

## **COUNTY ROAD 22 AND 22A WRITTEN COMMENTS**

**2/26/20**

1.

I would gladly see ATVs barred from every road in San Juan County, but that's unlikely to happen, and the closure of the river road to all motor vehicles seems wrong and especially unjust to elderly users, particularly fishermen, and the snowmobilers who for years were responsible for grooming the road for themselves and Nordic skiers. People should not be able to purchase and develop property on a given road and then change the road's use from what it was at the time of purchase.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,  
Margot Early

2.

Dear San Juan County Board of Commissioners,

I would like to comment on the possible closure of CR 22 or CR 22A to motorized vehicles.

This is a scenic stretch of road that I enjoy every year in a Polaris RZR. Myself and the group I travel with always slow to a crawl for hikers, pets and fishermen. I realize not everyone does that but perhaps you could try educating those that don't with a sign explaining proper etiquette to use on the road and mentioning the road will be closed if non motorized users are dusted and disrespected. I would be willing to bet the San Juan Mountain Trail Group and other users could raise the funds needed for the sign. As a construction worker I know first hand what it is like to be dusted and put in danger by those who don't slow down. Please try education first.

Thank you for your time.

Tom Chism  
Independence, Kansas

3.

As someone who has spent at least the summers in Silverton since 1972, I can say from first hand experience that the situation in San Juan County concerning road usage has become untenable. San Juan County has seemingly become primarily a playground for ATVs and OHVs. I rarely even go out in my jeep in the summer now because of the overwhelming traffic on the roads, sometimes groups of a dozen or more. As you know, on many roads it is almost impossible to pass others you meet and it involves backing in treacherous spots. The dust is a huge issue, but mostly I really resent the attitude of many who have no respect for the land or other people.

As a business owner I can tell you that I only have maybe a couple of handfuls of customers in my shop every summer from ATV users.

ANY restrictions on ANY roads or sections of roads in the county would be welcome to me. I'd especially love to see the road along the river from Silverton to Howardsville become foot or bike only. I additionally would love to see ATVs OUT OF SILVERTON. Permits to use the back country roads might be a good idea to slow down usage and increase revenue.

Thank you,  
Claudia Pope

4.

Dear County Commissioners,

County Roads 22 and 22A are very important assets for the people of San Juan County to enjoy quiet non-motorized activities like walking, skiing, fishing, mushroom hunting, and dog walking. Currently almost 100% of the county's roads are motorized. Having these two roads non-motorized will offer a diverse healthy alternative that will allow all people the opportunity to enjoy easily accessed quiet beautiful scenery. These non-motorized roads will be an asset for the County for years to come which will improve the quality of life and make the County more attractive for current and future residents. Please be forward thinking and make County Roads 22 and 22A non-motorized.

Thank you,  
Julie Coleman Singer

5.

Dear Willy,

Please inform the County Commissioners that both Larry and I strongly object to the proposed county road closures for motorized use. We have enjoyed the motorized use of these roads in the 45 years that we have lived here and wish to continue motorized use of these roads, along with other uses.

Please share our objections with Ernie, Scott and Pete.

Thank you.

Rose (and Larry) Raab

6.

I hope you're doing well and enjoying winter. I was hoping to run into you at some point (I prefer face to face over email), but this will have to do.

I wanted to voice my support for closing the lower river road to motor vehicles. Though I am not versed in the landowner's concerns, I feel that having just one road that is non-motorized traffic in the county (and a short road, at that, that does not require traversing in order to access the surrounding backcountry) would be a benefit to our community, particularly those who are elderly and otherwise disabled. The lower river road is an ideal place to take a walk or a cross-country ski, and many elderly and/or disabled people don't want to walk there due to the heavy OHV traffic. Dan Hoyle comes to mind; after his neck surgery, he struggled to find a place where he felt safe to walk his medically-required miles each day. He couldn't turn his head to see upcoming traffic due to his surgery, and

constantly felt like he was going to get run over, or fall after being surprised by a speeding OHV or motorcycle. I imagine there are other senior citizens in our town and visitors that feel the same way. Granted, there are other places that have been improved along the river, specifically within the city limits near the railroad's property, but having one other flat, graded option seems like a good idea to me.

I know this will upset the motorized-use advocates. They will say that their rights to use their public lands are being infringed and compromised. They will say that disabled and elderly people need motorized access to see these places. One could argue that it does nothing of the sort, as you can partake in most of the views that the lower river road provides by traveling on the upper river road for those few short miles. A plausible response to them is that by making it non-motorized, it would (apparently) address the concerns of landowners, while simultaneously providing a safe place for the hikers, cross-country skiers, and snowshoers among us that aren't as adventurous to enjoy the same views without the sustained hyper-awareness for OHVs and other vehicles that is inherently necessary when hiking on roads in these mountains.

7.

Dear County Administrator Tookey:

This email is in response to the upcoming San Juan County Commissioners' hearing on February 26, 2020 regarding the possible closure of segments of County Roads 22 and 22A. I want to highlight that County Road 22A is utilized to access a number of patented mining claims on the west side of the Animas River. More specifically, Houghton Land Preservation LLC ("HLP") actively uses the road to access claims that it owns in Otto Gulch, using the road segment that leads to what is commonly referred to as the Auburn Tunnel. This road segment has clearly been in existence for decades as evidenced by USGS air photo AR1BT0000010046 dating 10-19-1945. HLP intends to continue to use this road. However, if there is a motion to eliminate OHV's from this road, San Juan Land Holding Company, LLC would strongly support expanding this to include all county roads within San Juan County.

Sincerely,

Ryan T. Bennett  
Manager  
San Juan Land Holding Company, LLC

8.

San Juan county commissioners

I would like to express my concerns to the closet of road 22 and 22a to motorized use. Neither me nor my family would like to see the roads closed. We use the road in the summer and winter (snowmobile) me and my father have several pieces of property along/across the

road. In 2015 I officially granted easement to the county across my property along road 22 for public use. I would not like to see the public or my access restricted to the road or my property. Many older people like to have access to the river to fish and sight see also. The more you limit motorized access the less accessible the world is to the older and handicapped also.

Thank you  
Vernon and Amy bridgewater  
Frank and eloyda bridgewater

9.

Name: Patrick McKay

Subject: Do NOT Close CR 22 and 22A

Details: As a motorized recreation enthusiast (Jeeper), I am writing to ask that you please do NOT close county roads 22 and 22A to public motor vehicle use. As I understand it, the county is considering closing these roads in order to give exclusive access to a private landowner, who has expressed a desire to lock the public out of these roads. It is the duty of county officials to consider the needs of all citizens, not just one single landowner. These roads are important public resources that thousands of people enjoy driving every year. It would be a shame to lock the public out of these roads simply so one landowner can enjoy a favored status with exclusive access to a public resource. I strongly oppose this action, and urge you to keep these roads open to public motorized use. Thank you.

10.

Mariah Pietz English

I am completely in favor of closing the roads 22 and 22A to motorized vehicles. This is so important and will help keep tiny portions safe from the destruction of the beautiful solitude in the San Juans due to OHV's.

11.

Randy & Sindie Pietz

We definitely want the lower river road closed to ATV travel It ruins a nice walk there and they can use the upper road. We need some roads just for walking in our opinion.

Thank you

12.

Mr. Tookey,

As property owners along 22A, we object to closing the road to motorized use. This will block our access to the property (Mater Delarosa and Hungry Joe) and will likely make it difficult for us to sell our property. It is currently up for sale, and we object to anything that might make the sale more difficult or which would block our access.

Thank you for considering our thoughts,  
Larry & Janice Killian

13.  
San Juan County Administrator - William Tookey  
PO Box 466  
Silverton, CO 81433

Re: closing CR 22 and 22A to the public

Commissioners,

United in Keeping Lands Open

Formed in 1976, United Four Wheel Drive Associations Inc. is the only International Organization that represents the 4×4 enthusiast exclusively. Entirely comprised of fellow enthusiasts volunteers, United (UFWDA) understands the issues and works to maintain motorized access for full-size vehicles.

When we do maintain motorized access for full-size vehicles, we are also creating access for ALL other user groups. All user groups use these roads and trails with no restrictions other than capability.

United has become aware of the issue being put before the Commissioners to possibly vote to close CR 22 and 22A to the public. We vehemently oppose these closures for the reasons being given.

The routes in question have existed over 100-years as both railroad rights of way and roadways. The petitioners for these closures came along well after the rights of way were well established.

This is a case of people building near an airport or other public facility and later complaining about the noise, pollution, and other annoyances.

