

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

Minutes December 11, 2018

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chair, Orin Zyvan. Those present from the Committee were:

Orin Zyvan, Chair
Shana Wade

Dr. Kristin Heumann
Biz Collins

David Lehmann
Devon Blat

Also present Kathy Portner, Andy Gingrich, Paul Jagim - City of Grand Junction, Vara Kusal – Horizon Drive Business District, Mathew Lucero, Stephen Meyer - public, Bennett Boeschstein – Mayor Pro Tem, Brandon Stam and Caitlyn Love, Downtown Development Authority and Michele Rohrbach.

Announcement – Kathy announced she is retiring in the spring. One Riverfront office closed tomorrow.

Approval of Minutes – Biz/Kristin. Motion was passed.

UTC input on the Downtown Development Authority Plan of Development--issues and opportunities

Brandon and Caitlyn gave an overview of the Plan of Development for downtown. The group had the following comments on what is working and what needed improvement:

- need sharrows on Main
- better placement of bike racks on the sidewalk, some too close to the walls
- need bike racks in the Parking Garage
- well lit at all hours, making it feel safe at night
- patrol officers make it feel safe
- some parts are very walkable and friendly but other are not
- when Main Street is closed for event, it's more comfortable
- love Art on the Corner
- likes history incorporated on the old buildings
- basic development pattern is great
- WiFi
- parklet is nice but 5th street traffic too fast and it needs shade
- should do some “pop-up” features to see how they work
- need bike parking when the street is closed
- like the bike service stations
- like that Barron's inside bike parking
- need to create spaces with more atmospheres

There was some discussion on connectivity and the challenges getting from the neighborhoods to downtown and to the Riverfront. Further, CDOT's plans for I-70B through downtown creates more challenges for connectivity and isn't multi-modal friendly. Additional improvements along 10th Street are needed to encourage the connection between downtown and CMU. A bicycle blvd for 10th Street was suggested. Through a partnership, a free bus service from the airport to CMU and downtown will be provided Thurs.-Saturdays, starting this spring. It was suggested that the busses accommodate more bikes.

Walk Friendly Community Application update

Walk Friendly Committee will be meeting on, application, Andy said it's due December 15th and still putting the application together. Kathy, Paul, Biz, Kristin and he have been working on it. Kristin said they are still working on the areas like connectivity – safe routes to schools and new development connectivity. Bennett said that the City still wants to see more safe routes to schools. Kristin said fixing dilapidated areas in lower income areas needs to be addressed. Shana asked about the safe routes to school grants and if it was for any schools. Biz said K-8. Shana stated that middle school kids are the ones parents will allow to walk or ride their bikes and they don't have sidewalks or bike lanes. Andy added that the difficulty with connectivity between County and City.

UTC shifting from special committees to standing committees. Gary and Orin had been working on a proposal to establish standing committees. The proposal was distributed and committee members were asked to review and provide input to Orin to be discussed at the February meeting.

Future Agenda items – Orin provided a list of potential agenda items for discussion. It was noted that some items can wait until there is some progress. Shana asked about drafting a letter regarding CDOT's downtown plan. Kristin suggested reviewing the minutes from CDOT's presentation to the group to pull UTC's concerns voiced at the meeting. Orin suggested having a presentation on the New Mobility West Study. Orin reminded the committee that Tina Ross with the City of Grand Junction Parks and Rec would like to partner with UTC on some of their programs. He also mentioned REI has grants available to help with education and outreach. Kristin suggested looking at 2018 Accomplishments and 2019 Goals and Action Plan at the January meeting.

Michele stated that One Riverfront will be discussing setting up a way-finding committee and she will put the committee in touch with UTC. She also suggested that the Town of Palisade and Fruita should be included so all signage is consistent.

Orin will send out the list to everyone and asked the members to rank them.

Updates:

Bicycle Friendly Community Application – received Bronze again. Still have not seen the report card. Group will review once the Kathy gets the report.

Development Projects – Andy said application for project on 24 Road with Timberline Bank building a new bank on the east side of 24 Road and F ½ Road. Will be built in phases. Kristin

thinks they need to remove the parking from the side. Would like to see more bike parking and connections to the movie theater. Kristin also commented that it would be nice to see a trail through the parking lot rather than just landscaping.

Citizen Requests for Improvements – Nothing to report.

Other business/Innovative Ideas/Public Comment – Nothing to report.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:00pm

Future Agenda Items:

New Mobility West Study and Goals and Achievements – January

Standing Committees – February

Comprehensive Plan – March

Idaho Stop Legislation

Potential trails on OMID buried ditches

Enforcement w/GJPD

Signage/Wayfinding

Grand Avenue/9th and 10th design—December or January

Tour of the Moon Byway Safety Assessment

Old Spanish Trail presentation

Bike and pedestrian safety partnership with GJ Parks and Rec

Coordination with CMU on cross campus multimodal corridors