



## City of Ketchum

June 1, 2020  
Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors  
City of Ketchum  
Ketchum, Idaho

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors:

### **Recommendation to Close Fourth Street from Walnut to Leadville Avenue**

#### Recommendation and Summary

It recommended the council authorize the closure of Fourth Street from Walnut to Leadville Avenue for the summer and adopt the following motion:

I move to authorize the closure of Fourth Street for the summer.

The reasons for the recommendation are as follows:

- Communities throughout the nation are closing streets to provide space for walking, biking and outdoor dining while maintaining physical distancing.
- Fourth Street is an ideal street for pedestrians and bicyclists and is not a main thoroughfare.

#### Introduction and History

As a result of COVID-19, people are spending more time outside. Walking, biking, dining, and other outdoor activities are more popular than ever before. To accommodate the demand for safe spaces for physical distancing, streets are being closed throughout the nation.

It is proposed that Fourth Street be closed to vehicle traffic from Walnut to Leadville. The cross streets, Walnut, East Avenue and Leadville will remain open to through traffic. The alley between Walnut and East Avenue would remain open to through traffic and the alley behind Town Square would be closed to through traffic at Fourth Street. Bollards will be installed to prevent vehicles from traveling on Fourth Street.

#### Analysis

Fourth Street is designed as a pedestrian and bicycle route, it is not designed to handle significant traffic volumes. Closing the street will not impact traffic circulation, through traffic can easily shift to 5<sup>th</sup> Street or Sun Valley Road.

The KURA has approved funding for installation of bollards to facilitate closure of the street and some minor repairs to pavers. Staff is reviewing the best bollard option that is compatible with snow plowing.

#### Sustainability

Encouraging alternative modes of transportation (walking and biking) is a key sustainability principle. A reduction in vehicle miles traveled reduces carbon emissions and promotes a healthy lifestyle.

#### Financial Impact

The installation of bollards and repairs to pavers will be funded by the KURA. There will be no financial impact to the City.