These roads are used not only for ingress and egress for the residents, but for anglers, history buffs, and picnicking along the river. Many user groups will be affected by closures.

We see other alternatives to this problem. Enforced low speed limits near the residential areas should nearly nullify the problem. We understand the trouble and expense for the Sheriff, but there are ways to make that minimal.

By using one of the portable radar units and a traffic cam combination set up, an officer would not be necessary most of the time. Post signs with

exorbitant fines for speeding and eventually, the problem will take care of itself.

There may be times when that radar unit could be moved to other locations to help justify the expense. During events in Silverton would be one example.

Consider too the economical ramifications that could result from closures. Silverton has used good sense in opening certain town streets to ATVs and UTVs and we are sure your town tax coffers reflect those decisions. We realize not all residents support those decisions, some for good reason. Here again, the radar/photo unit(s) could help alleviate these concerns.

Too often, we see knee-jerk reactions from government to what are small issues in reality. We ask that you consider our alternative and any others that may be offered BEFORE any thoughts of closures are entertained. We trust your good judgment will be used rather than the knee application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Smith

Director of Environmental Affairs – United Four Wheel Drive Associations

Vice President – Colorado 4wd Association

Director – Grand Mesa Jeep Club

14.

Hey Pete,

I am unsure yet if I will be back in town from a training. I wanted to pass my thoughts along. I am in full support of closing the river road to ATV's. The amount of territory that the OHV community has taken over is immense and has changed the character of our town. The river road is one piece of the pie that would be nice to reestablish for the walking, hiking, family, biking Silverton community. One that could be minimal dust too! In addition, it is a critical part of the corridor for elk, moose, and other animals.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can offer. If I return in time, either myself or Stephen will gladly come in support of this change.

Best,

Anne Izard

15.

Dear County Commissioners,

Thank you for reconsidering closing the River Road and the inner road from Howardsville to Eureka to OHVs and all motorized traffic. The River road is particularly special to myself and the community. As it is now, during the summer, the OHV traffic is plentiful on this road (and everywhere) and this results in a loud environment and so much dust. It would be wonderful to

close this road completely to all motorized vehicles, so that bikers, walkers, and runners could have a peaceful place to enjoy, close to town. Most towns have bike paths and river trails. We can and should strive for that too! I believe tourists as well as locals would appreciate and benefit from a non-motorized road. There is the main road parallel to these roads so vehicles can get where they want and need to go.

As a community that values healthy lifestyles, peace, and a good quality of life, we need to think a little more progressively. We need to think beyond just tourism and think how we can support a more active, healthy lifestyle. We need to support all groups of users. OHVs have a plethora of roads to use.

Thank you sincerely for considering making these roads non- motorized. I appreciate your time and understanding.

Kelly Kamm

16.

Dear county commissioners,

Thank you for taking public input on the issue of closing the county road along the upper Animas River to motorized traffic. We are fully in support of this idea for several reasons. Having used the area for several years, we have noticed a significant increase in motorized traffic which often results in a very dusty and unpleasant experience for all participants. Limiting the road to non-motorized use would greatly enhance the experience for walkers, bikers, and runners. It should be noted that there is a county road parallel to this section and motorized access to destinations up-River would not be affected.

Silverton is distinctly lacking a flat path for easy walking. There is great potential benefit for public health in enhancing those opportunities, as many other surrounding communities have.

Thank you for taking my input on this and I strongly encourage you to move forward to limiting these areas to non-motorized use.

Sincerely,

Karl Kamm, Silverton resident

17.

Hello Pete, just wanted to express our opinion on road closure of CR22 & CR22A. We are against this. It is and should remain a public right of way.

Thank you, Brent & Jackie Westlund

18.

**San Juan Board of County Commissioners**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS CR 22 & 22A**

Dear County Administrator Willie Tookey & Board Members:

I am strongly requesting the San County BOCC to restrict access to CR 22 & CR 22A to non-motorized traffic during the Summer Season.

**CR 22:** River Road is a haven for local residents and visitors for easy access to our Upper Animas River sanctuary amidst its scenic geology and visible wildlife. Restricting this section of rough road will result in a powerful benefit especially for local and visiting families; and senior citizens who may not be able to hike the steep trails of the Weminuche Wilderness.

**CR 22 A:** This extension of the above rough, dirt road provides hikers and other non-motorized users with opportunity to enjoy our beautiful and historic Upper Animas Valley. As there is a parallel highway it does not interfere with motorized vehicle use.

San Juan County, Colorado likely has the most primitive roads available to OHV's and 4x4 vehicles in the United States. This is, of course, due to our proud mining heritage. Restricting summer season use of the above roads will NOT interfere with the local OHV businesses or visitors.

Respectfully submitted,

***Bill Gardner***

1619 Mineral Street  
Silverton, CO 81433

19.

Dear Commissioners:

I am in favor of a nonmotorized river corridor from Silverton to Eureka (including both CR 22 and CR 22A). I do not take restricting public access for the gain of a private landowner lightly. I see nonmotorized use as a community benefit that fits into a long-term goal. I am, however, concerned about unintended consequences. For example, as a neighbor in the Powerhouse subdivision just below CR 22, I hope there is adequate public parking for owners of cabins on mining claims along the corridor and for nonmotorized users.

Sincerely,  
Arlene Gonzales

20.

Hi Willy,

I read about the meeting but cannot be there.

If this is the road that runs along the Animas between Silverton and Howardsville, I think it would be a big mistake for the County and almost everyone, to close any of it.

We take all of our guest and family along this road to show them a close up of the beautiful Animas. There are not a lot of places to get this kind of View!



Prohibiting it's use because of the objections of one property owner, who may have built close to the road, is very self-serving, like he owns the hole road.

Please pass this on to Pete, Scott and Ernie.

If not outright rejected tonight, I think it should be Tabled until mid-summer when the owners and Tax payers, that are out of town for the winter, can attend and can be heard! It has been a great joy to tourist for years, and should not be a hasty decision in the middle of winter. I was just lucky to read the Silverton Standard before the meeting.

In case this did not get to Willy before the meeting, would someone copied take it to the hearing please.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill and Julie Ogle  
3234 CR 2

21.

Name: Lisa Potter

Subject: Potential closures of CR22 and CR22A

I Would like to voice my concerns and displeasure over the proposed closure of segments of County Roads 22 and 22 a.

I understand that a property owner would like the area closed. I don't believe that one or two individual property owners have the right to dictate or demand closures a certain segments of county roads/public roads that have been accessible by the general public for 5880 some years.

I understand that a property owner would like the area closed. I don't believe that one or two individual property owners have the right to dictate or demand closures for certain segments of county roads/public roads that have been accessible by the general public for 50 to 80 some years.

What individual sized properly they are aware of the current roads and current users. So to later demands of the road closed to everyone except them is not appropriate Nor should it be allowed.

I would suggest making these sections of the road down to five or 10 mph. This would still allow the general public to visit and drive down these roads and still see the historical landmarks, buildings, Etc..., but at a much lower speed. But not exclude them from seeing it or discriminating Against those who are physically challenged and cannot walk or use her wheelchair on the road to see these areas.

I asked to believe that the meeting should be postponed and planned several

weeks in advance so that the public can attend or are able to get comments in a timely manner a few days notice is not ethical. Give the public time to prepare for the meeting or get comments in.

Thank you.

Lisa Potter

Colorado Native

San Juan Trail/ Road user.

22.

Name: Richard Beauchamp

Subject: Proposed Closure of CR 22 and 22A

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to go on record as being vehemently opposed to the proposed closure of SJ County Roads 22 and 22A. I travel to the area several times a year to explore the backcountry and all of the scenery and wildlife that this particular spot of CO offers. The vistas are unrivaled, in my opinion, with anywhere else CO offers except maybe the iconic Maroon Bells.

Additionally, I would like to add that closure is NOT management. If the proposed closure has been prompted by complaints or such, I suggest that SJ County address the particular issues and/or individuals that are causing the complaints rather than completely close off access to these areas for the 99.9% of explorers that tread lightly and comply with rules and regulations. Thank you.

Richard Beauchamp

23.

Name: Christopher Bass

Subject: Silverton county road closure

I have heard about the meeting in Silverton about possible road closures. I would greatly appreciate it if you did not close them. It is our go to area every year for summer and we love the people and the scenery. It would devastate all of us if you close down the roads and not to mention the Silverton Lakecity and ouray. So please do not close the roads to motor use. Thank you.

24.

