

## Memorandum

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Greg Russi, Tom Baker  
**Date:** July 5, 2016  
**Re:** LOVA Trail Planning Grant: Resolution of Support and Funding Request

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this item is to request Council support for the TAP (CDOT Program) Grant and to strategize with Council about how to allocate LiveWell resources for the next two mini grant cycles. This grant application will allow the TONC to plan the LOVA trail from Canyon Creek to South Canyon.

**Background and Discussion:** As you know, the Governor's 16 Trails by 2016 list had the LOVA trail in the number two position. Currently, there are a number of LOVA trail activities underway: the Town of New Castle has received a Colorado Parks and Wildlife planning grant for the LOVA trail from New Castle to Canyon Creek; Glenwood Springs is pursuing a construction and planning grant from the federal government for the LOVA trail from GWS to South Canyon; and a partnership of NC, GWS, RFTA and County (perhaps LiveWell as part of the County) is being recommended to secure planning funds for the LOVA trail from Canyon Creek to South Canyon (TAP Grant). Greg Russi, Director of Special Projects for the Town is writing the grant and coordinating the partnership discussions.

The TAP grant is due August 1<sup>st</sup>. Jeff Simonson provided an estimate for planning and engineering: \$175,100 for the 2.4 mile stretch. Staff is working on a formula for securing the \$35,020 match. It is possible that the grant match discussion will need to be continued to the July 19<sup>th</sup> in order for Greg to complete discussions with our grant partners. However, staff has some ideas on how this can be accomplished and would like Council feedback on the elements.

- \$10,000 New Castle's LiveWell Carry-Over Funds.
- \$10,000 LiveWell built Environment Working Group.
- \$ 15,000 from other partners – GWS, GarCO, RFTA (Greg Russi will lead the effort to secure partnership funds).
- \$ 5,000 New Castle Conservation Trust Funds (this is a suggestion for reserve funds if we fall short of partnership funds).

As you can see, because this is an important regional trail LiveWell is trying to help us in any way they can. The TAP Grant appears to be a one-time application, which was authorized by the President, which means that this is a unique opportunity. Additionally, the LOVA trail from NC to GWS (part of the 16X2016 Governor's trail list) will have a much higher chance of competing for construction grant funds if we have the corridor planning complete.

If we were to take this funding approach staff recommends that the Town submit a GFMLD mini-grant (\$25,000) for the River Park trail extension and intersection (ADA) improvements in August, 2016.

The trail from Grand River condos to Flattops Pedestrian Bridge is a very important connection because of the residential population and because of Grand River Park. In advance of the August GFMLD mini-grant we can re-scope this project with the intersection improvements that Councilor G. Riddile spoke of at the last meeting. In conversations with John Wenzel and Dave Gray we estimate the total project cost (colored concrete crosswalk, ADA compliance, trail, guard rail) to be \$40,000 to \$45,000. With the \$25,000 mini-grant funds and funds from Conservation Trust Fund we could make this a 2017 project.

**Request:** Staff requests that Council allow Greg and staff to pursue the TAP grant with LiveWell, Town and partner matching funds. Also, staff recommends approval of the TAP grant support resolution. Finally, we requests Council feedback regarding GFMLD mini-grant submission in August, 2016 for the Grand River condos to Flattop Pedestrian Bridge trail project.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, COLORADO  
RESOLUTION NO. TC-2016-10**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTING  
THE APPLICATION FOR A TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM  
(TAP) GRANT FROM THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS (CDOT)  
FOR TRAILS PLANNING AND DESIGN**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of New Castle is a municipal political subdivision of the State of Colorado, and therefore an eligible applicant for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant awarded by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for planning and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized forms of transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of New Castle has submitted a Grant Application for trails planning and design, requesting a total award of \$140,080.00 (80% of the total projected cost of the planning and design project) ; and

**WHEREAS**, outdoor recreation is a fundamental component of Colorado's economy and quality of life, and to many Coloradans, outdoor recreation is more than just an activity, but is a lifestyle, and 90 percent of Coloradans participate in some form of outdoor recreation activity every year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of New Castle actively supports outdoor activity, healthy recreation facilities for our residents and visitors, a vital and well connected pedestrian and bicycle trails network, and the economic benefits to our businesses and residents which regional connectivity brings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of New Castle strongly supports regional collaboration and cooperative planning among local and regional entities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE** Town of New Castle **THAT:**

1. The above recitals are hereby incorporated as findings by the Town of New Castle.
2. The Town of New Castle strongly supports the 2016 TAP / CDOT Grant Application.
3. If the grant is awarded, the Town of New Castle strongly supports the completion of the trails planning project, and ultimately the design, engineering, and construction of the trail in the Colorado River corridor between Glenwood Springs and New Castle.
4. The Town of New Castle authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of the grant awarded pursuant to a Grant Agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation; to include appropriation from otherwise unencumbered funds, 20% of the total projected cost of the planning and design project (\$35,020), which may include contributions from other governmental subdivisions, as detailed in the grant application.

