

Richfield Pahvant Trails

Description: Building 18 miles of bicycle trails in Sevier County for mountain biking use which will bring economic development to Sevier County.

Agency through which funds would be administered: Economic Development

What is the statewide public purpose: Responding to the need for mountain biking trails as continued use of the current ATV trails being used by mountain bikers may lead to conflicts between groups and pose safety concerns to users. Building will provide economic benefits to rural Utah as tourism increases.

Amount requested: \$93,770

Private Not-for-Profit

Intent Language: \$93,770 one-time appropriation from the general fund to the Richfield trails committee for the building of an 18 mile mountain bike specific trail.

State of Utah
Economic Appropriations Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

Introduction

The sport of mountain biking is one of the fastest growing recreational activities in the state and in the nation. High school and club biking teams have seen substantial growth each year, with Utah leading the nation with the largest mountain biking association. Increased public interest, as well as the formation of area bike teams, has led to a need for single-track mountain bike specific trails. Due to a scarcity of single-track mountain bike trails in Sevier and surrounding counties, bike riders have been using existing ATV trails located throughout the area. The existing ATV trails are not designed for mountain bike use and exhibit steep grades, unsuitable surfacing, tight curves, and dual tracks. Increased use of these motorized trails by mountain bikers may lead to conflicts between user groups and pose safety concerns to users.

In response to the need for mountain bike specific trails, a committee was formed of local residents consisting of bike team volunteers, local bikers, and interested citizens. The committee has worked in conjunction with Richfield City, Sevier County, and local businesses to address these needs. Funding was secured to complete a trail feasibility review and master plan. Findings from the feasibility review show that the mountain range west of Richfield offers a great blend of variety, scenery, trail difficulty, and accessibility, making it a prime candidate for a mountain bike trail system. The Pahvant MTB Trail System master plan has been created and can be seen in the attached exhibits.

The majority of the proposed trails are located on public land managed by the US Forest Service. The Fillmore Ranger District has been actively involved with assisting the committee in the planning and permitting of the trail system. The required NEPA permitting process for the trail system is nearing completion, and final authorization is anticipated once the government shutdown comes to an end.

Further, the committee has worked directly with the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA) at a state level to help meet the needs of the association for additional race venues. The large increase in participation has placed significant pressure on existing NICA-approved trails used for race events. To accommodate the growth, additional event locations are needed. Working in conjunction with NICA, the BLM, and local businesses, the trails committee constructed a new trail east of Richfield that was used in 2018 to host race events. Completion of this new trail has brought a significant increase in bike traffic to the area and has further highlighted the need to complete the proposed trail system west of Richfield.

Project Location

Richfield City is ideally located along I-70, approximately 40 miles east of the I-15 and I-70 interchange and serves as the major commercial and industrial area for multiple cities, towns, and counties in central Utah. Being centrally located with easy access, multiple hotels, restaurants, and services readily available, Richfield City is ideally suited as the location for a new mountain bike trails system.

Project Description

The Pahvant MTB Trail System is located directly west of Richfield City. The trailhead will be located directly adjacent to the freeway exit with easy access from both the interstate and the city. The Pahvant MTB Trail System master plan consists of approximately 80 miles of single-track trails divided into multiple phases of construction. The MTB trails committee is proposing

to complete Phase 1 of the trail system, which consists of 18 miles of new single-track trails. Phase 1 trails will provide a much needed resource for the area by relieving heavy demand on other trail systems throughout the state, increasing economic development, and providing additional healthy recreation opportunities to state and local residents.



Proposed Trail Locations

Economic Impact

The recently completed NICA race course just east of Richfield was host to one race during the 2018 season and was considered a massive success to Richfield City and Sevier County. The race was host to approximately 1,139 racers and their families over a two-day period. County officials estimate the economic income from the event was \$119,000 for the weekend. This event was considered one of the top economically beneficial events hosted by the area in 2018. NICA also recognized the success of the venue and will be holding two races in Richfield for the 2019 season, with the possibility of being the backup site for the state championships. This equates to an approximate economic boost of at least \$240,000 to the area for 2019.

With the success of this event and the favorable location, terrain, and services available to Richfield City, the city and Sevier County are looking to maximize their economic benefit with the construction of the new Pahvant MTB Trail System. This new trail system will entice riders from all over the state and beyond to return to Richfield to enjoy the trail system. Further, it will provide a much needed trail system for area and local high school riders to use for practice

and training. The trail system will also open new opportunities for additional biking events and activities.



Richfield NICA Race Event

Budget

Construction of Phase 1 of the trail system will be completed via use of a combination of mechanical equipment, trail crews, and volunteer local laborers and youth groups. Construction is planned to begin in early spring of 2019 and continue through the year. The budget for the project is shown below.

