

**CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION
Urban Trails Committee**

**Minutes
October 13, 2015**

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by co-chair, Biz Collins. Those present from the Committee were:

Biz Collins	Dr. Kristin Heumann	Max Schmidt
Dave Lehman	Eric Marchese	

Also present Kathy Portner, Trent Prall with City of Grand Junction, Officer David Keech, GJPD, Vara Kusal with the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District, John Hodge, public, Lindsay Murdoch, public and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – August and September minutes needing to be approved. Kristin’s name was incorrect in September. Kristin/David. Motion passed. August minutes – Kristin/David. Motion passed.

Announcements – Walk to School Day tomorrow so please be careful. Thunder Mountain needs volunteers for their Bike Rodeo. Scott McBrayer has resigned so City will be advertising for another UTC member. Orchard Mesa Elementary School Improvements were completed during the fall break. Would like to have UTC work on a celebration for the completed work.

New Business – Biz introduced Officer David Keech with the GJPD to talk about bicycle enforcement. Per the Bicycle Friendly designation, enforcement was one area needing improvement. Officer Keech stated that there was a fatal bicycle accident in front of the police department where a cyclist tried to beat the red light and was hit. He stated most cyclists aren’t aware of what’s going on around them. Typically enforcement is at night due to stolen bicycles, not using lights and riding on the wrong side of the street. Cyclists need to abide by the rules of the road, as do cars needing to share the road. PD has a voluntary a bicyclist registration that can help identify stolen bikes. Suggested doing PSA regarding needing lights when riding at night, Biz talked about including the Charter Schools, St. Joseph, and other non-traditional School District 51 schools in the Bicycle Safety program. Talked about designing education for adults/PD, some adults need to re-learn bicycle safety.

Kristin wanted to know if there were any officers trained in the Walking School Bus. Officer Keech said he’d check into it. Biz asked how many School Resource Officers (SRO) there were – he stated three for 24 schools in the City limits. The Sheriff’s Department also has three. Biz suggested partnering with the PD for kickoff Bike to Work Month in June.

Lindsay stated she would like to see UTC collaborate with the GJPD to educate cyclist on how to avoid a ticket. Question asked about red lights being tripped by cyclist and what should a cyclist do? Trent said to hit the ped light.

Biz likes the idea of working on a PSA now and later for Bike to Work Month. Officer Keech will look into educating officers on bicycle rules of the road. Kristin suggested inviting officers to be on UTC. Or at least having someone for PD attend on a quarterly basis.

Election of new chair and vice-chair: Biz gave an overview of chair and co-chair duties. Michele read Julie's note thanking the group and Biz. Bylaws call for chair and vice-chair and to serve for one year. Julie and Biz aren't able to be nominated since they have served for more than two consecutive years. David nominated Kristin. Eric second. Motion passed. Eric will be leaving for six months next year. He will be resigning at the next meeting. Max nominated David. Biz second. Motioned passed.

Safe Routes to School Grant – CDOT announced new round of grants. Mesa County RTPO will be working on a grant application. 2013 grant application wasn't funded – looking to expend the program to middle schools for this application. Biz, Kristin and Kathy will be meeting to update the grant. If any other UTC member is interested, let Biz know. Kathy said it might be good in the future to consider going for a stipend for coordination of the SRTS program.

Smart Growth American Grant – This a technical assistance grant, City applied for it a few years ago but didn't receive the grant. Kristin thought it would be a good way to work on getting the Complete Street Policy prepared to present to the City Council. Biz moved to apply for the Complete Street Policy Assistance. Eric second. Motion passed. Kathy will work on a draft and get it out for UTC members to review.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) report – Biz passed around the notes from the last TAC meeting. She talked about the Orchard Avenue Corridor Roadway Inventory. She also passed around the agenda for the upcoming meeting and asked UTC members to let her know if there was anything they wanted brought up.

Kristin asked if there was anything that UTC could do regarding the ADA Transition Plan. Biz stated that it is currently at the discussion stage but UTC will have opportunity to comment once the inventory is completed. Trent said that North Avenue has been inventoried from 12th to 23rd and will be used as a template going east and west. Kathy said UTC might be able to help with prioritizing projects.

There was no further new business.

Old Business –

Bike Share Program – Lindsay found an organization that has a grant available and Grand Valley Bikes (GVB) is willing to be the applicant for a grant to do a feasibility study.

Follow up on the 16 in 2016 Colorado Beautiful Trails – Biz provided an update on initiative. The City submitted support for the completion of the Riverfront Trail and the Palisade Plunge.

Complete Street – Kathy showed a video regarding complete streets and work being done in New York.

Urban Trails Master Plan Update Process – Kathy would like to bring back to next meeting and would like to focus on the City of Grand Junction and identify opportunities.

Kathy and Kristin showed videos for their RHEL project for Safe Routes to School.

CO Bike Law – Stop as Yield Law (Summit County, Dillon) – There was some discussion about this law that has been adopted in various communities that allows bicyclist to proceed through red light after stopping and making sure it's safe.

There was no further old business.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:10pm.