AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

WORK SESSION DATE: March 16, 2010

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Woody Creek Road Safety Task Group Formation and Mandate

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Brian Pettet

ISSUE STATEMENT

The Board of County Commissioners directed Staff to reestablish a Lenado Task Force (now called Woody Creek Road Safety Task Group) in order to review the 2009-2010 winter parking situation above Lenado and identify other safety improvement opportunities along Woody Creek Road.

BACKGROUND

On April 21st, 2009 residents from Lenado met with the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), the Sheriff's Office, and County Staff to discuss issues involving snowmobiles accessing the Kobey Park area above Lenado. A process was undertaken that resulted in signing an area along Woody Creek Road above Lenado for winter access parking. The Woody Creek Caucus had concerns about the balance of interests of the people on the Lenado Task Force.

The Board recently directed Staff to bring names of people interested in being on the Task Group back to the BOCC after former Task Group Members and the Woody Creek Caucus were notified of the reformation. Display advertising was also used to notify the Community in general. Additionally, Robert "Bob" Schultz was retained as a facilitator for the Task Group. Bob has requested a group size between 7 to 12 people in order to have a functional and manageable group. In addition to selecting names of individuals to be on the Task Group, Staff is looking for BOCC agreement to the attached Task Group Mandate, meeting schedule and tentative agendas. The mandate will provide the Task Group direction, set participant expectations and provide clarity to their purpose.

It is important for the following three people be included as part of the Task Group; GR Fielding (County Engineer), Jeff Lumsden (Sheriff's representative), and Scott Snellson (USFS District Ranger). Given the suggested membership of these three people, the BOCC should appoint an additional 4 to 9 people to the Task Group from the following list of people (and their personal and unedited reasons for interest on the Task Group):

Ben Dodge

> I am interested in joining the Lenado task Force and participating in the process to develop long term, sustainable solutions to travel and parking needs

to Lenado. Lenado is the trailhead for Margy's Hut and hut visitors are directed to park in a separate, hut-use-only parking area located on private land in the Lenado area. Management decisions regarding travel on Woody Creek Road and parking at Lenado could impact hut users' experiences, and it makes good sense to communicate the needs, expectations, and preferences of hut users to decision-makers.

Christina Holloway

Thanks so much—Our family has lived on Woody Creek road for almost 50 years and we have been partaking in winter sports above Lenado for almost that long. Lenado is a special place to our family and would like to be knowledgeable about what is going on in the area. I would like to support the town and the people who pass through and the Wilderness beyond.

Daniel Delano

Please hold spots on the task force for myself and Frank Peters (as interested, impacted landowners.)

Heather & Greg Rydell

My husband and I would like to serve on the Lenado task force. We live in Lenado and have been involved with neighborhood issues and the Woody Creek caucus. Heather was a member of the previous task force. Greg and Heather Rydell

Linda Luke

I understand now that you were requesting a reason for my interest in joining the Task Force. I have many. 1. I walk the Woody Creek Road at least 3 times a week and have been for 5 years. I am very concerned with the safety of this road. 2. I traveled up to Lenado almost daily for a year. I am very knowledgeable of the need for changes to be made to protect the charature of Lenado and it's residences. 3. I was an Elected member of the Woody Creek Planning Commission for 3 years and currently serve as a member of the Woody Creek Executive Committee, this gives me extensive understanding of all the issues. 4. I also was the Civil Deputy for Pitkin County for five years. Safety is and always has been a priority for me and I have a greater understanding as a result of my training and experience with the Sheriffs Office.

Mark Bedell

As a land owner beyond Lenado with access via snowmobile in the winter, I should be on the task force. I believe that my partner in the cabin, John Davis should also be on the task force.

Bob Brownlee

My name is Bob Brownlee and I am the District 4 Representative for the Colorado Snowmobile Association; I would be interested in participating in your Task Force for the Lenado area access and parking issues. I can be reached at this email address rbrtbrownlee4@gmail.com or via cell phone 970-977-6671. I would like to hear from you and also if you could please copy me on any mapping that has been done to facilitate any future access or parking areas it would be appreciated. I drove up there this morning (Saturday Feb 27) and familiarized myself with the location.

Ron Baar

I would like to be considered for a position on the upcoming Lenado Task Force. My most recent background in that particular area is that I worked for the Aspen Ranger District of the USFS from 1988 thru 2004 on a seasonal(summer) basis. I was classified as a Forestry Technician & one of my primary roles in that period of time was working in Disbursed Recreation. Among my jobs was acting as a FPO(Forest Protection Officer) in the Lenado/Kobey Park area. I am quite familiar with the roads, traffic patterns and recreational usage of this area. I am also familiar with the wintertime usage issues that are being addressed.
I feel my background on the area, coupled with my interest in contributing to a fair and equitable resolution to the wintertime usage issues would make me a good member for the upcoming task force.

William Brown

As a year around user of the Lenado area for all types of activities, I am writing to express my interest in serving on the task force to give input to hopefully aide in resolving the issue of parking, and some of the other issues that I have seen coming to light. Based on everything that I have seen in the paper recently is an attempt of a few to close out the rights of many people that have enjoyed the area for years. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve on the task force and help ensure continued **FAIR USE FOR ALL**.

