagement /participation throughout the city.
- Provide input to the Infrastructure Priorities List and the Low-Cost Improvement Priorities List.

General Rules

- Colorado Sunshine Law – Communications & Subcommittees
- Attendance – Missing two-thirds of regularly scheduled meetings may result in a recommendation for removal.
- Meetings shall go no later than 7 pm unless agreed upon by a majority by vote.
- Action of Members without a Meeting – Email proxy

Supporting Documents

Annual Road Map Collaboration Site

	June	July	August
Regular Meeting	Welcoming new Members	Technical Training	AT Counts Presentation
Workshop	New Member Orientation	Fall Bike Month/BTWD kick-off	Summer Walk Audit
Community		4 th of July Parade	

	September	October	November
Regular Meeting	→ Walk Audit Debrief	Engineering discussion for off-season plan	
Workshop		Final preparation for event	
Community	Fall Bike Month/Week without Driving	Living Streets Event	Veterans' Day Parade

	December	January	February
Regular Meeting	Input – Annual Committee Report Reviewing mapping updates	→ Annual Report & Walk Audit Presentation Mission Statement review	Introduce Infrastructure Priorities Spring Bike Month/BTWD kick-off
Workshop	Winter Walk Audit (3/yr cadence)		Winter Walk Audit (2/yr cadence)
Community	Parade of Lights		Winter BTWD

	March	April	May
Regular Meeting	→ Incorporate new Infra. Priorities Living Streets kick-off	Introduce Policy Priorities Engineering discussion for in-season plan	→ Incorporate Policy Priorities → Walk Audit Debrief
Workshop		Spring Walk Audit (3/yr cadence)	
Community		Boards & Commissions recognition	Spring Bike Month/BTWD/Counts

Note: Monthly scheduling is for guidance only and agendas may shift as needed.

Ongoing activities:

- Reviewing requests for support from City/County/other organizations
- Promoting/encouraging public engagement & participation in active transportation.

Intermittent activities:

- Supporting updates to Bicycle Friendly Communities application in first half of years ending in 4 and 9.
- Supporting wayfinding/mapping updates in years ending in 0 and 5.
- Supporting development of long-range plans by staff via participation on steering committees or stakeholder groups.

Accessing Teams Folder

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Teams interface with three numbered callouts: 1. The 'Chat' icon in the left-hand navigation pane is highlighted with a red box. 2. The 'General' channel is selected in the 'Urban Trails Committee' team list. 3. The 'Files' tab is selected in the top navigation bar of the 'General' channel.

1

2

3

UT **General** Posts **Files** +

+ New Upload Edit in grid view Share Copy link Sync All Documents

Documents > General

Name	Modified	Modified By	+ Add column
Agendas & Minutes	March 18, 2022	orin	
Grant Support Letters	January 11, 2022	Daniella Acosta	
Info, Updates, Suggestions	January 11, 2022	Daniella Acosta	
Multimedia	January 11, 2022	Daniella Acosta	
Projects & Subcommittees	March 18, 2022	orin	
Technical Resources	January 11, 2022	Daniella Acosta	
UTC Information	January 11, 2022	Daniella Acosta	

Recent Achievements & Ongoing Efforts

- Staffing a full-time Mobility Planner position (2023)
- Adoption of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan by City Council (2023)
- Adoption of updated Transportation Engineering Design Standards (TEDS) by City Council (2023)
- Silver “Bicycle Friendly Community” rating (2024)
- Active Traffic Counts (“bike/ped counts”) annual adaptation
- Pushing for compromise on Complete Streets pilot (2025)

Questions?

UTC – Glossary of Common Terms

A

Accident – A depreciated term commonly used to refer to crashes or other incidents which professionals have more or less successfully removed from official lexicon due to its imprecision, impartiality, and implication of unavailability. See “Crash.”

ADA – The federal Americans with Disabilities Act dictates that reasonable accommodations should be made for those who may not be able to otherwise use public services. For infrastructure, see “PROWAG.”

ADT – Average Daily Traffic is a count of how many motor vehicles use a corridor in a typical day. Based on a rough assumption that 10% of the ADT is comprised of peak hour volume, ADT can be translated to a more intuitive “vehicle spacing” frequency: $f_{vehicle} = \frac{36,000}{[ADT]}$ to get approximate # of seconds between vehicles passing during the peak hour.

Arterial – See “Classification.”

AT – Active Transportation comprises the full collection of human-powered modes of transport (including electrical equivalents), including pedestrians, bicyclists, scooter riders, and those using mobility devices.

ATC – The city’s 2018 Circulation Plan formalized Active Transportation

Corridors, envisioned to comprise a complete network of accommodating facilities serving AT users.

