

CITY OF MOAB RESOLUTION NO. 07-2021

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PURSUING THE FUNDING FOR
AND CONSTRUCTION OF FUTURE PHASES OF THE COLORADO RIVER
PATHWAY LOCATED IN GRAND COUNTY, UTAH**

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Pathway is currently an approximately three-mile paved non-motorized pathway which runs easterly from Lions Park in Moab, UT parallel to the Colorado river along state highway 128;

WHEREAS, state highway 128 has a high average daily vehicle count of 1,055 vehicles including many large buses hauling boat trailers;

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Pathway provides safe non-motorized access to a wide variety of heavily used recreational assets on federal and Utah state public lands for over 54,000 users annually;

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Pathway is part of the North Moab Recreation Area, an extensive non-motorized trail system connecting thousands of acres of public lands;

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Pathway currently has a 0.647 gap from approximately station marker 130+25.00 to station marker 164+66.86 approximately .6 miles prior to the Porcupine Rim Trail underpass and Grandstaff Canyon and therefore forces users to turn around or to enter the roadway where the absence of a shoulder and 10' wide lanes create hazardous conditions for the users and drivers;

WHEREAS, the world renowned "Whole Enchilada" mountain bike trail system terminates at the Porcupine Rim Trail underpass and facilitates over 30,000 bikers annually;

WHEREAS, Grandstaff Canyon, a popular federal recreation area, facilitates over 59,000 hikers annually;

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Pathway Phase IV plans for the continuation of the Colorado River Pathway to close the 0.647 gap from approximately station marker 130+25.00 to station marker 164+66.86;

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Pathway Phase IV has not been completed to date and forces 30,000+ users onto state highway 128 for approximately 5/8 of a mile in an area with little to no shoulder or bike lane;

WHEREAS, prior phases of the Colorado River Pathway have received wide support from federal, state, local, non-profit and private parties with contributions totaling over \$10.5 million;

WHEREAS, the Utah Department of Transportation, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, National Park Service, and Utah Governor's office have previously endorsed the completion of Phase IV of the Colorado River Pathway;

WHEREAS, Phase IV of the Colorado River Pathway will require approximately \$8.5 million in additional funding for the completion of engineering, design, and construction;

WHEREAS, the federal funds may be available to assist in the funding of Phase IV;

WHEREAS, the Phase IV extension of the Colorado River Pathway and the eventual continuation of the Pathway to the Town of Castle Valley would extend safe non-motorized recreation opportunities along the beautiful Colorado River and Scenic Byway on state highway 128.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Moab expresses support for pursuing the funding for and construction of future phases of the Colorado River Pathway located in Grand County, Utah and expresses support for pursuing funding for and construction of Phase IV of the Colorado River Pathway and the eventual extension of the Colorado River Pathway concept and planning from Grandstaff Canyon to the Town of Castle Valley.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a majority of the City of Moab City Council. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

SIGNED:

DocuSigned by:

