

Urban Trails Committee Minutes

July 8, 2020

Absent Committee Members:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Orin Zyvan called the meeting to order at 5:35 and thanked the Committee for meeting in person. Given the addition of three new members, all in attendance briefly introduced themselves with emphasis on their relationship to active transportation and their primary roles in the community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Orin noted that Trent should not have been marked as in attendance, to general agreement. Shana Wade moved to adopt the draft minutes. David Lehmann seconded. A vote yielded unanimous approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

David Lehmann commended Trent and Public Works for striping of portions of 1st Street with buffered Bike Lanes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Wayfinding

Lance, Trent, and Orin described the origins of the Wayfinding project in UTC's efforts over three years. The aim of this program is to improve the ability of people to identify and take the lowest-stress routes when traveling as a cyclist or pedestrian. Orin described the previous grant opportunity, and the long-term desire to bring together all jurisdictions in the Valley.

Lance and Trent explained that a new grant opportunity has arisen, to be pursued jointly with Mesa County, City of Fruita, and the Town of Palisade. This grant is the Colorado Department of Transportation's "Revitalizing Main Streets" program. Orin gave further details on the proposed sign designs. Trent asked for input on prioritizing routes for signage and identifying key destinations to be noted on signs.

Members discussed signage types and best practices at length. Steve questioned the relative need for wayfinding compared to potentially more urgent Covid-19-related concerns that could be addressed by the grant.

Horizon Drive, Monument Connector, Orchard Mesa, and Riverfront Trail routes were identified as the priorities for this grant.

Implementation

Lance gave an overview key elements of the development review process and the relationship between private development and multimodal infrastructure. Topics included the Zoning and Development Code and the Active Transportation Corridors map.

Trent gave an overview of capital projects related to multimodal infrastructure. Topics included street maintenance and Complete Streets Policy implementation; current and recent projects; and major capital projects funded through ballot initiatives, taxes, fees, grants, and other sources.

Staff also gave an overview of the Complete Streets Policy specifically and members discussed this policy.

Future Workshops

Members indicated that the prospect of holding several workshops over the coming months was desirable. Three were proposed for July, August, and September.

Community Streets Event

Orin gave background on the event, which has taken place for three years and has taken shape as a street fair emphasizing active transportation and health. He summarized the previous meetings discussion and the desire to do a smaller scale, more focused project. Shana and Diana endorsed a smaller design intervention project.

Orin indicated that the DDA had expressed an interest in that type of project and emphasized the likely need to partner with the DDA on such a project. Lance noted that South 7th Street, 2nd Street, 10th Streets, and 4th and 5th Streets near downtown were identified in the previous meeting. David endorsed the 10th Street option strongly, noting past success. Andrew suggested that 10th Street be wrapped into the Revitalizing Main Street grant. Orin noted that it may be difficult to get a project off the ground this year, and that any project would likely benefit from a social media dimension. Trent indicated that the scope of this would need to be well-executed and not too DIY. Trent suggested that it may be viable to do a temporary bulbout or similar, and that this would be in a better scope.

UPDATES

Trent updated the committee on a range of projects being funded and at various stages of implementation using CDBG funds.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of non-staff, non-committee public in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

Orin adjourned the meeting at 7:06 pm.