



# Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access

Strategic Conference: November, 2006

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Strategic Conference: November, 2006



THE SIERRA FUND



# Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access

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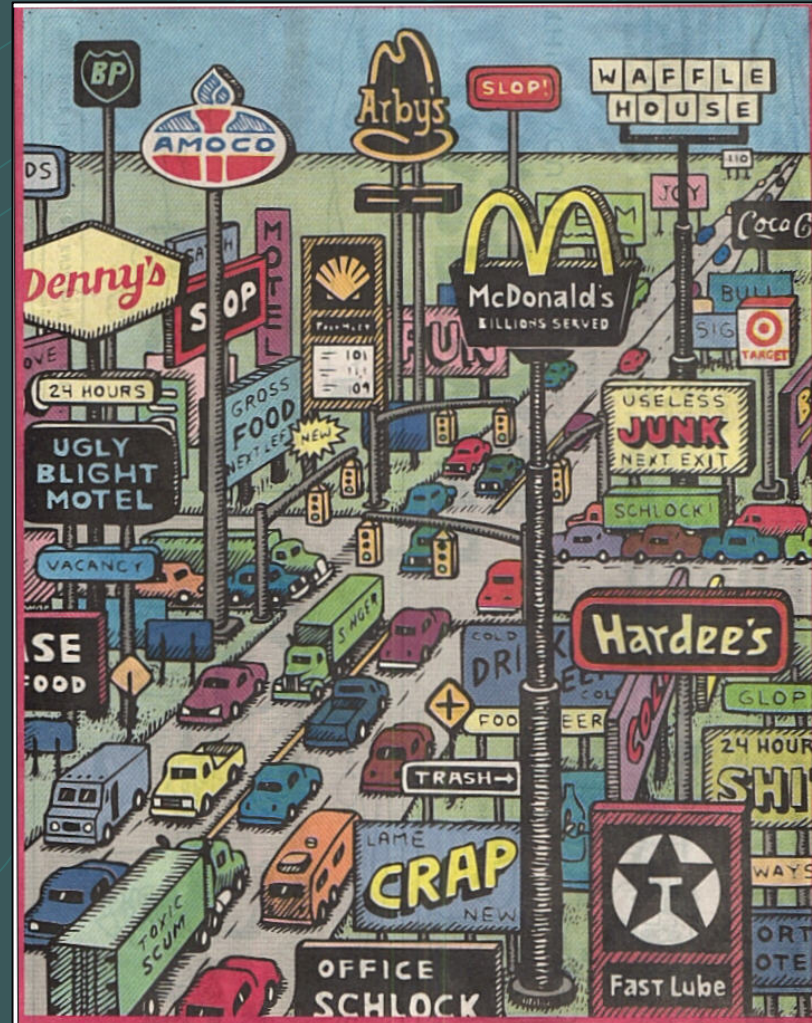




# Is this our Legacy???



© Corbis



# Vacation in Generica



# 1,000 Words...



# Recent Media

## The New York Times

PHYSICAL CULTURE

## From Kitchen to the Wild in 30 Seconds

By BRADLEY MELEKIAN

Published: September 7, 2006



*“For me, it’s important to be able to go out of my garage and be on a trail in a minute’s time,” Mr. Adcock, 33, said.*



Blanchard and Calhoun Real Estate Company

A master plan for Bartram Trail, a housing development in Evans, Ga., that will feature nature trails for running and hiking.

# " Cycling is the new golf "

**The New York Times**

*Wheels and Deals in Silicon Valley*


By ALEX WILLIAMS

*Published: December 4, 2005*



# The New Economy...

BusinessWeek online



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## Carbon reduction

### It's time to go on a low-carbon diet.

Whether in coal, oil or gas, carbon is the essential ingredient of all fossil fuels. When these fuels are burned to provide energy, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), a "greenhouse gas", is released to the Earth's atmosphere.

As we've become more dependent on carbon-based fuels, we've seen a rapid increase in the atmospheric concentration of CO<sub>2</sub>; from around 280 parts per million (ppm) before the industrial revolution, to 370 ppm today. If current trends of fossil fuel use continue the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> is likely to exceed 700 ppm by the end of this century. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), this could lead to global warming of between 1.4 and 5.8°C, more frequent severe weather conditions and damage to many natural ecosystems.

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#### Quick links

Tackling GHG emissions  
addressing energy

- [Carbon mitigation](#)
- [Energy efficiency](#)
- [Facing the challenge](#)

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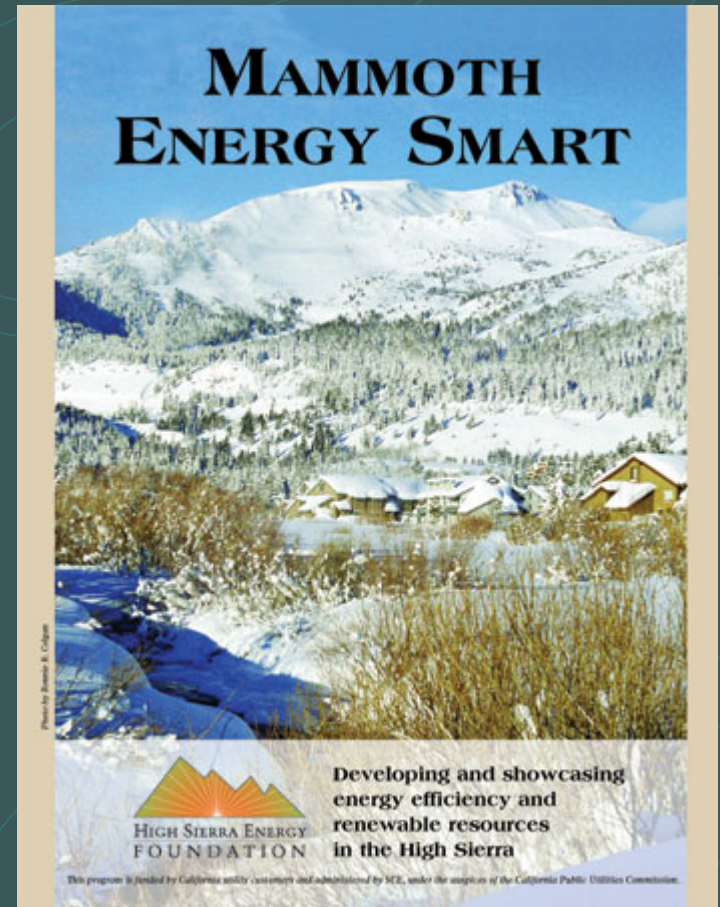
#### BP Alternative

