

April 23, 2025, 5:00 PM

Location: Memorial Hall, 606 Manitou Avenue, Manitou Springs, CO 80829 (Hybrid: In-person and Zoom)

Remote Access: Link provided on the City's Official Website at <https://www.manitouspringsgov.com/544/All-Boards-and-Commissions>

A. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Karl Stang, acting as Chair in the absence of Cory Sutela, who was attending a conference and might join virtually.
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B. ROLL CALL

- **Present:** Rolf Jacobson, Luke Harper Prince, Karl Stang, Pamela Smith, Cory Sutela (joined virtually later).
 - **Absent:** Bill Koerner, Joy Porter.
 - **Note:** Cory Sutela was not initially present but joined virtually during the meeting. Karl Stang noted a quorum was present.
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C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Karl proposed moving the Minnehaha/Ute Trail Residential Parking Permit (RPP) proposal (Item G.7) to the top of the agenda to accommodate public attendees. No other changes were suggested.
 - **Motion:** To approve the agenda with the proposed change to prioritize the RPP discussion.
 - **Moved:** Luke Prince
 - **Seconded:** Rolf Jacobson
 - **Vote:** Unanimous approval (Rolf Jacobson, Luke Harper Prince, Karl Stang, Pamela Smith).
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D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Item D.1:** Approval of the February 26, 2025, MAP Board Minutes.
 - No comments or corrections were raised.
 - **Motion:** To approve the February 26, 2025, minutes.
 - **Moved:** Luke Prince
 - **Seconded:** Pamela Smith
 - **Vote:** Unanimous approval (Rolf Jacobson, Luke Harper Prince, Karl Stang, Pamela Smith).
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E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- **Nicole Hardin** (1340 Tonka Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80904) raised concerns about parking challenges for her daughter, a resident in the 700 block of Manitou Avenue, and for employees of businesses she manages in Manitou Springs:
 - **Resident Parking:** Her daughter lacks a designated parking space, and the Canon lot fills quickly in summer, leaving no legal parking options without risking tickets. She noted the difficulty of carrying groceries from distant lots like Hiawatha and emphasized residents' need for accessible parking.
 - **Employee Parking:** Employees struggle to find affordable parking, impacting retention (e.g., an employee quit due to parking difficulties). She highlighted the need for parking solutions to support businesses, residents, and tourism without overburdening available spaces.
 - **Resolution:** A temporary solution has been implemented with staff (Roy Chaney and Jay), but a permanent solution is needed to support residents and businesses while maintaining tourist parking access.
 - **Additional Context:** James Kelemen noted that changes to the Wichita parking lot (reduced permits, month-to-month basis, and potential restrictions on overnight parking) have exacerbated parking issues for residents and businesses in the 700 block. Rolf Jacobson clarified that overnight parking is still allowed at Wichita, and monthly passes are available, though not guaranteed for daytime use.
 - Cory Sutela joined the meeting at 5:13PM
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F. PRESENTATIONS

2. MAP Board Presentations

- **a. MAP Board Goal Review:**
 - James Kelemen reviewed the board's goals, noting that the RPP discussion, Mountain Metro, and PikeRide updates addressed multiple goals. The board is also collaborating with the middle school on a Bike/Walk to School Day.
 - Cory Sutela asked if the city's communication channels could promote the Bike/Walk event. James Kelemen agreed to follow up on this, noting it aligns with city promotion goals.
- **b. Other MAP Board Presentations:**
 - No additional MAP Board presentations were discussed.

3. Staff Presentations

- **a. Regular Updates:**
 - **PikeRide Update:**
 - James Kelemen reported a substantial increase in PikeRide users in March 2025, likely due to favorable weather. The busiest stations are Hiawatha Gardens, Manitou and Becker's Lane, Canon Avenue, and Lovers Lane. The Lovers Lane/Canon station has been expanded, expected to further increase usage.
 - Rolf Jacobson asked about the location of the "Prospect" station, clarified as the Prospect lot near the court.
 - Karl Stang expressed excitement about PikeRide's growth, noting each ride reduces car trips, benefiting residents and visitors.
 - **Mountain Metro Report:**
 - James Kelemen provided March 2025 ridership data, showing a significant increase across routes, attributed to good weather during spring break. Historical data over three years confirmed March as a busy month. Route 36 has not yet started for the season, so no data was reported.
 - No questions were raised.

