

Memorandum

To: Mayor and Council
From: Tom Baker, Town Administrator
Date: February 17, 2015
Re: Rocky Mountain Youth Corp (RMYC)

Purpose: The purpose of this discussion is to provide Council with information about Garfield County's Youth Corp program and to ask Council (or appointed representative) to determine a schedule for the Youth Corp to come to New Castle to work on a trail project.

Background and Discussion: The following information is in addition to that which the Commissioners provided us during our recent joint meeting.

Staff met with Steve Anthony (supervisor of RMYC) on February 6th to learn how New Castle can use Youth Corp services. Steve explained that the Youth Corp is an off-shoot of FDR's Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC). Garfield County funds (\$165k in 2015) two crews of 8-10 young men and women to undertake projects on public and private land in the County. See attached information packet from Steve Anthony.

Question: Can the RMYC plan and design trails as well as build and repair? **No. The trail crew can build and repair trails but the Town will need to provide designer/sergeant to be with the crew during the construction period.**

Question: What size project is best for RMYC? **The county is flexible and may be able to allow the crew to work for 2 or 3 weeks or perhaps longer.**

Question: We understand that these workers camp on-site. What can we do to make the project special for them? **For this project the crew will camp up East Elk Creek rather than stay on site.**

Question: Our summers are hot, what schedule best fits RMYC needs? **Many of the crew are in school and only have the summer months to work. Trail crews work from mid-June through mid-August.**

Question: Do you allow community volunteers to be part of the trail crew? **Not certain. Trail crews work four 10-hour days and not weekends, which may minimize volunteer interest.**

Question: What do you need from the Town?

- **Porta-John on-site.**
- **Trail designer on-site to guide the crew.**
- **Determine (by end of March) when and for how long Council wants a trail crew.**
- **Determine specific project.**

Request: Council discussion on summer trail project and, if appropriate, appoint Council person to work with staff to address above questions.

The County has provided \$5k for RFOV in their 2015 budget, but has not identified a project for them. Steve is amenable to speaking with David Hamilton to determine if they can help with design of this project.