

**Rep. Albrecht**

**Request Name:** Central Utah Mountain Bike Trails Expansion

**Description:** Funding is being sought for the construction of Phase 2 of the Pahvant Mountain Bike Trail System as well as an expansion to the mountain bike race-course east of Richfield. Phase 2 of the Pahvant System includes 5 miles of new bike trails and expansion of the current race-course and an additional 5 miles of trail for a total of 10 miles of new bike trails.

**Agency:** Economic Development

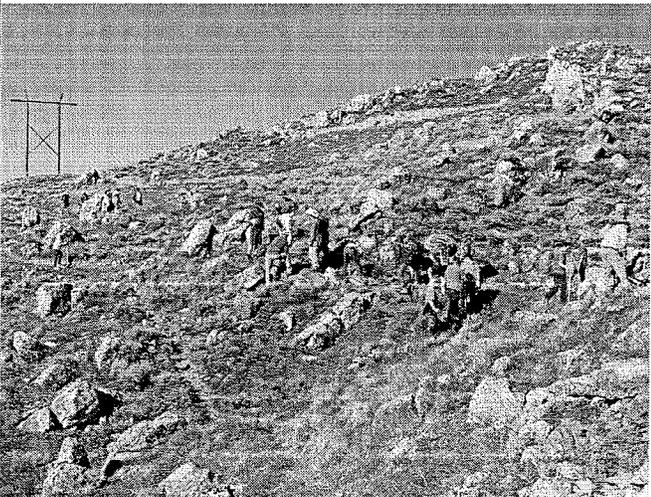
**Funding Amount:** General Fund - \$100,000 - 2020 (One-time)

## **Deliverables & Performance Measures**

The Richfield City Trails Committee is nearing completion of Phase 1 of the Pahvant Mountain Bike Trail system which included 17 miles of new single-track mountain bike designed trails. Funding is being requested for completion of Phase 2 of the trail system and expansion of the existing mountain bike race track east of Richfield for an additional 10 miles of new trails in the area. This funding will be used to hire a trail crew composed of local youth and adults as well as rental and operator costs for a mini excavator to cut and finish the new bike trails. Additionally, signing and a kiosk will be installed to enhance the user experience.

Public use and feedback of the new Pahvant Trail System has been very positive and Richfield City has seen a significant increase in bike traffic and interest in the area. Riders from outside the area, including from Colorado, Nevada, and California have made the trip to Richfield to enjoy the newly completed trails and have taken the time to give excellent feedback on the trail system. Additionally, High School races have been held in Richfield for two consecutive seasons and they are scheduled to hold two additional races this year. A new race venue is also scheduled for 2020 with the Intermountain I-Cup race series. These race events have been a significant economic boost to the rural Utah region. Sevier county estimated an economic impact of \$119,000 for each race event with up to \$240,000 in economic benefit for the two races held in 2019. Because of the increased usage and demand for the race course trail, the proposed project would expand on the existing race course to offer longer race course venues and to also allow for alternate course routes for the races.

In order to capitalize on the new recreational opportunities that these trails have provided, Sevier County paid for and produced a promotional video highlighting the new trail system and has been airing it locally and in surrounding states. Sevier County is branded as "Trail Country" and both Sevier County and Richfield City have fully embraced the importance and economic significance that these trails have to offer for rural Utah.



### **State Financing**

The Richfield City Trails Committee was awarded a grant from the Outdoor Recreation Grant program in 2019 for the phase 1 portion of the Pahvant Trail System. Phase 1 will be completed in 2020 and the proposed funding request is for the phase 2 trails which is proposed to begin construction in 2020.