

Madam Mayor, Council and City of Golden Staff:

I and many others that are interested parties in the proposed STS project were shocked to see the new summary of the project on page 12 of the August edition of the Golden Informer.

There are clear and material misstatements in this piece that have impact on public perception and therefore impact on informed public input.

Most importantly, it is stated that “this construction of the pilot track would be of no cost to the City of Golden”. That statement is: contrary to the position taken by Golden Giddyup in their original proposal; inconsistent with the statement on guidinggolden.com; contrary to the stated opinions of Golden City Staff in their report of Council Memorandum- Staff Report, October 11, 2017. Page 3-4 “Concerns”; and contrary to the real expectations of Council members recorded during their discussion of the proposal in their October meeting of 2017 where the directly relevant example of the history of development at the Golden Bike Park was also noted.

And, if the rationale for this statement is that the reader is only to interpret the above as “cost of construction” and assume that on-going maintenance would be absorbed by the City such would clearly violate any desire requirement for full and accurate disclosure.

Directly related to this is the description of Golden Giddyup as a “non-profit”. While I don’t doubt their intentions to provide services without compensation, this organization is not a 501(c)3 – has no balance sheet or clearly stated source of financial resources necessary to support execution of a project of this scope. While Golden Giddyup volunteers have done great community service in trail maintenance, to our understanding they do not have a track record of extensive new trail construction as is contemplated here.

The “motivation” for this publication appears to be that of soliciting public comment. Aside from other considerations of how “late in the game” that comment is being solicited, it is a violation of that intent to request comment on in the face of a material misstatement and omission of facts.

If the City is serious about gathering informed public comment on this proposal, an immediate revision of the published description is a fundamental requirement.

Thank you.

Concerned Residents of Golden