B

BID – A Business Improvement District is an entity that taxes businesses within its boundaries to provide broader benefits to them. See “DDA” and “Horizon Drive BID.”

Bike Lane – Any one of the following types of on-network bicycle facility:

	Displaced from traffic	Includes vertical separation
Striped	N	N
Buffered	Y	N
Protected	Y	Y

Bike Month – Typically celebrated in May and September, the City and various entities host events to celebrate and promote cycling in the Grand Junction area.

Bike Rodeo – An educational event where youth or new riders are challenged to ride a skills course, practicing skills such as riding in a straight line, stopping at a crosswalk, signaling turns, and crossing railroad tracks perpendicularly.

Bike to Work Day – Typically celebrated in May, September, and February by the City and various entities.

BLOTS – See “LOTS” (B for *Bicyclist*).

Bollard – A rigid infrastructure element intended to stop a moving vehicle from entering a prohibited space. Often confused with a “vertical delineator.”

Bulb-out – Typically a tapering-in of the curb line to physically narrow the street, this is an effective traffic calming measure that can also be implemented via quick-build elements. Typically used at street corners, they can also be applied mid-block.

Bustang – Regional bus service provided by CDOT with six daily RTs to Denver via Glenwood Springs and one to Durango via Montrose.

C

CDOT – The Colorado Department of Transportation is the agency responsible for regulating surface transportation in the state, owning and maintaining intercity highways (e.g., I-70, US6, US50, CO-340, I-70B), and operating Bustang. They are also a source of grant funds for AT projects.

CEO – The Colorado Energy Office is a state agency responsible for developing programs and promoting energy policy to fight climate change, improve air quality, and save Coloradans money. They are a source of grant funds for AT projects.

Circulation Plan – Adopted by City Council in 2018 and updated intermittently since, this plan establishes expectations and recommendations for maintaining or enhancing multi-modal connectivity throughout the city.

Chicane – A meander in the street for traffic calming and/or aesthetic purposes, like Main Street or Colorado Avenue.

Chipseal – The City’s annual preventative maintenance of resurfacing and resealing streets, which may provide opportunities for retrofitting AT facilities via striping.

Collector – See “Classification.”

Classification – A designation of a street or road on a hierarchy of the intended function of that corridor. See TEDS.

Classification	Function
Alley	Hyper-local origin/destination access
Local Street	Intra-neighborhood access
Minor Collector	Collects neighborhood traffic
Major Collector	Distributes traffic to arterials; less emphasis on access
Minor Arterial	Emphasis on throughput; even less emphasis on access
Principal Arterial	Emphasis on throughput; ideally managed access only
Interstate	Emphasis on speed and throughput; no access

Complete Streets – A modern street design model that accommodates mode choice instead of solely focusing on motor vehicle throughput.

Corner bulb-out – See “Bulb-out.”

Corral – An area designated for micromobility parking.

Crash – An impartial term to refer to a roadway incident in which a traveler or their vehicle experiences an impact with another traveler, their vehicle, or with hardscape. Other terms which may be situationally applicable include “collision” or “wreck.”

Cycletrack – Typically, an on-network facility which separates micromobility from vehicular traffic and other AT modes, often adjacent to a sidewalk and/or a roadway. Contrast with a trail, which combines all AT modes on a single facility.

D

DDA – The Downtown Development Authority is a special district focused “on supporting and facilitating economic development efforts to enhance the viability of Downtown through grants, capital investment and improvements to public amenities.” As a part of the Downtown Grand Junction Partnership, the same staff also manage the Downtown BID.

Demonstration – See “Pilot.”

E

Easement – Unlike ROW, an easement may provide limited on access on private property for public benefit.

F

Facility – Used to describe any type of transportation infrastructure. See “infrastructure.”

First-mile/last-mile – See “Last-mile.”

Forestry Board – UTC’s counterpart, advising City Council on matters related to the urban tree canopy.

Flex-post – See “Vertical Delineator.”

G

GIS – Geographic Information System is a mapping system used to visualize and access data. GIS software can be used to produce any geographic data visualization.

GVRTC – The Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee is a board comprised of multi-jurisdictional elected officials which oversees the operation of GVT and other regional transportation initiatives.

GVT – Grand Valley Transit is our local transit provider, currently offering hourly service, 6 days per week, on 11 permanent

fixed routes and one pilot expansion route, as well as paratransit service and, occasionally, special event service.

H

Heat-island effect – A well-documented phenomenon that land area predominantly covered with hardscape and with limited plantings or tree cover will retain a significant amount of heat, contributing to health risk, especially for AT users or others exercising outdoors. The City completed a Heat-island Mapping Campaign in 2024.

