AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: CB to Carbondale Trail Update

Action Requested:

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

Please see the attached submitted by Hilary Henry for the 10/24 work session.

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Josh Ost **Submitter's Email Address:** jost@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\khaase Discharge Date: 10/13/2017

○ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 10

Agenda Date: 10/24/2017

Revised April 2015

Staff Report

October 12, 2017

To: Gunnison Board of County Commissioners

From: Hilary Henry, Open Space/Creative District Coordinator

Thru: Michael Yerman, Community Development Director

Subject: Update on the Crested Butte to Carbondale Trail

Background:

The Gunnison Valley Community has worked on building the Carbondale to Crested Butte Trail since the early 1990s. In 2004, the Trails Commission spearheaded a comprehensive feasibility study for the trail. The alignment in this study was included in the 2010 Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) Travel Management Plan (TMP).

In 2016, Governor Hickenlooper named the Carbondale to Crested Butte Trail as one of the sixteen priority trails to complete around the state (Known as the "16 in '16", part of the Colorado the Beautiful Initiative). Later that year, Pitkin County Open Space and Trails received a $100,000 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), matched by $200,000 of their own funding, for planning and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) approval.

Pitkin County Open Space and Trails has worked closely with the Town of Crested Butte, the Gunnison County Trails Commission, and the Forest Service's Paonia Ranger District to finalize the trail alignment from the top of McClure Pass to the Town of Crested Butte over the past summer.

Currently, the trail exists on the ground from just past the Kebler winter parking lot to Anthracite Creek (the Wagon Trail) and from Erickson Springs to the top of McClure Pass (the Raggeds Trail). Town Staff has been working over the past few weeks with our partners to finalize the alignment on the ground for the new trail to be constructed from Anthracite Creek to Erickson Springs. This alignment will establish a trail corridor that can be refined during construction. NEPA approval on this section of trail is expected to be minimal as the trail alignment was included in the 2010 Travel Management Plan.

The Town of Crested Butte will work with the Gunnison Trails Commission (or STOR) to hold an open house with Pitkin County Open Space in early 2018 at the Crested Butte Town Hall. The open house will provide an opportunity for the public to review the proposed alignment for the new trail and provide feedback. Town Staff will inform Gunnison County once a date has been confirmed.

NEPA approval is expected to begin in 2018, with construction slated for 2019