

TO: Golden Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board
FR: Al Head & Ben Davis, Golden Giddyup
Tim Waters & Jerry Harcek, Golden Community Members
RE: Singletrack Sidewalks Pilot Proposal 3.0, January, 2018 update

Thank you again for your interest in working with community members to build singletrack sidewalks in Golden. We are very grateful for your support in taking this process to the next steps.

As requested, we have gone out on site and are providing much more specific alignments. We walked all of the terrain in question with an inclinometer and in all instances strive to keep the trail at no more than a 5-6% grade, meeting the goals to have a “green” level trail that would be accessible and fun for beginners on up. While investigating the terrain, we made several adjustments to the alignments we had originally proposed. These changes were typically due to a combination of factors, including already existing social trails in the area, identifying the best, most interesting terrain with the lowest impact, and, of course, safety.

Each picture below has a brief explanation of the alignment. Please review and feel free to send any questions you might have.

We would be excited to take a group out to walk the alignment in person so you can see what an amazing, and relatively low-cost amenity this would be to our community. The terrain is spectacular. We welcome your input and are anxious to move towards next steps as soon as possible.

(For review)

Project: Starting with a community trail at the Apex trailhead and running the length of the bike path to Heritage Dells Park, passing Shelton Elementary School, and then reconnecting at the bottom of Tripp Ranch Road before continuing past the first tunnel beneath Eagle Ridge Drive and down towards the tunnel under 6th Ave. At the request of Mayor Marjorie Sloan, we have also included a feeder trail that would connect the communities east of Heritage Rd, including the Golden Terrace, Zeta St, and Golden Ridge communities, all of which have high populations of youth attending Shelton Elementary.

Design Notes: In this proposal phase we sketched trail alignments that we believed would bring added value to community activities, meet local desires for green, beginner-level trails and connect existing trail systems. We fully expect these proposed alignments will need to be assessed for their impacts on the environment and put out for public comment from local residents.

In our vision, these trails are multi-use, packed-dirt trails with alternate lines for simple, beginner features made of rock and wood. They are built to offer all riders an opportunity to try their bike

on a natural surface trail, regardless of age or skill. And, most importantly, they are fun. Fun to ride. Fun to experience with other family members. And fun to maintain.

We encourage and can arrange a trip to Valmont for anyone curious to see examples in person. Valmont's Skills Loop and Dirt 101 trails are great examples of fun, beginner level trails built for all ages.

Volunteer Resources: As we've mentioned before, the Golden Giddyup has attracted hundreds of volunteers from the community in the last several years, logging thousands of volunteer hours to build and improve local trails. In the last nine months alone, over 300 volunteers have logged over 3,200 hours on nearly 120 project days (doubling the 2017 numbers from our initial proposal submitted in July of this year). We believe the people of Golden will continue to come out in support of this project to improve their neighborhood amenities, and we will put our resources (and backs) to work to ensure that the project has local support for assistance in building and maintenance.

Financial Support: The Golden Giddyup is prepared to partner with the City of Golden financially in funding the construction of these trails and trail features. It is important to note that this commitment is made possible by the 500 annual Giddyup participants, REI-Coop of Denver, Yeti Cycles, and additional Golden Giddyup sponsors.

Timeline: The Golden Giddyup Trail Team is prepared to dedicate resources to this endeavor as soon as approval is granted by the City of Golden.

Update on Trail Alignments (January, 2018):

1. From Apex Parking lot, North towards Heritage Dells Park. There is an existing social trail on the east side of the Kinney Run bike path that follows the rock outcropping and is used by many local residents and kids. For this reason, we moved the alignment to the east side of the path throughout.
2. For the trail connecting Zeta St and surrounding communities, there are also social trails through the land between the Bachman property and the condo developments. Connecting into the roundabout at Kimball and following Heritage on the east side also provides the most access as well as the safest routes for crossing Heritage (including the pedestrian bridge just north of 4th ave).



2. From Kimball, through Heritage Dells Park/ Shelton Elementary towards Crawford/ Tripp Ranch Rd.

Aspect 1:



Aspect 2:



3. From Tripp Ranch Rd to Eagle Ridge Dr. Again, there is existing social trail along much of this corridor. The terrain is spectacular, but we would need to re-join the bike path before the brick oven historical site.:



4. From Eagle Ridge Rd to 6th Ave. This stretch has no neighbors/ residents adjacent.:



Example of STS in Breckenridge and Arkansas:



Examples of Alternate lines with Skills features (from Valmont Bike Park in Boulder):



Engaging the community in the process creates buy-in, ownership, and a sense of pride and accomplishment.





Other resources on Singletrack Sidewalk initiatives and their positive impact on local communities:

<https://www.grindtv.com/bike/singletrack-sidewalks-trails-program-makes-getting-school-fun-eagle-colo/>

<https://www.outsideonline.com/1930586/connecting-town-singletrack-sidewalks>

<http://dirtragemag.com/singletrack-to-school-how-one-arkansas-town-is-securing-its-cycling-future/>