

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

Minutes July 12, 2016

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Vice Chair, David Lehmann. Those present from the Committee were:

David Lehmann, Vice Chair
Biz Collins

Shana Wade
Orin Zyvan

Jeff Kuhr, Ph.D.

Also present Paul Jagim and Kathy Portner with City of Grand Junction, Jody Kliska, Dr. Teri Wenzlaff, John Hodge, public and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – Kathy hasn't had time to review the minutes and asked to postpone approval until August meeting.

Announcements – Subdudes concert is Wednesday, July 20th. Fruita will be dedicating the new Little Salt Wash Trail before the concert. The City of Fruita will be holding an event starting at the Fruita Community Center that will ride to the State Park. There could be 10 GOCO board members attending.

New Business – The Big Jump Project – Kathy showed the video that explained what the project is and that they are looking for ten cities and small towns that will increase bicycle riders by two to three times the current number of riders by 2020. David had reviewed the application and noted that there is no money available for infrastructure. He stated that a letter of interest needs to be submitted. David agreed to review it with Kathy and Paul and make a recommendation at the next meeting as to whether to submit. John said he'd be happy to volunteer if the UTC decides to move forward.

Old Business –

Active Transportation Corridor Master Plan (formerly known as the UTC Master Plan) – Kathy showed the revised map and stated she has asked Steve Smith about getting a copy to all UTC members. File is rather large and Steve needs to get it into a format that the UTC members can use. Kathy said printed copies can also be made available. The technical committee hasn't made any further recommendations. Please have comments to Kathy by the next meeting.

Bicycle User Map – Biz passed around the most recent version. She asked everyone to review and get her any comments/changes, including the back of the map by the August meeting. She will be emailing out an electric version tomorrow.

Grand Valley Circulation Plan (GVCP) – Kathy explained the components of the Grand Valley Circulation Plan, which will include the Active Transportation Corridor Master Plan and Complete Streets Policy, as well as the street plan.

Complete Street Policy – Kathy said she received David’s comments that will be incorporated into the final draft. Kathy added that Dan’s suggestion of moving the Complete Street Policy forward separately is being discussed.

Bike Month Wrap Up – The City and Library each won a trophy in their category. 300+ attended the Bike to Work Day breakfasts. 20 Mesa County organizations signed up for the Business Challenge and 35 individuals registered for the Commuter Challenge, logging 3,899 miles.

Business Challenge Winners: 1-15 employees – Mountain Racing Productions (65% participation); 16-50 employees – Bureau of Land Management (12% participation); 51-150 employees – Mesa County Libraries (32% participation); 150+ employees – City of Grand Junction (12% participation)

Commuter Challenge Winners: 1st Place – Joe Nichols, 1038.33 miles; 2nd Place – Liz Norris, 546 miles; 3rd Place – Randy Dean, 372.78 miles; 4th Place – Julie Malingowski – 232 miles.

2016 Action Items List – David lead the discussion of the status of the action items.

Mayor’s Challenge—need to summarize our accomplishments to date and what’s left to be completed by the end of the year.

Complete Streets Policy—draft is complete with a goal for adoption by the end of the year.

Bike Share feasibility study—the consensus was that GJ isn’t ready for a full-scale bike share program, but we could look at smaller applications, such as a library check-out program or Horizon Drive hotels.

Implement an innovative pilot project—looking for opportunities with street projects. Had discussed special treatment for the 10th Street bike lane. The City is installing bike guide signs at either end of 10th Street with distance to downtown and CMU. 1st and Main would be another good location for wayfinding signage.

Baseline data collection—continue to collect data from the permanent counter on the Broadway bridge by City Shops and have data from various locations using a portable counter. Paul will look into the capabilities of intersection cameras to do counts. Jeff will follow up on doing a survey to collect good baseline data of commuting modes.

Coordinate an evening walk/bike education and outreach event—UTC sponsored the bike month kick-off event. The Little Salt Wash dedication will be done in conjunction with the July 20th Riverfront concert.

Coordinate an Open Streets event – this is where you close a street to cars. It was suggested that an event be planned for 10th Street during Mavs month in October to promote the connection between CMU and Downtown. Kathy will pitch the idea to the DDA.

Develop a Bike/Ped Plan – Kathy said really need baseline data before establishing goals and strategies for a bike/ped plan. Jeff suggested that we first need to develop maintenance protocols and funding for the infrastructure that’s already in place. It was agreed that the bike/ped plan should be put off to a future date and replaced in this workplan with “develop policies and protocols for maintenance and repair of existing facilities.”

Input on street design – UTC had the opportunity to provide input into the 1st Street design.

Develop a webpage for UTC – It’s still a goal to establish a webpage before the end of the year. Jeff suggested it could be linked to the Healthy Mesa County website. Orin suggested having a way for public comment or suggestions, which could be on the webpage.

There was no further old business.

Public Comment – No public comments.

Safe Routes to School update – still waiting to receive the grant contract.

Walk Friendly Application – the subcommittee will meet with Kathy prior to the next UTC meeting to outline a plan of attack. Kathy will send out a copy of the Bicycle Friendly Community application and the subcommittee set a meeting for August 9th at 4:00pm.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 7:03pm.

Next agenda – Active Transportation Maps