Name: Dianah Zehetner

Subject: Closing roads

Dear Sir/Madam

Since 1991, my husband and I have explored in our Jeep the trails of the San Juans/Silverton. It is such a joy to visit and experience the beauty. We and many of our peers have never abused the privilege of using the roads and trails. We've always been cognizant of the fragility of the land and stayed the trail, closely monitored our speed and was considerate of others on the trails and respected land owners. I beg you to please not penalize us and all other good stewards because of the poor behavior of a few.

I would suggest closer monitoring of the roads and trails, and educating first-timers, renters of OHV's and SxS as well as 4WD vehicles. Stiff penalties for disobeying rules of the trails would be a deterrent.

In my previous comment, I failed to mention the my husband and I are members of the San Juan Mountain Trail Group

Sincerely,  
Dianah Zehetner

25.

Name: Ernest Ullerick

Subject: Road closures

Details: Road closures are an infringement of the rights of law abiding tax payers and in so doing is miss management.

26.

Name: Bobby Tynes

Subject: County Road 22

Details: Was this a public access road when this landowner purchased their property there? It's a beautiful area and should be enjoyed by all. It's very unfair to the people also, to have this meeting when so many are away on winter vacation. Email.. for contact.

27.

Name: Beth Einig

Subject: possible closure of roads 22 and 22A

Details: I am a citizen of Colorado living in Pagosa Springs. For 21 years I have camped and ridden my atv up there, camping in Eureka usually. That beautiful river road is such a pleasant drive to get us away from CR 2 when we're going to other trails. I have never seen anyone doing anything to damage the road. We see it as a pleasant slow ride from point A to point B. Slow being the operative word. It has never seemed crowded. It's a historic road loved by many and respected. Please do not block us from using this lovely old road!

28.

Name: Jeff Mattson

Subject: County road 22 and 22a

I think closing these roads would be a mistake. There is a tremendous amount of history located in this area that is accessible by these roads. I would also be concerned about the home/land owners in this area. If the roads are closed how will they access their property?

Sincerely,

Jeff

Please contact me by email.

29.

Name: Catherine Dumolt

Subject: 22 & 22A

My family and I come to this area at least once a year. Love dropping down into Silverton from both of these roads. So much beauty in the valley.

One of my concerns is if these are closed more concentration of vehicles on the other roads around this area!

Please do not close these roads! Thank you! I am a Colorado resident, love my state and our many options to see our beautiful state!

30.

Name: Dan Mick

Subject: Roads

Please keep these roads open for all to enjoy.

We visit the area every year and enjoy so much try being Able To drive along the river and stop to listen to the river running over the rocks.

It would be a great loss to all of us if these were closed

Thank you for considering my request.

Dan mick Moab Ut

31.

Name: Nathan Turk

Subject: Keep County roads 22 and 22A open

Details:

Hi my name is Nathan Turk

I am under the impression that a land owner would like you to close County roads 22 and 22A to all motorized vehicles. I among many other people use this road to access river to fish and also for a more scenic drive than the normal county road 2. Keep in mind also handicapped people like my mother in

law who has a prosthetic leg she cant walk very far and uses the OHV to see all of the scenery on these two roads and well as all the rest of the San Juan mountains! If you take away the use of all motorized vehicles she wont be able to see river and that is not fair. I know OHV'S have not shown to much of a good name over last couple of years but the San Juan trail group is working to change that. I am apart of the group and see great potential for changing the way OHVS use the San Juan's for the better. All i ask is that that everyone who wants to shut them out give us as a group time to show we can demonstrate how OHV's can use the San Juan's and follow rules of the road including speed limit, staying the trail and share the roads. We are working really hard on making sure everyone is properly educated about OHV use in San Juan's and making sure rules are followed! All I ask is give us a chance before you shut down any roads I firmly believe our plan will work!

THANK YOU

Nathan Turk

32.

Name: Millie Alford

Subject: Road closures

Details: A majority of us OHVer's are law abiding citizens who love the backcountry to explore and wander just to see the beauty of what Colorado has to offer. Please consider this when making decisions to close roads. There are a few bad apple songs in the bunch but please don't punish the apple tree. Thank you for your consideration! I can be contacted by email or cell.

33.

Name: Melanie Rotert

Subject: Possible closing of Roads 22 & 22A outside of Silverton

Details: Please don't close these roads to motorized vehicles. If it is being considered for closing do to its narrow width please consider making it one way. The main reason I really would love to continue to be able to drive my car down this road is for the amazing view of the river that you just can not see from the upper road. I was able to take my 87 year old mother down that road to view the river on her first trip out from Texas to my home in Farmington, NM and I know it was one of the highlights of her life. The thought of never being able to take her to see it again is extremely sad! Please, please don't close these road to motorized vehicles.

34.

Name: Mallory Omahoney

Subject: 4x4 road closures

Details: Hi - I am respectfully reaching out in regards to road closures in the San Juan's. I feel the real issues lies with education and carrying out that knowledge for 4x4 drivers, specially stay the trail guidelines to help keep our nature preserved but use our knowledge to explore other areas of the San Juan's. Thank you.

35.

Name: Brad McKean

Subject: 22a motorized use

Details: For years I have shared the beauty and splendor of the San Juan Mountains with family and friends. We take great pains to leave no trace as we travel these roads thru time. Closing these trails would be a terrible loss to past, present and future generations. Please work to keep these wonderful trails open for everyone to cherish.

36.

Name: Clay Buerger

Subject: Closure of 22/22a

Details: It's is not, nor should it be, the role of the government to restrict public use of public lands and right of ways.

37.

Name: Barry Franklin

Subject: Rt. 22 & 22a near Silverton

Details: One the highlights of our yearly trips to Silverton from Fort Worth has always been enjoying the old railroad grade alongside the river. The intimacy and solace of the narrow passages, envisioning how it must have been in the heyday contribute immensely to our experience. Please do not deprive us and so many others of such a special place!

38.

Name: Candice Livingston

Subject: Proposed Segment Closures Co Rd 22 & 22A

I am the co-founder and active VP and Treasurer for a nonprofit organization that holds offroading trails runs for officers as well as events to raise money for our law enforcement members that have been injured in the line of duty or struggling with PTSD, anxiety, and depression related to their oath to serve and protect. Our organization uses our trails throughout the state to get from one location to the next and it is instrumental for our ability to continue to have our events. We will be actually coming through this area both this year and 2021. We educate and require members and participants to tread lightly, stay the trail, pack out more than you take in just to name a few as we value our trails systems and nature. We ask for you to consider the impact a closer will have on the offroading community and nonprofit organizations such as ours that rely on our trail systems to do the positive work for our communities.

39.

Name: Armando Martinez

Subject: Closure of road 22A

Details: I just heard that you are considering closing road 22A to private traffic and I believe this will be hurtful to the outdoor community. This road had been used by multiple generations of my family and has created many great memories for us. To close this road would shut down those memories and the access to them for my future generations. This would be sad.

40.

**John H. Wright, C.P.G.**  
**P. O. Box 308**  
**Silverton, CO 81433**

February 26, 2020

Board of County Commissioners  
San Juan County, Colorado

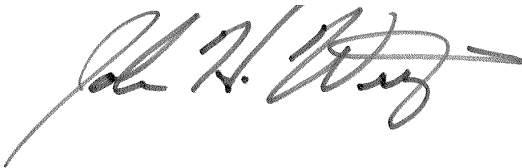
Subject: Alternative Proposed Uses for County Roads 22 and 22A

A use of County Road 22 that excludes through-traffic for motorized vehicles will impact me in that I occasionally use 22 to avoid nettlesome traffic and excessive dust raised on County Road 2 in the summertime. I would, however, be more than happy to sacrifice that personal alternative were 22 linked with 22A to establish a non-noisy, non-dusty corridor linking Silverton to Eureka.

That linkage, I believe, would be an embellishment to the Silverton/San Juan County community, and a popular one at that.

I do believe the wishes of homeowners along the corridor should be given particular weight in deciding road use alternatives. They are the ones most impacted. That courtesy was never accorded me when the approved town ATV route was altered in my absence to include that segment of CR110 running right by my house, bringing noise that now disturbs my peace. I do not wish that discourteous sleight perpetrated on others. And so, I urge the County Commissioners to pro-actively seek and consider the input of affected homeowners along the County Road 22 & 22A corridor, giving them extra weight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Wright". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John H. Wright  
San Juan County Voter, Unaffiliated

41.

Dear San Juan County Commissioners,

RE: Health Corridors in San Juan County

I encourage you to restrict all motorized vehicle use on the proposed segments of CR 22 (River Road) and CR 22A (inside ROW from Howardsville to Eureka). I believe that these scenic roads, next to the Animas River, should be reserved for healthy activities such as walking and bike riding. It's no accident that so many other Municipalities have non-motorized trail systems alongside their river corridors, it's simply good planning with the health (both physical and mental) of their citizens in mind.

