

**Colorado Riverfront Commission
245-0045**

Urban Trails Committee

**Minutes
January 13, 1998**

The meeting was called to order at 7:25pm by Co-Chairman Bob Cron. Those present from the Committee were:

Pat Kennedy	Bob Cron
Bob Ferrante	Paul Teal
Lenna Watson	Jamie Lummis

Also present were Jody Kliska, Doug Cline, Shawn Cooper, Tent Prall and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes

Bob Cron motioned for approval of the December minutes, Lenna Watson second. Motion passed.

Announcements

Bob Cron reminded everyone about the Riverfront Commission's retreat at United Sand and Gravel Hunt Club on Saturday. Pat Kennedy encouraged all to attend.

Old Business

Review Draft Action Plans (for three subjects developed at retreat)

Bob reviewed the Striping and Signing Action Plan. Pat Kennedy asked Paul Teal if he contacted Pete Baier about attending the meetings. Paul said Pete had just been promoted and is in the process of interviewing successor to the Public Works vacancy. Pete asked Paul to contact him the week of the 18th to set up time to talk.

Bob Cron stated that he wanted to see if everyone was okay with the action plan, not to discuss the preliminary progress. He asked if everyone was okay with the assignments. Bob stated that he would come back to the action plans later during the meeting.

Reviewed the Community Awareness Action Plan. Jamie Lummis stated that his committee has a meeting with Mark Achen on Thursday at 9am. Jamie asked if one or

both co-chairs could attend. Bob and Pat will try to attend. Jamie will fax a copy of draft to Mark tomorrow so he won't go into meeting cold.

Moved onto the Canal Bank Trails Action Plan. Bob noted that Objective 2 and 4 have blanks. Without a "who" objectives can't be kept. After discussion, recommended to defer Objective 2 until the process with the City of Grand Junction and Canal Bank Owners has happened.

Jamie Lummis mentioned that Action 1, under Objective 2 would be a good resource to have regardless of where the City and Ad Hoc group goes. It's a document that could be used for a long time to come, even if now is not the appropriate time. Bob Cron volunteered to draft a "white paper".

Pat Kennedy mentioned that Action 2 should be done by all on the community. Bob Cron suggested that Actions 2 through 5 be deferred until the City of Grand Junction and Canal Bank Owners process has reached a conclusion.

Lenna Watson asked if people from the City will be at the Riverfront Commission retreat. Bob Cron stated he thought the Mayor would be there. Lenna asked if the canal banks would be discussed at the retreat. Pat stated that if it was brought up, it would be discussed.

Bob Cron instructed Michele to defer Objective 4 for same reason as Objective 2.

Michele will take the draft off the Action Plans and finalize them. Finalized copies will be sent out next month.

New Business

Grand Junction street improvement plans for 1998.

Jody Kliska kindly consented to present what the City is planning for street improvements in 1998.

Jody started by reviewing the list from October, the November retreat list and Bob's list from last week's meeting. Jody has the list on three pages. A lot of what has been done and what will be done this year will be signing. She had Doug Cline bring actual signs so everyone knew what she was referring to. She talked about a standard bike route sign (stripe a lane). She showed a Colorado Bikeways sign, this sign is part of a state wide network. Shawn Cooper explained what they mean; they are part of a map that the State Highway DOT puts out showing acceptable bike routes across the states. This is done by regions, all routes will be marked with same sign. There are two different size signs, one for urban areas – one Doug brought, and one for rural areas and highways – this sign will be twice the size.

Shawn and Bob attended a meeting a year ago regarding the acceptable route through the Grand Valley. There were questions outside the City of Grand Junction, things came to a stand still over the summer. Bob has spoken with Mark about this and Mark is aware that things need to be done.

Bob asked if there is a route that comes downtown. Jody and Shawn said yes, down 3rd Street and Sherwood Park, route around Sherwood has been marked. Bob then asked if it just comes down 3rd Street and ends. Jody said no, it takes people out to River Road.

Jody had everyone refer to the three pages she passed out. First page is what has been done in 1998 (only to January 13th), second page is what's planned for the year.

Question was asked what a "Trail Blazer" sign is, it is a sign that says "to" somewhere, showing the way.

Jamie Lummis brought up the concrete along the tunnel to push a bike (just wide enough for bikes only) up, Bob informed him that it is in future projects on page three.

