



HCAOG

HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Members: County of Humboldt • Cities of Arcata, Blue Lake, Eureka, Ferndale, Fortuna, Rio Dell, Trinidad

October 25, 2011

United State Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support for the City of Arcata Rail with Trail Connectivity Project

Dear Department of Transportation:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG), I appreciate this opportunity to extend our support for the City of Arcata's "Rail with Trail Connectivity Project". As the regional transportation planning agency for Humboldt County, HCAOG works closely with multiple public and private partners to coordinate transportation projects in the region. This is one of three important projects in our region submitted for the TIGER III program.

The Arcata Rail with Trail Connectivity Project is a unique opportunity to develop a regional trail that shares right of way with a historic rail line along the Humboldt Bay. The planning for this project was a collaborative effort and has support from the local and tribal governments in the region. HCAOG has given full support to this project. When complete, the trail will serve as a key non-motorized commuter access between the two largest cities in the County, Arcata and Eureka. The City of Arcata worked with many stakeholders on this project including the local rail operator and owner to develop a trail design and management plan that will allow the trail and railroad to co-exist.

The purpose of this letter is to not only convey support for this project, but provide assurances that if the project is selected for funding under the TIGER program, HCAOG will support the programming of the project in the State Transportation Improvement Plan. If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Marcella Clem
Executive Director
Humboldt County Association of Governments

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0001
PH (916) 319-2001
FAX (916) 319-2101

DISTRICT OFFICES:
50 D STREET, SUITE 450
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
PH (707) 576-2526
FAX (707) 576-2297

311 N. STATE STREET
UKIAH, CA 95482
PH (707) 463-5770
FAX (707) 463-5773

235 4TH STREET, SUITE C
EUREKA, CA 95501
PH (707) 445-7014
FAX (707) 445-6607

Assembly California Legislature



PATTY BERG
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIRST DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
AGING & LONG-TERM CARE, CHAIR
BUDGET SUB #1,
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, CHAIR
BUDGET
HEALTH
INSURANCE

July 30, 2008

Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am pleased to offer my wholehearted support for the City of Arcata's application to fund the Arcata Rail with Trail Corridor project.

The Arcata Rail with Trail Corridor project is a City collaboration with the North Coast Railroad Authority to provide critical transportation links, for both local commuters as well as those accessing the California Coastal Trail. Conservancy funds will be used to finalize trail planning, including environmental review, trail route placement, permitting, construction design and bid documents, and for trail construction.

The City of Arcata has provided regional leadership in trail, safe routes to school, and non-motorized transportation planning and implementation for more than twenty years. The Arcata Rail with Trail Corridor project illustrates a local readiness to implement non-motorized transportation plans through regional partnerships to support non-vehicular intercity travel along the North Coast.

I urge your favorable consideration of the City of Arcata's application. Our community is ready for this important step in coastal trail development. If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Patty Berg

PATTY BERG
Assemblywoman, 1st District

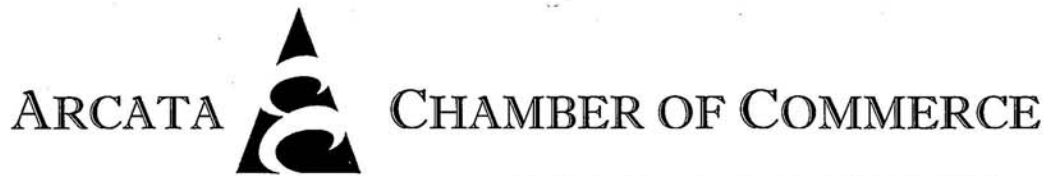
*Doug —
This is a priority of mine! And, more trail
requests are coming.*

RECEIVED

AUG 4 2008

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.





1635 Heindon Road Arcata, California 95521
707.822.3619 office www.arcatachamber.com

August 4, 2008

State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Arcata Rail and Trail Connectivity Project

Dear Board of Directors:

The Arcata Chamber of Commerce is committed to supporting and promoting its local businesses and community. In addition to providing traditional chamber networking, the Arcata Chamber of Commerce also provides numerous services to assist our business leadership -- access to networking events, advertising opportunities, and important business issues.

The Arcata Chamber of Commerce also operates one of only 13 California Welcome Centers (CWC) throughout California, collaboratively serving over one million walk-in visitors a year. We pride ourselves on providing a high level of service to visitors, our community, and eco-tourism on the Redwood Coast; which is why the Arcata Chamber of Commerce supports the Arcata Rail and Trail Connectivity Project.

A significant portion of the City of Arcata's funding is derived from the tourism industry. Linking critical tourist destination points such as the local skate park, the Arcata Plaza and the Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary will greatly increase the attraction of Arcata to travelers. The Arcata Rail with Trail Corridor project will provide critical transportation links both for local commuters as well as those accessing the California Coastal Trail.

The City of Arcata has a long commitment to active transportation systems and quality recreation experiences. The City's General Plan has a specific policy that directs the creation of a complete, interconnected bicycle and pedestrian circulation system; increasing the percentages of person trips via walking and bicycling, providing a system which serves commuter as well as recreational travel, and connecting with regional partners to support non-vehicular intercity travel.


In addition, the City of Arcata has provided leadership in trail, safe routes to school, and non-motorized transportation planning and implementation in the region for over 20 years, and is currently providing staff resources to coordinate the Arcata Rail with Trail connectivity project.

