

**Memorandum**

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Tom Baker, Town Administrator  
**Date:** August 16, 2016  
**Re:** Request Assistance for Trail Work

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this item is request up to \$5,000 in funding for assistance with on-going trail work for the remainder of 2016. If assistance is needed in 2017, we will discuss it as part of the 2017 Budget.

**Background and Discussion:** Since December of 2015, Council and staff have become aware of the economic, health, recreation, and civic engagement value of soft trails. The outpouring of community support for these trails has been amazing and the volunteer commitment to plan and build trails and a pump track is changing the way the town is thinking about our future and how we market the town.

The community's desire for more trails and our success with planning and implementing all things trails has outstripped our ability to keep pace with the community. For example, I recently had an opportunity to give Steve Craven an update on what the town has going regarding trails. Steve was impressed and wants to help. Mr. Craven offered to allow trails on his land to help make connections throughout the community. Of course he wants these trail to be on temporary easements that can be changed as development needs dictate, but he want to see our trail system flourish and is not only willing to put trails on his property, he is willing to talk to other property owners and explain the community and development benefits of them allowing trails on their property, as well.

While Mike Callas and John Wenzel have some time to put to these efforts and will be key advisors as we move forward, both have full plates in term of existing work programs.

Momentum.....that's what we have and I want to keep the momentum going, but I need assistance.

The tasks I need assistance with are as follows:

- Work with land owners/developers to determine if trail connections can be made on their land.
- Where needed plan trails, secure easements, work with volunteers to build trails.
- Work with BLM to establish legal trails on the 400 acres north of town: cultural clearances, environmental assessment, trail planning, building, rerouting...
- Help with creating a trail event.
- Help with marketing concepts for advertising trails.
- Develop signage and work with CVR HOA.
- Work with volunteers.
- Other tasks as of yet not identified.

**Financial Implications:** Lyle and I discussed this and feel that we can use the existing budget and allocate \$5,000, either from the administration budget or conservation trust fund.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval.