

**GUNNISON SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND OUTDOOR TOURISM COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 25, 2023**

The May 25, 2023 Gunnison Sustainable Tourism and Outdoor Tourism Committee (STORC) meeting was conducted in person and by Zoom virtual online meeting, Gunnison, CO, 81230.

Committee Members Present:

Jake Jones, Chair, Crested Butte Land Trust
Kimberly Shappert, Vice Chair, At-Large
Gabi Prochaska, Town of Crested Butte
Derrick Nehrenberg, MetRec
James Lovelace, BLM
Roman Kolodziej, Town of Mount Crested Butte
Ian Billick, Town of Crested Butte
Jennifer DeBoer, WCU
Jeremy Johndrow, At-Large Member

Mark Voegli, CBMR
David Ochs, At-Large
Celeste Helminski, At-Large Member
Dayle Funka, USFS
Chris Parmeter, At-Large Member
Mallory Logan, City of Gunnison

Others in Audience:

Jon Kaminsky, BLM
Jessica Garrow
Leah Stoltz
Stuart West
Cheryl Swelick
Hedda Peterson
Morgan Anderson
Abigail Harrison
Martin Schmidt

Staff:

Joe Lavorini, Gunnison County Stewardship Coordinator-National Forest Foundation
Cathie Pagano, Community and Economic Development Director

CALL TO ORDER: Jake Jones called the May 25, 2023 meeting to order at 2:03 PM.

MINUTE APPROVAL: Moved to approve by Derrick Nehrenberg and seconded by Mark Voegli to approve the April 27, 2023 minutes as presented. Passed unanimously.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Agenda approved as presented.

The next meeting will be July 27, 2023

Brief Updates-

Derrick Nehrenberg shared the board for Met Rec unanimously voted to embark on a regional recreation plan. The plan is to produce a recreation plan by the first quarter of 2025. They will work with the north and south advisory committees. There is a recreation survey out now. They also have a poster that Nehrenberg will email to group.

Jake Jones shared that the Public Lands day was a huge success. Jim Lovelace shared some stats. They estimated that there were 260 volunteers. There was approximately 130 back country hunters and anglers that were engaged in fence pulling. Volunteers at Hartman's tackled 178 lbs of dog waste. Approximately 1700 lbs of trash was picked up. They completed 2 focused trail maintenance projects. Between 3 locations they picked up 5.25 miles of unused barb wire fence.

Cathie Pagano shared that Joe Lavorini is being promoted and moving on. Looking to fill his position. NFF and staff have been talking to work on transition. Joe Lavorini shared that he will be staying in the community. Joe Lavorini shared that the 3 years he has been in the position NFF has grown. The community partnership has set a model for other communities and NFF has grown.

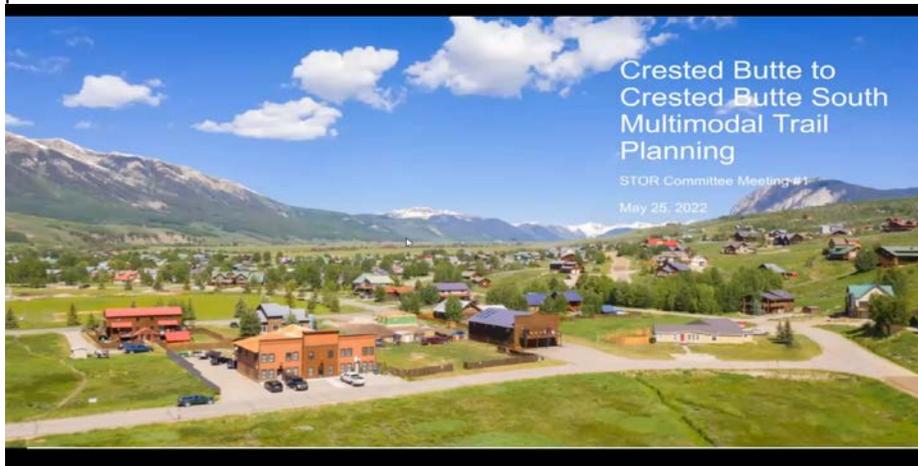
June Meeting: Cathie Pagano shared that the June Meeting will be cancelled.

