



Town of New Castle
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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Recognition of Trails Town Designation
Date: 05/19/2026

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to recognize the recently awarded Trails Town Designation for the Town of New Castle.

A Trails Town designation in Colorado (specifically from the International Mountain Bicycling Association, or IMBA) signifies that a community is nationally recognized for exceptional, high-quality trail systems, prioritizing outdoor recreation, and actively supporting a culture of trail usage. It signals a "trail-forward" town with strong infrastructure and economic benefits.

Key aspects of this designation include:

- **Verified Quality & Quantity:** Designated towns must have at least 25 miles of natural surface trails within 30 miles of the town center, catering to varied skill levels.
- **Active Stewardship:** The community has a dedicated local trail organization or advocacy group that maintains and develops the trails.
- **Economic & Social Impact:** These towns leverage trails as economic drivers for tourism and, "trail-friendly" amenities (e.g., lodging, restaurants, shops) that serve both residents and visitors.
- **Community Investment:** The designation reflects sustained, collaborative investment between local government, volunteers, and nonprofits.
- **2026 Colorado Honorees:** As of early 2026, **Salida, Leadville, Breckenridge, and New Castle** were highlighted for this distinction.

What it Means for the Town: It acts as a "badge of honor" that brings national recognition, may help secure trail funding, and validates that the area is an ideal, welcoming destination for hikers and bikers.



WE ARE AN IMBA TRAIL TOWN



New Castle, Colorado has been officially designated a 2026 IMBA Trail Town -- one of 28 inaugural communities nationwide.

Our trails are built and maintained by the dedicated volunteers and partners who believe in the power of the outdoors.

#IMBATrailTown #NewCastleCO #TrailsCloseToHome

