

Memo

To: Town Council

From: Debbie Nichols

Date: April 14, 2017

Re: GOCO Inspire Initiative Planning Grant update

Just to keep you up to date on the GOCO Inspire Initiative grant, we are in the process of sorting through the proposals. On May 1, Dana Wood with our steering committee will be asking the BOCC for assistance with the funding of the 10% cash match required for all of the partners included in this grant.

What was submitted from the Town was constructing a hard surface on the C Avenue trail, widening the Burning Mountain Trail, constructing a sidewalk on the north side of Main Street between D Avenue and the Jolley Trail and way finding signs in the downtown area. Also included in the grant proposal is a sandstone piece for kids to climb on to be placed in our new Community Sports Park.

The cash match for this grant we plan to purchase a 15 passenger van or a mini bus, to assist with transportation. One of the biggest problems that our Youth Council discovered was the lack of transportation here in New Castle. If we do purchase this van/minibus, Hannah our Recreation Director could also put it to good use with increased programming in the Recreation Department. The GOCO Inspire Initiative would be able to fund a part time driver and some of the fuel costs during the three year period (2018 – 2020.)

At this point our portion of the grant proposal is for \$212,148, but we are in the process of assembling all of the parts and pieces of this puzzle to make it fit into the \$3 million maximum amount we can apply for. This grant committee, we are working with the 2 school districts, City of Rifle, Town of Parachute and Battlement Mesa, Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers, Rocky Mountain Youth Corp., Fat City Farmers, ACES, Colorado Parks Wildlife, CSU Extension (4H) and the Buddy Program.

We will be submitting the grant application in July, the GOCO board will be coming in September for a site visit and then GOCO will announce their awards in December.