Committee Vacancy: Lavorini shared that Matt Reed is relocating and it leaves a vacancy on the committee. It is an At-Large Member vacancy.

Strategic Plan Teams & Team Leaders: Lavorini updated the committee that they have filled out the teams and leads for each team. They are working on expectations and implementation. Lavorini will share the teams and leaders so the teams can start to meet.

Crested Butte to Crested Butte South Multimodal Trail – Trail Planning Update- Jessica Garrow & Leah Stoltz-

Pagano shared they hired Design Workshop. They are out of Carbondale. Jessica Garrow shared their presentation.



Agenda

1. **Introductions**
2. **Project Background**
3. **Community Engagement Plan**
4. **Existing Conditions**
5. **Discussion**
6. **Next Steps**

Meet the Team



Jessica Garrow, AICP
Principal-in-Charge



Leah Stoltz
Project Manager



Ashley Hejtmanek
Project Advisor



Ben Fish
Project Advisor



Bryan Frantz
Civil Engineer



Tim Hayashi
Transportation Engineer



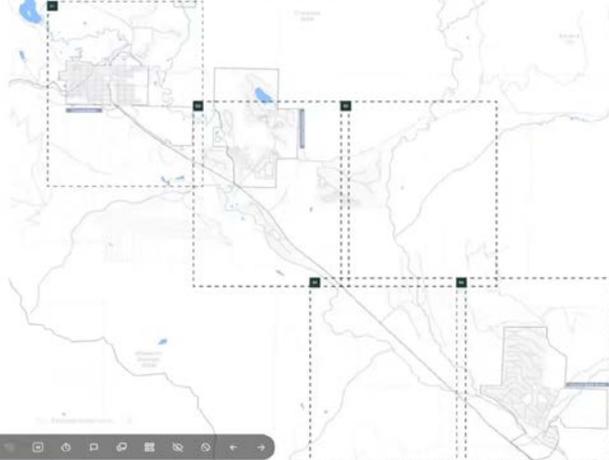
Rodney Kiser
Surveyor



Jonathan Lowsky
Wildlife Ecologist

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Background and Study Area



- Identified as a capital improvement goal for over a decade
- Has been a community priority for over three decades
- Included in 2022 County Strategic Plan and Capital Improvement Plan
- Recipient of grant funds to support trail planning
- Anticipated to be a multimodal path connecting Crested Butte to Crested Butte South
- Highway 135 Corridor
- No project boundaries specifically set at this time

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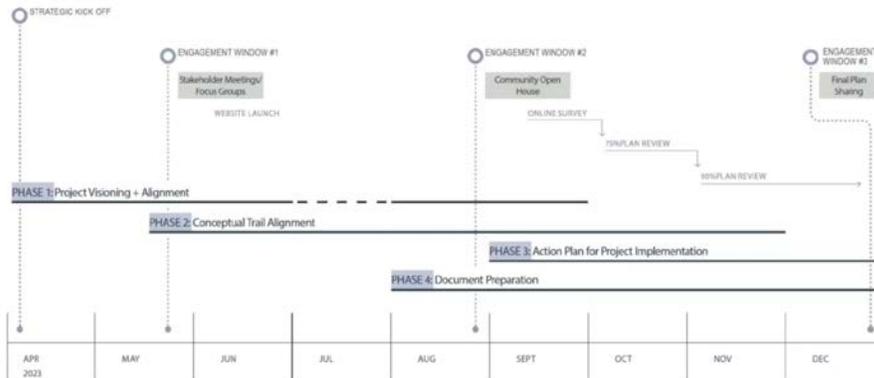
What is Multimodal Trail Planning?

