

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

Minutes April 12, 2016

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Chair, Dr. Kristin Heumann. Those present from the Committee were:

Dr. Kristin Heumann	David Lehmann, Vice Chair	Jeff Kuhr
Julie Sabin	Biz Collins	Max Schmidt
Dan Fitzgerald		

Also present Kathy Portner, Trent Prall, Paul Jagim with City of Grand Junction, Vara Kusal with the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District (BID), Libby Collins with the Mesa Land Trust (MLT), Terri Wenzlaff, John Hodge, Michele Nelson, Kent Lienbach, Jody Kliska, public Bennett Boeschstein, City of Grand Junction City Council member and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – David/Julie. Motion passed.

Announcements – Michele reminded everyone about the RFC touring retreat and social on April 23rd.

Concert Series dates announced, June 15th, July 20th and August 4th.

New Business –

Bike to Work Month – Julie showed the Bike to Work Month Poster. She reviewed the calendar of activities and events. UTC will again be doing a family ride as a kick-off event on June 1st followed by the proclamation at the City Council meeting (visit <http://www.healthymesacounty.org> for list of events). On bike to work day, June 22nd, there will be a breakfast in Fruita, on Horizon Drive and at GJ City Hall on. The business challenge is expanding to 4 categories based on number of employees. Edgewater will give every participant a free beer at the After Glow. UTC will be getting t-shirts. Color preferences were green or teal.

Monument Road Connector Trail (MRCT) – Libby briefly updated the group on the MRCT and then turned the presentation over to Trent.

Trent gave an overview of the Federal Land Acquisition Program (FLAP) grant opportunity and the Monument Road trail proposal. Proposed improvements include parking lot expansion, additional restrooms, and shade shelters at the Lunch Loops trailhead, Colorado Monument East entrance widening and electronic pass capabilities, as well as construction of a detached, multi-use path connecting the Lower No-Thoroughfare trail with the Tabeguache trailhead and, potentially, South Camp Road.

Motion: Biz/Max authorizing a letter of support from UTC for the grant application; motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Julie/Kristin to support completion of the trail all the way to South Camp Road; motion passed unanimously.

Kristen suggested including that this project has been on the UTC's priority list. Libby requested the letter by May 5th.

MCBA list of traffic lights which do not detect bicyclists – David explained the list, compiled by John Hodge's group, of traffic signals that don't detect bicyclists. UTC discussed the safety issues of lights not detecting bicyclists, especially at night. Paul explained the various technologies currently being used throughout the valley, with a goal of eventually upgrading to cameras at all locations.

Motion: Kristen/David to add the list to UTC's priorities; motion passed unanimously.

Old Business –

Grand Valley Circulation Plan – Kathy requested UTC representation on the Grand Valley Circulation Plan technical committee. Julie and David volunteered.

Urban Trails Master Plan – Kathy updated the committee on the draft of the Active Transportation Corridor Plan, which is continuing to be refined. The purpose of the map is to show active transportation corridors to safely move pedestrians and bicyclists and does not include recreational trails.

Complete Streets Policy – A revised version of the Complete Streets Policy was distributed with the modifications from the last meeting. Kristin asked that UTC review and provide comments for a final draft.

Mayor Challenge extension – Biz reported that it's been extended until September.

There was no further old business.

Public Comment – John announced that there is a free bike talk by a Bicycle Attorney at the Mesa County Library on April 21st at 6:30pm. MC Bicyclist Alliance meets at 6:00pm on April 27th.

Kent asked if the loops or cameras pick up pedestrians. Paul said they can't pick up pedestrians. He also suggested demarking the "sweet spots" on the pavement for now.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:05pm.

Next agenda – Active Transportation Map