PRELIMINARY OPINION OF PROBABLE COST

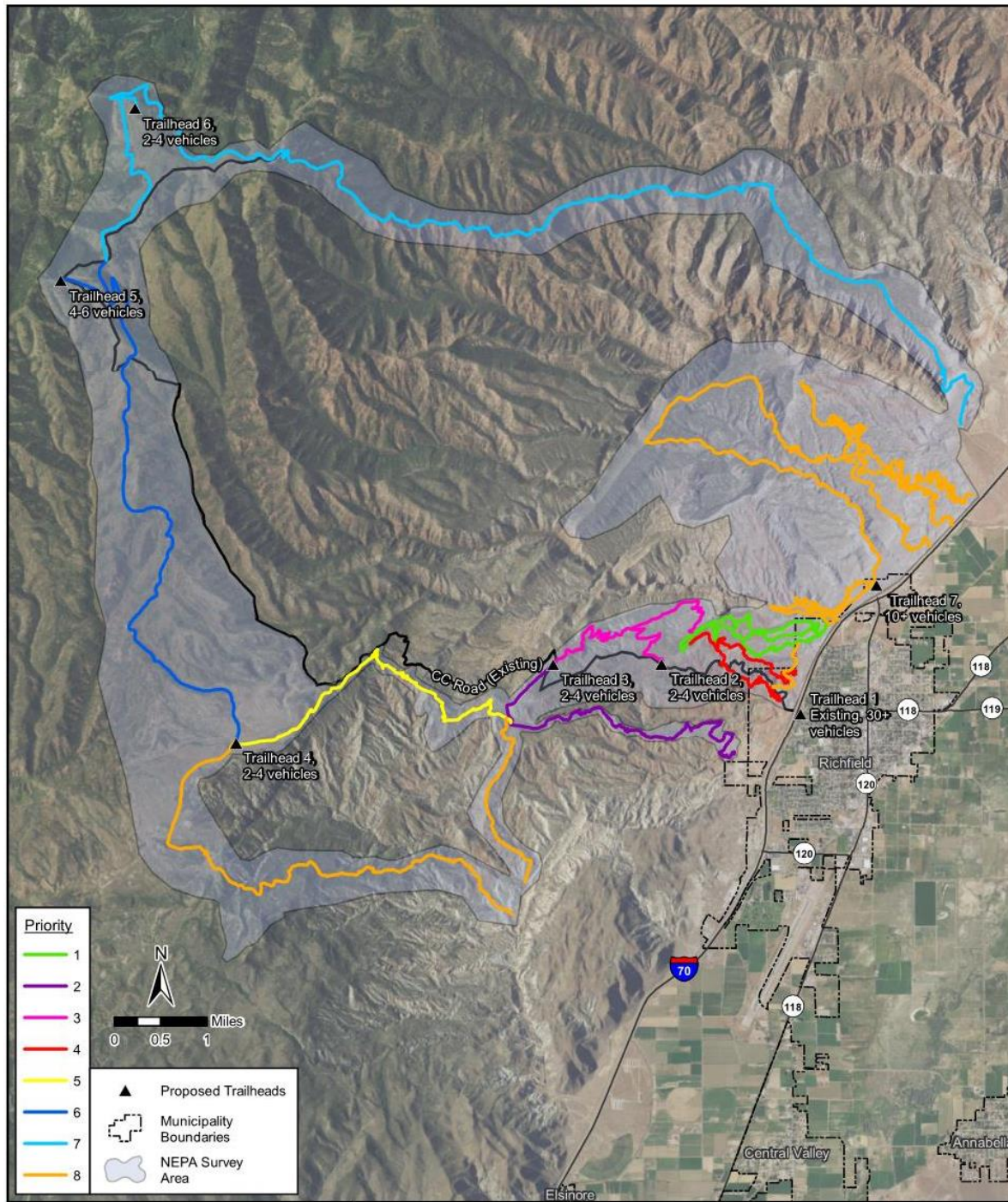
	ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	COST
1	Carsonite Trail Marker - 72"	80	Each	\$ 25.00	\$ 2,000.00
2	Carsonite Decals (6 pack)	40	Each	\$ 15.00	\$ 600.00
3	Trail/Kiosk Map - Sintra (36"x60")	2	Each	\$ 225.00	\$ 450.00
4	Trail Map - Aluminum (18"x24")	6	Each	\$ 80.00	\$ 480.00
5	Trail Map Kiosk	2	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
6	Carsonite Sign Support Post - 72"	14	Each	\$ 50.00	\$ 700.00
7	Aluminum Sign - 12"x12"	10	Each	\$ 30.00	\$ 300.00
8	Trail Head Fencing/Barricade	600	L.F.	\$ 4.50	\$ 2,700.00
9	Trail Rules Sign - Aluminum (18"x24")	4	Each	\$ 45.00	\$ 180.00
10	Trail Flagging and Layout	100	Hours	\$ 24.00	\$ 2,400.00
11	Trail Dozer Operator	500	Hours	\$ 29.00	\$ 14,500.00
12	Trail Dozer Spotter	500	Hours	\$ 21.00	\$ 10,500.00
13	Mini Excavator & Operator	300	Hours	\$ 90.00	\$ 27,000.00
14	IMBA Operator	5	Days	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 6,000.00
15	Diesel Fuel	560	Gal	\$ 3.50	\$ 1,960.00
16	Trail Hand Tools	1	Lump	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
17	Hand Finish Labor	1000	Hours	\$ 20.00	\$ 20,000.00
TOTAL PROBABLE CONSTRUCTION COST					\$ 93,770.00