Definition

- Provide a hard surface for bicycle and pedestrian use
- Connect communities
- Increase access to bus stop and transit hubs
- Curb greenhouse gases
- Increase safety for all users in the corridor
- Reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled



Project Timeline



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Community Engagement Plan

Open Modality

Community Engagement Window #1: Setting the Stage

Objective: Inform + Consult

Methods: Website Update, Stakeholder Interviews, Focus Group Meetings

Community Engagement Window #2: Evaluating Options

Objective: Consult + Engage

Methods: Community Open House, Online Survey

Community Engagement Window #3: Final Plan Sharing

Objective: Inform + Empower

Methods: Community Open House with presentation and notifications; BoCC and County Staff presentations



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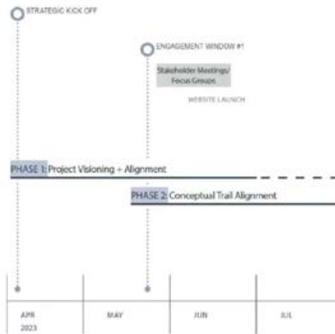
Engagement Window #1: Setting the Stage

Project Website Launch Key Objectives

- To provide a portal for the general public to obtain project updates and publicly available information
- To provide a contact method for the general public to reach the project team.
- Provide an outlet for interested community members to participate digitally.

Stakeholder/Focus Group Meetings Key Objectives

- To inform stakeholders about the master plan update process.
- To inform questions that will be asked of the broader community.
- To use target conversations to consult stakeholders to get an initial understanding of values, needs, issues and opportunities related to the development of the trail corridor.

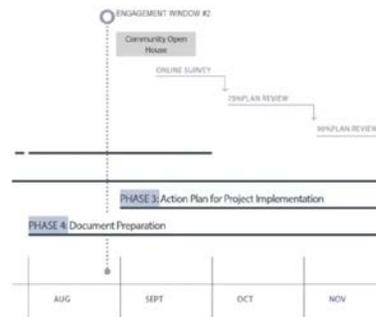


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Engagement Window #2: Evaluating Options

Open House Key Objectives

- Utilize findings from the stakeholder and focus group engagement windows to present:
 - the vision statement and goals
 - the initial formulation of trail alignments and uses provided for
 - gain feedback on the alignment and connections to the proposed trail alignments
- To present key findings from the previous engagement event
- To demonstrate how community input has been incorporated into the draft content and to gauge reactions to the draft alignment

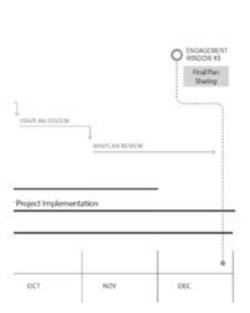


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Engagement Window #3: Final Plan Sharing

Final Plan Sharing Key Objectives

- To showcase the final plan and demonstrate how community input was incorporated into the final content.
- To inform and educate the community on the outcomes of the plan and continue to build momentum for implementation.