Pat Kennedy asked about the South Rim to Connected Lakes Trail, what is the plan to get around the big beautiful planter box right at the start of the trail. Shawn said he talked with someone regarding what kind of signs to put up out there. Pat said the sign is hard to notice on the south side. Shawn will figure something out.

The next three are tied together. 28 Road as designated on the map as a bike route. Road is not scheduled for widening for sometime. Shoulder is very wide, Doug Cline said it just needs to be improved or paved. Doug is looking into doing some shoulder widening on the west side in September. Long term improvement for 28 Road would be a pedestrian bridge over the wash at Gunnison, that would make a logical extension of that network.

Pat Kennedy asked what the plan for development was east of 28 Road behind Kmart. No plans yet.

Continued to discuss items on the list, Orchard Mesa, 27 and 27 ½ Road, make that connection from Unaweep to B ½.

River Road, state bikeway signing.

Pat Kennedy asked if any of the connections get to the Spanish Trail. Jody and Doug said it's get closer at 27 ½ Road. The final connection would be from the county.

The next two items are bridges, G Road bridge over canal in number one priority. South side of G Road is in the future. Bridge will be a pre-manufactured with straight deck because of the speed of the traffic.

Another bridge is being put in at Little Bookcliff Drive which is between 8th and Patterson Road. It will replace the old white bridge between Gladstones and St. Mary's. This will probably be an arched structure. It also will be a free standing span. St. Mary's Hospital may become a player in the bridge, they are very interested in what the City is going to do because of the activity down at 12th and also at 7th with people trying to get from the parking lots to the hospital's various buildings.

Doug would like to have everything ready for his City crew's to do pre-work before water is in canals. Looking at 100 to 120 days after the order dates for bridges being set, sometime this summer.

Next on the list is Elm Avenue which is to be reconstructed in the middle of the summer. Design is to curb Elm Avenue from Piano to 12th where the new dormitory is with a round about in the intersection at College Place. Where the student center is now will be a raised speed table that will be 25' across on top, there also will be a lot of landscaping with the new reconstruction.

Jody stated that the City is looking to put in a round about at 12th and Horizon as part of the 12th Street improvements. 1st and Grand is also another area under consideration for a round about. February 16th is a round about workshop for those interested in learning more about round abouts.

12th Street is scheduled for reconstruction in 1998. Jody is no sure if the City will meet that schedule but the reconstruction will include bike lanes, a round about and sidewalks, and may even be looking at some medians. Jody stated there isn't a design yet so she isn't sure what the reconstruction will include or look like.

Construction projects slated for 1999 with federal money to help with the construction, part of that will be F Road to G Road will be a detached bike path along the east side of Leech Creek.

Number 17 on list, Jody turned over to Doug, B $\frac{3}{4}$ Road around DOE. Doug stated it is the around the main entrance by DOE when you come/go down the hill, it's that hill itself. The City had a request from the DOE through some of their employees to widen the road bed to try to facilitate the installation of a bike path up the grade to top where the cemetery begins. The City had done a great deal of work, however when the gravel trucks started running through there, the City decided to re-think what their position was there. The base work is done, but never did surface it. City is going to fulfill their promise to the DOE employees but have a concern after reaching the top of the grade where do they go from there. Exploring options of after getting to the bend at Can then they somehow have to get them to the intersection at Unawep Avenue. Doug hopes to everything done by the end of summer.

Number 18, Patterson Road is missing a logical link between 28th and 28 $\frac{1}{4}$ Road, somewhere the bike lanes are lost. The City is going to make it connect. Doug said the

striping design needs to be change to incorporate. The whole half mile section needs to be chip sealed to take out the old striping. Doug said this probably won't happen until August. Jamie asked if just that section will be sealed and Doug said no, it will be the whole road.

Last on the list, 1st Street by City Market. Take it down to three lanes with bike lanes to help avoid rear end accidents and make it safer for bicycles. The City is going to do counts to look at the accident data they have next month. Doug said project isn't scheduled so probably won't happen until late summer and will only take a few days.

Page three is future projects, Jamie asked if this list contained the information from the revised November 1997 list. Both Bob and Jody thought it did. The list is a start.

Monument Road will be a joint effort between the City and County. Pat Kennedy asked if the problems had been resolved with the drop off on No Thoroughfare Wash and no right of way on the other side. Both Jody and Doug said they don't believe anything has been solved.