HIN – The PBP established the region’s first High Injury Network, a subset of streets and roads that are home to most crashes impacting VRUs. Mesa County’s Safety Action Plan also developed a HIN for all modes for all urbanized areas.

Horizon Drive BID – A City-adjacent BID responsible for managing aspects of Horizon Drive and the surrounding area.

I

Improvement – Commonly used to refer to any streets project, professionals are trying to discourage the use of this word since it is non-specific and not universally applicable.

Infrastructure – Refers to facilities comprising the built environment, including sidewalks, streets & roads, trails, etc.

Infrastructure Priorities List – A list of large-scale project priorities maintained by the UTC and updated annually.

J

K

L

LAB – the League of American Bicyclists evaluates communities and businesses for bicycle friendliness. The City currently has a Silver rating, while City Hall is gold.

Last-mile – Shortened from “First-mile/last-mile,” this refers to challenges related to closing the distance between a transit stop or parking space and final destination or origin.

LCI – The LAB certifies League Cycling Instructors to teach specific bicycle curricula, including Smart Cycling and Bicycle-friendly Driver trainings.

Living Streets – A concept that streets could and should do more than serve the

throughput of travelers, and the projects that demonstrate this.

Local Street – See “Classification.”

LOS – Level of Service is a common metric for assessing how much delay drivers may experience on a corridor, either over the course of the day, or during a peak hour. Commonly applied to a project regardless of land use context, professionals are trying to discourage the use of this metric on local or complete streets.

LOTS – Also abbreviated as LTS, Level of Traffic Stress is a numerical estimate of how accommodating a given corridor is for AT travelers. A score of one is the most comfortable facility, totally separated from traffic, while a four is a high stress facility, such as where there is no sidewalk or paved shoulder along a busy and/or high-speed road.

M

Micromobility – Similar to AT, micromobility refers to human-scale travel modes that rely on equipment, such as bicycles or scooters, but typically excluding pedestrian modes (including accessibility devices) and wearables.

Microtransit – A form of public transportation that leverages smaller

vehicles for on-demand or flexible route service.

MPO – The Metropolitan Planning Office “provides regional transportation planning and programming services for all road users, including those who drive, walk, bike, roll, take transit, deliver freight, or travel by other modes.” See “RTPO.”

Multi-modal: A descriptor of a facility which is designed to accommodate more than a single mode of travel. See “Complete Street.”

Multi-use Path/Trail: See “Path”/“Trail.”

N

NACTO – The National Association of City Transportation Officials is a

NOFO – A Notice of Funding Opportunity provides details about grant funding, including application details, obligations, and due dates.

O

Off-network – A designation for AT facilities which do not follow the roadway network, such as trails along drainageways.

On-network – A designation for AT facilities which follow the roadway network, such as bike lanes.

Open Streets – See “Living Streets.”

ORC – The One Riverfront Commission is an advisory commission to Mesa County Commissioners and other jurisdictions on the development of the Riverfront Trail and associated access. The UTC was spun out of this group.

ORF – The One Riverfront Foundation is the fundraising arm dedicated to the development of the Riverfront Trail and associated access.

P

Paint and Plastic – See “Quick-build.”

Path – A lower-volume counterpart to a trail, typically off-network and not along an Active Transportation Corridor, which may provide connections from neighborhoods, subdivisions, or destinations out to nearby higher-order facilities.

Paratransit – ADA required transit service for community members who live within the GVT service area but are unable to take transit due to a disability.

PBP – The City’s first Pedestrian Bicycle Plan was adopted in 2023 and includes a vision for Grand Junction to be “a city where people of all ages and abilities can safely and conveniently walk, roll, and bike on a connected network of well-maintained

facilities for transportation or recreation” and 39 strategies to help advance that vision.

Persigo Agreement – An agreement between Mesa County, the Persigo Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the City of Grand Junction which dictates an annexation boundary. See “UDB.”

Pilot – A novel proof of concept intended to evaluate and provide opportunities to learn at a lower cost, with opportunity for pivoting and iteration.

PLOTS – See “LOTS” (P for *pedestrian*).

PM – Suspended Particulate Matter are air quality contaminants which can cause adverse health outcomes from short- or long-term exposure, especially for those with respiratory or cardiological issues. Typically classified based on size into PM₁₀, including pollen and dust; and PM_{2.5} (aka “fine PM”), including combustion products. Common sources include automobile use, construction, and agricultural burning.

PRAB – The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board is the counterpart to the UTC focused on advising City Council on matters pertaining to parks & recreation.