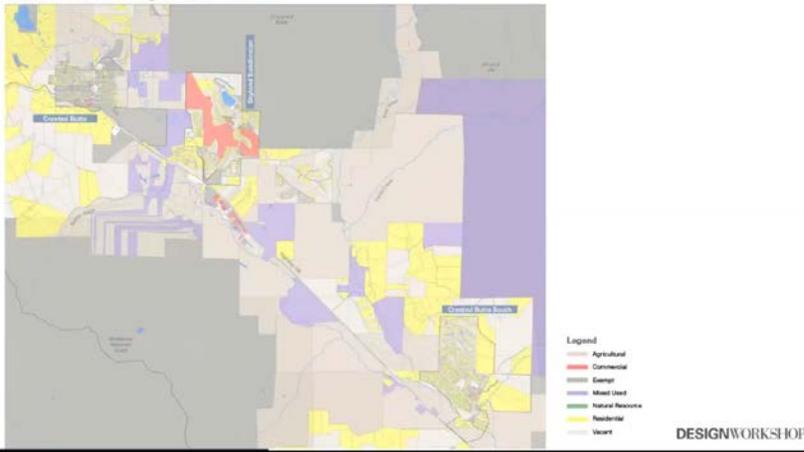


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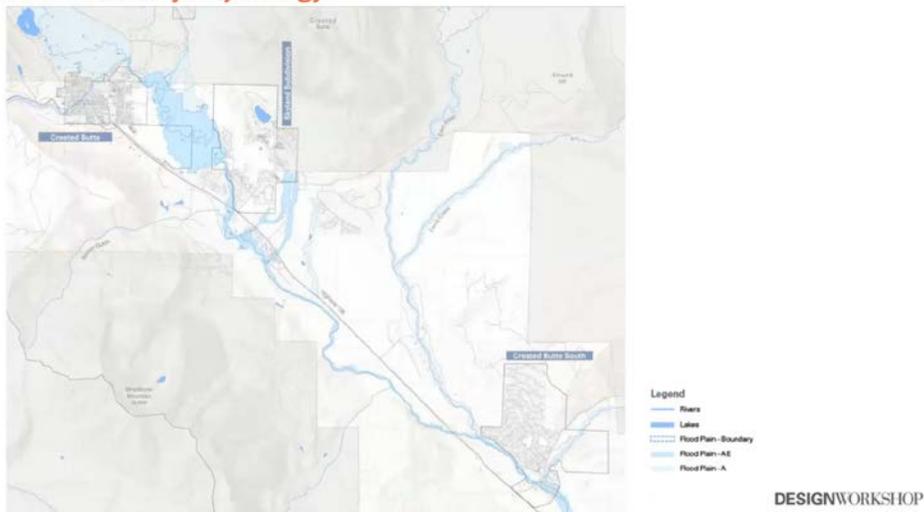
Existing Conditions



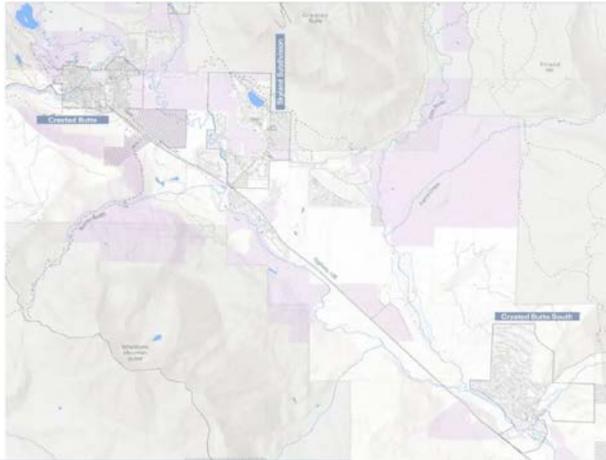
Land Inventory : Land Use



Land Inventory : Hydrology

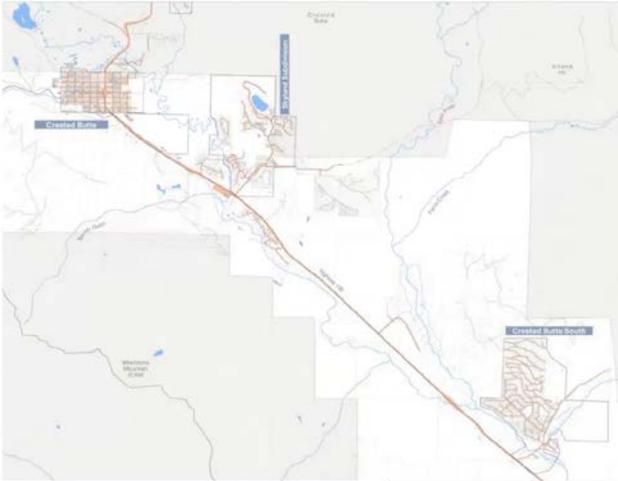


Land Inventory : Recreation Infrastructure



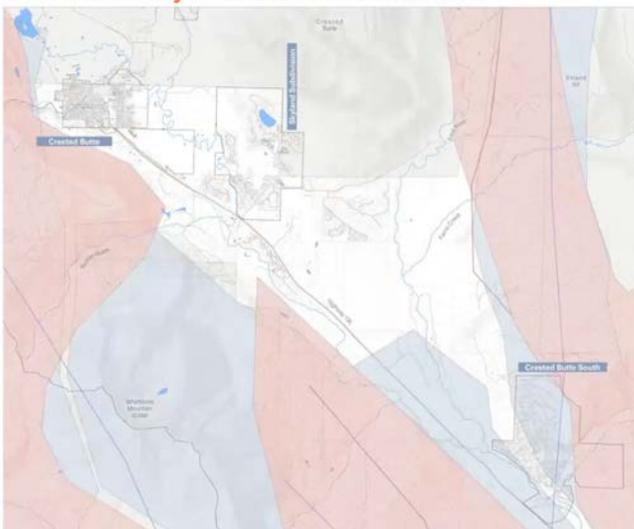
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Land Inventory : Transportation Infrastructure