Reducing carbon dioxide emissions through alternative energy solutions


- [Alternative energy](#)

# Big Picture Issues


- Energy
- Terrorism
- "Generica" / Loss of Community Identity
- Environment / Stewardship
- Economy: UCSB Report
- Obesity Epidemic
- "Last Child in the Woods" / Nature Deficit Disorder



# Mammoth Lakes Issues

- 
- A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a topographic map of the Mammoth Lakes area. It features contour lines, a river, and a road. A white circle with a crosshair is located on the map, and a white arrow points from it towards the first bullet point.
- Growth pattern WITHIN the existing urban growth boundary
  - We've got world-class Public Lands, but not a connected access system
  - *"We may be living in the last unpaved valley in the Western US..."*
  - Affordable housing ( 1 less car = Home ownership)
  - Resource Management / Stewardship

# Mammoth Solutions

- 
- A leader and potential model for best practices.... *"Mountain resort communities like Mammoth Lakes need to be setting the example and showing the way forward to the rest of the nation."*

# Let's get back on our feet!



# Mammoth's Identity

- Community of choice
- Remote and unspoiled
- Eastern Sierra
- Four season resort
- Big mountain ski destination

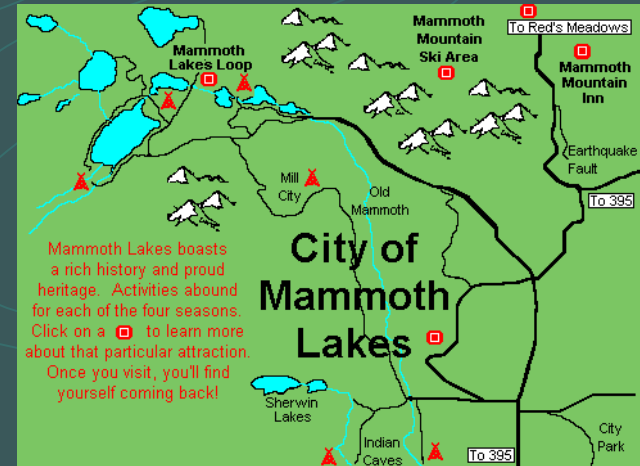


# Four Seasons



# Live, Work, and Play

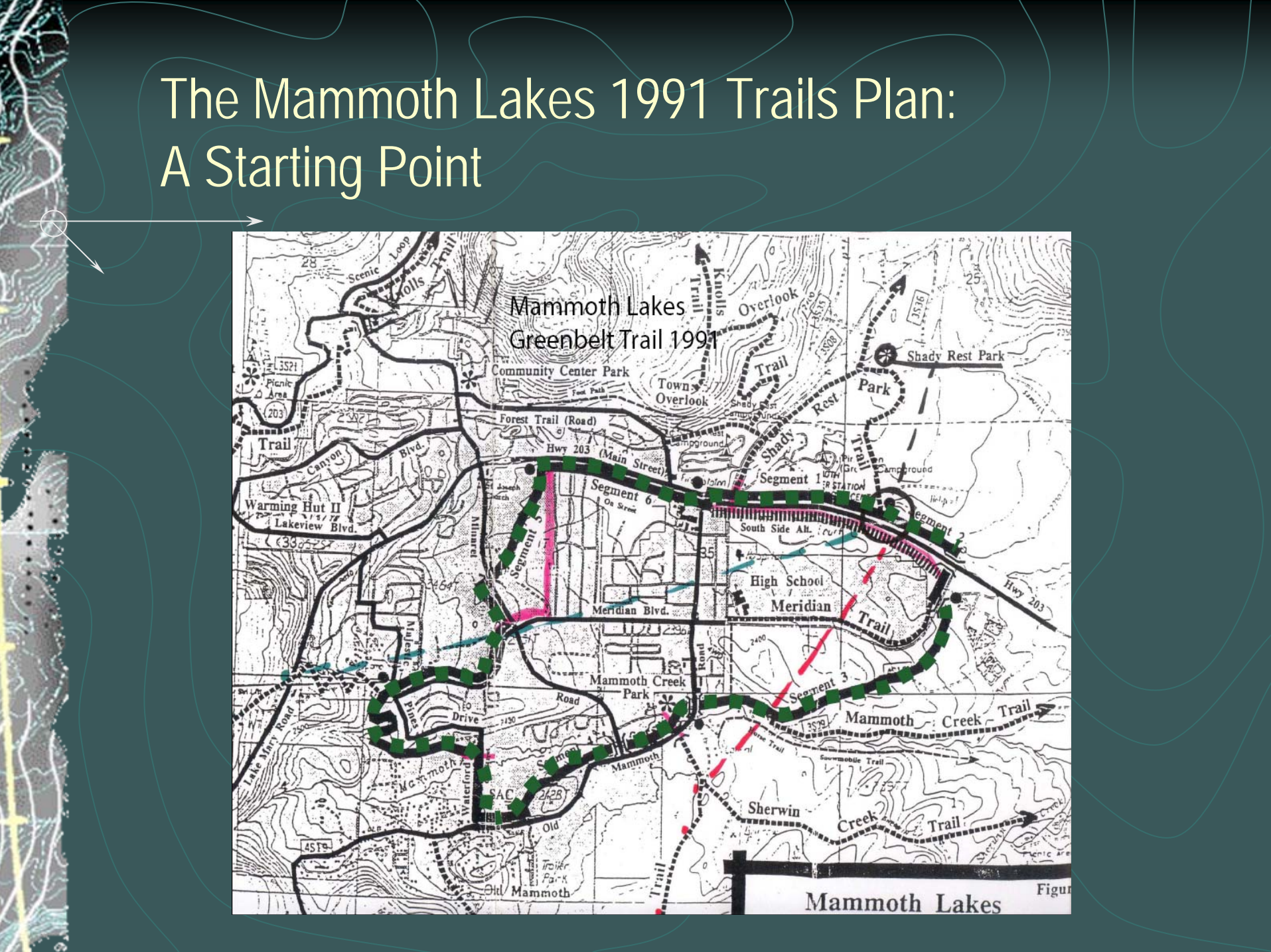
- Teleworking
- Stay another day
- Diversify the resort community
- Attract people to a unique place
- Market the remote Eastern Sierra
- A new model for sustainable development



