

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council
From: Steve Westbay
Date: February 10, 2015
RE: Paths to Parks GOCO Grant

For the second year in a row the Great Outdoor Colorado (GOCO) Board set aside up to \$4 million to fund the “Paths to Parks” grant program. The purpose of this grant program is to increase trail access for youth and families to existing parks, open spaces, natural areas, environmental education opportunities and other public areas. GOCO has invited the City of Gunnison to submit a formal application for the 2015 Paths to Parks grant cycle. The City’s project will cost approximately \$700,000 in total, the request for GOCO funds will exceed \$500,000 and the City will dedicate a minimum 25% cash match.

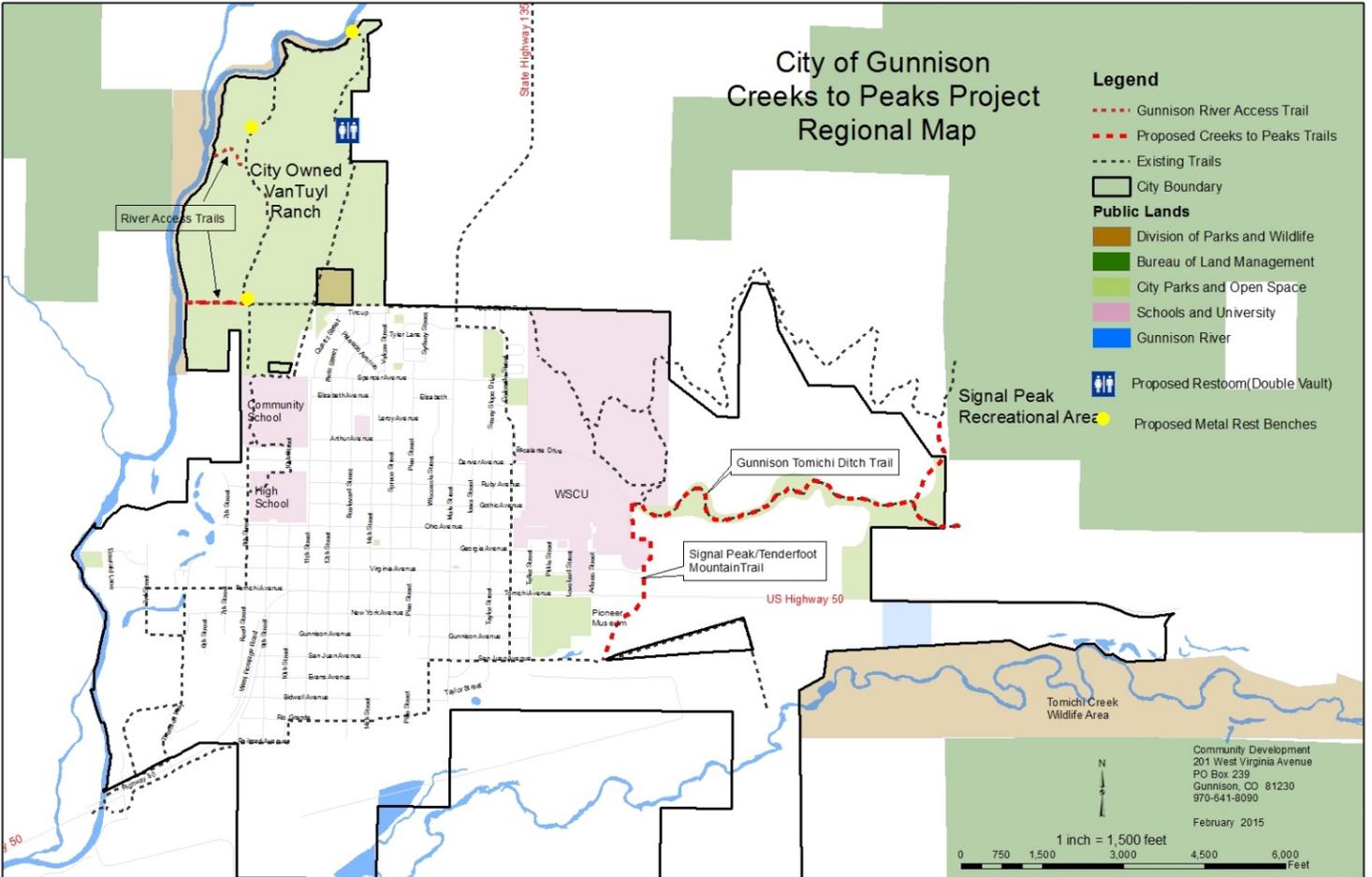
The City’s project (From Ridges to Rivers) is comprised of four trail segments: Gunnison River Access segments (north & south), the Signal Peak/Tenderfoot Mountain Trail, and the Gunnison-Tomichi Ditch Trail. New Gunnison River Access segments (north & south) are part of the VanTuyl Ranch trail system – they will include boardwalk features to cross wetlands and extend west to the Gunnison River corridor. One segment is in the CPW access property and the other is west of the ranch headquarters. The Signal Peak/Tenderfoot Mountain Trail is located to the east and connects the Signal Peak Recreation Area to the Tomichi Creek Wildlife Area. The Gunnison-Tomichi Ditch Trail links the Contour Trail to the eastern edge of the Western campus. These trail segments are important connections recommended in the City’s *Non-Motorized Transportation Plan*. A map indicating the proposed trails is attached.

