



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Colorado
Riverfront
Trail**
Colorado



Colorado Riverfront Trail

Colorado

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Running through western Colorado's scenic Grand Valley, the Colorado Riverfront Trail provides an unparalleled biking and walking experience in Mesa County. The paved trail follows the Colorado River from Loma through Fruita, Grand Junction, and, Palisade, connecting several parks, lakes, and recreational amenities. The trail has been made with the long-term vision and hard work of the Colorado Riverfront Commission, established in 1987.

About the Route

The trail opens with a bang with the stunning Monument View Section on its western end. The view in question is that of the rugged canyons of the Colorado National Monument. This 8-mile section also provides access to

the Walter Walker State Wildlife Area, itself a beauty with its grassy, tree-lined river corridor. (Note that the trail extends west to Loma, where it connects with the Kokopelli system of mountain-biking trails).

At the southern end of the Monument View Section, the trail forks; the northern branch of the fork is named the Blue Heron Section for the Blue Heron Lake, which is its main attraction. The trail begins at the Junior Service League Park and ends at Riverside Park, a distance of 5.6 miles. Along the way, the trail is surrounded by a mixture of woodlands and marshy areas; keep your eyes peeled for bald eagles in the treetops.

The southern branch is the Audubon Section, which extends less than two miles, beginning in the Connected Lakes State Park and ending at the Redlands Marketplace. The secluded, wooded surroundings here offer ample opportunities to see many types of birds, including blue herons, osprey, owls, and hawks. The two sections of the trail meet up at the pedestrian/bike path over the Colorado River along State Highway 340 (Broadway).

From State Highway 340, the re-merged trail is known as the Riverside Section. It winds along the north bank of the river for 1.4 miles, through a beautiful natural area where the Colorado and Gunnison rivers meet, and ends at the Western Colorado Botanical Gardens and Butterfly House.

From the Botanical Gardens, trail users can seamlessly pick up the Las Colonias Section, named after a park of the same name, which it traverses. The first phase of the 101-acre park opened in 2015 and includes parking, a restroom, a bike repair station, and a water fountain; future plans call for the addition of an amphitheater.

The Parks and Wildlife Section offers access to portions of the James M. Robb Colorado River State Park, where recreational opportunities abound, including picnicking, fishing, boating,



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States: Colorado

Counties: Mesa

Length: 28.3miles

Trail end points: Hawkeye Rd. (Fruita) to
Brentwood Dr. (Palisade)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Concrete

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Inline
Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

The Colorado Riverfront Trail runs between Hawkeye Rd. (Fruita) and Brentwood Dr. (Palisade).

Parking is available at:

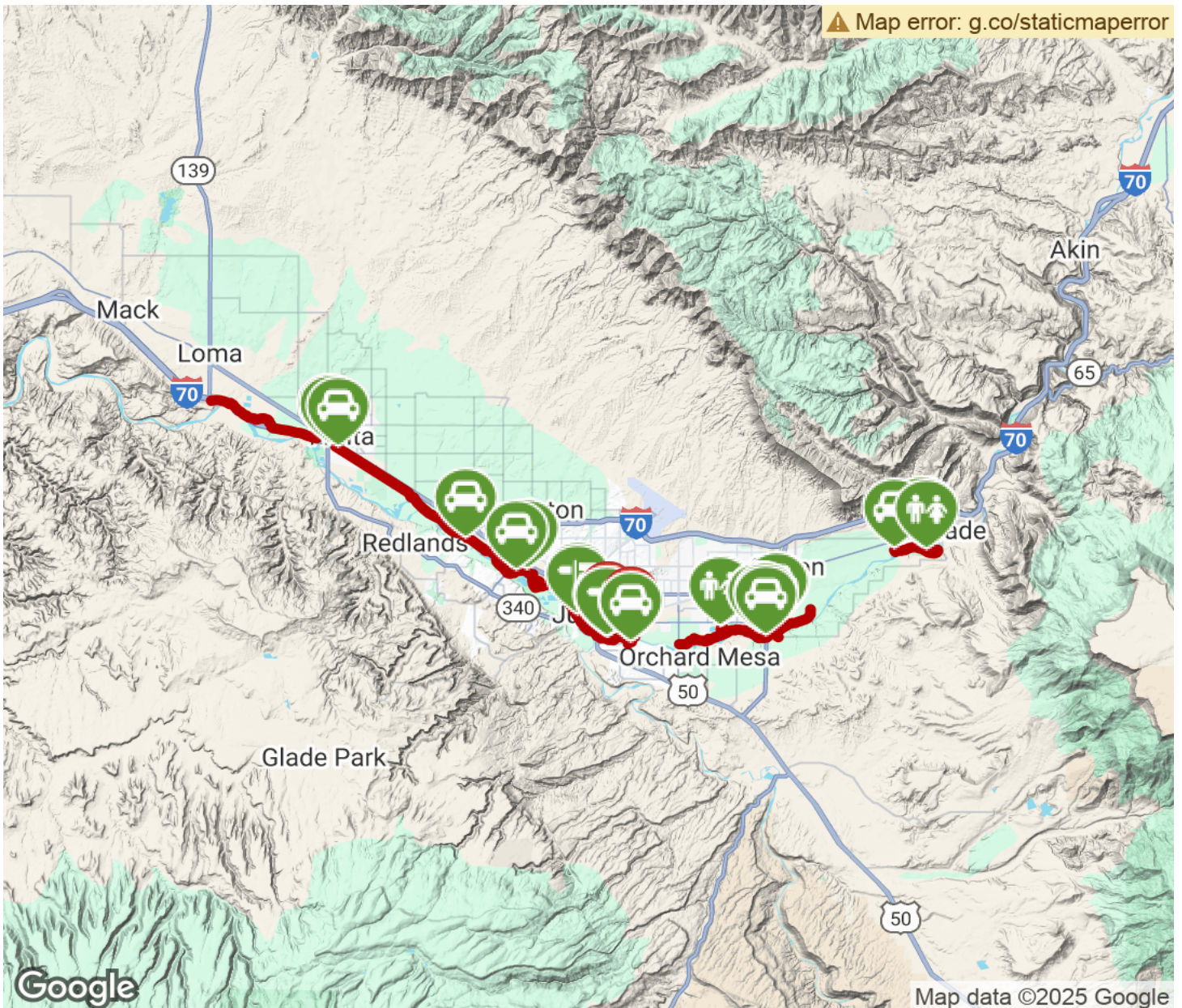
- Heritage Park, 210 Interstate 70 Frontage Rd. (Fruita)
- Western Colorado Botanical Gardens, 655 Struthers Ave. (Grand Junction)
- Riverbend Park, 451 Pendleton St. (Palisade)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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