Respectfully,  
Melissa Childs

42.

Dear Commissioners,

I am in full agreement that motorized vehicles should be restricted along the corridor CR 22 and CR 22A. I believe we have many options for motorized vehicles, and the more our community



grows, the more we need open natural areas, free from the traffic and dust that motorized vehicles bring.

thank you,

Laurel Foster

*Laurel B Foster MA Peace and Conflict Studies*

43.

RE: Health Corridors in San Juan County

To Whom It May Concern:

I, as a resident of Silverton, and father of two young children who attend Silverton School, encourage you to please consider restricting all motorized vehicle use on the proposed segments of CR 22 (River Road) and CR 22A (inside ROW from Howardsville to Eureka).

I believe that these scenic roads, next to the Animas River, should be reserved for healthy activities such as walking and bike riding. It's no accident that so many other Municipalities have non-motorized trail systems alongside their river corridors, it's simply good planning with the health (both physical and mental) of their citizens in mind.

This is also a safety concern as there are currently no roads that are non-motorized in the Silverton area. This presents a concern for us, as parents. We have had many "close calls" while hiking along the Animas River Road with our children.

Thank you,

Jim Moses

1604 Cement St. Silverton, CO

44.

To whom it may concern,

I am respectfully submitting my thoughts concerning the upcoming meeting on the HOV restrictions along CR22 and CR22A. I encourage you to consider restricting all motorized vehicle use on the proposed segments of CR 22 (River Road) and CR 22A (inside ROW from Howardsville to Eureka) during the summer months.

HOVs still have many roads accessible to them in the beautiful San Juan Mountains. The River Road allows for families and children to have a safe and flat trail close to town, as they might not be able to access other trails further out of town with strollers etc.

Other municipalities have successfully converted a few select motorized trails in an economically viable way. I truly understand the need to keep the tourism industry and HOV tourism in the Silverton. Restricting only one or two short trail segments in town would not affect the regional aspect of HOV tourism and its associated income for the town. It would, however, broaden the tourism base. The trail segments in question could be presented as health corridors, with informational panels on the flora/fauna of the area, mining history, with view

points, benches, etc. Mile markers could help hikers/bikers/runners check their progress. I have seen similar approaches in other town also offering various exercises at regular intervals (ie jumping jacks, squats, etc). Durango, for example has created a successful river walk within their town. The large amount of dust and the HOV speeds prevent those road segments from being multi-use in a truly safe way if kids, strollers, dogs on leash are also using that corridor. This is not a pro vs anti HOV discussion, it is finding a fair and safe middle ground for all the many recreation options Silverton has to offer.

Thank you,

Sarah Luchetta  
1604 Cement St. Silverton, CO

45.  
Chris Gardner  
1619 Mineral Street  
Silverton, CO 81433

February 26, 2020

Dear San Juan County Commissioners:

It is my most sincere desire to have a place to walk in peace and serenity. All OHV/s and motorized vehicles should be banned from both County Road 22 and 22A. This needs to happen to restore some balance and include activities for all. Currently, there is NO balance in San Juan County. The motorized vehicles have a beautifully maintained road that parallels 22 and 22A. This is a perfect place to restore some balance. I beg you to do your jobs and serve all.

Thank you, Commissioner Pete McKay, for your years of service.

Sincerely,  
Chris Gardner

46.  
County commissioners,  
Please consider closing CR 22 the river road to motorized use. This would be a great addition to our limited non motorized trails right out of town. With Cr 2 right above providing through access we would be losing nothing but gaining so much in providing a healthy environment for our residents and visitors to enjoy. I would envision benches and interpretive signs about our history scattered through out in the future. We should be willing tonight to give this a green light for at the least a trail period. Thanks to the board for the willingness to discuss this subject.  
-Jim Weller

47.

Name: Toni L Hall

Subject: Closure of CR 22A to OHV's

Details: My husband and I have been coming to Silverton for the past 20+ years every summer. We were even married in Animas Forks, that's how much we love this area. I'm semi-disabled and cannot ride bicycles or hike for extended distances so it's always a thrill to drive CR22A so I can experience the rushing river, it's one of my favorite roads in CO. Please do not close this scenic road, it should be for the enjoyment of all. Thanks

48.

BOCC & Willy Tookey,

I am writing as a Health Care Provider to show my support to close CR 22 & 22A to ATVs.

There are currently no flat roads that are not motorized as a place for older aged adults to walk & ride a bike in a safe, dust-free environment. Older adults frequently are unable to hike a "typical" trail in San Juan County that is very steep with arthritis in their knees, back or hips. We need this road as a safe alternative for them & anyone else who wants to walk their dog or push a kids burley that is close to town. Please try to bring some balance back to our road systems.

Currently as a local it feels like the motorized users have taken over our roadways.

Thank you,

Amy Grogan

Physical Therapist Assistant

49.

To

The County Commissioners of San Jun County, Colorado, re: healthy corridors for non-motorized users.

It has come to my attention that the subject of motorized use of the River Road CR 22 and the northern portion of the same road CR 22A to Eureka is being raised before the Commission.

I believe the health and well-being of multiple users could be enhanced by banning OHV use of these two roads. In my experience, while standing on the side of the road painting, the dust and exhaust from these vehicles is, at times, overwhelming and definitely a health hazard.

In General I believe the concept of these roads becoming -non-motorized is a good one and would greatly enhance outdoors experience by providing a safe, quiet healthy area for walking, biking, fishing and general enjoyment. As CR 22A is a dead-end this a particularly appropriate designation for it.

Thank you for your consideration,

Eileen Fjerstad

50.

Dear San Juan County Commissioners,

RE: Health Corridors in San Juan County

I encourage you to restrict all motorized vehicle use on the proposed segments of CR 22 (River Road) and CR 22A (inside ROW from Howardsville to Eureka). I believe that these scenic roads, next to the Animas River, should be reserved for healthy activities such as walking, running and bike riding. There are narrow places along this stretch of road, and the smell of gas gets trapped down along the river. When camping in the backcountry, people are encouraged to be 100 feet away from the river to keep pollutants from going into the river. Motorized vehicles this close to the river surely contaminate the water way in some form. Please restrict this area for non-motorized use, as this is a common practice with other towns and counties, and it has been incorporated with the citizens health in mind.

Nicole Bellman  
PO Box 478  
Silverton Co 81433

51.

Mr. Tookey

I am a Landowner near where the proposed road closures are be examined.

If this proposal is granted, I believe it will cause nothing but future problems and possible lawsuits. I think the commissioners are more intelligent than that, and cannot believe they would pass such a resolution.

Lets not Discriminate against persons who have disabilities who cannot physically experience the beauty of Animas River and Cunningham river, and all its beauty.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Byron Westfahl, CPC

52.

Thanks Bill and Willy,

Thanks for the information. I agree, closing that stretch of road for a landowner complaint, who likely bought and built his place knowing that there was a county road there for many years is like suggesting we move an airport because someone who buys a house next to one complains of the aircraft noise. I agree with Bill and support keeping county roads accessible to county property owners and tax payers. Please feel free to use my comments in any way that supports keeping CR 2 open from Howardsville to Silverton.

Sandor Ringhoffer, CPG

Current owner of four, family owned patented mining claims (since 1954) across the river from Bill along County Road 2 in Howardsville.

53.

Dear County Commissioners,

I'm writing in support of limiting motor vehicle access on BOTH CR 22 and 22A.

During the summer, I try to avoid this area because of the constant ATV dust and noise. I would love to have a place for biking and walking that is not steep. It would be wonderful to have the Silverton Trails plan loop road around the river.

I disagree with the threaten argument that once one road in the county is designated limited - other roads will be designed non-motorized too. This does not happen nor will it ever.

I believe hunters and people who believe they need motor access could come up with alternative methods to access the areas they need. And I think there could be special considerations for safety access for river activities.

Thank you,

Missy Gosney  
1249 Snowden St  
Silverton, CO 81433

54.

Name: Ken Wuytens

Hi Scott, this is Ken Wuytens from Brawley Ca. Sherri and I frequent your store when we are in Silverton.

Hi Pete, this is Ken Wuytens from Brawley Ca. You called me some time ago in response to a suggestion I sent it concerning trail usage in the San Juans.

Hi Ernie, this is Ken Wuytens from Brawley Ca. I met you a couple of weeks ago at the Grand Imperial during the Skijorring weekend.

