



## GUTS Stakeholders Meeting

Feb. 26, 2016

Summary of Meeting

### I. Introductions. In Attendance:

- Joe Abbatacola, City Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee / Keep Santa Fe Beautiful
- Margaret Alexander, Trails Alliance of Santa Fe
- Jarratt Applewhite, equestrian
- Attila Bality, NPS-RTCA
- Juliana Conley, Friends of the Santa Fe National Forest
- Tim Fowler, Santa Fe Fat Tire Society
- Dean Fry, SFFTS
- David Griscom, Santa Fe County
- Melissa Houser, SFCT
- Trish Hug, Santa Fe County Horse Coalition
- Greg Lawhorn, mtn. biker
- Susan Murphy, hiker/equestrian
- Charlie O'Leary, O'Leary-Built Bikes
- Bart Olinger
- Aku Oppenheimer, member of Sierra Club
- Andy Otto, Santa Fe Watershed
- Elaine Pinkerton Coleman, OTAG and "Santa Fe on Foot"
- Tim Rogers, SFCT
- Peggy Rudberg
- Ron Vallengia, hiker/equestrian
- Steve Washburn, TAOSF / SFFTS
- Rachel Wexler, NMDOH
- Karen Yori

Tim Fowler from Santa Fe Fat Tire Society, gave a brief overview of his vision for this project to connect natural-surface trails in and around Santa Fe using a wheel and spoke approach to the trail areas. (More information on GUTS is at <http://www.sfct.org/trails/grand-unified-trail-system-guts> )

The purpose of this meeting was to provide an update on progress, raise awareness, and seek volunteers for committees or planning teams focused on one of the GUTS study areas for creating links.

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Partners participating in the GUTS Initiative include public and private entities: Santa Fe City and County, Friends of Santa Fe National Forest, Rancho Viejo subdivision, Santa Fe National Forest, Santa Fe Fat Tire Society, National Parks Service's River Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, New Mexico Dept. of Health, and Santa Fe County Horse Coalition. Many have signed partnership agreements or resolutions of support as indicated at <http://www.sfct.org/trails/grand-unified-trail-system-guts>

More partners are sought from communities and government organizations, including BLM, Las Campanas, Bishop's Lodge, TPL and the local realtors' association. We are also looking for participants in GUTS Committees, including Communication and Outreach headed by Rachel Wexler; Trail Criteria headed by Tim Fowler; Mapping and Route Planning, headed by Tim Rogers.

General discussion touched on efforts to work with private land owners to allow trail passage, including outlining the benefits of trails to those areas. The Trails Alliance of Santa Fe, which is affiliated with the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, has some related talking points on their web site (<http://trailsallianceofsantafe.org/>).

A map on the SFCT web site at <http://www.sfct.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/GUTS-Focus-Areas3.jpg> portrays ten geographic GUTS study areas. Each area being researched has, or will have, a "Champion" leading that group under which volunteers can sign up for the area that has the most appeal to them. Each Champion gave a brief overview of their Study Area, including:

1. La Tierra Trails to Dale Ball Trails: Margaret Alexander and Steve Wahsburn
2. Atalaya to Arroyo Hondo Open Space: Tim Fowler and David Griscom
  - 2a. Apache Canyon/ Glorieta route: Tim Fowler and Juliana Conley
3. Arroyo Hondo Open Space to Rail Trail: Bill Johnson (not present)
  - 3a. I-25 to Rail Trail/Eldorado: t.b.d.
4. Rail Trail to NM599 RR Station: Tim Rogers
  - 4a. Rail Trail/ Galisteo Basin Preserve to Cerrillos Hills State Park: Charlie O'Leary
5. NM599 Station to Santa Fe River: Tim Rogers
6. Santa Fe River to Camino Real Trail (via Caja del Rio): Stephen Newhall
7. Camino Real Trail to La Tierra Trails: Tim Rogers

Each Area has planning team members as well as resources listed to consult and include relevant to a given area, such as County planning staff, National Park Service / National Historic Trails office and affiliates (for Camino Real, Santa Fe Trail, and Old Spanish Trail), and Fred Friedman and other railroad buffs on NMCRR, Chili Line, and other abandoned rail lines.

Jarratt Applewhite brought up the former NM Central Railroad right-of-way through the Thornton Ranch as a possible mechanism to connect the Galisteo Basin with Ranch Viejo and the rest of the GUTS

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system. Tim Rogers said that the NM Central line is a focus of GUTS, and that Julia Jarvis from the Santa Fe County Horse Coalition and other equestrians as well as mountain bikers have been lobbying for long connecting trails through and around Galisteo Basin. Railroad lines are ideal trail alignments to focus on because they are “pre-engineered,” require less trail building and maintenance, and have historic and cultural significance.

A few excellent on-line mapping resources that study teams and individuals can use include:

1. Santa Fe County, Interactive Trails Map (under development):  
<http://santafecountynm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=494e97891d524635936a5b9b759d7c63>
2. Santa Fe County Assessor’s Office, Parcel Map Property Search:  
[https://www.santafecountynm.gov/assessor/online\\_tools/parcel\\_map\\_property\\_search](https://www.santafecountynm.gov/assessor/online_tools/parcel_map_property_search)
3. Santa Fe Fat Tire Society / IMBA, “Santa Fe GUTS Plan” - ARC Gis on-line mapping resource

Communication and outreach is an area that we need to focus on still. Now that the more focused planning is beginning, we need to help engage more community members, e.g. through social media, links to GUTS materials on the Internet and/or to sign up to the GUTS mailing list, and through special on-line communications tools such as “Survey Monkey,” in order to inform the work of study area teams. Also especially since we are planning to celebrate GUTS on “Bike to School Day,” on the morning of May 4, at the community college. We will also want to publicize “familiarization tours” that study area teams may organize, and invite groups such as neighborhood associations and schools.

A meeting of the communication and event planning subcommittee will be planned in the near future. Discussion will include the use of a workbook develop by the National Park Service to maximize outreach and public health benefit of trails initiatives.

No date was given for the next GUTS meeting, but emails were collected, so meeting announcements will follow and be distributed, or you can check back at [www.sfct.org](http://www.sfct.org) .

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