

RESOLUTION NUMBER

09-15

Series of 2009

TITLE: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF THE WELD TRAILS ADVISORY GROUP TO ADVANCE THE PLANNING AND COORDINATION FOR THE CONNECTIVITY OF NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS FOR RECREATION, TOURISM AND TRANSPORTATION WITHIN WELD COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the Weld Trails Advisory Group, an ad hoc collaborative representing jurisdictions, agencies and community organizations in Weld County, began meeting in mid-2008 to discuss planned and existing regional trails in Weld County in an effort to share information; and,

WHEREAS, recent data shows that Weld County residents are at risk for disease and negative health effects due to causes such as childhood obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and immobility; and,

WHEREAS, trails can be a design choice that promotes healthy, active living, the evidence of which has been documented and supported by the Steps to Healthier Colorado program administered by the Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment; and,

WHEREAS, economic benefits to trails are documented in a 2000 study by the Colorado Department of Transportation titled "Bicycling and Walking in Colorado: The Economic Impact and Household Survey Results," which found that the total economic benefit from bicycling in the state is more than \$1 billion annually; and,

WHEREAS, recent transportation studies have indicated that transportation and recreational purposes are increasing total usage on urban trails, and, U.S. Census data show that more Colorado adult workers are using bicycles to commute to work compared to ten years ago (i.e., between 2000 and 2001 there was a 50% percent increase in the number of workers using bicycles to get to work); and,

WHEREAS, the rights and benefits to private landowners, individual citizens, and organizations are recognized and respected, and the Weld Trails Advisory Group fully supports those rights in regards to trail planning, and to involve and engage all landowners and the public, should specific plans and proposals be considered for trails or trail corridors in a particular locale; and,

WHEREAS, many of the cities and towns in Weld County, and the County itself, have adopted goals and policies supporting the development and maintenance of pedestrian,

equestrian, and bicycling trails in order to provide opportunities for recreation, transportation, and tourism; and,

WHEREAS, the Weld Trails Advisory Group focuses on advancing and coordinating the connectivity of non-motorized trails between jurisdictions, acts as an advocate voice for the education of trail use for recreation, transportation, and tourism purposes throughout Weld County, and functions as a catalyst to influence the creation of a regional guideline document that offers common language to promote and enlarge a system-wide master plan for Weld County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Hudson that:

1. The Town of Hudson's willingness to support efforts to develop regional trails in unincorporated and incorporated areas throughout Weld County is in the best interest and shall benefit the health, safety, and welfare of citizens of the Town of Hudson; and
2. The Board of Trustees for the Town of Hudson hereby accepts this Resolution of Support for the continued efforts of the Weld Trails Advisory Group; and,
3. The Town of Hudson agrees to participate in the Weld Trails Advisory Group and in efforts to facilitate coordination and collaboration between jurisdictions throughout Weld County and between private and public entities attempting to develop regional trail corridors, including on-going regional discussion and planning.

INTRODUCED, READ and PASSED this 3rd day of June, 2009.

TOWN OF HUDSON, COLORADO

Neal Pontius, Mayor

ATTEST:

Linnette Barker, Town Clerk