

Citizens' Institute on Rural Design &
Active Transportation Advisory Committee
Updates to Planning & Zoning

12/07/2022

What is the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design?

The Citizens' Institute on Rural Design (CIRD) is a leadership initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Housing Assistance Council.

Focusing on communities with populations of 50,000 or less, CIRD empowers local citizens to use their unique artistic and cultural resources to guide local development and shape the future design of their communities.

[Learn more](#)



CIRD Learning Cohort

The Design Learning Cohort brings together rural community leaders from across the country to connect with each other, share and learn how design can address their particular community needs.

The cohort program includes a series of online peer engagement activities and interactive learning sessions that address a cohort community's specific design challenge.

Design Challenge

“Our design challenge is to revitalize the section of route 191 that runs through Bluff as a walkable, cultural, and economically viable Main Street. We want to ensure controlled growth of Main Street that connects the east and west sides of town, preserves our unique historic identity, creates spaces that encourage pedestrian safety and integrates with the newly established Bluff River Trail. Above all we need to protect our water and aquifer resources, as well as provide corridors for wildlife.”

Ending Challenge

CIRD

Molly Schmidt



The community project chosen is a non-motorized safe bicycle and pedestrian route through Bluff that connects to the Bluff River Trail, Elementary School, businesses, and historic assets of Bluff.

Quick Pitch to CIRD Leadership

- 20 + Meetings and Trainings around Community Engagement
- 3/16 Communities to Present a Quick Pitch of their project
- Offered of Continued Support and Consultation
- Grant Opportunities
- Invitation to apply to for Community Workshops

Active Transportation Advisory Committee

On August 9, 2022, the Bluff Town Council agreed to create the Safe Routes Committee, now named the “Active Transportation Advisory Committee” to explore planning grants, opportunities such as creating an active transportation plan, safe streets, and reconnecting communities. The committee serves as an advisory board to the Town Council and will formally make recommendations for Town Council vote upon.

Mission: The Active Transportation Advisory Committee will lead a community driven process, creating and sustaining connectivity and active travel for safety, health and recreation.

Members: Luanne Hook, Jim Sayers, Molly Schmidt, Deborah Westfall, Anthony Lott

Bike Utah

Bike Utah will provide planning assistance for a town-wide, non-motorized trail system in Bluff, through a series of community planning workshops, led by planning professionals.