We love your town and mountains and have been coming there for many years. I am following the discussion on road closures, and thank you for voting to "table" the subject at the meeting. We often take the river road from the Powerhouse to Howardsville, poking along in our Jeep and reliving the times when the Silverton Northern was in operation. there is a lot of history on that road, Walheim, Silver Lake Mill, Mears-Willfley Mill, the Pinnacles and much more. This summer I will be leading a group of 7 to 8 Jeepers to Silverton. This is one of the trails we will travel as I relate the incredible tales of the men and women that worked here over a century ago. I sincerely hope that this road will be open, we travelo it with respect and slow speeds in mind. A 5 mph speed limit would not be out of the question in my opinion. Closing this road to vehicular traffic will only lead to more attempts to close other trails in

the future. Promoting responsible use would be a much better way to go. As a member of the San Juan Mountain Trail Group, I am working with Michael Maxfield to develop a plan to encourage responsible trail usage. Thanks!

55.

Board of County Commissioners

I am sorry that I could not be in attendance for the public hearing on restricting motor vehicles on County Roads 22 and 22A.

Not restricting motor vehicles on these two road segments makes it impossible to ride bikes outside a few streets in downtown Silverton. My grandson, Tadashi, loves to ride bikes, as do I. When he visited last summer, he looked forward to taking long bike rides. He is not a mountain biker so riding trails that connect to town was not helpful. He does not have the strength to ride up the Kendall Mountain Road, nor do I, and he should not be riding on the roads to Durango and Montrose. That leaves County Roads 22 and 22A.

We tried riding to Eureka but the dust from Off Road Vehicles was so thick that I could not even see him if he was more than a few score yards ahead of me. In addition, both of us were quickly coughing on the dust, even with wearing face masks. We tried riding at different times of the day and found that the only safe times were before 7:00 AM and after dark.

Bottom line: We had to give up bike riding except for loops around downtown.

Is this the best way for Silverton to serve its residents, much less attract visitors and future residents?. If Off Road Vehicle owners were limited to doing a loops around an open meadow, would they visit Silverton? I suspect not, and its the same for bike riders.

Please provide at least one route for bike riders to access roads that they can ride, without the dust and noise of Off Road Vehicles. Limit County Roads 22 and 22A to non-motorized traffic.

Thanks.

Bill Dodge

56.

Name: Chris Vandivere

I'm an avid off roader, mountain biker, and hiker. I emlore you to keep 22 and 22a open to all traffic and to seek a solution that meets the needs of all users. as Mr. Maxfeild says "we are all in this together".

57.

William Tookey

San Juan County Administrator

P.O. Box 466

Silverton, Co 81433

Dear Mr. Tookey,

My Family and I have been coming to the region for the past 7-8 years. The first year we stayed in Lake City the next year in Ouray and the third year in Lake City. We fell in love with Silverton and we have stayed there for the past 5 years. When we started coming to Silverton we stayed in cabins at Silver Lake Campground so we could ride our Polaris RZR straight to the Alpine Loop. When you opened some of the roads in town to 4 wheeler traffic it gave us the opportunity to rent houses and bring more people with us.

I belong to the San Juan Mountain Trail group on Facebook and received a copy of a news paper article that stated you will be discussing closing the lower river road. I would like to ask that you not close this road; this is one of the most beautiful roads in the area. We did not discover the road for the first several years but now it's on of our favorite spots. It's nice to be able to take this route coming back from the Alpine loop and stay off the busy road and we especially like having a picnic by the river in the evening. I'm 63 years old with one heart attack and I'm not sure if you close this road to motorized traffic if I would be able to walk it or where you would be able to park.

I know there are people that don't obey the rules, ride fast, stir up dust or leave that trash behind, but the majority of us respect your community and the mountains. Please leave this road open and enable us to enjoy the beauty of the area.

Sincerely Yours,

Pat Shannon  
4801 Downing  
Tyler, TX 75703

58.

Name: Jamie McClain

As a life time visitor to Silverton , and a fan of the San Juans

I am somewhat opposed to these road closing to motorized traffic. I know I am not a resident, and I truly don't have to deal with the challenges that the Law Enforcement folks, and the County Road equipment operators do. Nor do I have to content with the accidents that may occur there as well ... My objection is absolutely selfish, in that My wife Stacey and I love that drive. Unfortunately I would not be able to walk much of it.

Please keep in mind, as you look at the daunting task which lays before you...Those of us who enjoy Silverton , who may not be able to walk a great length of it. We realize a handful can determine the fate of many.. Either Good or Bad , depending on ones outlook.

God Bless in you all your do for our Home away from Home ..Best Regards See you in Sept..

Jamie McClain ( San Juan Mountain Trail Group )

59.

Name: Kimberly Wilburn

Subject: Cr 22

Details: There are way to many road already closed. This road your able to get closer to nature, water, wild raspberries, beautiful sight. When I go back to silverton to visit I alway go on this Road. Brings back some many memories growing up in silverton. I now take my grandsons on that road. We hike or drive, we fish or walk and look for gold rocks. You can't walk on the upper road with out getting mouth full of dust or afraid you will get hit by truck or car going over the speed limit . Your not able to hear the sound of the river on The upper road of fish. Please really think about in the impact closing this road will have '

60.

Name: Mike Cliff

Choose your contact: Administrator

Subject: Road closure. 22 and 22a.

Details: Please keep this road open as it is a great scenic drive for responsible off-road users

61.

Name: Michael Boyle

Subject: Cr2

Details: As a resident of Ouray County I do not support the proposed closure of this section of public roadway to mechanized transportation.

62.

Name: David M Jones

Subject: CR 22

Details: San Jaun County is one of my favorite parts of Colorado. We are there every year to off road and tour Gods Country. Please keep CR 22 open. TIA

63.

Name: Mike Andreatta

Subject: Closing of CR 22

Details:

This is a county road, always was and should continue to be. Right now I am able to walk this road, but there will come a time that I won't be able to. And I would like to be able to still enjoy the beauty of this road. We have all had parents that weren't able to walk this road so we would drive them in a vehicle so they could still enjoy the beauty of it. Thank you

64.

Name: Travis Glidden

Subject: Road Closures

Details: I hope no roads around Silverton are closed to 4X4 travel, I've been enjoying fishing and driving the back country around there all my life.

65.



Name: Brad Nunneley

Subject: Cr22

Details: We are from Oklahoma and visit Colorado once or twice a year. The San Juan Mountains have become our preferred destination because of your local towns acceptance of out of towners and sxs riders. We refuse to spend our hard earned money in towns and counties that don't want us there. My wife and kids live getting to ride for 30 or 40 miles and then get to get some ice cream or buy a shirt. It has become our favorite family activity. I understand it is your responsibility to be a good steward of your local resources and that includes deciding what roads are open and to what type of travel. Our fear is that if CR22 is closed to OHV travel, it will be the first closure of many to follow. Thanks for your consideration and good luck pleasing all parties involved.

66.

Name: Todd Stricker

Subject: CR22 and CR22A

Details:

Hope i sent this to the right person.

I hate to see these roads closed to all motorized traffic. I use 22A to drive down and fish the Beaver ponds along the road. My family have been vacationing near Silverton since the 1980's. I have seen the increase in traffic and the problems that it has caused. IMHO its the SXSs that are the problem. I have NEVER meet a jeep going 30-60mph on those roads but, i have meet countless SXSs going way too fast. Thank you for your time. The Stricker Family. Woodward, Oklahoma. Email is a good way to contact me.

67.

Name: Richard Elam

Subject: Road closing

Details: Why ?

68.

Name: Tim keith

Subject: Cr 2 closure

Details: As a person with disabilities it's very important to keep these type of places open,we are unable to hike,walk ride a bike etc. please don't close us out! Thanks

69.

Name: Charla Andreatta

Subject: Closure of county road 22

Details:

I would like to address the discussion to close CR 22. This road has been accessible to many people for over a hundred years. It would be a shame to lose access to this wonderful area. And it will cut off access to a lot of people who are incapable of walking it. Every time a road is closed, it

restricts access to the elderly and the disabled. These roads should be open to everyone. Thank you for your time.

70.

Name: Robin Kuykendall

Subject: County Road 22 and 22a

Details: I do not support the proposed closing of County Rd. #22 and #22a. My family and I enjoy traveling the river road and would hate to see it's closure. We appreciate the beautiful scenery as well as it's historical significance of being the railroad grade of the Silverton Northern Railroad. I believe that all forms of travel can be used on this road in harmony. I would rather see speed restrictions (enforcement), one way travel, and dust control be put in place, before a road closure.

