

## **Urban Trails Committee Minutes**

**August 12, 2020**

Absent Committee Members: Alisha Wenger

Present: Orin Zyvan (Chair), Shana Wade (Vice Chair; virtual), Andrew Gingerich (late arrival), David Lehmann (virtual), Bob Doyle, Ross Mittelman, Trent Prall (Public Works Director), Steve Meyer (virtual), Diana Rooney, Lloyd Chittenden (citizen, virtual)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Orin called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Orin recognized Public Works for the completion of the bulb-outs at 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> and Grand Avenue.

Lance announced that the City had submitted for a CDOT Revitalizing Main Streets Grant but had not yet been given word on the award. Ross indicated that he would follow up with Mesa County about their application, and Diana noted that Fruita is also submitting for the grant. Lance indicated that Palisade would likely tuck the wayfinding into a larger proposal.

Orin and Andy indicated that Orin, Andy, Gary Stubler and others were working on developing a GIS database of the signage locations.

Diana made suggestions related to on-ground markings for wayfinding.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No comments or objections were made. Andy made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted. Diana seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **Actionable Items List**

Lance and Orin recalled that Kristin Heumann, form UTC member, had moved to establish an “actionable items list” that would encompass policy and project priorities held by the UTC, other than the hardscape and capital improvements found on the existing Priority List.

Andy and Diana distinguished this from the other item that had been considered in relation to this list, which is a list of smaller capital improvements or “low-hanging fruit.”

Orin spoke to the importance of producing clear documentation of UTC priorities.

David raised a list of items he wanted to see and spoke to past items of this kind. These included the OMID canal trails opportunity in Orchard Mesa, which he urged should be moved forward quickly. He also highlighted the connection near Juniper Ridge School, Bike and Ped Counts, Paper Map, and Bicycle Parking Policy.

Committee members discussed the meaning and possible contents of these lists. Steve endorsed the Orchard Mesa Canals trails, and Shana indicated that this should be delegated to staff.

Members discussed further background on Orchard Mesa canal trails. Diana and Steve volunteered to work on the Orchard Mesa canal trails project as the primary UTC contacts on it, with Bob and David in support.

Orin indicated that much of this conversation should be had at the September Workshop.

Committee members discussed the timing of brainstorming efforts by UTC and Capital Projects budgeting by the City. Trent Prall gave detail on the recently completed Capital Improvements Plan for 2020-2021.

Ross, Orin, Andy, and Diana discussed the extent to which Capital Improvements have overlapped with the UTCs Project Priority List.

Lance suggested that some best practices for UTC have been identifying gaps in infrastructure and in proposing adjustments to Code and policies that shape ongoing developments.

David underscored the recognition and importance of the Complete Streets Policy and the need to continually update and analyze this Policy.

The Committee committed to sending 1-10 suggestions for UTC actions and policy recommendations each to Lance before the next meeting.

Ross and Andy indicated that there would be significant overlap between such suggestions and the RTPD 2045 Plan. They also discussed the funding structure for multi-modal improvements.

### **Community Streets**

Shana spoke to the background of the event beyond Grand Junction and under the UTC's guidance in Grand Junction since 2017, and challenges associated with the event in the past. Shana asked that we identify a project of reasonable scope for this year's "Community Streets Project" and move forward on implementation.

Members discussed past considerations on this matter, including possible temporary medians on Grand at 3<sup>rd</sup> street, though Trent spoke to the challenges associated with a significant physical intervention such as this, including with staffing constraints.

Conversation also covered possible upgrades for Grand Avenue.

Members discussed a variety of improvements that might be identified in a survey to garner feedback from the public.

Members, and Diana in particular, spoke to the limitations of a single-day event for Community Streets to have a serious impact.

The members came to a consensus that the most reasonable and valuable approach to community Streets for 2020 would be a survey, encompassing the new bulb-outs at 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, the Monument Connector Trail, and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue buffered bike lanes.

### **Review Bike- and Walk-friendly Scorecards**

Due to a lack of time, this event was not covered, but was referred to members for review of the scorecards.

#### **UPDATES**

David spoke to the importance of working on Bike and Ped Counts for 2020, as well as possible improvements to the process. This was set as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Members were invited to send suggestions for UTC Action Items and UTC Policy Recommendations to Lance.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment received.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Orin adjourned the meeting at 7:04 pm.