Active Transportation Plan

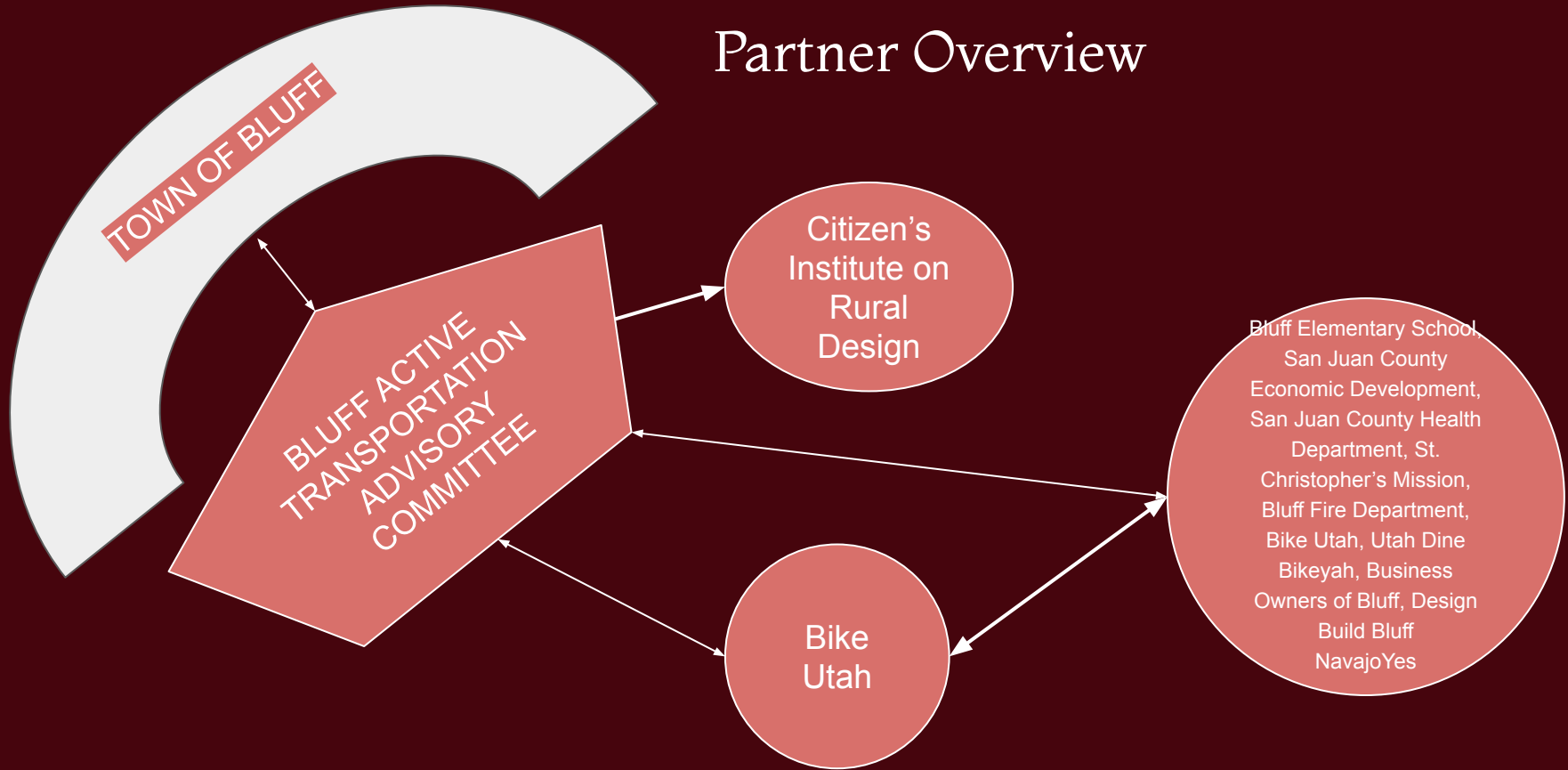
What is an Active Transportation Plan? Active Transportation Plans, also known as Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plans, are guiding documents adopted by different government entities. These lay the foundation for what types of walking and bicycle infrastructure will be built, where it will be built, and how it will be built. If you want your community to be a better place to walk and ride, an Active Transportation Plan is the starting point.

Project Timeline: In September of 2022, The Bluff Town Council voted to approve a partnership with Bike Utah to develop an Active Transportation Plan. The Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATC) will collaborate with Bike Utah to host community design workshops in February and March of 2023. Based on community input, the Active Transportation Plan will be completed by end of summer 2023. The ATC will use the completed Active Transportation Plan to apply for design, engineering, and construction grants in the fall of 2023. We aim to begin construction in 2024.

Active Transportation Plan

Why Community Workshops? We need your input! This is your chance to design what gets built and where. Are you hoping to see more protected walkways? A more defined Main Street? A safe way for kids to get to school? More access to historical landmarks? Better accessibility? Cool signage? Shade structures? Benches? Artwork? Ideas for programming? Connections to the San Juan River, St. Christopher's Mission, Sand Island? Let us know! Once the workshop dates are confirmed, we will let you know.

Partner Overview



Milestones

- Weekly Committee Meetings
- Bi-Weekly Design Meetings to Develop Community Workshops
- Bylaws Created (TBD Approved)
- Landing Page on Town of Bluff Website
- Outreach and Engagement Strategy for Town Council Review
- Presentations to Supporting Organizations
- Governor Cox announced funding to create a statewide trail system