1st Street, F Road to the canal. There appears to be right of way problems there.

Jamie asked about Independent Avenue. Wasn't sure where it was and then asked if there was a Colorado Bikeways sign. No one was sure if there was a sign or not. Bob said it also is the bikeway route. Independent will be widen in per the CIP in 2001.

Bob asked if there were any further questions on the future list.

The Trailhead for Lunch Loop

Bob stated that the trailhead for Lunch Loop is of interest to Urban Trails since they've been involved in that activity with the BLM and the City. Bob asked if it was possible to do something about the parking, people are no longer parking in the lot, they're parking around it because the lot is all torn up. Shawn said there is nothing planned but it possible to do something about it. Doug asked what the problem was, Bob said it's rutted. Shawn told Doug that recycled asphalt would work well out there. Doug thought that it could be a possibility, he'll talk to Mark about it.

Shawn asked what the status on the deed was. Bob told him it was on hold, still waiting for the final on the management plan.

Bob thanked Jody and Doug for the presentation, they did a great job.

Mesa County Trail Map

Cliff Davidson talked to Bob about help with the Mesa County Trail Map. Cliff was unavailable to attend and Bob didn't have any further details other than the County has money to put a trail map out with all the trails in Mesa County.

Do we want to sponsor an event(s) for trails month in June, 1998?

Jamie Lummis said he and Lenna would work on something and let Urban Trails know what they come up with.

Committee Reports

Recreation use of canal banks

Pat Kennedy - nothing new to report. He's going to start pushing for ad hoc committee to get meetings rolling.

Subdivision Trails

Gerry Tucker was ill. Bob Cron asked Shawn Cooper if anything was happening. Shawn said nothing hard cast, there is something going on up at Grand Valley Canal pursuing the current ownership of property. He thinks it's land that has already being designated as public use by the group on the west side of the canal. East side of the canal is now being developed behind Moon Ridge, Filing Four which comes up right up to the canal. Shawn is trying to see who owns because they need that piece to continue that link up to G. City already has it south of there, that would get from 25 ½ to G.

Jamie stated that he and Gerry are going to try and meet the February deadline to get a draft letter in response to the Canal Companies request for their easements. Letter will not be sent out until UTC has direction from the City.

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Bob Cron attended meeting - nothing to report.

Community Awareness

Jamie restated that they will be meeting with Mark on Thursday. Will get a copy to of paperwork to Mark and let him know that there will be four people from UTC attending. Jamie wants Mark's input before implementing the list.

Urban Trails Priority List

Bob Cron meet with Jody, Doug, Sandy and Dick Ripley and spent number of productive hours going through what had been developed at retreat and working it into their list. Some correction has been made where it was partly county and updated county list. Bob feels that there is a good list.

Public Comment

Doug Cline stated that the Old Mill Bridge was hit by vandals again last night. They got five lights, two overhead and three on the deck. He had enough repair parts to repair all but one of the overhead lights, can't seem to keep repair parts in stock fast enough. He has notified the PD and the Orchard Mesa Middle School. Seems to be happening at night.

Doug's second comment pertained to the problem with dog waste along the trail. Doug was going to see if a dispenser could be placed down by the bridge so people will clean up after their dogs. Doug stated that there are a lot of people with dogs using the trail.

Pat Kennedy asked if the lights might be removed. Shawn doesn't think so because of safety issues. Doug said they are trying to do more vandal proof things without destroying the lighting effect. It appears that rocks are being used to break the lights, haven't notice any weapons being used.

Surveillance cameras are a thought, however, don't know where the cameras can be placed without them being destroyed too.

Doug received a call from an Orchard Mesa resident last week that lives off the north end of Pinon Street, the first street east of 27. They own the last piece of property at the end of the street that goes up and around by Orchard Mesa ditch #3 that goes over by the park. The owners have been fighting with people for sometime that use the service road on the canal that goes by their property. Owner wanted the City to put up "No Trespassing" signs where the trail is improved by the junior high. He said he's had vandalism of his property. City can't do anything about it. Doug contacted Jim Rooks with Orchard Mesa Irrigation District and he's basically in the same dilemma as the City because he doesn't own the property either. Doug got the impression that Jim sees the handwriting on the wall and it's only a matter of time before the canal banks will be trails. Both opted not to put up any signing to prevent trespassing.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.