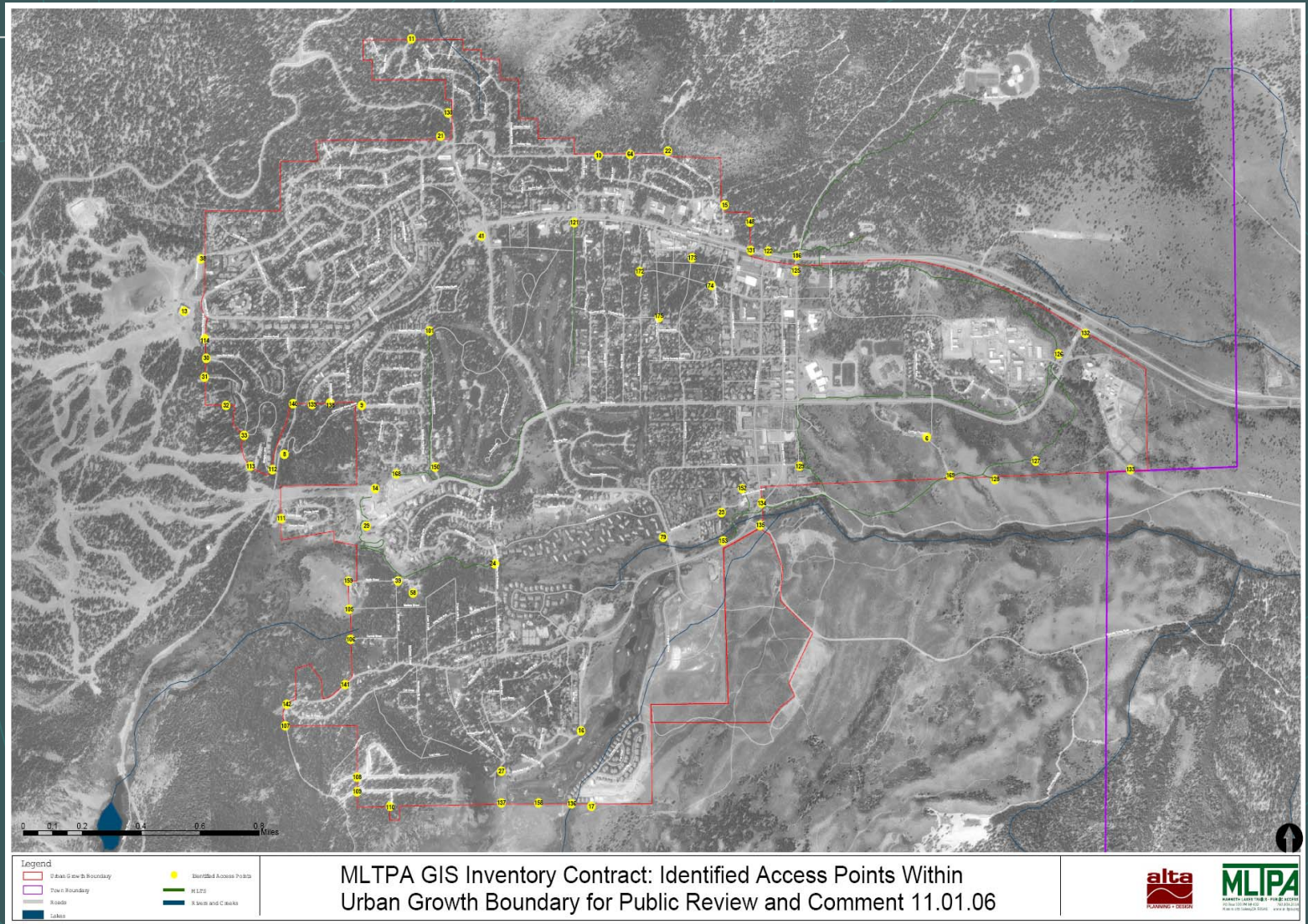
# The Mammoth Lakes 1991 Trails Plan: A Starting Point

Mammoth Lakes  
Greenbelt Trail 1991

Figure 1



# Existing Trails and Public Access




# Mountain Bike Park





# Multi-Modal Connections

 Return to the Town of Mammoth Lakes

Car Free Guide

Biking

Hiking and Walking Trails

Nordic Skiing



## Town of Mammoth Lakes, CA

TOWN INFORMATION

Transit

Home

Spring-Summer-Fall Transit

Winter Transit

Dial-A-Ride

Regional Transit

Park and Ride

Transit  
& Trails

### Hiking and Walking Trails

Simply select the link below to view a large-scale map of existing hiking trails in Mammoth Lakes. Close the new browser window to return to this page.

