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Comments: Hi,

Many locals are upset with the Pitkin Co Open Space and Rec driving this project. In spite of community feedback asking for something else, Pitkin Co continues to push their plan. Instead of simple solutions like widening the existing pavement, PitCo maintains there is a need for an off road, mountain bike route to Crested Butte. This specific effort is an end-run around the objections, focusing on a small "easy" part without addressing the big picture connectivity and roadblocks in several sections.

The community wants a hard surface bike trail, and PitCo is pushing a soft surface mountain bike trail. The community would appreciate a safe road biking way to get from the Carbondale Crystal River trail to McClure Pass. Currently, cyclists must ride a narrow shoulder (inexplicably made narrower by recent repaving) on a two lane road with speed limit 55 mph. Drivers often exceed the speed limit.

PitCo recently completed a renovation of the Prince Creek mountain bike area near Carbondale, with BLM, improving trails, improving campsites, and improving road grading. It is time to spend some resources on making road biking attractive and safe, and in a timely manner so that it can be completed within 5 years.