



GRANTS MAINSTREET PROJECT INC.

PO Box 337 • Grants, NM • 87020

A Community Non-Profit Corporation

April 2nd, 2019

Elaine Kohrman
Forest Supervisor
Cibola National Forest
US Forest Service
2113 Osuna Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Ms. Kohrman,

On behalf of Grants MainStreet Project, Inc., I am writing to ask the US Forest Service, specifically the Cibola National Forest Ranger District, to include the Grants Ridge Trail system in your selected priorities. The Mount Taylor Zuni Mountain Collaborative and the Grants Ridge Trail Committee have identified a potential trail system north of Grants located 5 miles up highway 547. Their plan is to utilize the old illegal shooting range as a trailhead and parking area and provide access to multiuse stacked loop trails. A main corridor will be established along what was previously NM 547 to connect various trails and recreation areas.

This trail system is important to the MainStreet District, and to the rest of the community, because it provides a safe means for pedestrian traffic, and it would increase the amount of trails that the Grants – Cibola area can offer which would help drive tourism. The trail system would help spur the creation of outdoor enthused businesses, restaurants, and tourist stops. Lastly, this trail system is great way to have fun for locals as well as visitors.

It is my belief that this trail system would give locals and visitors the chance to see a side of Grants that no one has seen before. The trail system is a part of a larger Grants Trails Master Plan which will encompass the Zuni Mountain Trail project, the CDT gateway Community initiative, the Legacy Trail Plan, and more. Our local advocates have been able to raise over 1.5 million towards trail initiatives over the last 4 years. Projects that are in the process of completion or that have been completed are the Rio San Juan Trail, The Riverwalk Project, and the Zuni Mountain Trail project.

The Grants Ridge Trail Committee has MainStreet's support and the support of the rest of the community. We ask for the support of the Cibola National Forest Service/ Mt. Taylor Ranger District to place this project among your priorities.

Sincerely,

William Yarborough
Executive Director