[View Map](#)

 Return to the Town of Mammoth Lakes

Location: 437 Old Main

Mailing  
Question





# The Central Question:

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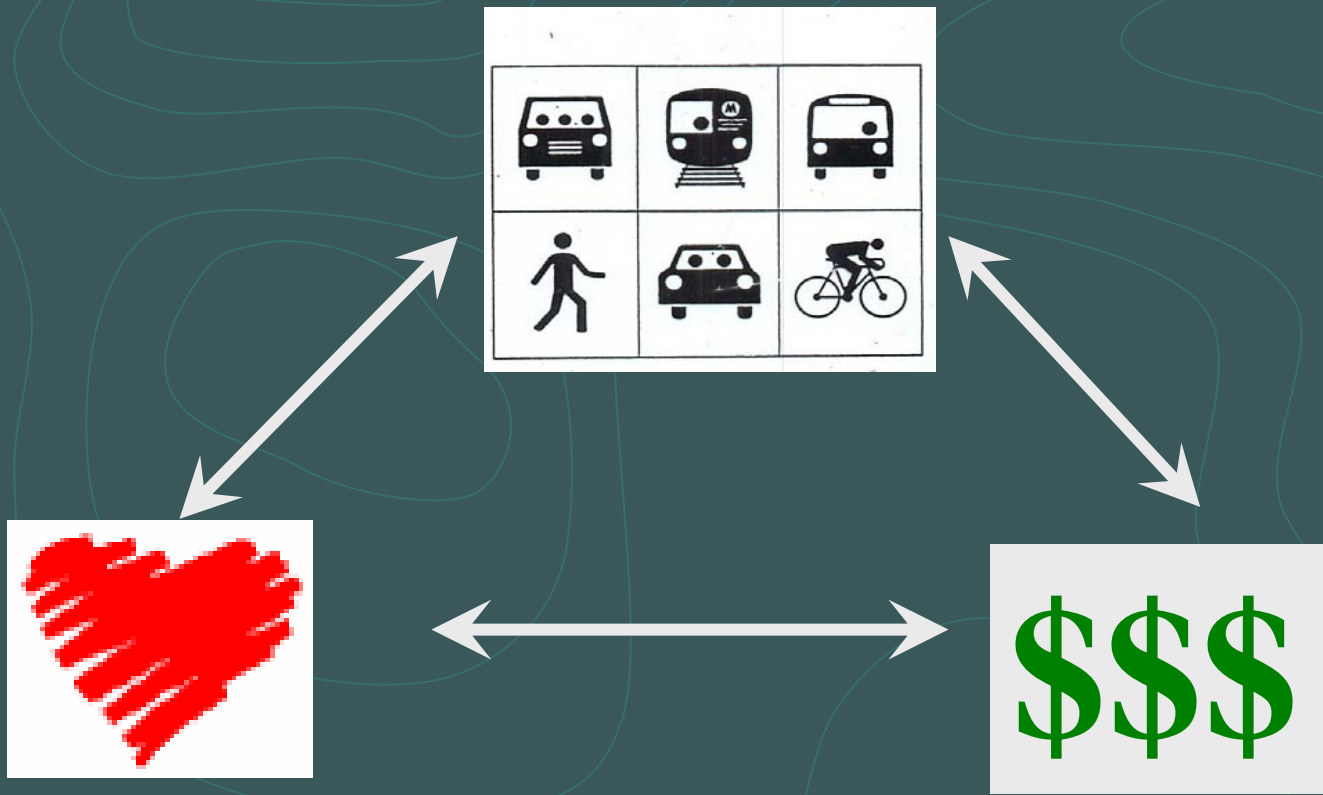
Can these world-class assets be connected together into a *system* of trails and public access for Mammoth Lakes?

A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a topographic map of the Mammoth Lakes area. It features contour lines, a road, and a small circle with a crosshair. An arrow points from this circle towards the first bullet point.