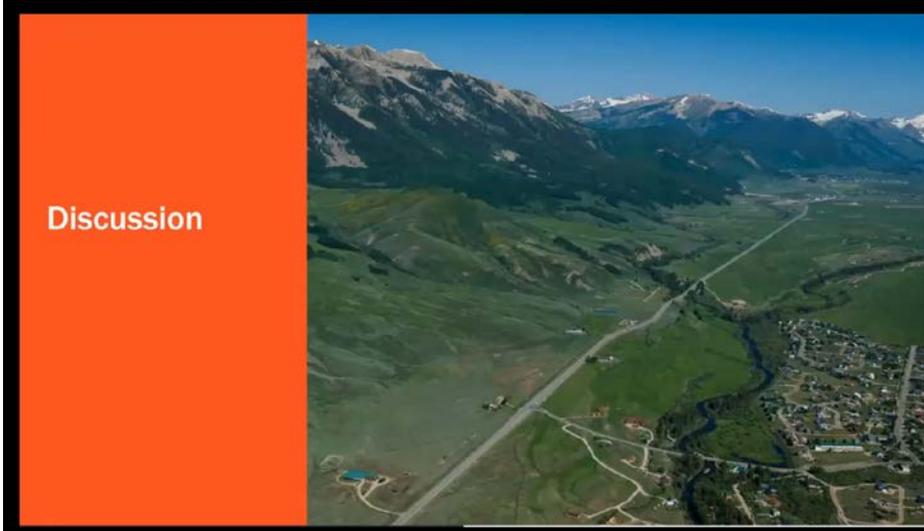


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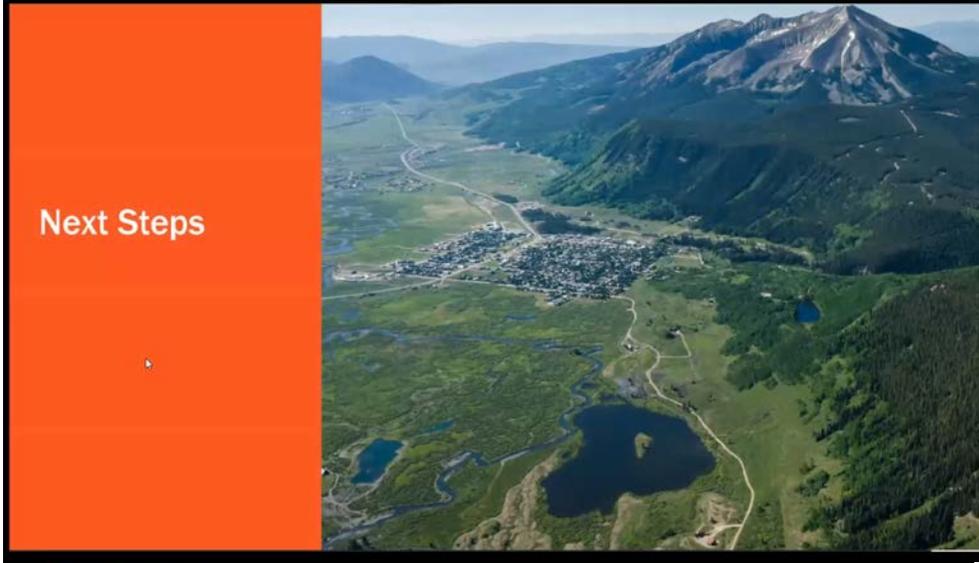
Land Inventory : Wildlife Infrastructure



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Group Discussion followed the presentation using menti.com. Interactive discussion.



Next Steps

-  Stakeholder Interviews/Focus Group Meetings
May - June
-  Community Open House
August / September
-  Project Website
<https://gunnisoncounty.org/1048/Crested-Butte-to-Crested-Butte-South-mul>

Contact: Cathie Pagano (cpagano@gunnisoncounty.org) or Martin Schmidt (mschmidt@gunnisoncounty.org).

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Parking Lot Items:

Met Rec – Recreation Master Planning

Gold Medal Waters-

ADJOURN: The May 25, 2023 meeting of the Sustainable Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee adjourned at 3:48 PM.

Prepared by Shannon Frias, Community Development, Senior Administrative Assistant