



Date: January 28, 2025

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Author and title: Danielle McHugh, Transportation Program Analyst

Title: **Approval of 2025 Truckee Dirt Trail Grant Program Guidelines**

Jen Callaway, Town Manager

Recommended Action: Town Council adopt Resolution 2025-13 thereby approving the 2025 Truckee Dirt Trail Grant Program Guidelines.

Background: At the September 24, 2024, Town Council meeting, Council added the development of a Dirt Trail Grant Program to the FY 2023/2024 through FY 2024/2025 Strategic Workplan.

The Truckee Trails and Bikeways Master Plan (TBMP), serves as a guide to strategically develop and improve the active transportation network of trails, bikeways, and walkways, with the goal of enhancing connectivity, accessibility, safety, and recreational opportunities, while considering factors such as environmental impact, community and economic needs, and future development plans. The TBMP contains Goals and Policies to provide guidance on the type, design, and location of or paved trails, as well as a prioritized list of proposed infrastructure.

With the approval of Measure U in 2022, a dedicated stream of funding was extended and increased for purposes of constructing and maintaining trails, paths, and lanes, protecting open space along trails, and providing safer routes to school. This funding source is expected to generate approximately \$3.5 million each year, greatly increasing the Town's financial ability to implement the improvements proposed in the TBMP.

While the Town of Truckee has developed and maintains a comprehensive system of trails, bikeways, and sidewalks, the Town of Truckee has not had an active role in constructing or maintaining dirt trails. Recognizing that staff resources are limited and there are other entities in the Town of Truckee, such as trails-related nonprofits, homeowners associations, and other governmental agencies that have experience and resources for constructing and maintaining dirt trails, the development of a grant pilot program was identified as a way to further progress the vision of the TBMP.

Staff have developed the 2025 Truckee Dirt Trail Grant Program Guidelines (**Exhibit A in Attachment A**), which outlines program details such as available funding, eligibility criteria, application process and timeline, and reporting requirements. The Guidelines include a schedule that assumes approval of the guidelines at the January 28, 2025, Town Council meeting, with a first round of grant applications due March 14, 2025, and staff recommending awards to Council for approval on April 22, 2025.

An eligible applicant under the proposed Truckee Dirt Trail Grant Program (TDTGP) would be a non-profit organization, homeowners association, or government entity in the Truckee region. Eligible Applicants should be able to demonstrate relevant experience with similar types of projects, or municipal public works projects, specifically the planning, design, construction and maintenance of trails in the Truckee/Tahoe region. Eligible projects for the TDTGP will be either planning and development

or shovel-ready construction of dirt trails, trailhead improvements, and/or trail amenities that are identified in the TBMP.

A committee of Town staff is proposed to be used to review and score the applications using the scoring criteria for final recommendations to Town Council in April.

Depending on the success of this first year, the Truckee Dirt Trail Grant Program Guidelines may be continued with annual updates to incorporate new initiatives or policy updates, address feedback from previous years, and ensure funding is allocated effectively, aligning with community needs.

Priority:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced Communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Climate and Greenhouse Gas Reduction	<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Infrastructure Investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency and Wildfire Preparedness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Core Service

Fiscal Impact: It is recommended that this grant program earmark a maximum of \$750,000 in Measure U funds in 2025 for grant awards. Staff estimates that this amount is sufficient to fund at least three projects and represents approximately 20% of the annual amount of Measure U revenue. Staff time for administration of the grant program is expected to be minimal and will be accounted for within the operating budget. Staff proposes to request a new CIP to fund the project applications at the time that the funding recommendations are approved by Town Council in April.

Public Communication: Discussion item at the September 24, 2024, Town Council meeting.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Resolution 2025-13 including 2025 Truckee Dirt Trail Grant Program Guidelines