- **SeeClickFix Report:**
 - In March 2025, 13 requests were submitted and completed. One was a maintenance request (repairing loose bollards at the bike rack in front of the Art Center), and 12 were vehicle-related complaints (e.g., abandoned vehicles, expired registrations, or parking in RPP zones).
 - James Kelemen clarified that complaints mostly come from existing RPP areas (e.g., Waltham) or areas like Crystal Park, where patrols are less frequent. No complaints specifically indicated a need for a new RPP in Minnehaha/Ute Trail.
- **b. Infrastructure Updates:**
 - **PikeRide Presentation:**
 - Tara presented data on current Pike Ride operations in Manitou Springs.
 - **Clevercity Presentation:**
 - James Kelemen introduced the Clevercity system to replace the aging ParkingLogix wayfinding signage (in use for over four years) and Smarking software (used for progressive parking rates). Clevercity uses pole-mounted sensors (discrete, mountable on existing infrastructure, solar-powered option) to provide exact parking space occupancy data, improving wayfinding and data analytics.
 - Sonny Samra (Clevercity representative) described the system's components: sensors, dynamic digital signage (displaying more than just parking availability), and an app for guided enforcement, offering real-time parking insights.
 - No specific questions were recorded.
- **Bus Shelter Relocation - Dillon Lot:**
 - James presented the relocation of the unused bus shelter from Old Man's Trail to the Dillon Mobility Hub
- **c. Requested Updates:**
 - No specific requested updates were discussed.
- **d. Project Updates:**

- No additional project updates were provided beyond those covered in other sections.

4. Other Presentations

- No other presentations were noted.
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G. ACTION ITEMS

5. Mountain Metro Route 3 Free Bus

- James Kelemen presented a proposal for fare-free service on Route 3, cost-shared between Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs:
 - **Route Overview:** Route 3 runs from the downtown terminal (Kiowa and Nevada) along Colorado and Manitou Avenue to Old Man’s Trail, with 30-minute frequency (Monday–Sunday, dropping to 60 minutes on Saturday evenings). Future plans aim to reduce headways to 15 minutes, pending vehicle availability.
 - **Cost Share:** Approximately \$200,222 total, with Colorado Springs’ parking division covering \$148,000 (75%) and Manitou Springs requested to contribute \$52,222 (based on 2023 ridership of 57,512 trips from 30th and Colorado to Old Man’s Trail). The cost accounts for fare box recovery (average \$0.89/trip) and 88 complementary paratransit trips (\$3.50/trip).
 - **Benefits:** Reduces traffic and parking demand in Manitou Springs, supports access to Safeway (addressing food desert concerns), and aligns with Route 33/36 discussions.
 - **Implementation:** Proposed start date is April 26, 2026, to April 25, 2027, requiring a one-year commitment. A Title VI analysis (ensuring equitable fare changes) and potential updates to the intergovernmental agreement with Manitou Springs are needed.
 - **Dependencies:** Colorado Springs has agreed internally to fund their share, likely without requiring City Council approval (informational item only).
 - **Questions:**
 - Rolf Jacobson asked if the cost share accounts for the statewide free fare program. James Kelemen noted that the grant is unlikely to be

available in 2026, and free routes (e.g., 33 and 36) are ineligible for fare box recovery under the current grant.

- James Kelemen confirmed the bus stop near the Dillon lot would be shared by Routes 3 and 33 temporarily.
 - Questions about reducing headways to 15 minutes were raised; James Kelemen noted it's plausible for fall 2026, pending vehicle availability, with other routes (e.g., 1, 27, 33) already at 15-minute headways.
- **Motion:** To recommend that Manitou Springs City Council approve the cost share of \$52,222 for fare-free Route 3 service from April 26, 2026, to April 25, 2027.
 - **Moved:** Rolf Jacobson
 - **Seconded:** Luke Harper Prince
 - **Vote:** Unanimous approval (Aye: Cory Sutela, Rolf Jacobson, Luke Harper Prince, Karl Stang, Pamela Smith).