Conclusion

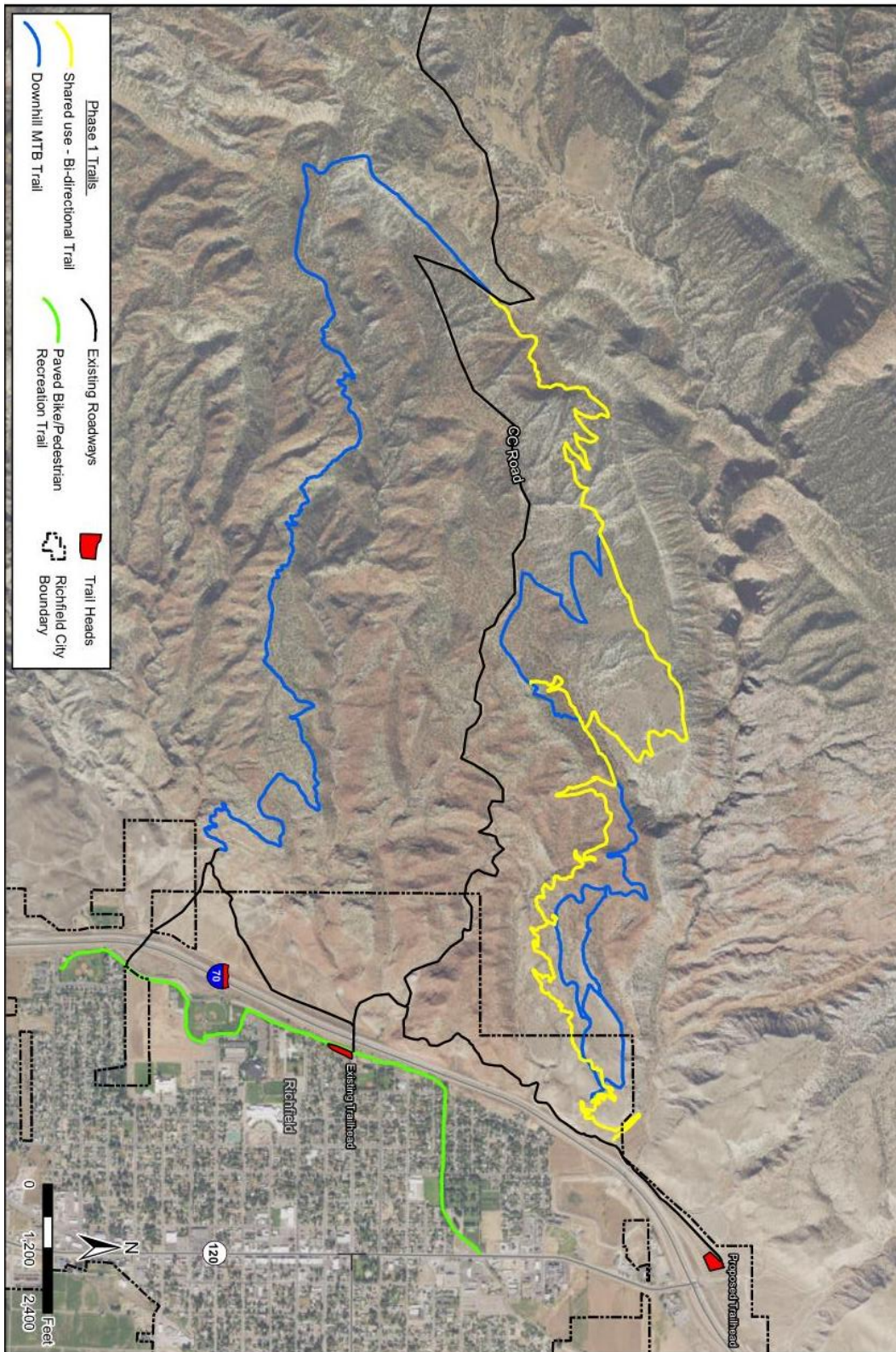
The proposed Pahvant MTB Trail System will add to the ever increasing attraction that is Utah's Trail Country and provide added economic opportunities for destination attractions and tourism revenues in rural Utah. Thank you for your time and consideration of this worthy project and its funding needs.

Sincerely,

Richfield Trails Committee



Pahvant Trail System Master Plan



Phase 1 Trails