

Motorized and Non-Motorized Circulation Assessment



The Town of Grand Lake is a small, mountain town located in north central Colorado and adjacent to Arapahoe National Forest and the western entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park. Grand Lake is mainly supported by tourism as well as an abundance of outdoor recreation. The community experiences its highest visitation during the summer, overburdening already limited parking supply and stressing the limited pedestrian walkways.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism has only increased and further emphasized the need for improved circulation and parking management, flexible streetscapes, and enhanced bike and pedestrian infrastructure.



ASSESSMENT

VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

Primary circulation through town is on Grand Avenue. Most traffic slowing occurs to find parking and accommodate informal pedestrian crossing.

PARKING

There is a perception by residents and visitors of a lack of parking during peak season. Very little signage to direct visitors to public parking and inconsistent parking format throughout town.

WALKABILITY/BIKEABILITY

Destinations are most easily accessed by vehicles, as there is little pedestrian infrastructure past the main street boardwalk and varying conditions throughout town. Very little infrastructure currently exists to support bicycling.

RECOMMENDATIONS

PROJECTS

Improve Parking

Improve on-street parking with consistent striping and signage. Consider parcels owned by Grand Lake on the western side of town for seasonal parking.

Grand Avenue Corridor Improvements

Add an enhanced pedestrian crossing at the W. Portal Ave and Lake Ave conversion. Add a sidepath along Grand Avenue on the south side from Lake until Broadway in underutilized right-of-way. Improve intersections.

Alleyway Activation

Undertake a redesign process of alleys to provide a comfortable connection off of Grand Avenue that can further support a more comprehensive multi-modal network.

PROGRAMS

Coordinated Wayfinding System

Implement the 2014 Wayfinding Masterplan to guide visitors through potentially complex road and trail patterns.

POLICIES

Complete Street Policy Adoption

Complete Streets policy has the potential to improve sense of place, increase comfort and safety for people walking and biking, reduce congestion, and connect the community past the downtown core.

Comprehensive Parking Study

Fund a comprehensive parking study that includes parking utilization.