Clifford Little

I live at 3069 Woody Creek Road, at Flying Dog Ranch, the Stranahan's Ranch. I want to be on the task force for the Woody Cree Rd, Why? Because I drive it everyday

Howard Vagneur

As a frequent and daily Kobey park Forest user, I and Western Adventures Inc. are interested parties in serving on the task force to review Winter Parking in Lenado, and to identify Safety improvements along Woody Creek Road.

Bug Mead

I want to be on the Task Force, reason, I live here and am very concerned.

Jesse Allen

I would like to join the Lenado task force, to finalize the issue of Lenado parking. I am a business owner in Snowmass Village and lived on Doc Henry Road for 4 years.

Hyrum Noyes

I have been going up into Kobey Park for years and I am aware of the problems it is facing. Based on what I have heard about the problems in that area and the people that are trying to take our right to visit there away. I am interested in finding a solution that will benefit all. I am interested in being on the Task Force because I feel that this way that things will get solved and I feel that this is the way to remedy the situation.

Brandon Cohen

I live in Lenado and fell I am probably the most affected by snowmobile use. My property 60 Larkspur Mountain Road is situated just west and south of Howard Vagners snowmobile operation. His machines are parked at the end of my driveway. The new proposed parking on Woody Creek Rd site south of my property, Basically I am surrounded.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Regional Transportation

Provide funding necessary to sustain safe, efficient, and high-quality County Roads and Commuter trails.

Safe and Healthy Community

Pitkin County residents, employees and visitors will live in a safe, secure and healthy environment.

KEY DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Select and agree to the members of the new Task Group.
- Does the BOCC approve the mandate, schedule and tentative agendas?

BUDGETARY IMPACT

The facilitation is estimated at $3700.00 and would be funded from the existing Road Fund balance which is approximately $700,000.

RECOMMENDED BOCC ACTION

Select and agree to Task Group members and ratify the mandate, schedule and agendas.

ATTACHMENTS
Task Group Mandate
Task Group meeting schedule

Woody Creek Road Safety Task Group Mandate

Name of Task Group: Woody Creek Road Safety Task Group

Date: 3/16/10

Mandated by: Board of County Commissioners

Purpose: To identify practical and citizen-based improvements to road safety and parking in the Lenado area, focusing on Woody Creek Road from Upper River Road to the USFS boundary.

Expected outcomes:

1.) Recommended plan for the study area that addresses

- winter parking and access issues
- travel lanes and road safety
- impacts to adjacent properties

2.) If unable to reach consensus, provide majority recommendation with list of strengths and weaknesses of the recommendation. Minority report would be included with key issues identified.

Authority and responsibility:

The Task Group will be made up of no more than 12 members representing various interests.

Task Group has right to expect well-organized and professional meetings that honor their time commitment. Task Group has right to expect timely and professional analysis of by staff.

Staff will offer both objective information and their professional views and will identify the difference when presenting information.

Task Group members and Staff liaisons are expected to attend all meetings and to offer their wisdom, expertise, and goodwill. Members are also expected to share information and elicit constructive comments from other interested parties through the process.

Individuals receiving mandate:
List Task Group Members
Brian Pettet- Staff Liaison
Robert Schultz- Facilitator

Schedule of progress reports:
BOCC will receive informal meeting notes after each meeting and summary recommendations upon completion. Task Group is to complete work by 6/15/10.

Resources allocated to enable the Task Group's work:
County will pay for professional facilitation, snacks or meals, as necessary, and reasonable staff time to work on alternatives.

Who needs to be informed as the mandate group proceeds?
This would include interested residents, Woody Creek Caucus, US Forest Service, snowmobilers, and BOCC. All meetings will be publicized through the County website and public service announcements. There will be time reserved in each meeting agenda for public comment.

Specific limitations on or exclusions while exercising the mandate:
The Task Group is not expected to address legal claims or resolve legal disputes and is not intended to resolve or weigh in on legal issues.

Woody Creek Road Safety Task Group- Process Outline
(Meeting dates, times and locations my be modified based on Task Group agreement)

1st meeting 5pm April 7th at the Airport Operations Center (AOC)
• Intros and ground rules
• Review mandate & roles
• Review proposed schedule
• Review previous efforts
• Review existing conditions
• Identify key issues and considerations for assessing alternatives
• Brainstorm possible options for safety improvements
• Clarification and prioritization of staff analysis

2nd meeting 5pm May 5
At AOC
• Review 1st meeting
• Presentation of staff efforts
• Staff input on practicality of alternatives
• Discussion and refinement of alternatives
• Clarification and prioritization of staff analysis

3rd meeting 5pm May 19th
At AOC
• Review and refinement of key issues and considerations
• Assess alternatives in relation to key issues and considerations
• Produce pros and cons of each alternative

4th meeting 5pm June 2nd
At AOC
• Seek consensus on preferred alternative
• If not, clarify differences and majority/minority positions
• Review process for report to BOCC
• Explain staff report and recommendation
• Plan report to Woody Creek Caucus