CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

Minutes August 9, 2016

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chair, Dr. Kristin Heumann. Those present from the Committee were:

David Lehmann, Vice Chair Dr. Kristin Heumann Shana Wade Biz Collins Orin Zyvan Max Schmidt

Also present Kathy Portner, Trent Prall with City of Grand Junction, Vara Kusal with the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District (BID), Bennett Boeschenstein, Grand Junction City Council Member and Michele Rohrbach.

Announcements – Biz encouraged the UTC to participate in the Daily Sentinel poll regarding the roundabout in the Redlands.

Approval of Minutes – June 14th minutes; Biz/Max; approved. July 12th minutes; Biz/Max; approved.

2016 Action Items as Amended – Kathy reviewed the attachment and the group had the following comments:

2016 Action Items: (status updated July 12, 2016)

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. Discussed having an evening event with a speaker. Jody suggested someone from Bicycle Colorado as a speaker. David suggested working on PSA's as part of outreach.

Bike Month Activities—Kick off event and breakfasts successful.

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. Everyone liked this idea and Kristin suggested coordinating it with CMU's homecoming parade.

Urban Trails Plan Update—now the Active Transportation Corridor Plan moving forward as a part of the Grand Valley Circulation Plan.

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.

Big Jump Project (http://www.bigjumpproject.org/) – Kathy said that Trent, Paul and she thought it wasn't worth pursuing at this time because UTC has too much on their plate. There is no money for infrastructure to increase bicycling. UTC agreed not to pursue it this year.

Bicycle User Map – Biz passed around the most recent version. Orin and Biz will follow up with Steve Smith to get this map out immediately in electronic format and will print a small quantity. Michele asked that they let her know the electronic link so she can add it to the Riverfront website and post to Riverfront Facebook page. This will be version 1.0 and updates and improvements will be done as time allows.

Walk Friendly Community – Orin, David, Shana and Kathy have met and assigned tasks. Much of the required data that has already been complied. The submittal deadline is December and the group will continue to meet and work on it.

Library Bike Share – Shana shared the idea to develop a bike share program, partnering with the Library, City and the R-5 bike repair. Bennett suggested looking into using the impounded bikes that are sold at auction.

Updates:

Grand Valley Circulation Plan (GVCP) – Trent showed the group the latest draft of the conceptual network plan and the Active Transportation Corridor Master Plan. Kathy added that the Complete Streets policy will fill in the gaps. The City will be conducting focus group meetings and will need UTC member participation. Vara suggested getting disabled user input and Biz suggested contacting Strive or the Center for Independence. Kristin suggested the Workforce Center as a focus group.

Safe Routes to School – Biz indicated that they have received the notice to proceed and that they are looking for more volunteers. Kristin said she hopes to get more CMU interns to help.

Other Business/Public Comment – Max said he's met with the County regarding piping the Orchard Mesa canal and will be meeting with the City next. He said that once the piping takes place, some of the problems with trail use will go away. Max hopes to begin piping in the winter and will be building a reservoir behind the KIA dealership at 29 ½ and will be partnering with other groups to develop a nature center and outdoor classroom when the construction is complete.

Bennett asked about the 29 Road underpass. Michele stated that Frank Watt was working with Julie with Mesa County Engineering to move the project forward.

There was no further public comment.

Adjournment – Adjourned at 6:25pm.

Next agenda – PSA, Issues List, Covered Secured Parking

