# Executive Summary

Pagosa Springs, Colorado, plans to introduce an eco-friendly last-mile transportation solution: pedal cabs with electric assist. These vehicles will alleviate traffic congestion, particularly during the 2025-26 US 160 construction project, and enhance accessibility to downtown businesses and attractions. Operating seasonally, the pedal cabs will offer tours and pre-scheduled transport, following designated routes and adhering to safety regulations. Pagosa Springs will adopt regulatory models from other Colorado cities to ensure responsible operation and a safe, enjoyable experience for residents and visitors.

# High-level Narrative

Pagosa Springs, Colorado, will soon feature a novel transportation mode: pedal cabs. These vehicles are equipped with Class 1 or 2 electric assist motors, offering pedal and, in some cases, throttle assistance, with a maximum speed of 20 mph. Specifically, the vehicles will use a 750W motor, maintaining a 19 mph top speed. This initiative aims to provide an eco-friendly way to navigate the town.

These pedal cabs will ease traffic congestion and improve accessibility by transporting people to and from satellite parking areas and within the town, utilizing side streets, alleyways, and the Riverwalk Trail. This service will be invaluable during the 2025-26 CDOT US 160 construction project, offering an alternative for accessing downtown businesses. Additionally, they will offer seasonal tours during warmer months, showcasing attractions like the Mother Spring, parks, the San Juan River, wetlands, and Reservoir Hill. Operational hours will vary based on demand and season, generally focusing on evenings and weekends, with potential earlier hours in summer. Scheduled tours and pre-arranged trips with designated pickup and drop-off locations will also be available.

Navigation will follow planned routes, largely guided by Google Maps, focusing on transport between satellite parking and downtown business stops, and defined areas within town: east end (to Riff Raff, Meander, and the gas station), west end (to the old Sage restaurant and the elementary school), south end (Yamaguchi Park and the high school), and north end (Mesa Heights and Cemetery Road).

Pagosa Zip Trips company founders Michael Candelaria and Jason Cox visited two Colorado cities—Denver and Pueblo—in March 2025 to meet with a pedal cab vehicle manufacturer and pedal cab operators. These experts provided valuable guidance for best practices when operating a pedal cab business and the most important governance for ensuring safe and reliable operations for pedal cab operators.

To ensure responsible operation, several rules will be followed. Pedal cabs will avoid US 160, crossing only at legal crosswalks, with the First Street bridge as the sole river crossing. Within the town core, routes will prioritize quieter streets like Lewis and Hermosa, Sixth, Eighth, Tenth, Apache, and Florida. The Riverwalk Trail will be used, with these 50-inch wide vehicles yielding to pedestrians and cyclists. Parking will be in designated areas like The Springs Resort and Library lots. Overnight storage is still to be determined.

Pedal cabs will also transport attendees to and from venues for weddings, concerts, and festivals, transported to the site via separate motor vehicle for localized operation.

To ensure responsible operation, Pagosa Springs will adopt regulatory models similar to those in other Colorado cities, such as Denver and Pueblo. These models define requirements for pedal cab companies and drivers. Denver's application process, for example, includes a business questionnaire, criminal history checks, a schedule of rates, vehicle photos, proof of insurance, a DOTI form, a CBI name check, and identification. Similar requirements exist for renewals. Denver's driver application process includes the employer’s business file number, driving record violation certification, a Colorado driving record, a headshot, a letter of hire, and a Colorado driver's license. Renewal applications have similar needs.

By using these regulatory structures, Pagosa Springs aims to create a safe, reliable, and enjoyable pedal cab experience for residents and visitors.