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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in support of the proposed Construction of the Minturn Segment of the Eagle Valley Trail #63966. As a lifelong cyclist and recent Colorado Mountain College's Sustainability Studies program graduate, I believe building multi-use trails is one of the best things our community can do to combat climate change. The construction of safe and sound multi-use trails increases the adoption of biking and walking as alternative forms of transportation and reduces the reliance on cars.

The proposed path alongside Mintun Road will positively impact the National Forest by reducing car traffic on roads and congestion at local trailheads. The paved path will also allow a wider user group, including families with young children, older adults, and users with limited mobility, to access and enjoy our natural resources.

This route is a safe alternative to cycling or walking on Highway 24. Highway 24 is a high-traffic stretch of road with a narrow shoulder that is dangerous and uninviting to cyclists and pedestrians. A safe, well-maintained trail will encourage healthy, eco-friendly activities like walking, biking, and running. Increased physical activity and outdoor access improve public health outcomes, and bikeable communities are a significant draw for businesses and families.

Trail users can leave their cars at home and comfortably walk or bike to and from Minturn without contributing to emissions or worrying about parking. In addition, residents and visitors can utilize the proposed trail to visit the Minturn farmers market, attend events at Little Beach Park, and access popular trailheads at Meadow Mountain, Game Creek, Cougar Ridge, Two Elk, and the Minturn Bike Park.

As a daily user of the Eagle Valley Trail, I am proud of the community effort and support that has gone into this project, and I encourage others to continue to aid this endeavor by voicing their support.