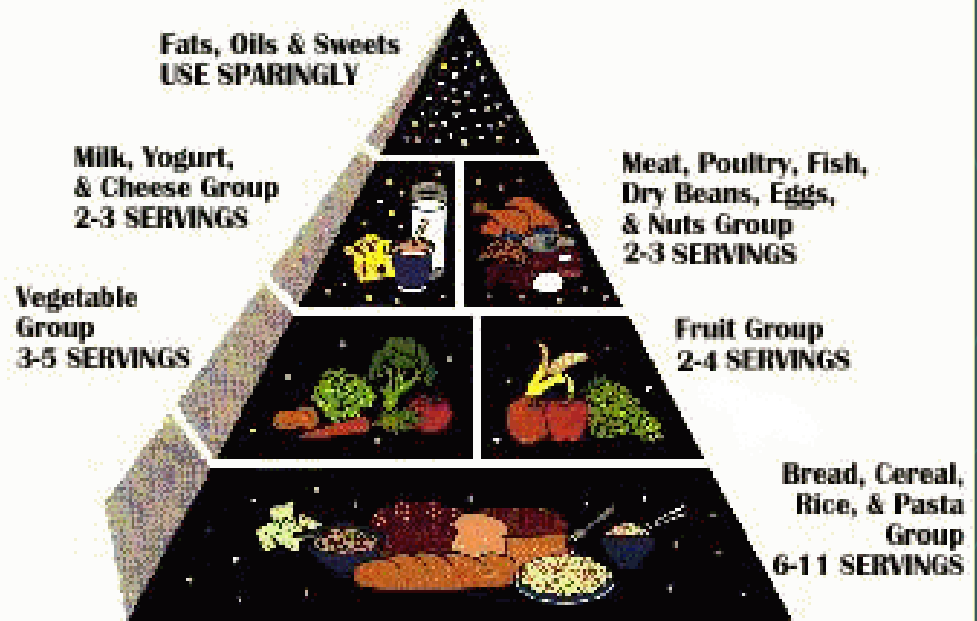
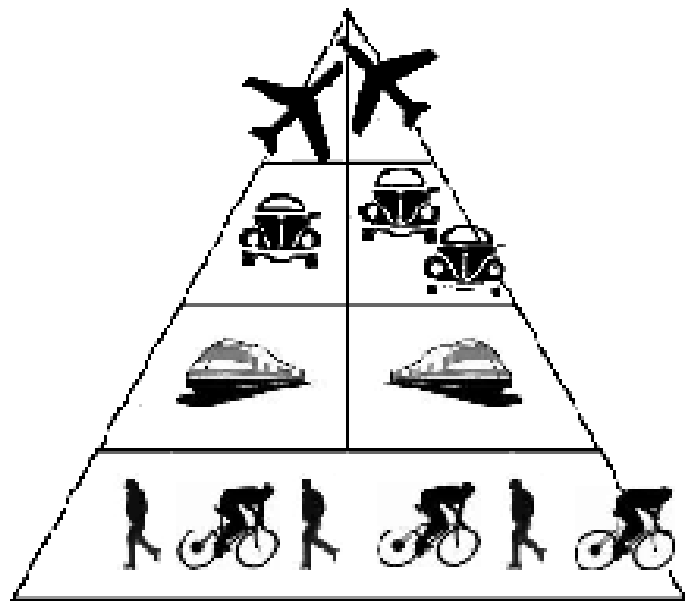
# Important Opportunities

- Mammoth Lakes General Plan update
- USFS trails inventory of Inyo National Forest
- The town is not built out (yet) within the Urban Growth Boundary
- Mammoth Lakes is at a 'cusp' (UCSB Report)
- New GIS Inventory of Trails and Public Access

# The Key Relationship



# The Mobility Food Pyramid

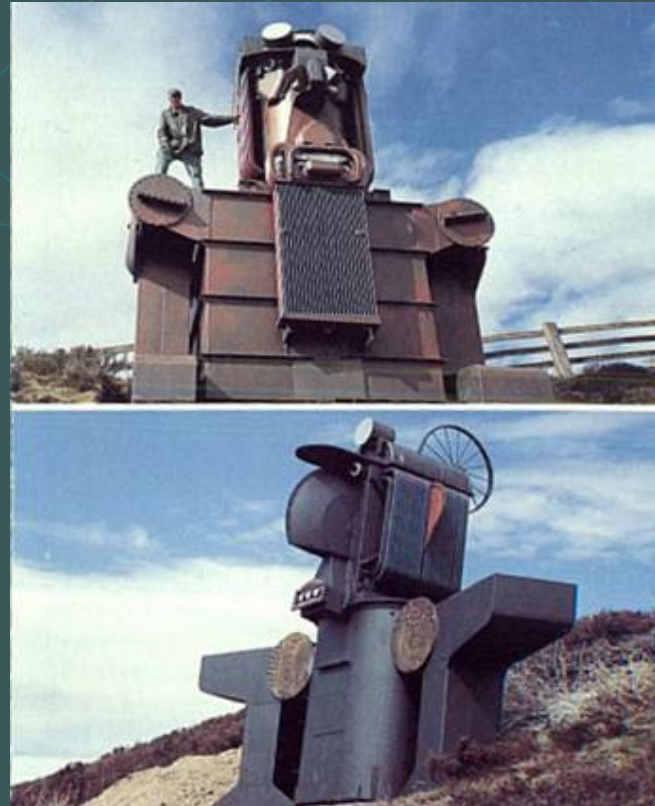


# Solve the Tough Problems

- 
- Agency Relationships
  - Funding
  - Maintenance
  - Liability
  - Design Guidelines
  - Operations
  - Systems Vision
  - Interagency Working Group
  - SAFETEA "2"
  - Endowment Fund
  - RUS / Risk Management
  - Training
  - Best Practices
  - Trails Action Plan

# Case Studies and Peer Communities

- Sustrans – UK
- Jackson Hole Pathways
- Acadia Trails Forever
- Vail Resort MTB
- Park City Trails, UT
- Grand Canyon Greenway
- Sun Valley, ID
- Whistler, BC



- Friends of Pathways
- Paved + Single Track
- 4 season system
- Take Action, Jackson!
- High Quality Design
- New O&M Process
- 70 Mile System
- Many Challenges...



