



## Project Description

### 2018-0032 MP and CPA-2017-554 GRAND JUNCTION CIRCULATION PLAN

Representative(s): City of Grand Junction & Mesa County

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Request: To adopt the 2018 Grand Junction Circulation Plan, an element of the Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan

The draft Plan is available on-line at <http://www.gjcity.org/residents/Community-Development/circulation-plan/>

#### \*Hearing Schedule:

Grand Junction Planning Commission – May 22, 2018

Mesa County Planning Commission – June 21, 2018

Grand Junction City Council – First Reading, June 18, 2018; Public Hearing, July 18, 2018

Mesa County Board of Commissioners – August 14, 2018

*\*Hearing dates are subject to change*

## General Project Report

### 2018 Grand Junction Circulation Plan

#### Vision

The community envisions a safe, balanced and environmentally sensitive multi-modal, urban transportation system that supports greater social interaction, facilitates the movement of people and goods, and encourages active living, mobility independence, and convenient access to goods and services for all users.

#### Purpose

The Grand Junction Circulation Plan (“Circulation Plan”) is a strategic document being considered for adoption by both the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County. This document moves forward the transportation principles, strategies and vision to create an urban area-wide multi-modal circulation plan as identified in: the Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2010; the 2010 Circulation Plan; and the 2001 Urban Trails Plan.

It supports the Grand Valley 2040 Regional Transportation Plan’s sound planning principles and best practices including:

- reducing congestion;
- easing commutes;
- improving roadway safety;
- enhancing sidewalks, bike, and multi-use trails; and,
- maintaining an efficient and effective transportation system.

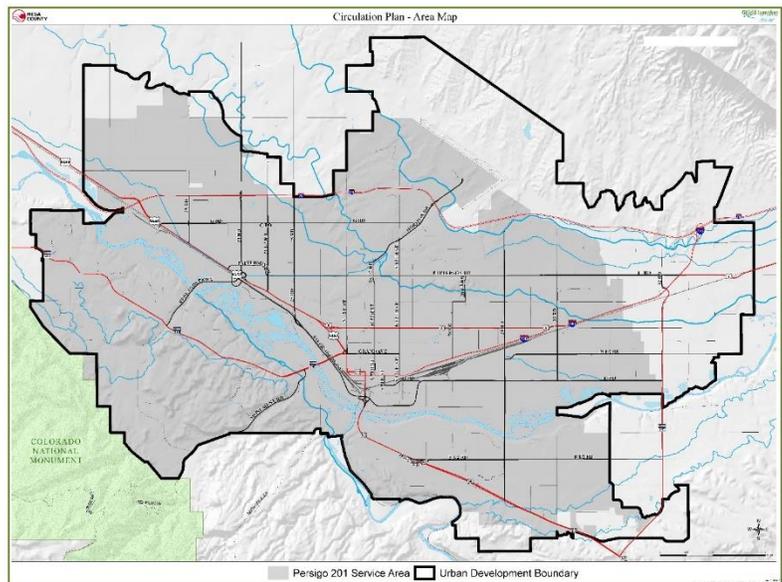
It builds on the transportation goals found in the Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan, including:

- designing streets and walkways as attractive public spaces;
- constructing streets to include enhanced pedestrian amenities; and
- developing a well-balanced transportation system that supports automobile, local transit, pedestrian, bicycle, and freight movement while protecting environmental conditions of air, water and natural resources.

The Circulation Plan will be used by elected officials and staff to guide the assignment of financial resources for infrastructure construction, future development and dedication of other funds for transportation purposes.

### Planning Area

This Circulation Plan is applicable to transportation corridors within the Urban Development Boundary as defined by the Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. Minor exceptions occur where a particular corridor falls both within and outside of the Urban Development Boundary and whereby consistency of standards along the length of the corridor would be beneficial to the traveling public.



### Executive Summary

The Circulation Plan establishes a comprehensive approach to transportation planning through the following four sections (Plan Elements). Conceptual and corridor maps have been created to aid decision makers and city and county staff to improve the transportation systems. See also the City’s website for full-page maps.

## Plan Elements

A. The Network Map identifies important corridors and linkages connecting centers, neighborhoods and community attractions.

B. The Street Functional Classification Map identifies the functional classification of the roadway corridors that connect neighborhoods, employment centers and local attractions and amenities. Many of these corridors are also major truck routes providing heavy truck movement and access to the Grand Junction community. There are over fifty proposed changes since the map was last adopted by City Council and Mesa County Board of County Commissioners in 2010. These changes include adding road segments, reclassifying some existing road segments and removing others from the map.

C. The Active Transportation Corridors Map replaces the Urban Trails Master Plan/Map and identifies major corridors important for non-motorized travel by providing critical, continuous and convenient connections for bicyclists and pedestrians. The corridors are broadly defined and could accommodate active transportation as part of the road network or as separated paths. This Circulation Plan identifies corridors important for active transportation and does not attempt to identify trails that are predominately recreational in nature. In the city limits, it proposes using trails on, along, adjacent to or near canals, ditches and drainages for non-motorized route connections only where there is not another safe or better alternative for non-motorized transportation on the road network.

### D. Specific Strategies and Policies

Strategies identified in the Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan and this Circulation Plan will help the community achieve its vision of becoming the most livable City west of the Rockies. A balanced transportation system will be achieved through the following strategies and policies that are further described in the Circulation Plan.

1. Adopt a Complete Streets Policy for Grand Junction and develop and adopt a Complete Streets Policy for Mesa County.
2. Develop or revise policies for support of an integrated transportation system.
3. Provide conceptual and corridor maps that will be used by decision makers and staff to improve transportation systems.
4. Improve interconnectivity between Grand Valley Transit and centers, neighborhoods and community attractions.
5. Improve the Urban Trails System on and connecting to Active Transportation Corridors.
  - a. Provide guidance on incentives for trail construction
  - b. Provide guidance on standards for trail construction
  - c. Provide guidance on ownership and maintenance of trail system
  - d. Maintain or improve multi-purpose trails
  - e. Provide wayfinding to attract visitors to the trail system and improve the ability of residents and visitors to find area attractions.
6. Maintain or improve circulation of vehicles on road system.