5. The project properties will be owned or controlled by the Town of New Castle or its successor regional governmental subdivision for at least 25 years. The Town of New Castle or its successor regional governmental subdivision will continue to operate and maintain the properties in a high quality condition.

6. If the grant is awarded, the Town of New Castle hereby authorizes the Mayor to sign a Grant Agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation and such ancillary agreements which shall be necessary to complete the grant award process.

Introduced, Read and Adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of New Castle, Colorado, on July 5, 2016.

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Art Riddile

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk Melody L Harrison, CMC

June 14, 2016

Mr. Greg Russi  
Special Projects Director  
Town of New Castle  
P.O. Box 90  
New Castle, Colorado 81647

**RE: Design and Permitting Budgets  
LOVA Trail from South Canyon to Canyon Creek**

Dear Greg,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you an estimate of the budget anticipated to be required to design the LOVA trail segment from South Canyon to Canyon Creek. From an order of magnitude standpoint, it appears the segment of trail in question is approximately 2.44 miles or 12,883 feet long. We anticipate that there are two distinct phases of this project that will be necessary. The first phase is that of Survey, Engineering and Design. This particular phase is somewhat straight forward to estimate a budget as it focuses on creating an end product that is developed on specific tasks and budgeted hours necessary to accomplish those tasks. The tasks identified in the first phase are as follows:

1. Field Survey and base mapping
2. Plan and Profile Mapping Sheets
3. Detail Sheets
4. Notes and Standard Plans Sheets
5. Structural Design and Detailing Sheets
6. Cross Section Sheets
7. Specifications and Special Project Provisions
8. Project Manual

The second phase of the work is more difficult to assign a budget number to as it includes the intangible items in any project. These items range from Project Coordination/Management to Permitting, NEPA Clearances and Stakeholder coordination. Included in this phase would be specific Geotechnical, Environmental and Cultural resource studies. Typically, geotechnical, environmental and cultural resource studies are performed up front in a project prior to or at least with field survey and design. However, we have placed all of these items in the second phase as the exact cost to these items would depend upon the extent of need discovered during the design phase.

This project is unique in its opportunities to develop alternative alignments and designs are extremely limited as the alignment for the trail will exist between East Bound I-70 and the Colorado River. Only until after we are able to perform a design that will fit a 14' wide corridor for the trail and amenities

between these existing features will we be able to discern where specific geotechnical work is needed (i.e, retaining walls, bridges, steep slopes, etc...) along with specific encroachments that may develop in wetlands, ordinary high water and other possible environmentally or culturally sensitive areas. Thus, after the optimal design alignment and project boundaries are determined we can then develop a final scope and extent of the subsequent studies and permitting needs. In this phase, we anticipate that coordination will need to exist between the US Army Corps of Engineers, Union Pacific Railroad, CDOT and FHWA as permitting, review and approval agencies. We also anticipate that coordination will be necessary with such stakeholders as the Town of New Castle, Garfield County, the City of Glenwood and the Roaring Fork Transit Authority.

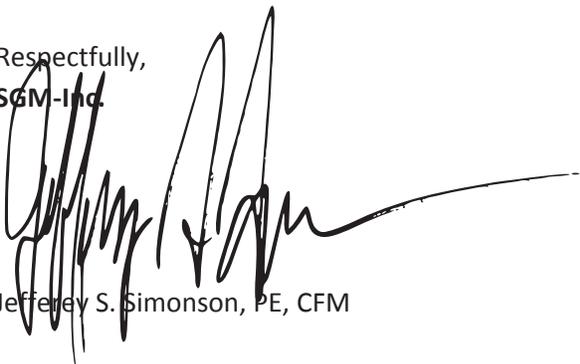
For the two phases of the work, we anticipate the following for budget:

Phase 1 – Survey, Engineering and Design (90%):	\$122,600
Phase 2- Project Coordination, Studies and Permitting:	\$52,500

For the project, a third and final phase of work would be necessary that is very difficult to budget as it relies on results determined from the first two phases. Particularly with the permitting phase of the project, the final phase will be impacted with conditions of approvals that may require design modification, further studies and analysis, etc... With this phase, the final design is completed along with the bidding, construction management, inspection, testing, close out and as-builts.

I hope this budget proposal meets its intended purpose. Upon your receipt and review, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Respectfully,  
SGM-INC.



Jeffrey S. Simonson, PE, CFM