71.

Name: Janna Johnson

Subject: CR22

Details: Please keep this road open. This is a very popular road for tourists and travelers. One of the many reasons why so many people visit. This road holds many memories for me and my family.

72.

Name: Don Lum

Subject: Road closures

Details: I live in Spring Glen, Utah please do not close the motorized roads in the Silverton area I have been driving the roads and trails there since 1990. Increase enforcement before considering closure. Closures will cause decrease in visitation revenue. Thanks please forward to proper persons.

73.

Name: Julia Maraczi

Subject: Closure of 2

Details: Please don't close a piece of a lot of trail lovers hearts. If anything start a system of stricter regulations and enforcement. The issue is that the wrong people are using these trails that don't know how to respect them. It hurts those who do use them properly and see it's worth.

74.

Name: Gigi Raine

Subject: CR22

Details: I don't understand why there can't be a compromise. I understand both sides. Could the road be closed to OHVs in the morning until 10:00 and starting in the afternoon at 4:30 or 5:00 so that walkers can use the trails in the morning and late afternoon and OHVs during the day? That seems like it would give some peace and quiet to the people who live down there and camp down there as well. Just a thought. OHVs can use the upper road during the off hours.

75.

Name: Jimmy Irvin

Subject: Closure

Details: Please keep the roads open. I'm in the San Juans every summer and travel offroad to enjoy the beauty of God's creation.

76.

Name: Randy Closs

Details: I dont live there in Silverton, but have been coming out for over 50 years. I took my kids on drives up the river road and they still talk about it. This July we'll be back again. This time I'll have 2 couples new to the area, even coming out to jeep the river road is always one of the best place to take a short drive when in town.

77.

Name: Nathan Turk

Details: I had a chance to listen to audio from recent meeting regarding closures of county road 22 and 22 A. I really support the idea of oneway traffic going with the flow of traffic on county road 2 so no one has to cross on coming traffic to access these roads. Also I understand we must keep speed limit at 10 miles per hour I am in favor of installing a few speed bumps or speed reminder flashing signs. I am a part of San Juan trail group represented by Michael Maxfield and like he said we are willing to help with anything necessary to keep these roads open and safe for everyone. So let us know or Mr Maxfield know how we can help to make this possible please don't close. Because many people who can't walk long distance or up hill with bad legs or hips won't be able to access without transportation. I believe we can all coexist if we all work together with each other, the county, BLM and Forest service. Thank you

78.

Name: Kelly Vaughan

Details: While I understand the concern of vehicle speed on CR 22 & 22a, among other roads in San Juan County, I feel that closing roads is not the solution. A better solution would be to make sure that speed limits are posted conspicuously and enforced. Speeding is not just a problem on the backroads- all major towns and cities have problems with speeding. It is a matter of making people not want to speed. If the county closes one road because of a homeowner or private citizen's request, how many others will follow? Unfortunately, because San Juan County, Silverton, and many other surrounding towns rely heavily on the tourism from off-roaders, closing the roads that those tourists come to travel will ultimately hurt the towns and the people who live in them. This issue is not only about the roads currently discussed - it is about the precedent that may be set and how that could affect the residents and local businesses in the long run.

79.

Name: Tommy Strickland

Details: I from Louisiana and wish this road open, my wife died on this road and we like to visit there each year. Thanks

80.

To whom it may concern:

We have read on line about the possible closing of County Road 22 & 22A, We have been visiting the San Juans for more than 20 years before we purchased land there with hopes of building a home in Cole Ranch. The lower road is such an enjoyable road with views like none other. We take family & friends there when they visit during the summer months. We would hate to have that drive experience taken away because of a single land owner. Thanks for hearing our concerns & the consideration of everyone else who enjoys the drive along the river.

Thank you,

Todd & Julie Sams

Lot 1 Cole Ranch

81.

Name: Amanda Ferrando

Subject: County Road 22 and 22A

Details: My family owns a cabin on 22A. We would hate to see these beautiful roads closed to motor vehicle use. Please keep them open! Thank you.

82.

Name: Corey Bryndal

Subject: Keep 22 & 22A Open!

Details: Willy, your good friend Pete is off chasing cattle outside the reservation once again. There is no need to close ANY historic, long standing County Road in San Juan County. If Pete wants yet another place to enjoy quiet he can visit the congressionally designated Wilderness Areas as you two do on the weekends. Add some basic maintenance, and possibly some speed control measures - but at the heart of this, as has been his history for a long, long time is simply another petulant assault on motorized users.

Carefully consider the words of the individuals who were the genesis of this issue, as printed in today's Silverton Standard newspaper: "Pete McKay is the one who dreamt up the closure of 22 and 22A. We have no desire for an inch of those roads to be closed. We did not request any part of any road to be closed. We have nothing to do with this road closure crap."

Keep 22 and 22A, along with the rest of San Juan County's public access routes open to the PUBLIC!

83.

San Juan County Commissioners,

We are in favor of restricting both CR 22 and CR 22A to non-motorized use.

While we just recently purchased property near Maggie Gulch, we have been coming to Silverton since the mid 80's and feel that Silverton has an abundance of motorized opportunities and access.

While we enjoy riding our ATV's, motorcycles and snowmobiles, we equally enjoy skiing, biking and other non-motorized activities. Given the proximity and accessibility to town, we feel that both CR 22 and CR 22A are well suited for non-motorized use and would be a nice step toward diversifying user groups in the Silverton area.

It is our understanding that CR 22 is currently groomed by the snowmobile club and that closing the road in the winter would likely mean an end to grooming by the club. If that is the case, we are curious if there may be another grooming option as this is a great asset for the winter community. It would also be great if grooming could be extended up CR 22A during low avalanche periods.

Thank you for your consideration.

Anthony and Veronica Doctor

84.

From: Dane and Teresa Burdine owners "Vienna Placer" 20 acres on C.R.22

Subject: Movement to close C.R. 22 to motorized traffic

Date: March 20, 2020

Concerning the movement to close C.R. 22 to motorized traffic.

As property owners possibly directly affected by this proposal please consider our feelings on the subject. Without going into great detail about how much we love and appreciate the beauty, history, and countless other reasons this place means more to us than words can say. Let us say that we understand BOTH sides.

Closing the "River Road" to motorized traffic would offer us peace and quiet, less dust, more privacy. But we also understand people rights to public access and what an amazing and beautiful drive this is especially for those who may have physical restrictions. We see both sides and respect those opinions.

But our direct concern is access to our driveway is from C.R. 22 and there is no alternative.

Please

consider this as we were not contacted regarding the subject. We only found out via social media and then a few phone calls from local friends. As property owners we just want to make sure that the right to access our driveway is being considered.

Thank you,

Dane and Teresa Burdine

85.

As an addendum to my previously submitted comments

I heard the audio from the commissioners meeting on the county road 22 issue. Most of the people for closing the road seemed to be town people. So. Why not close the town roads along the river side and along their property? They would never consider

it. Because it infringed on their personal property rights. But when they can vote as a mob to infringe on others property it's ok. The whole thing has become a proxy war over atvs in the county and city. I think the only thing that would help the whole county would be institute a county wide tab speed limit of say 10 or 15 mph what ever seemed reasonable for safety and dust control then in force it. Also mag chloride use. Greatly helps. Closing or restricting roads is never good. There are plenty of flat ground and mountains to walk in without closing roads. Thanks Vernon Bridgewater

86.

With regard to the usage of county roads 22 and 22A. As a matter of principle county roads should not be closed/abandoned. For many years I have used portions of these roads in several ways- walking the dog after shift, with a 6 wheel ATV, side by side UTV, Jeep and Land Rover. At this point I am over 80 have been on oxygen for a number of years and unable the walking thing . Perhaps more than the average I am aware of the dust problem.

During the times when I have been inconveniently affected by traffic on the CR22 it has been from all sides except equestrian usage. The worst has been by large groups regardless of the mode of travel, there is a definite urge to herd in order motor bikes (dual purpose) yes I had one of those too, bicycles, hot rod side by sides, jeeps and pedestrians. Blocking any of these usages would create an elitist portion of the population.

Enforcement of speed and the bad usage is a problem for law enforcement because unlike New Mexico and Arizona the ATV/UTV licenses are an unreadable little sticker- the motor cycle size plates in the other states gives a readable and reportable identification.

I have had no problem on the 22A stretch from Howardsville except for folks parking on the roadway. County should not back down on the 22A ownership issue.

