

Urban Trails Committee – Minutes – May 14, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Attendees: Athena F., Steve M., Kristen B., Brooke C., Brent S., Mike H., Diana R., Jason N., Lori B.

Staff/Ex-Officio: Henry Brown, Carissa Finnerty, Trent Prall, Eric Mocko, Andy Gingerich

Guests: Benaiah, Maureen, Ren

Minutes

Call to Order/Announcements:

Athena called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM. The meeting started with introductions for the benefit of incoming members.

Meeting Minutes

1. April Minutes

Diana moves to approve slightly updated April minutes, as shown. Kristen seconds, unanimous approval.

Action Items

1. Infrastructure Priority Ranking

Henry shared the ratings from UTC and mentioned the history of 7th Street. Diana shared that the curves at Monument Trail don't meet CDOT design guidelines and that signage may help as a low-cost safety improvement.

Kristen moves to accept the list as rated. Steve seconds, unanimous approval.

Diana moves to add North 7th to the bottom of the list. Kirsten seconds, unanimous approval.

Discussion Items

1. Leach Creek Trail Study

Ren from CU Denver MURP called in to share a presentation about the Leach Creek Trail Concept Study. Kristen mentioned that the Redlands Parkway crossing has some elegance/simplicity over existing concepts of building new structures. Steve asked about the south of G Road section and whether there are portions up for development. Trent shared that it is mostly dedicated as Open Space. Mike asked about the I-70 crossing and Trent shared some details about the existing Leach Creek culverts and existing trail developments.

2. Annual Roadmap

Henry shared recommendations on the Annual Roadmap. The Committee asked for time to review the recommendations with a plan to discuss in the June meeting.

Updates

1. 4th & 5th Streets Complete Streets Pilot

Staff shared an update based on the direction from Council to end the Complete Streets pilot. UTC asked about the opportunity for nuance between reverting the business district only versus the residential district. Staff shared that this could be technically feasible but is not the direction received. UTC asked if there is an opportunity for Council to change their minds. Staff shared that there is an opportunity for public comment at next Wednesday's public hearing. Staff shared that there is still Council interest in slower speeds and safer conditions, but not necessarily for accommodating cyclists on 4th & 5th. The committee asked if stop signs or roundabouts may be options. Staff shared that stop signs are not allowed to be used for traffic calming per MUTCD.

Timing will be mid-/late-June reversion.

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Diana moves for the UTC to write a letter to Council requesting they reconsider and allow pilot 2.0 to continue until the study comes to its conclusion before determining whether it should be reverted, since it is more fiscal responsible to complete the existing project and determine solutions that work for all. Brooke seconds, 7 approve, 1 opposed. Committee members will share any letter discussion items to Diana and Brooke ASAP for them to craft a letter for Staff to route to City Council.

2. Bike Month & Pedestrian/Bicycle Counts

Diana shared about bike counts. A very successful year; we did not need to ask Dave and Lenore to volunteer last minute. 10 new volunteers through new channels.

Carissa shared 5/16 is BTWD with free breakfast and 5/20 chainbreaking ride with a group ride from City Hall at 3:50 PM.

3. Get to Know your City

UTC is invited to table with Carissa at GTKYC on 6/5 at Dos Rios. Athena indicated availability.

Public Comment

Adjournment

Diana moves to add 10 minutes to the meeting. Steve seconds; unanimous approval. Diana moves to end the meeting at 7:14 PM.