

# CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

## Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

### Minutes September 13, 2016

#### Called to Order

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

David Lehmann, Vice Chair  
Biz Collins

Dr. Kristin Heumann  
Orin Zyvan

Shana Wade  
Max Schmidt

Also present Kathy Portner, Paul Jagim with City of Grand Junction, Vara Kusal with the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District (BID), Bennett Boeschstein, Grand Junction City Council Member, Kelsey Fife, Health Promotion Specialist with Mesa County Health Department, Emma Malmquist, Colorado Mesa University Student, Craig Robillard, public and Michele Rohrbach.

Introductions were made around the room for the public in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes** – Max/Biz. Motion passed.

**Announcements** – Kathy said the North Avenue’s Owners Association is looking into a celebration on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm for the improvements from 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. They want to focus on the north side businesses and perhaps have punch cards that walkers take to businesses to have punched in order to be entered into a drawing. Kathy stated she would like to include Healthy Mesa County, Colorado Mesa University (CMU) and Grand Valley Transit (GVT). Kristen suggested a trick or treat theme with it being so close to Halloween. Would like to have the GJ Rockies and Mavs mascot. Emma suggested putting an announcement in the Mavs newsletter but will need to get the info in within the next few weeks. UTC could be on the south side to punch cards as folks walk up to the booth – suggestion made to have bicycle maps available and focus group info.

Craig asked if the City knows how many storefronts will be doing improvements. Kathy said the City has grant funds available for store owners, some had done improvements but she wasn’t sure if others will follow.

Paul noted that the City had proposed a crosswalk between 12<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Streets, but CDOT wasn’t supportive.

Craig pointed out the need for way finding signage and Kristin asked about bike parking facilities on the North Avenue side of Stocker stadium.

**Bike Lane Project** – Kristin talked about the innovative bike lane project – “green bike lane” on 10<sup>th</sup>. Paul showed photos of bike lane signs that have been installed on 10<sup>th</sup> Street at North Avenue and Main Street indicating the connection between CMU and downtown. Orin stated that the “University” directional sign should be moved back so riders could merge into the traffic sooner to make the left turn. Paul said he also has a sign mid point on Grand Avenue (both directions) to downtown and one at 10<sup>th</sup> and North (on the signal pole on the South West corner). These types of signs could be used to show connections to other major hubs. The group suggested putting the mileage on the sign.

Paul gave an overview of the use of “green” bike lanes. Kathy said that CMU has proposed painting the bike lane Mavs colors. The standards only allow for green, but the crosswalks could be other colors. However, the paint needed for durability is quite expensive. Bennett said that CMU President Foster offered to cover the cost of the paint for 10<sup>th</sup> Street. David suggested just painting a partial width or just the bike lane line. Kristin stated that the bike box should be included in the quote because of the safety of trying to cross Grand. Orin asked about the signal at 10<sup>th</sup> and North being upgraded to detect bicyclist since it’s so difficult to reach the crosswalk button, especially when pulling a kiddie cart.

**10<sup>th</sup> Street Event** – Kathy updated UTC on an idea of an “Open Streets” event along 10<sup>th</sup> Street, connecting CMU with downtown, which would coincide with Mavs Homecoming Parade, scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00pm. 10<sup>th</sup> Street could be closed to vehicular traffic from 11:00am to 4:00pm with music, art, food trucks, sidewalk chalk art. Some activities could center on Washington Park. Paul offered to put together a traffic control plan and Kathy will work with the DDA BID and Kristin will coordinate with CMU.

**Public Service Announcements (PSAs)** – Biz shared past Grand Valley Bikes (GVB) PSAs that have been used. Most were radio ads. David discussed the possibility of having (CMU) students produce PSAs. Shanna said that the library has a great studio but would need someone who is qualified to produce the project. Kathy suggested doing PSAs in conjunction with Safe Routes to School programs.

**Covered Secured Parking** – Orin brought up the need for covered secured bike parking and thought that downtown and Horizon Drive would be good places to start. It’s especially important for people bicycle commuting to work to have a safe, secured area for their bicycle. Kathy asked Orin to send her information on examples of secured bicycle parking.

**Issues List** – Max passed around some information regarding canal bank trails for UTC to review and further discuss at the October meeting. David said he found an “issues list” dating back to 1997 from former UTC co-chair Bob Cron and Grand Valley Water Users Manager, Richard Proctor. The article in the Daily Sentinel regarding canal trails was discussed. Max indicated that he had received a variety of comments on it. UTC will continue to work Max on this issue.

**Updates** –

**Grand Valley Circulation Plan (GVCP)** – Kathy said staff is still working on the outreach process.

**Safe Routes to School** – SRTS is working with Healthy Mesa County on the October 12<sup>th</sup> Walk to School event.

**Other Business/Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

**Adjournment** – Adjourned at 7:00pm.

Next agenda – Bike lane options, Canal Trail Issue List