Possible alternatives suggested all have drawbacks but the interim suggestion of turn-around at Arastra has the fewest negatives. Long term should add some pedestrian walkways where practicable . Perhaps a small users fee to create a fund for mag chloride on the roads. The town should put some money into that as the principal recipient of the increased sales tax monies which the visitors have created

John Ferguson

87.

Name: Linda Cannizzaro

Details: Please reconsider closing CR 22 and 22A. I live in Ouray and consider this one of the most beautiful drives in the area. My guest and I are not physically able to walk or hike this area so if it restricted we will never be able to enjoy it again. I am in favor of any compromise that let's everyone enjoy the roads.

88.

Name: Kelly Kading

Details: I am against closure of this road. It is designed for vehicular traffic. If walkers want their own road, they should petition for a separated pedestrian walkway to be added to the existing road.

89.

Name: Michelle Preston

Details: I would like to see 22 and 22a remain open to motorized vehicles. Everyone likes to enjoy the the scenery. We love to enjoy it on our motorcycles. For some of the older people driving the roads is the only way they can see it because some can't physically walk that far. Please consider leaving it open to motorized traffic.

90.

Name: Donavon Facey

Hello,

We visit the area at least annually. I am very much opposed to the proposed closures of CR 22 and 22A.

Thanks,

Donavon

91.

Name: Daniel Strickland

It has come to my attention that a attempt is being made to close roads 22 and 22a in San Juan county..

While I am not a "local" or property owner Of the area, I am a frequent visitor to this beautiful part of America.

And as such, I feel it is my right to protest this in the strongest manner possible.. These are public roads.. roads build and maintained with public tax dollars...

access to these roads to all, yes even motorized vehicles is a right of everyone...

I do understand a small percentage of visitors abuse these rights by speeding and making unnecessary noise, but that is not the fault of the many many of us that respect the beauty and natural peacefulness of the area...not everyone is capable or willing to enjoy these public roads on foot..

In closing please protect the rights of all by keeping these public roads open to all the public..

Thank you

Daniel Strickland

92.

Name: Curt Ward

Details: I am writing you in opposition to the closure of CR 22 and 22A to motorized traffic. While I am not a resident of San Juan County, I am part of the thousands of visitors to the area each year. While we are there, we rent a jeep, stay in local hotels, eat in local restaurants, and support other local businesses. Part of the draw to the area is the abundance of roads that

allow us to enjoy the natural beauty that the area offers. While we like to take these routes slow and easy out of respect for nature, residents, and other users of the roads, I do realize there are a few bad apples that are not as courteous as we are. Do not punish the majority of the users of these roads due to the actions of a few. I urge you to work with the off road community to develop solutions that will address concerns without total closure to motorized vehicle.

93.

Name: Sue Sanders

Subject: Closure of County road 22

Details: I am against closing to motorized vehicles

94.

Name: Kathy Frederick

Details: This is a request to please consider keeping CR22 and 22A open to vehicles. We spend 3-5 months in Silverton every summer. This is by far my favorite ride. There have been times, when we were not up to a ride on a bumpy trail (I was recovering from surgery), but this gentle ride along the river always brings such peace. It is probably the only "trail" accessible to some vehicles that gives a taste of what the San Juans are like. To take away the right to drive a scenic route along this County Road would be unspeakable. Please work to find a solution that works for the vehicles and the people who don't want to share it.

95.

Name: Kevin Heckman

Subject: CR22 & 22A

Details: I am the information director and Secretary for the Creeper Jeepers Gang 4wd Club of Durango. Personally I use CR22 often when going back into Silverton for a change of scenery and the historic value to show my friends as it was the old Silverton Northern RR bed. I know a friend that drives for Mild to Wild that uses CR22 also to show people closer the Silver Lake Mill. Please do not shut this piece of history down.

96.

Name: Brett Aberle

Subject: CR22 & 22A

Details: I have enjoyed the drive along this road for many years and would hate to see it closed. I oppose the restriction of motorized vehicles along this road.

97.

Name: David Jones

Subject: CR 22 and 22A

Details: Please keep these roads open for my Jeep. I am mobility impaired and really enjoy the access I have.



98.

Name: Joshua Roper

Hi,

I recently read where the county is considering closing CR 22 . It would be unfortunate if this were to happen, it's one of our favorite rides along the river. We often eat lunch as a family and take in the peaceful sounds of the surroundings. We've been traveling to Silverton since 2017 and typically spend a couple weeks there riding our side by sides. We enjoy learning about the history of your Town and this road contains quite a bit since it is where the train once ran. I feel the road should be left open as I'm sure we're not the only ones who enjoy this ride. The amount of people who drive this road most likely out number those who walk this route and it would be unfortunate to lose this access just to accommodate the minority. Please leave this road open to all. Thanks you for your time.

99.

Name: Lindsey Cox

To whom it may concern:

Let me tell you a story. As a child, I traveled to Silverton with my grandparents and we rode trails on four wheelers. My grandparents are now 80 years old and I take them to ride their OHV in the mountains every year. Not only do I take my grandparents, but my parents and my children go too. You see, this is a family tradition for us. We are teaching new generations to appreciate the San Juans and all the beauty there is there. A day in the mountains and my soul is glowing. The stretch of 22 that is proposed to be closed is like the precursor of things to come. When we first ride that stretch of road, I can feel the stress lift from everyday life and I can breath again. I'm begging, please, find another solution besides closing this road. Let the generations after us continue to enjoys everything the San Juans have to offer.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Cox

100.

Dear County Commissioners,

I am writing to voice my support of the proposal to close both the upper and lower sections of County Road 22 to motorized use.

I frequently use the lower part of that road for running because it's one of the flattest, most easily accessible places to run from town. However, the river road becomes unusable during the summer months due to the noise, dust, and congestion from motorized use. It has reached a point where it's not just an inconvenience, but a safety issue. People drive excessively fast, and on multiple occasions I have had to jump out of the way of lines of speeding OHVs and dirt bikes.

Closing this road to motorized use does not take anything away from any other user group. Howardsville and Eureka are accessible by other routes, and there is parking at the Arrastra road for people who want to come enjoy the river.

I support the non-motorized distinction for the winter months as well. I don't believe that designating a route as non-motorized precludes grooming. Plenty of places groom trails for non-motorized use - they're called Nordic centers, and people are willing to pay to use their services. Providing segments of trail for cross country skiers and snowshoers that are unmarred by motorized use would draw people to our town in the winter months.

We have many opportunities for motorized recreation in San Juan County - so much so that other visitors are being driven away (pun intended!) by our image as a four-wheeled free-for-all. Many residents say that they chose Silverton for the peace and quiet; it's our responsibility to maintain those precious resources for others who would enjoy them.

Kelly Habecker  
Year Round Silverton Resident

101.

Name: Marvin E Sandmire  
Subject: County Road 22 & 22A  
Details:

I am highly opposed to the closure of County Road 22 and county Road 22A. I am 81 years young and my wife is close behind. We don't drive these super fast UTV's, just our Dodge Ram FWD pickup, driving slow and enjoying the scenery. Contacted me via email  
Marvin

102.

Name: Jimmy Keene  
Subject: Road Closure 22

Details: Closing a road due to OHVs driving too fast is masking the problem. If your roof wasn't leaking in a back bedroom you wouldn't just stop using the back bedroom. You'd fix the root cause of the problem. If a small percentage of people are driving beyond the speed limit then fix the root cause. Don't let a silent majority have negative consequences for the majority.

103.

Name: Glenn Nutter  
Subject: Cr22 and 22a  
Details:

As visitors and potential residents to the San Juan area, I would hope you would consider NOT closing these roads to vehicular traffic. My wife is mobility impaired, and it would be discriminatory to prohibit her from enjoying our Public lands. These roads are built and maintained by Public

Funds, and should remain open for ALL THE PUBLIC.

Thank you.

Glenn Nutter

104.

Name: Joe Scott

Subject: River Road

Details: Do Not Close the river road. In all my years I have NEVER seen any problem here. Not sure why this is even brought up. Also I have never seen 1 hiker or biker on this road, why would they start now? This road is WAY under used compared to the main road. Love to drive it so my girl friend can take pictures.....

105.

Name: Doug Cotton

Email: [d42cotton@yahoo.com](mailto:d42cotton@yahoo.com)

Choose your contact: Administrator

Subject: CR22 and CR22A outside of Durango

Details:

These roads should remain open. The off road community and the tourism that it brings to the area is a major contributor to the prosperity of the region.

Closing roads and trails, restricting access to scenic routs is going to force people to look elsewhere their off road adventures.

Please reconsider the closing of CR22 and CR22A.

Thank you for your consideration.

