

GRAND JUNCTION URBAN TRAILS COMMITTEE

February 12, 2020 MINUTES

5:30 PM

The meeting of the Urban Trails Committee was called to order at 5:30 PM by Vice Chair Gary Stubler.

Those present were Urban Trails Committee Members: Chair Orin Zyvan, Vice Chair Gary Stubler, Shana Wade, Sarah Johnson, Kristin Heumann, Devon Balet, Andrew Gingerich

Also present were Brandon Stam (Director, Downtown Development Authority), Trenton Prall (Director, Public Works), Chris Dombkowski (GIS Analyst)

There were 2 citizens in the audience.

Announcements

Sarah Johnson announced that Sarah Brooks of Mesa County Public Health is seeking an opportunity and support to hold a “Mobility Expo,” potentially attached to a future Community Streets Event.

Shana Wade announced that she was pursuing the possibility of a “Prep Fair” in advance of Bike Month (May 2020) to help the community prepare their equipment and wayfinding strategies. This would be a 2-3 hours at the Mesa County Public Library in Downtown. This will be an agenda item on the next meeting.

Orin Zyvan announced that textured metal plates were being installed on sidewalk corners in Downtown neighborhoods and applauded this action to improve mobility for the sight-impaired.

Kristin Heumann announced that her new physician’s assistant capstone classes will allow students to perform original research and that the students have expressed an interest in researching bicycling and other Urban Trails-related content. Kristin solicits ideas for projects.

Andrew Gingerich announced that the final draft of the RTPPO 2045 plan is circulating.

Approval of Minutes

Lance Gloss and Gary Stubler asked for minor amendments to clarify the minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting. Kristin Heumann made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Shana Wade seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEMS

Consider and Adopt Strategic Plan Updates

Lance Gloss introduced the draft Strategic Plan update produced during the workshop on January 22, 2020. Orin Zyvan and Gary Stubler made comments giving context to the discussion.

Sarah Johnson endorsed the inclusion of the new “Goal 4: Partnerships – To develop and maintain relationships with local organizations and jurisdictions to further the advancement of active transportation.”

Gary Stubler proposed to amend both the Mission statement and “Goal 1: Network” to include the words “well-maintained,” as in “developing a well-maintained active transportation network” (Mission) and “connectivity of well-maintained sidewalks, bike lanes, and pathways” (Goal 1: Network). Sarah Johnson made a motion to adopt this change to the draft. Kristin Heumann seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Shana Wade moved to adopt the new Strategic Plan vision, mission, and goals as amended. Sarah Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Review I-70B Letter and Select Speaker to City Council

Extensive discussion of the CDOT reconstruction plans for I-70B from Rood Ave to 5th St took place. Lance Gloss introduced letters written to City Council on the subject of I-70B by the Downtown Development Authority and former Urban Trails Committee liaison Kathy Portner, respectively. Input on the topic was taken from Brandon Stam, City of Grand Junction Downtown Development Authority Director, and Trent Prall, City of Grand Junction Public Works Director. The Committee reviewed the record on the topic including the New Mobility West Study, other independent data sources, and the perspectives of various agencies and departments.

Andrew Gingerich and Sarah Johnson recused themselves from the opportunity to speak due to potential conflicts of interest with the Regional Transportation Planning Office and Mesa County Public Health, respectively. Devon Balet stated that he planned to speak as a citizen independent of the Urban Trails Committee. The Committee reached a loose consensus that Orin Zyvan or Gary Stubler should speak to Council as representatives of UTC. Orin Zyvan made a motion to select Orin Zyvan as the speaker to City Council. Devon Balet seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Committee then selected several points on which Orin would be mandated to speak to City Council at the February 19th public hearing on the topic of I-70B reconstruction.

Kristin Heumann moved that Orin reference “*Main and 2nd St Crossings*” in his statements to Council. Devon Balet seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sarah Johnson moved that Orin reference “*Prioritize Equity for Vulnerable Users*” in his statements to Council. Kristen Heumann seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kristin Heumann moved that Orin reference “*Multimodal Capacity*” in his statements to Council. Shana Wade seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kristin Heumann moved that Orin reference “*Support New Mobility West Plan*” in his statements to Council. Shana Wade seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Shana Wade moved that Orin reference “*Support DDA Plan of Development*” in his statements to Council. Gary Stubler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sarah Johnson moved that Orin reference “*Livability*” in his statements to Council. Orin Zyvan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sarah Johnson moved that Orin reference “*Complete Streets*” in his statements to Council. Andrew Gingerich seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Trenton Prall gave further detail regarding the scope of decisions that could be taken by City Council at the February 19th City Council hearing. Seeing no further movement to add to the list of points to be mentioned by Orin at the February 19th City Council hearing, the item was closed.

Identify 2020 CDBG Candidate Projects

Lance Gloss introduced the prospect of identifying projects for which the City should apply for Community Development Block Grant Funding. He gave a brief presentation identifying the areas of the City that would be eligible for CDBG projects. Trent Prall elaborated on the eligibility of projects and the process of project selection. The committee agreed to seek out potential projects over the course of February and to send these to Lance Gloss in list form by the end of the month so that the Public Works Department could evaluate these for feasibility and pricing prior to a final review by UTC members for ranking of projects.

Request to Represent UTC at Fruita Parks Master Plan Discussions

Orin was invited by Ture Nycum, Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Fruita, to participate in discussions leading up to the planning process for a new Master Plan for Parks, Health, Recreation, Open Space and Trails for the City of Fruita. Orin suggested that Gary attend the meeting on this subject on Thursday, February 20th from 5:00 – 6:30 pm at the Cavalcade (201 E Aspen Ave) in downtown Fruita, as Orin would be unavailable. Sarah Johnson moved to send Gary Stubler to the meeting as a representative of UTC. Kristin Heumann seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Redlands 360 Updates

Recognizing time constraints and the relative lack of urgency regarding updates on the Redlands 360 projects, the Committee agreed to table this item until the March 11, 2020 meeting.

Public Comment

The meeting was opened for public comment. Josh Buysse and Jessie Buysse thanked the Committee for their engagement and inquired about the format of the Committee. They jointly expressed interest in

better understanding the public process related to urban trails. They were added to the Urban Trails Committee contact list.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Gary Stubler at 7:00 PM.