

Urban Trails Committee
Minutes – June 11, 2019

Present: Orin Zyvan, Gary Stibler, Steve Meyer, Shana Wade, Devon Balet, David Lehmann, Sarah Johnson

Not Present: Dr. Kristin Heumann

Also Present: Kristen Ashbeck, Principal Planner, City Community Development, Paul Jagim, City of Grand Junction, Chris Dombkowski with City of Grand Junction GIS, Mat Lucero and John Hodge, Public.

The meeting was called to order by Orin Zyvan at 5:30 pm at City Hall.

Announcements – Devon stated he applied for the Trails Coordinator position and has an interview tomorrow.

MadetoMove application deadline has been extended by two weeks and now is required to be filed online. Have received 15 letters of support. Required to have a letter from an engineer and Paul Jagim said he'd get one to Orin.

Paul said paint is in for initial markings on the Bike Route Wayfinding project. Marking the Maroon Route along 7th and 10th Street corridors will be the first route to get markings. The other section he wants to get marked this Summer is the Riverfront Trail connection at Hwy 340 and continuing down W. Main Street to the pedestrian bridge over the railroad.

CMU's America Walks project – Ulysis did a presentation last week about their project and their recommendations. Paul said they collected a great deal of data along 12th Street. One of their recommendations was implemented right away. The City has changed the beacon flashing lights to a much brighter light called a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB). City Traffic intends to install another recommendation this Summer; yield line markings, further back from crosswalks. Recommendations for future improvements included push buttons with an audible warning message and RRFB beacons in the medians.

1. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Action: Approve the minutes from the May 14, 2019

Community Streets Committee was missing Shana and should be called Promotion and Programming.

Shana motioned to approve the minutes. Steve second. Motion was passed.

2. Building Relationships – Identify Entities

Action: Put together a list of other groups/people/organizations to interface with.

Sarah suggested that the Mesa County Trail Coordinator position might have part of that as part their job description.

- Orin would like to see a closer advisory relationship with the City Council.
- David added that the relationships from the MadetoMove application is a good list which consist of the City of Grand Junction, Mesa County Health Department, City of Fruita, Town of Palisade, One Riverfront and the groups who provided letters of support such as Colorado West Land Trust, Community Hospital, St. Mary's, Mesa County Bicycle Alliance, etc.
- Grand Junction Police Department

Gary also suggested I-70B would be another one that relationship building would be a good idea. Need to explain why six lanes of high capacity traffic is not a good solution for Downtown. Perhaps take CDOT representatives and Council members to coffee.

Discussed how UTC actually can advise City Council. Orin thinks there is a channel missing because City staff can't really advocate on behalf of UTC.

David thinks would need to get other partners UTC is trying to build relationship with to also provide input along with UTC.

Sarah stated need clarification from City Council as to how the council would like UTC to advise them.

3. Safety Stop Legislation – GJ Police Department Enforcement

Action Item: UTC will be making formal advisory comments later this summer for the City Council.

In April City Council was sent a memo with information about the Idaho Stop legislation that passed in 2018. The memo to Council indicated that UTC would be examining the issue and discussing adoption of a local ordinance. Also, the City Attorney's office was asked to provide a legal opinion on whether a local ordinance must follow the State bill exactly, or could it be modified for local preference. City Attorney Shaver indicated a local ordinance must follow the framework of the State bill, but could vary from the State bill in regards to including both traffic signals and Stop signs, or just Stop signs. Recently Councilmember Taggart inquired about the status of UTC's examination of Idaho Stop. There will be a meeting with City staff including the City Manager, Police Chief, City Attorney, and Public Works Director to discuss the item. Paul will attend the

City staff meeting and report back to UTC on how it went. The UTC has a goal to formulate an advisory memo on this topic, to send to City Council, by late Summer 2019. John stated that Bicycle Colorado is working to get it passed across the State of Colorado.

Discussed how beneficial it would be to get it valley wide rather than one way in the City and different in the County.

4. Amendment to Bylaws Pertaining to Ex-Officio Members

Action: Group decided to keep Bylaws as currently written.

Orin explained how Mesa County Health and the Regional Transportation Planning office currently have to have potential members apply to be on UTC. Ex-officio would not need to apply but they would not be voting members.

5. Orchard Mesa Canal Trail – Tabled until July.

Gary passed out an exit interview he had with Max Schmidt for group to read before next meeting.

6. Community Streets Event – October 19th

Action: Group met June 4th and meet again on July 10th.

Michele stated she wasn't included but should be since she is the financial keeper for the event.

Updates

Memo to City Council re: Bike Friendly/Walk Friendly Report Cards

Kristen passed out Memorandum on the Bicycle/Walk Friendly Community Designations combined reports that were presented to the City Council members.

She said that other groups provide Annual Reports that go to the City Council member. UTC's 2018 wasn't completed before Kathy Portner retired. Kristen said will not provide one for 2018 but will work on one for 2019.

Reach out to local rec businesses and Bike to Month participating businesses to apply for Bike Friendly business status and see if UTC can assist them with their application.

Sarah will be attending the meeting for the AARP new age designation. She will bring the info back to the group.

Sarah asked if need to add to the UTC's Action Plan for the year. David said the subcommittee should take on the task and bring back to the committee.

Sarah expressed concern that the committee may not have the capacity to take on all that is required until Community Streets is over in November. Gary will put together a master list and will bring to the next meeting.

Other Business/Public Comment

John Hodges said he has been contacted by Bicycle Colorado to hold a League Cycling Seminar which certifies League Instructors.

Currently there are several people from Glenwood Springs interested but need eight people to register. Cost is \$350 and held on a Friday night and all day on Saturday. Probably held in Glenwood Springs.

He said there is a second opportunity coming up. He said Molly with Bicycle Colorado would be willing to come over here and give a Training the Trainer class sometime this summer or later this fall. The class would be free.

There were no further comments from the public.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.