Doug Cotton

106.

Name: Ray Collins

Subject: County Road 22 and County Road 22A at Silverton

Details: Please do not allow these roads to be closed or altered! Having vacationed in Silverton for much more than 20 years, I am no longer able to travel the rough roads over the passes in the area due to a spinal cord injury, nor would I be able to walk these roads. They are a couple of the few left that I can now ride on in my vehicle without causing further damage to the spinal cord.

107.

Name: Shannon Clennon

Subject: Road closure

Details:

I would like to see them stay open. Even if there is a strictly enforced lowered speed limit. Or even one way. Please do not close the roads. I hope and pray that everybody can come to a reasonable compromise and leave the roads open to motorized vehicles.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and have a blessed day.

108.

Name: Kerry

Subject: CR 22

Details: Please do not close these roads. I have been 4 wheeling on them for the past 25 years. In 2017 I was diagnosed with cancer and I am unable to walk, to miss one of my favorite roads in the county would be heartbreaking

109.

Name: Gordon Voyles

Subject: CR 22

Details:

Kerp the road open for everyone.

Gordon

110.

Name: Lynn Voyles

Subject: Closing of roads to motorised vehicles around Silverton.

Details:

Do not close roads to motorised vehicles. Once you let something like this start it only gets worse.

Lynn in Missouri. Contact by email.

111.

Name: Joe Patton

Subject: Comments on Cty roads 22 and 22a

I'd like to submit a comment about the proposed changes to access on County roads 22 and 22A.

I would urge that there be NO closure of those two roads to any type of motorized vehicles beyond what restrictions may be in place now, if any.

My reason why is that when I was in San Juan County last summer I had occasion to drive on the lower road along the Animas river in order to go around the avalanche and flooding issue on Cty road 2. It was some of the most pleasant and soothing driving I was able to do while in the Silverton area that day.

I hope to be able to access roads 22 and 22a next time there. It is inspiring to be able to get that close to a rushing river in the mountains.

Having said that, if everyone who uses the roads will simply use common sense and courtesy treating the land they are driving on as if it is borrowed, the rise of complaints would subside.

Concluding, please leave the two roads in question open to all forms of traffic so everyone can enjoy them responsibly! Thanks!

112.

Name: Spencer Lueck

Subject: Road closure

Details: I would like to vote to keep CR22 and 22A open to vehicles. I would like to bring my family here.

113.

Dear County Commissioners,

My name is Scott Westfahl and I am a member of the San Juan Mountain Trail Group and I stand with them in opposition of the potential closure of CR 22 & 22A to motorized travel. I feel these roads should remain as they have for many years open for multi use. There are many activities that wouldn't be accessible for many if motorized transportation is prohibited. Fishing, camping, exploring and just enjoying the spectacular natural beauty would be lost forever for some that have enjoyed these activities their entire lifetime. Let's not forget there are many significant historical landmarks along the river road, the road itself following the historic Silverton Northern Railroad grade. I'm not opposed to compromise as long as all that want to access these roads are able. One way traffic or barriers preventing through traffic are viable compromises in my opinion. Excessive speed is something that definitely needs to be addressed not just on these two roads, but others in the San Juan's. I feel like a majority of the users in this area follow the rules and act responsibly, but unfortunately there is a small percentage that don't seem to be able to follow or think that rules apply to them. How is this problem resolved? Strict enforcement of posted speed limits and steep fines and penalties for those not playing by the rules. How is this financed? Unfortunately I don't have the answer to that, but perhaps a portion could come from the fines collected. I'm not completely unsympathetic with those that have safety and health concerns, but feel there must be an alternative other than restricting access that can benefit many and not a few. Certainly there must be a way all groups can coexist. I agree with statements I've heard saying "let's make Silverton inclusive not exclusive". Seems to me one Telluride in the area is enough. I'm sure this will be a difficult decision for each of you, but feel confident it won't be one taken lightly. Thank you for taking the time to hear my position.

114.

Name: danny castle

Subject: Road Closures... 22 22A

Details: Im a Home Owner in Town .... I am way more than Strongly opposed to closing the Lower River Roads as I call them .... So much Joy to people all year around... Shame that some locals think they own it and not all People.. Residents and Visitors alike.... so I guess were going mining again?? I for one have never seen a town Gov. try to Harm the Small business community as is common practice here... Silverton is a Great place with more problems in Local Leadership than most...A Vote sounds alot more fair than this process... But Comment I will.. I say NO ! and a vote would be alot more fair then Fetch deciding if roads closes or not..

115.

Name: Lorie Polak

Subject: Possible Road Closures near Silverton

Details:

Please do not close CR 22 and 22A near Silverton. My mobility is limited in high altitude areas and this closure would prohibit me from seeing this area. How can a county road that is funded with Federal money be closed? I would like my comment to be sent to the proper contact. I am a non-resident of Colorado.

Thank you, Lorie Polak

116.

I have been a visitor to Silverton for more than 60 years. My family used to camp along South Mineral Creek when we were children. We have been riding the jeep roads in our SUV's, trucks, jeeps and now atvs for years. We abide by all the rules. If we come upon someone walking, we slow our vehicles down to make sure there is no dust for the walker to have to deal with. (I do the same thing driving home on my dirt road.) My husband and sons have always fished the Animas along the lower road where it is not posted. Our grandson has grown up fishing there. To close either of these roads is ludicrous. How would anyone get to Animas Forks? You expect us to go around Hurricane and California to get there? Last year it was very congested since the big avalanche closed the road. A permanent closure would make these roads always very congested. It seems that every year Mr. McKay comes up with another idea to close the area to tourists. Perhaps he should remember that two years ago when the fire closed off the train to Silverton for well over a month, it was the off road folks that came to spend money in Silverton. We were part of that group. Spent well over \$1000.00 in lodging, food and souvenirs. If Mr. McKay would just prefer to shut the town to tourism, or only wants the train tourism, he should just state so. We don't have to go to Silverton, we have a cabin 3 hours away, that is closer to home, I can spend my money in Chama as well as Silverton, but we love Silverton. My husband and I have spent many, many anniversaries in Silverton. I just think it's a shame that closing roads seems to come up every single year. Leave the roads open.

Vicki Husbands

5 Airport Rd

Belen NM 87002

117.

Name: Robyn Holmes:

I have lived in the Four Corners all my life. I have always enjoyed the San Juan Mountains, the communities and the people. I have never had a negative experience any where I traveled. That being said, last year was the first time I was able to experience the country north of Silverton. I fell even more in love with the San Juan Mountains. I joined a group on Facebook called San Juan Mountain Trail Group. I would truly hate to see these roads closed. I plan to bring my family up there and show them the beauty of those mountains. The only way my mom (75 years old) would be able to enjoy this trip is to be in a vehicle. She has limited mobility. I look forward to spending time with my grandchildren up there, showing them the history of those mountains. It will also be a good lesson on "leaving no trace."

Please do not close these roads, do not punish the good ones because a few bad seeds. I am positive other solutions can be found, i.e.; better/more signs, pamphlets created with rules, suggestions and ideas for being a good visitor. Also, an increase in fines would help with cost of signs.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Robyn Holmes

118.

I am not in favor of having County Road 22 gated or closed in any way.

It is a beautiful area for all to enjoy wether they walk, ski, ATV, Jeep or otherwise recreate. We have all been having a lovely time along that corridor for many years.

I do not believe it is the responsibility of our County Commissioners to decide who in the public sector will recreate on the lower river road, County road 22.

This has been Pete's idea from day one. There are plenty of areas for people to hike, walk and find peace in our County if they are not happy mixing with others in the public who choose to ride ATVs or travel in a car or jeep.

Scott ,please do not close off County Road 22 with a gate in the middle or anywhere else. Just leave it alone for the public to enjoy as they choose. We have been enjoying it for many years through all seasons here in San Juan County

As for County Road 22A. I have spoken to Joe Jepsen. This is Private Property and if he and his wife do not want motorized traffic through their property they have that right. The Government has no right to deny them their rights on their property.

Those are my thoughts Scott.

Thank you for your kindness with the styrofoam peanuts through the years they are very helpful in my business.

Sincerely,  
Edith Mary Eggett

119.

Name: Debbie Farrar

Subject: Closing roads in Silverton Co

PleAse do not close the roads in Silverton along the River.

I live in San Miguel county but love the SanJuans.

120.

Name: Amy Wishon

Subject: San Jaun OHV trails

Details: We love riding these trails. They are fun and not over populated which is nice when you let the dogs run! All the trails over the san jaun area should remain open as its our public land and it's a nice place to escape to.