Below are just a few of the important components that this project will bring to our community:

- Safe pedestrian / bike routes to local school, including Humboldt State University
- Accessible opportunities for physical activity
- Magnets for the travelers who visit the Northcoast seeking outdoor experiences
- Transportation equity -- access to goods, services using any mode of transport
- Healthy lifestyles
- Quality of life- Recreational enhancements
- Economic development
- Community vitality
- Community development: opportunity to change the paradigm before more build-outs occur
- Climate change/environmental effects

On behalf of the Board of Directors, and the Arcata Chamber of Commerce membership, we support this project, not only for our community, but for visitors alike. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate in contacting us directly.

Sincerely,



Julie Vaissade-Elcock
President



Gene Joyce
First Vice-President



Brenda Bishop
Executive Director



ARCATA MAIN STREET

To enhance and promote Arcata's identity, economy and cultural spirit

July 31, 2008

Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 13th Floor
Oakland CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

Arcata Main Street is an effort of local merchants to stimulate economic conditions in downtown Arcata, provide and foster community building events and civic beautification projects. With the mission of developing and supporting a clean, safe and vibrant downtown, Arcata Main Street fosters and encourages support of our local economy as a means to retaining our identity and building a strong community.

Arcata Main Street fully supports the City of Arcata's continuing efforts to improve non-motorized transportation options to and from the downtown area. Main Street believes the current Rail with Trail connectivity project is important for the economic, social and recreational vitality of the Arcata community for several reasons including;

- ✦ Its ability to connect travelers in Arcata to the Coast and Humboldt Bay,
- ✦ Its ability to attract tourists to visit and stay in Arcata while being able to connect to the California Coastal Trail,
- ✦ Its ability to assist the revitalization effort underway in the downtown area,
- ✦ It's ability to offer promote healthy lifestyles for local residents and visitors, and
- ✦ Its ability to physically clean up a blighted rail corridor.

We are pleased that Arcata continues to work to make Arcata a more inviting place to live, work and play and believe that this project will improve both the local residents quality of life and the visitors experience to the North coast. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 707-822-4500.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Koopman
Executive Director
Arcata Main Street

Arcata Main Street

791 8th Street, Suite 5 • Arcata, CA 95521 • Phone: 707-822-4500 • Fax: 707-822-4555
www.arcatamainstreet.com



Simpson-Vance House 1892

Redwood Community Action Agency

August 19, 2008

ADMINISTRATION
Information & Referral
(707) 269-2002

AMERICORPS PROGRAMS
AFACTR
(707) 269-2020
STRAIGHT UP AMERICORPS
(707) 269-2024
AMERICORPS VISTA
(707) 269-2052

ENERGY SERVICES
(707) 444-3831
Consumer Education, Ext 201
Weatherization, Ext. 204
Lead Based Paint Hazard
Reduction & Inspection, Ext 201
Home Energy Assistance Program
(HEAP) - (707) 444-3834

FAMILY SERVICES
(707) 269-9590
Family Shelter Program
Ext 209
Multiple Assistance Center
269-9592
Emergency Shelter Office
(707) 269-2075

**HOUSING REHABILITATION
LOAN PROGRAM**
(707) 269-2034

**NATURAL RESOURCES
SERVICES**
(707) 269-2070
Landscape Contractor
License #518874

**NORTHCOAST MENTOR
PROGRAM**
(707) 269-2052

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
Affordable Rentals (707) 269-2011

YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU
24-Hour Youth & Family Hotline
(707) 444-CARE
YSB Administration
Launch Pad TLP
Our House Emergency Shelter
(707) 443-8322
Raven Street Outreach Program
(707) 443-7099
YSB Thrift Store
(707) 445-4217

State Coastal Conservancy
Board Chairman Douglas Bosco
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

We are writing to lend support to the City of Arcata's proposal for a rail-with-trail feasibility study. Our staff has worked closely with City staff on several Coastal Trail planning efforts in recent years – their proactive and collaborative approach produces results, and we know them to be committed to pursuing a Coastal Trail network within and beyond the City.

The City of Arcata has played a leadership role in facilitating a diversity of agencies to consider options for development of the Coastal Trail between Eureka and Arcata. Their staff has also assisted RCAA in efforts to analyze options for southward extension of the Hammond Trail and development of the Annie & Mary Rail-Trail. City staff approach trail planning in the railroad and highway rights-of-ways with a very respectful, professional effort to find solutions that work for all stakeholders and land managers.

If funded to complete the 'Humboldt County Coastal Trail Implementation Program – Phase I', we will coordinate with the City's more localized efforts as we establish a master plan for the CCT in Humboldt County and move priority segments of that system forward for implementation.

Many thanks to the SCC Board and staff for the Coastal Conservancy's long-term efforts to promote coastal public access and watershed restoration here on the north coast. If you have questions about how we and the City of Arcata propose to support each others' efforts, please contact me at (707) 269-2060 or jen@nrsrcaa.org.

Sincerely,


Jennifer Rice, Co-Director
Natural Resources Services Division

RECEIVED
AUG 25 2008
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Helping People, Changing Lives
Equal Opportunity Housing Provider/EOE
904 G Street • Eureka, CA 95501 • FAX: (707) 445-0884