6. Route 33 Feedback - Dillon Lot Route Change

- James Kelemen presented a proposed service change for Route 33, effective fall 2025, to route through the Dillon lot (as a detour until funding allows permanent implementation):
 - **Purpose:** Encourage incline and cog railway users to park at the Dillon lot, reducing downtown congestion. The change may replace Route 36 (seasonal) or integrate with it.
 - **Seasonality:** Luke Harper Prince suggested a seasonal approach (Dillon lot in summer, Hiawatha in winter) to maintain shorter lead times in winter. James Kelemen preferred year-round consistency but acknowledged the idea's merit.
 - **Bus Stops:** Concerns were raised about bypassing Hiawatha, a key parking lot and planned mobility hub. Suggestions included adding stops at Chase Bank and the Villa (opposite Hiawatha) to serve westbound users. Denise (unidentified speaker) argued that a Hiawatha stop could reduce Dillon lot usage, favoring an express route to prioritize Dillon for incline/cog users and Hiawatha for downtown visitors. A compromise suggested Route 36 (seasonal) could stop at Hiawatha.

- **Integration with Route 36:** Discussions emphasized integrating Routes 33 and 36, especially in summer, to optimize service. Route 36 operates only until September, so changes would affect summer 2026.
- **Process:** The proposal will go to City Council on May 6, 2025 (informational), followed by a working session and vote the next week. No formal vote was initially sought, but a recommendation was requested to strengthen the Council presentation.
- **Motion:** To approve the potential Route 33 service change for fall 2025, as proposed, with a note to discuss integration with Route 36 for summer 2026.
 - **Moved:** Luke Harper Prince
 - **Seconded:** Unspecified board member
 - **Vote:** Unanimous approval (Aye: James Kelemen, Rolf Jacobson, Luke Harper Prince, Karl Stang, Pamela Smith).

7. Minnehaha/Ute Trail RPP Proposal

- **Discussion** (moved to top of agenda):
 - James Kelemen presented a proposal to amend the existing Manitou Avenue RPP to include Minnehaha Avenue and Ute Trail, initiated by resident Dorothy Early (not present). The streets intersect Manitou Avenue, qualifying for inclusion under RPP guidelines.
 - **Rationale:** Limited parking, lack of off-street options, and tourist overflow (e.g., from Rainbow Falls) impact residents. The proposal aims to prioritize resident parking while allowing overflow onto Manitou Avenue.
 - **Support:** Signatures were collected, with over 50% of the 15 residences on both streets supporting the RPP. Three Minnehaha and four Ute Trail residences could not be contacted despite multiple attempts. No opposition was recorded among contacted residents.
 - **Questions:**
 - Rolf Jacobson confirmed that the proposal amends the existing Manitou Avenue RPP, allowing residents to park on Minnehaha, Ute Trail, or Manitou Avenue, with the expectation of parking primarily on their own streets to reduce tourist impact.

- Cory Sutela asked about opposition; James Kelemen confirmed none was expressed.
 - Luke Harper Prince supported the proposal, noting strong resident support and logical alignment with Manitou Avenue’s RPP.
 - **Motion:** To approve the RPP for Minnehaha and Ute Trail as an amendment to the Manitou Avenue RPP.
 - **Moved:** Luke Prince
 - **Seconded:** Cory Sutela
 - **Vote:** Unanimous approval (Rolf Jacobson, Luke Harper Prince, Karl Stang, Pamela Smith, Cory Sutela).
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H. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

- No board correspondence was raised.
 - James Kelemen requested adding a City Council liaison update to the agenda template to ensure updates from Natale Johnson are included. Denise (unidentified speaker) noted that such updates require public notice, so it was deferred to the next meeting.
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I. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.
 - **Note:** Cory Sutela left the meeting at 6:50 PM, but a quorum was maintained.
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Board Members Present:

- Cory Sutela, Chair (12/31/2025, virtual, left at 6:50 PM)
- Karl Stang, Vice Chair (12/31/2025)
- Rolf Jacobson (12/31/2026)
- Luke Harper Prince (12/31/2025)
- Pamela Smith (12/31/2028)

Staff and Liaisons Present:

- Natale Johnson, City Council Liaison
- Roy Chaney, Deputy City Administrator/Public Services Director
- Juan Alvarez, Mobility and Parking Director