

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

Minutes January 8, 2019

Called to Order

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

Orin Zyvan, Chair
Biz Collins
Sarah Johnson

Dr. Kristin Heumann
Devon Blat

Shana Wade
David Lehmann

Also present Kathy Portner, Andy Gingrich, Paul Jagim - City of Grand Junction, Vara Kusal – Horizon Drive Business District, Bennett Boeschstein – Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Grand Junction, Mathew Lucero, public and Michele Rohrbach.

Announcement – Kathy said that they will be interviewing two candidates for the one opening on UTC. City Clerk apologized for late notice but she was looking for qualifications for members. Suggestions made for a business owner or business experience, pedestrian expertise or interest and a perspective on connectivity for bicyclists, pedestrians and GVT. (Michele to look for past UTC qualification letters to Stephanie Tuin and email to Kathy).

Orin said that he attended the Ride Magazine meeting at the Sentinel. They will be focusing more on valley rides, etc. Open to interested people to write articles. Orin was asked to write an article since he made comments at the meeting. Deadline is February 13th and magazine comes out in April. Shana suggested getting something about Bike to Work month.

Discussed the new State Park fee. Michele explained that Pete was able to get the fee waived for people just staying on the trail but if you leave the trail, you would need to pay a fee. Connected Lake would be a fee because it's considered a spur.

Devon is working on the bike swap in Fruita on April 27th.

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

2018 Accomplishments/2019 Action 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.

#1 – Participate in public process for adoption of Complete Streets and Policy and Active Transportation Corridor Plan - huge accomplishment – completed/adopted July 18, 2018.

- Implementation of the Plan and Policy can be included in the 2019 action plan.

#2 – Identify SRTS projects for CDBG funding and other funding sources - identified three school projects:

- 1) Bookcliff Middle School- 29 ¼ Road ramps and sidewalk
- 2) Grand Avenue at 9th and 10th curb extensions
- 3) Pinyon from 13th to 15th sidewalk.

- Paul said all three items are in design and construction should begin in 2019.

#3 – Review street construction and maintenance projects for opportunities to improve bike/ped facilities - will be an ongoing item.

2018 accomplishments included:

River Road shoulders

S. 7th Street painted bike lanes

W. Main sharrow (soon to be completed)

N. 7th Street project – not room for bike lanes but discussed alternatives

- Kristin suggested adding Horizon Drive for 2019
- Orin suggested adding I-70 business loop through downtown for 2019

#4 – Develop protocols, priorities and funding for maintenance and repair of existing infrastructure - ongoing item.

City purchased another street sweeper so there are now two rather than just the one
City has changed priority of when streets are sweep

#5 – Provide recommendations for bicycle/pedestrian improvements along 10th Street and S. 7th Street and other innovative projects – 10th and 9th/Grand extended safe crossings funded; enhanced bike lanes on S. 7th Street.

- Biz suggested the CMU America Walks Project for this category.
- Devon suggested better wayfinding along the 5th Street Bridge from Orchard Mesa, the Pedestrian bridge access onto Crosby, and the Downtown to Lunch Loops connection.
- Shana suggested listing new projects as action items to be included in the City's budget process.

#6 – Provide input on City development project - ongoing.

#7 – Research innovative techniques for safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities, including sharrows and bicycle boulevards – ongoing.

- David said could continue to add info to the UTC Google Drive so everyone is using the same information.
- Kristin stated should be a strategy not an action item. Group agreed.

#8 – Review and revise as necessary UTC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Priorities – ongoing and will need to do every year.

#9 – Provide recommendations for wayfinding signage – subcommittee working on policy and template

- Kristin suggested including way finding on the priority list.

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

#1 – Actively participate in Bike Month Activities – completed for 2018.

#2 – Community Streets Event – completed for 2018 – Date set for October 19, 2019

#3 – Update and publish bicycle/pedestrian map – in process. Had discussion of who will produce and where it will reside.

- Andy will get info on the Albuquerque, NM map since they do it every year.
- Get map out by the end of 2019 - Kristin said just getting on website would be great.

#4 – Create a UTC calendar of events – in process. Michele tried keeping one but had difficulty with people getting her info.

- Will just list on UTC website since not enough for a regular calendar

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 – Purse Walk Friendly Community Designation – completed.

- Four year cycle.

#2 – Apply for Bicycle Friendly community designation upgrade in rating – completed.

- Three year cycle and can reapply at anytime but will need to accomplish a few things first.

#3 – National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project – completed for 2018 - ongoing.

- David stated very volunteer labor intensive.
- Kathy wondering if could tie into a group or a CMU class so the burden doesn't fall onto UTC.

#4 – Develop a bibliography of resources on bicycle and pedestrian topics – in process - combine with research.

#5 – Update UTC webpage to include agendas, minutes, resource bibliography, public comment and link to “Fix It” – in process; Google drive created.

Updates:

Walk Friendly Community has been submitted but haven't heard anything yet.

UTC shifting – on hold until Gary gets back

Development Projects – Andy said there is one project that he is working on and it isn't really along activity transportation corridor. Kristin asked if could review plans before meeting. Kathy and Paul said they could send it out with agenda and minutes before meeting so members have time to really look at the plans for connections. Kathy said can send a weekly list (won't tell

group much) but would know what is coming up. Shortly members can go online and look at the development projects.

Citizen Concern Input – Paul said he has received a 60% design set for Orchard Avenue west of 29 Road. He would be happy to send out for comments to anyone wanting to comment but would need comments by this Friday at noon.

Public Comment – There was no public comments.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:00pm