

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

Minutes February 14, 2017

Called to Order

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

Dr. Kristin Heumann, Chair	David Lehmann, Vice Chair
Jeff Kuhr, Ph.D	Orin Zyvan
Shana Wade	Biz Collins

Also present were Greg Caton, City Manager, Kathy Portner, Community Development, Paul Jagim, Transportation Engineering, Julie Sabin, public, Kelsey Fife with Mesa County Health Department, Kayla Dodson, public, Michele Nelson, Mesa County Bicycle Alliance/public and Michele Rohrbach.

Approval of Minutes – Shana approved. David second. The motion was passed.

Announcements – There were no announcements.

2016 Accomplishments/2017 Goals/Priorities List – Kathy reviewed the information packet given to each UTC member - (UTC January minutes, Strategic Plan, 2016 Accomplishments/2017 Action Item).

Kathy stated that the Walk Friendly application was held until the Complete Streets policy is in place.

Innovative Pilot Project - Kristin talked about CDOT's Road X (?) and perhaps using CMU students to work on an Innovative Pilot project and go for some grant funds.

Survey - Jeff said that Mesa County will be doing a Community Survey this year. Kelsey stated that they hope to keep the survey to a few questions to garner more responses. Kelsey asked UTC for questions for the survey. Kathy asked Biz if RTPPO could help in developing questions specific to our community. There's a need for both census data and traffic data, as well as the identification of barriers. Kristin stated that the survey data could be used in developing 2018 Action Items. Paul asked for suggested locations for permanent and temporary counters.

Identify discrete projects for funders – Max knows of a number of funders that might be interested in UTC projects. UTC needs to identify discrete opportunities for funding.

Develop UTC website – The City will work on developing a webpage.

Bike check out project through library – Shana indicated that the library would be interested and would need contacts for getting bikes through the City and repair through the R-5 program.

Coordinate evening speaker event and PSAs:

PSAs – Biz has PSAs for radio and TV and will bring examples to the next meeting.

Coordinate evening speaker event – The group will look into speaker options and try to schedule something for May.

Bike Month activities – Kelsey reported that there is still a desire to change the event to May, but will stick with June for this year. Kelsey asked that any planned activities be sent to her to include on the calendar. UTC will be doing the kickoff event.

SRTS Priorities for CDBG Funding – Kathy presented five potential SRTS projects for prioritization for CDBG funding. The UTC prioritization is as follows:

1. **(B) Bookcliff Middle School**
2. **(A) Nisley Elementary**
3. **(D) Pinyon**
4. **(C) 17th Street**
5. **(E) Bookcliff Crosswalk**

2017 Street Maintenance Projects/Maintenance Protocol – Paul went over the list of City maintenance projects scheduled for 2017. The following have the potential for improving bicycle access:

- **25 Road—I-70B to Patterson—opportunity for striping/N. of Patterson need shoulder**
- **26 Road—Patterson to F ½--change striping—narrow lanes to 10', w/ bike lane**
- **4th—Grand to North—bike lane?**
- **7th St—Teller to North—not good options for bikes**
- **Bookcliff—7th to 9th—no change**
- **9th—S. 1st St. to Ute—will review for bike lanes or sharrows as shown in priorities**
- **Gunnison—12th to 24th—look at prohibiting parking on one side; crossing at 13th**
- **B 1/2 –27 ½ to 29—bike lanes**
- **Grand—1st to 12th—opportunity for bike lanes east of 7th? Not ready for sharrows west of 7th**
- **Horizon—12th to G—bike lane**

Discussed that “Sharrows”, bicycle boxes and green pavement would need more discussion and community outreach before implementing.

UTC Membership – Regular representation from the Health Department & RTPO -

The general consensus was that regular representation from RTPO and Health Dept. would be beneficial. RTPO will take it to the GVRTC for approval. Also recognized the importance of having representation from the canal companies and CMU. UTC will recommend amended by-laws to the City Council.

Open Streets Event – Kristin delayed the discussion until March.

Grand Valley Circulation Plan (GVCP) – Kathy said there is a joint meeting with the City Council and Planning Commission on Thursday to review the work that has been done to date and discuss the public process. David has been invited to present for UTC on the Complete Streets Policy and Active Transportation Corridor Plan. Public process is scheduled for later in the spring.

Safe Routes to School – Biz said they are close to the end of the grant. They'll be participating in Outdoor Heritage Days in Palisade at the end of April.

Safe Stop Laws/Idaho Stops – David explained what the Safe Stop Law is (stop sign is treated as yield and light is treated as stop sign) and indicated that he testified on the proposal last week via video. Data shows it's generally safer, but it didn't pass. As an advisory group to the City Council, UTC cannot take a position on such legislation, but can make recommendations to the City Council for consideration. David suggested adding it to the action list.

Public Comment –Michele Nelson distributed a list maintenance issues along bikeways. Kristin asked the Committee to review the list for discussion at the next meeting. Michele N. stated Mesa County Bicycle Alliance will be in Fruita on February 27th at 7:00pm in the Peach Room; Ture Nycum will be the guest speaker.

Kayla said she'd be happy to put together a petition drive for the Safe Stop Law.

Adjournment – 7:00pm.