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Title:

Comments: Please, this is not the time to approve this proposed trail. The traffic it will add to get to the trail will ruin what is now a nice drive through an untrampled, pristine historic area. Once you open the floodgates, there is no turning back. Valley locals in favor of this trail will not be the only ones to benefit. Being in a pandemic still, the same tourists who are blocking the road with their e-bikes up to Maroon Bells will venture to this trail and others. How will rules be enforced?

As far as the notion that it's not safe to cycle up McClure Pass because the bike path doesn't go there, I am one of hundreds or thousands of Colorado cyclists who ride on highways (Independence Pass for example) and have had no issues riding from Glenwood Springs or Carbondale up the short but steep McClure Pass and back down safely. Traffic has always been spaced out enough that vehicles can be heard coming up from the bottom and also coming over from the south side so there is time to make a fast descent down with no traffic. If traffic increases, will we lose the ability to descend safely because we take the entire lane to descend these curves. Cycling is still popular on mountain passes.

The drive up Hwy 133 takes a person through a magical valley of red rock, hot springs, bighorn sheep and a raging blue Crystal river with kayakers. It's a place where you slow down and get a sense of solitude and then enter this tiny town of Redstone with the history of the Osgoods, where people can amble along the road, picnic at town park, stop at the Redstone store and other shops. If there is a trail to the top of McClure, the traffic up this valley will be overwhelming, a bigger parking area must be built, people in a rush to hike up and get back to Carbondale/Willits/Aspen where their favorite restaurants are. This highway cannot handle the speed that you see on Hwy 82 and motorists will want to get there quickly and back quickly. It's still a pandemic and there's a frenzy of people seemingly taking over every beautiful place in Colorado where many of us have gone to get some quiet to unwind.