As part of the GOCO eligibility requirements, the governing body is required to submit a Resolution along with the grant application. The resolution recognizes that City Council is aware of and supports the application; it also denotes the financial obligations associated with the grant. A draft Resolution is also attached to this memorandum, which the Council will be asked to consider at the next regular meeting.

City of Gunnison Creeks to Peaks Project Regional Map

Legend

- - - - Gunnison River Access Trail
 - - - - Proposed Creeks to Peaks Trails
 - - - - Existing Trails
 - City Boundary
- Public Lands**
- Division of Parks and Wildlife
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - City Parks and Open Space
 - Schools and University
 - Gunnison River
- Proposed Restroom (Double Vault)
 - Proposed Metal Rest Benches



Community Development
201 West Virginia Avenue
PO Box 239
Gunnison, CO 81230
970-641-8090

February 2015

1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 750 1,500 3,000 4,500 6,000 Feet

**RESOLUTION NO.
SERIES 2015**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON,
COLORADO, SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR A PATH TO PARKS
TRAILS GRANT FROM THE STATE BOARD OF GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO
FOR THE CITY OF GUNNISON CREEKS TO PEAKS TRAILS PROJECT.**

WHEREAS, the City of Gunnison supports the Great Outdoors Colorado grant application for the Ridges to Rivers trails project. And if the grant is awarded, the City of Gunnison supports the completion of the project.

WHEREAS, the City of Gunnison has requested funds not to exceed \$600,000 from Great Outdoors Colorado to construct four trail segments that have been recommended in the *Non-Motorized Transportation Plan* (2013) that will connect residential neighborhoods, public schools and Western State Colorado University to open spaces, environmental education opportunities and other public areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO THAT:**

- Section 1: The City Council of the City of Gunnison strongly supports the grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the Ridges to Rivers trails project.
- Section 2: The City Council of the City of Gunnison hereby acknowledges that the grant application includes matching funds which the City of Gunnison is solely responsible to provide if a grant is awarded.
- Section 3: The City Council of the City of Gunnison authorize the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of any Grant awarded.
- Section 4: Eligibility Criteria in the GOCO application states that if the property is owned by a third party, an Intergovernmental Agreement or other contract between the applicant and the property owner will be required for this application. Documents contained in the City of Gunnison application include the *Gunnison Rising Annexation Agreement* (2010) and other easement documents, which are contractual by definition, and demonstrate the fulfillment of this Eligibility Criteria element.
- Section 5: The City Council of the City of Gunnison recognizes that as the recipient of a Great Outdoors Colorado Paths to Parks grant the project site must provide reasonable public access.
- Section 6: The City Council of the City of Gunnison will continue to maintain the Ridges to Rivers trails in a high quality condition. City Council will

appropriate funds for annual maintenance, an estimated \$1,500, in its annual budget.

Section 7: If the grant is awarded, the City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to sign the grant agreement with Great Outdoors Colorado.

Section 8: This resolution will be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED at a Regular Session meeting of the City Council of the City of Gunnison, Colorado, held this ____ day of _____, 2015.

Mayor

(SEAL)

City Clerk