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Emily S. Niehaus, Mayor

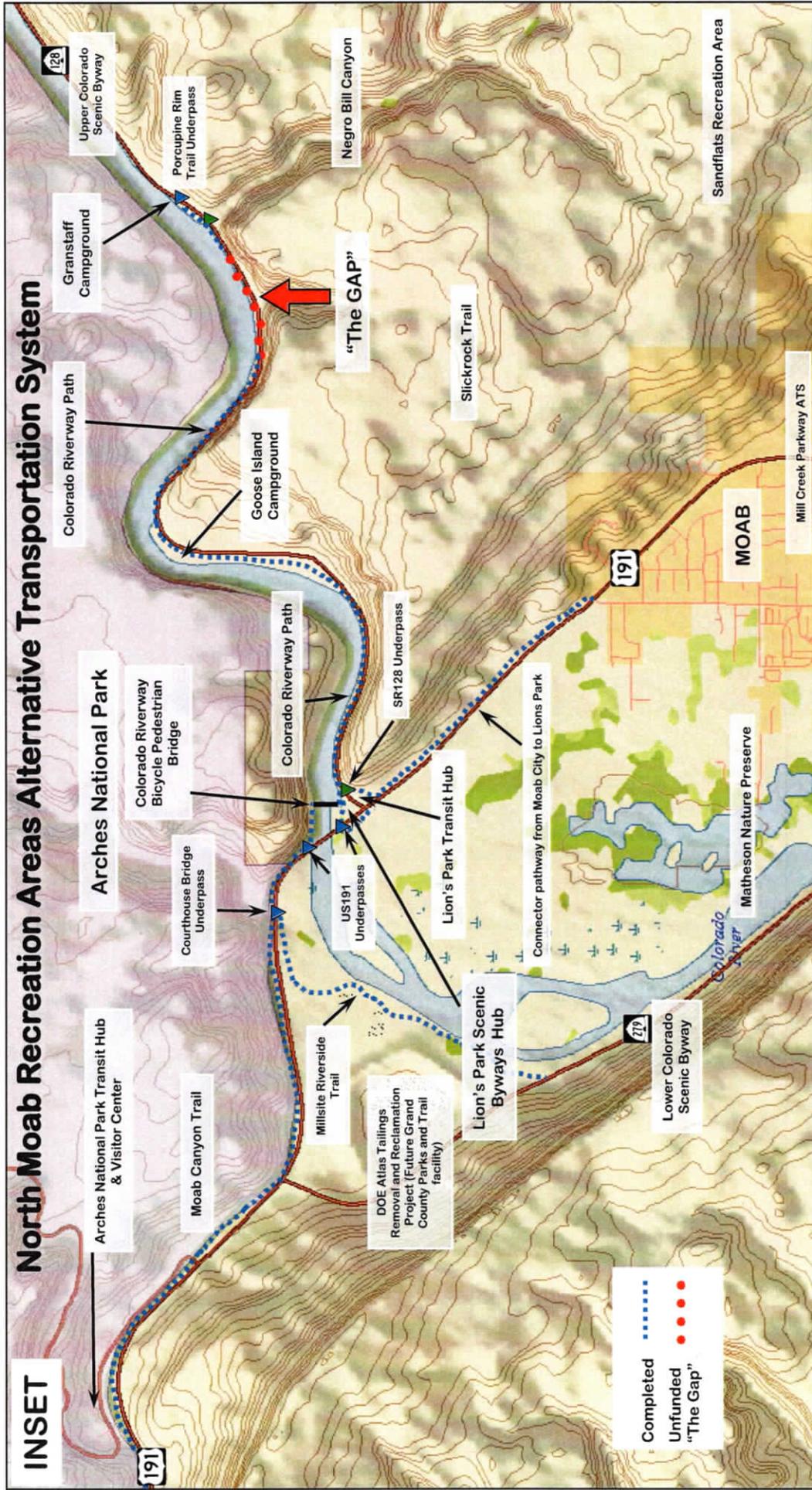
3/24/2021

Date

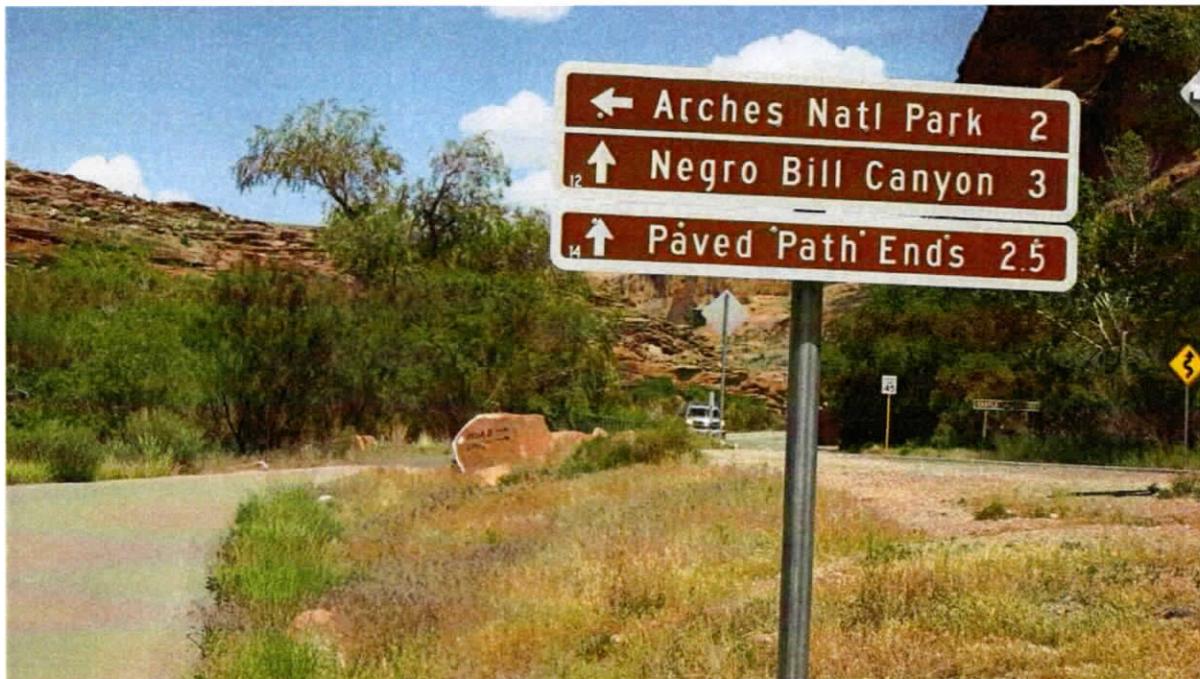
ATTEST:



Sommar Johnson, Recorder



North Moab Recreation Areas Alternative Transportation System Pictures
(Grand County 2016 FLAP Application)



TOP: The Lions Park Transit Hub is located at the intersection of US 191 and SR 128, where the pathway from Moab City joins the Colorado Riverway Path. The transit hub provides pick up facilities for commercial shuttle services, restrooms, parking and an underpass to the Lions Park Trail Hub, located across SR128 on the banks of the Colorado River.

BOTTOM: Sign at the Lions Park Trail Hub alerting people that the path ends abruptly .6 miles before the busy and congested Negro Bill Canyon Trailhead forcing pedestrians to turn around or cyclists to enter the roadway where no shoulders on 10' wide lanes create hazardous conditions for riders and drivers.

North Moab Recreation Areas Alternative Transportation System Pictures
(Grand County 2016 FLAP Application)



TOP: One of the elevated causeways of the Colorado Riverway Path (Station No. 111+00) with the non-motorized Colorado Riverway Bridge in the background.

BOTTOM: Abrupt end of the pathway (Station 130+25.00) where riders empty onto the narrow lanes of SR 128. Families and less experienced riders turn around here instead of being able to continue on to the popular Negro Bill Canyon Trailhead.

North Moab Recreation Areas Alternative Transportation System Pictures
(Grand County 2016 FLAP Application)



TOP: Riders negotiating the narrow lanes of SR 128 (Station 161+ 00) after the path from the Porcupine Rim underpass and Negro Bill Canyon Trailhead ends.

BOTTOM: Riders pondering the entrance to SR 128 from the pathway end (Station No. 130+25.00).

North Moab Recreation Areas Alternative Transportation System Pictures
(Grand County 2016 FLAP Application)



TOP: Riders approaching end of Colorado Riverway Path at the Negro Bill Canyon Trailhead (Station No.164+66.86). Note overflow parking from the TH on both sides of the path causing limited visibility of oncoming traffic coming from the left that might have to pull into the opposite lane to avoid an accident with non-motorized users.
BOTTOM: Colorado Riverway Path as it passes the popular Goose Island Campground. Note the limited visibility ahead on the vertical curve of the roadway that is bypassed by the pathway below.