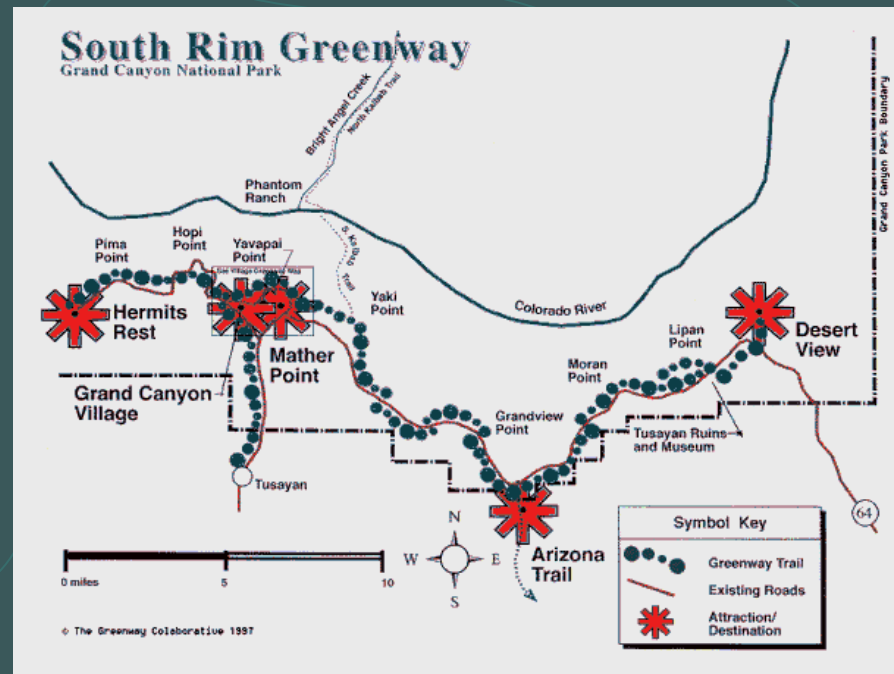
# Acadia Trails Forever

- Olmsted Design
- 60 mile network
- Separated carriageways, roads and trails
- Natural Surfaces
- \$5 Endowment

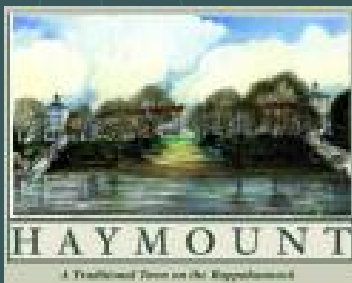


# Grand Canyon Greenway

- Public-Private-NonProfit Model
- Native Materials
- Rentals = Maintenance Fund
- Tribal Involvement
- ADA Access Award
- Solving the "Grand Canyon Paradox"
- Many Challenges...



# New Developments



**"The Best Small Mountain Town in America"**

# The *New* New Urbanism

## LAKELAND GREEN BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

### ON-STREET IMPROVEMENTS

- ⋯⋯⋯ Recommended Bicycle Lanes Within Lakeland Green Project
- - - - - Designated State Bicycle Route (Hwy 70)
- Recommend Changing Thoroughfare Classification to 4-A with Bike Lanes
- Recommend Intersection Enhancements for Bicyclists

### GREENWAY AND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

- 100' greenway
- 50' greenway

### SHARED USE PATHS

- ⋯⋯⋯ Primary Path
- — — — — Connector Path
- ⋯⋯⋯ Footpath
-  Roundabout
-  Undercrossing
-  Bridge
- Utility easement
- ✱ Viewpoint



Note: Trail and greenway line weights are not to scale

# Proof of Concept: Davis, CA



A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a portion of a topographic map with contour lines, a yellow line, and a white line. A white circle with a crosshair is on the map, with a horizontal arrow pointing right and a diagonal arrow pointing down-right.

# Trail Types and Users

- Hiking / Running
- Skiing / Snowshoe
- Single Track MTB
- Shared-Use Path
- Rails with Trails / Rail to Trails
- Motorized
- Equestrian Trails
- Interpretive...

- Adults
- Children
- Families
- Athletes
- Seniors
- Tourists
- Commuters
- Fitness
- Naturalists...

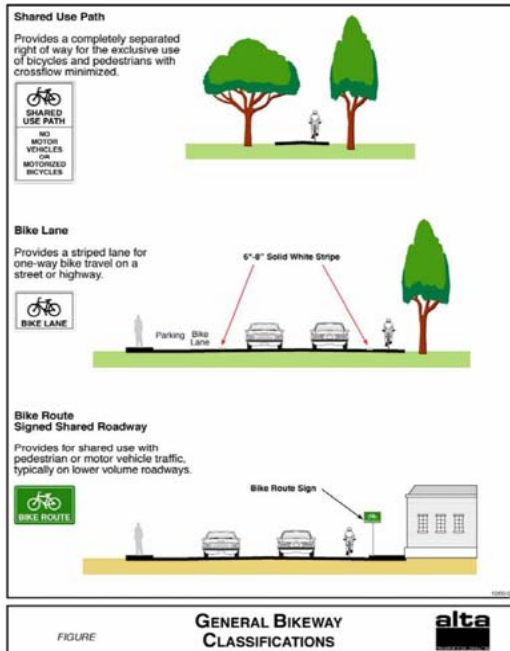


# Trail Design + Management

- Design for Soils and Topography
- Match Use with Trail Type
- Drainage, Drainage, Drainage
- Routine Maintenance
- Capital Maintenance
- Programming

# Design Guidelines

## Facility Types and Features



### Trail Features

There are a number of amenities that make a trail inviting to the user. Below are some common items that make trail systems stand out.

#### Interpretive Installations

Interpretive installations and signs can enhance the trail experience by providing information about the history of Oregon City. Installations can also discuss local ecology, environmental concerns, and other educational information.