PROS Plan – City Council adopted the Parks, Recreation, Open Space Master Plan in 2021. Among other objectives, it

references opportunities for “trails that provide connectivity throughout the city.”

PROWAG – Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines provided by the US Access Board establish a vision for how public infrastructure can meet ADA.

Q

Quick-build – Infrastructure elements typically used in a pilot project to allow for quick iterations at low cost.

R

RFA – Request for Applications. See “NOFO.”

RFT – The Riverfront Trail is the shared-use trail currently extending from 33-1/2 Road to 29 Road and from the 27 ½ alignment towards Fruita along the north bank of the Colorado River.

RFI – A Request for Information is a tool used by the City to solicit guidance from industry or other experts.

RFP – A Request for Proposals is a tool used by the City to solicit bids for service.

Road Diet – The practice of right-sizing the number of lanes of travel or the lanes themselves to free up ROW width for other uses or for traffic calming.

ROW – Right-of-Way may refer to the publicly owned space encompassing streets and roads, sidewalks, landscaping, and utilities

RTPO – The Reginal Transportation Planning Office shares staff with the MPO to coordinate and advise regional jurisdictions on transportation initiatives, including safety education.

S

Shared Micromobility – The City’s permitted deployment of e-scooters or other devices in the public ROW.

Shared Use Path/Trail – See “Path”/“Trail.”

Signal Priority – A practice of prioritizing certain vehicles, such as ambulances or public buses, through intersections, possibly via smart signal control or via turn-lane exceptions.

Speed, 85th-percentile – A common metric for evaluating driver behavior and pedestrian risk, a threshold which 15% of drivers surpass and which 85% of drivers do not hit.

SS4A – Safe Streets (and Roads) for All is a large, 5-year grant program offered by the USDOT. Mesa County was a recipient for planning in 2023 and for demonstration in

2024. The City is applying for implementation in 2025.

T

TAC – The GVRTC Technical Advisory Committee is comprised of staff from regional member governments to advise and provide input on transportation matters..

Tactical Urbanism – See “Quick-build.”

TEDS – The City’s Transportation Engineering Design Standards enshrine regulations for the design of new streets and roads, among other engineering requirements. Standard street sections for various roadway types are included.

TPR – The Grand Valley Transportation Planning Region shares its boundaries with Mesa County and the jurisdiction of the MPO. Managed by RTPO staff and overseen by the GVRTC, this is one of five metropolitan regions in Colorado.

Traffic Calming – The practice of reducing speeding or other unsafe driver behavior via engineering and infrastructure design, often relied on in a modern complete street design.

Traffic Garden – A simulated street environment where young community

members can learn and practice good street safety habits in a car-free space.

Trail – Typically, an off-network, paved, shared-use facility for pedestrian and bicycle uses, separated from a roadway. Typically 8-10’ minimum (6’ when constrained). Contrast with a cycletrack which separates micromobility from other AT traffic.

U

UDB – The Urban Development Boundary dictates the limits of urban development and annexation for Grand Junction, and is highly correlated to the Persigo Agreement.

USDOT – The US Department of Transportation is a regularly department of the federal government and a source of grant funds for AT projects.

UTC – The Urban Trails Committee is an advisory committee to City Council comprised of 9 appointed voting members, 2 ex-officio members, city staff, and a council liaison.

V

Vehicle Spacing – See “ADT.”

Vertical Delineator – Often misreferred to as a “bollard,” these are quick-build

elements used to increase the level of attention drivers must pay, effective at traffic calming, but visually unappealing. Also known as “Vertical Paint.”

VMT – Vehicle Miles Traveled, often per capita, is a measure of car dependency or network demand in a given area.

VRU – A Vulnerable Road User is defined by the federal government to include most travelers outside a motor vehicle, including pedestrians, micromobility users, and motorcyclists.

W

Walk Audit – An activity where community members evaluate the quality of a small piece of sidewalk network, typically supplying data and observations back to staff for a report, especially in a recurring Workshop led by UTC.

Waterwise – A landscaping style that minimizes the need for irrigation but is still planted, often with drought tolerant or native species to help with aesthetics, stormwater management, and heat-island effect, by contrast to zeroscape.

Wayfinding – The act of navigating from origin to destination, especially while for AT users. Supported by maps, signage, and local awareness, this can be a challenge for visitors or new residents.

X

Xeriscape – See “Waterwise.”

Y

Z

Zeroscape – A non-recommended landscaping style that eliminates planting in favor of rock or hardscape, reducing maintenance and water need, but contributing to heat-island effect and often impacting stormwater management and aesthetics, by contrast to xeriscape.