#### Water Fountains and Bicycle Parking

Water fountains provide water for people (and pets, in some cases) and bicycle racks allow trail users to safely park their bikes if they wish to stop along the way, particularly at parks and other desirable destinations.



#### Pedestrian-Scale Lighting and Furniture

Pedestrian-scale lighting improves safety and enables the trail to be used year-round. It also enhances the aesthetic of the trail. Lighting fixtures should be consistent with other light fixtures in the city, possibly emulating a historic theme.



Providing benches at key rest areas and viewpoints encourages people of all ages to use the trail by ensuring that they have a place to rest along the way. Benches can be simple (e.g., wood slats) or more ornate (e.g., stone, wrought iron, concrete).

#### Maps and Signage

A comprehensive signage system makes a trail system stand out. Informational kiosks with maps at trailheads and other pedestrian generators can provide enough information for someone to use the trail system with little introduction – perfect for areas with high out-of-area visitation rates as well as the local citizens.



#### Art Installations

Local artists can be commissioned to provide art for the trail system, making it uniquely distinct. Many trail art installations are functional as well as aesthetic, as they may provide places to sit and play on.



# Signage and Wayfinding



A neighborhood "Share-it Station" in Portland, OR

Trail entry signage

# Operations and Maintenance Toolbox

- Best Practices
- Maintenance Schedule
- Proposed Budget
- Youth Involvement
- Shared Use Guidelines
- Seasonal Issues

**Bikeway User Capabilities** Figure 7-4

City of Chula Vista Bikeway Master Plan Update - 2003

	Typical Ages	Preferred Facility	Typical Usage	Days per Week	Speed Range	Average Distance	Typical Origins and Destinations
<b>Kids</b> Kids Recreational (Adult TO Group C)	6-10	Sidewalks, trails, quiet streets, flat terrain (Class I)	Early weekday mornings and afternoons, weekends	5-6	4-8 mph	1-2 miles	Residences, schools, parks, open space, retail centers
<b>Family</b> Family Recreational (Adult TO Group B)	6-65+	Quiet streets, scenic trails, flat terrain (Class I)	Weekends, occasional early evenings	1	5-10 mph	2-4 miles	Residences, parks, open space
<b>Adult</b> Adult Exercise (Adult TO Group B)	20-65+	Quiet streets, scenic trails, flat terrain (Class I & II)	Weekends, occasional early evenings	1-2	8-15 mph	5-20 miles	Residences, parks, open space, coastal routes
<b>Commuter</b> Commuter (Adult TO Group A)	18-55	Streets, bike lanes, direct arterial routes (Class II & III)	Early weekday mornings and late afternoons	4-6	10-20 mph	3-20 miles	Residences, employment centers, retail centers
<b>Serious Cyclists</b> Serious Cyclists (Adult TO Group A)	18-55+	Arterials, flat or hilly circuitous routes (Class II & III)	Weekday mornings and late afternoon, weekends	2-5	12-25 mph	20-75 miles	Residences (Rides typically originate or extend outside city)
<b>Skaters</b> Skaters	10-45	Quiet streets, paved trails, flat terrain (Class I)	Weekends, occasional early evenings	1-2	5-15 mph	2-5 miles	Residences, schools, parks, coastal routes
<b> joggers</b> joggers	18-55	Sidewalks, scenic trails, flat terrain	Early weekday mornings and late afternoon	3-6	5-9 mph	3-5 miles	Residences, parks open space, schools, retail, coastal routes



# "Before you advocate, *organize*"



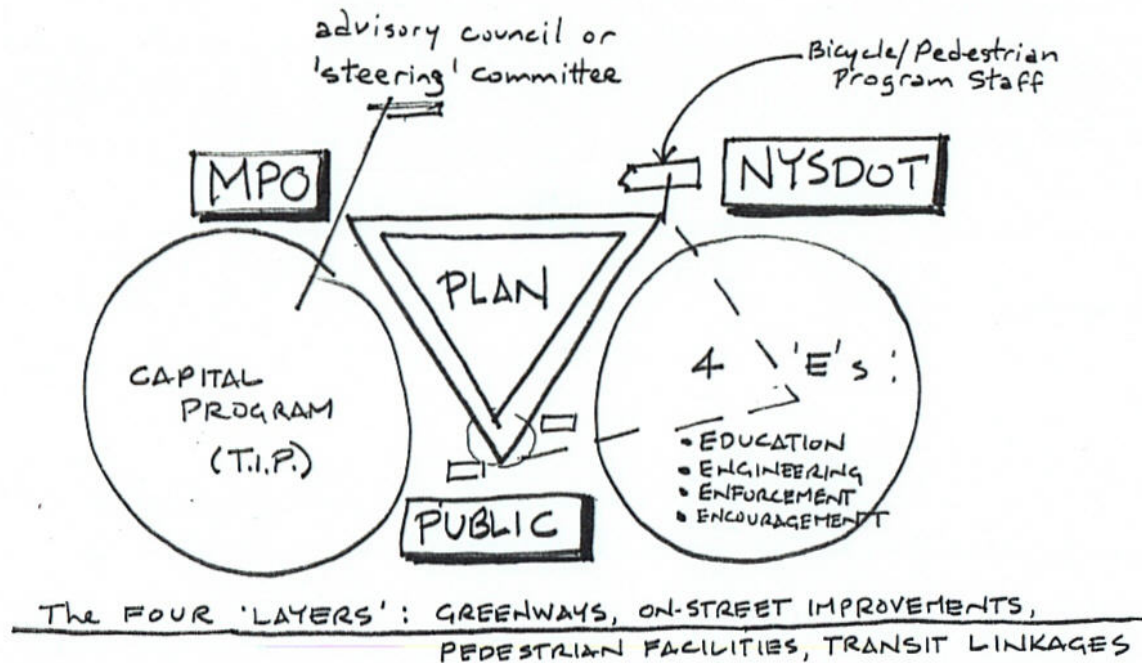
## TEXAS BICYCLE COALITION

P. O. Box 1121, Austin, Texas 78767 (512) 476-7433

The Texas Bicycle Coalition is a not-for-profit, membership organization that advocates the advancement of bicycling access, safety and education in Texas.



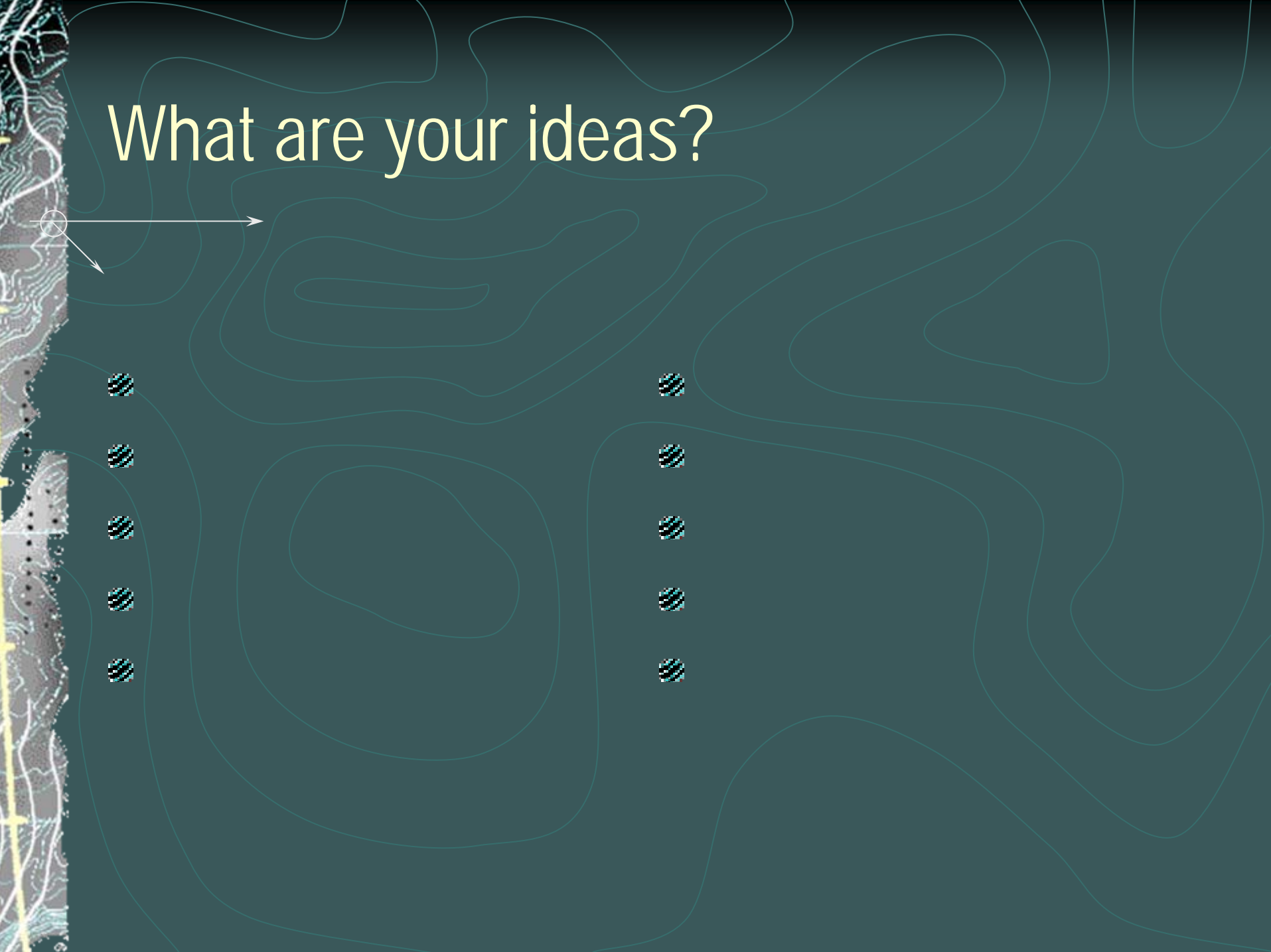
# The Advocacy Triangle



The 'KEY TRIANGLE'  
FOR BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING

JSD 8.94

# What are your ideas?



A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a topographic map of the Mammoth Lakes area, with contour lines and a yellow line indicating a trail or road. A white circle with a crosshair is on the map, with a horizontal arrow pointing right and a diagonal arrow pointing down-right.

# Five projects that MLTPA could do next:

- Create a non profit organization
- A Trails and Public Access Master Plan for the Town of Mammoth Lakes
- Mammoth Trails Working Group
- Interpretive Historical GIS Task Force
- Signage and Wayfinding Task Force

# Next Steps...

- Website
- Listserve
- MLTPA organization
- Trails Master Plan
- Interagency Working Group



# Great Resources

- 
- [www.mltpa.org](http://www.mltpa.org)
  - [www.bicyclinginfo.org](http://www.bicyclinginfo.org)
  - [www.americantrails.org](http://www.americantrails.org)
  - [www.fop.org](http://www.fop.org)
  - [www.activelivingbydesign.org](http://www.activelivingbydesign.org)
  - [www.altaplanning.com](http://www.altaplanning.com)

# Thank You

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