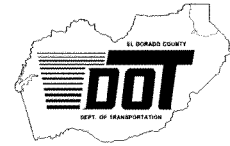




COUNTY OF EL DORADO  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

# 45

Date: May 19, 2011

**LATE DISTRIBUTION**

Date 9:44 am, May 20, 2011

To: Supervisor John Knight, District I  
Supervisor Ray Nutting, District II  
Supervisor Jack Sweeney, District III  
Supervisor Ron Briggs, District IV  
Supervisor Norma Santiago, District V  
Terri Daly, CAO

RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
EL DORADO COUNTY  
9:44 am, May 20, 2011

From: Jim Ware, Director of Transportation

Subject: **Direction Given by Board on March 28, 2011 Related to SPTC-JPA**

I was directed by your Board, on March 28, 2011, to "...explore the feasibility and legality of removing the tracks in Segment 1 and consider if there are other alternatives to removing the tracks;" In so doing, I have developed the following action plan:

Staffing/funding

- Need to assign a Project Manager
- Need direction on prioritization of projects.
- What can we not do to get this project done?
- Need to secure funding for the work.
  - Need to identify funding for this year.
  - Need to identify funding for next year.

Deal with the ownership of the corridor and rails issue

- Meet with SPTC-JPA Executive Director and their Counsel
- Can we do this?
- Who owns the corridor and the equipment?
- What do we have to do to make this happen?
- Get an item on their agenda as necessary.

Bring an Agenda Item to EDC Board regarding the FEDS License Agreement

- May I assume that the Rail users can continue to use the facility until it is gone?

Need to identify the potential legal issues related to this action and mitigate/advise as necessary

Need to initiate a CEQA/NEPA process

Clearly a project under CEQA  
NEPA in anticipation of future Federal Funding  
Potential issues of concern are:

1. Cultural
2. Air Quality
3. Drainage
4. Biological Resources
5. Crossing safety
6. Consistency with General Plan policies and Master Plan policies

Need to get a proper proposal from Iron Horse and any others in this business to see what we can really expect to obtain as an outcome.

Do we find ourselves in a position of having the rails removed and sufficient funds remaining to construct tangible improvements to either the trail or rail system or do we end up with no rail and an unpaved trail? This is an important decision point. Will an unpaved rail bed become a resource pit?

Need to fix ROW limits

Railroad Right of Way is typically measured as an offset from the center of the rail so we need to fix the existing location of the rail to protect the easement for the future

We need to determine what the neighboring property owners and agencies are doing and what they plan to do in the future.

What do their plans/actions do to the arguments for/against the segment plan?

Parking and staging

Needed for any increased use. Need to make sure that sufficient Right of Way is available.

Trespassing and other neighbor issues

Still receiving calls from neighbors of new trail segment with complaints and requests for various improvements

Develop other plans/alternatives

While maintaining the priorities set by the Board:

Can volunteers construct the trail and keep the rail?

Stage Implementation, Start with Segment 2 and see what we can do?

Can we cut/fill to construct a parallel trail?

What will those plans cost to implement?

Need to develop project PS&E

Public Contract Code, Prevailing Wage, Insurance, Indemnity, Plans, Specs and Estimates, etc.

Bid and construct the project.

Maintenance

Need to develop a maintenance plan for the corridor. Everything trail is done by DOT staff at County cost. More trails means more cost. What do other Counties spend to maintain their facilities? We currently don't maintain the rail segments.

Future funding for corridor

Need to identify an ongoing funding source. General fund is not safe and even when cut, expectations aren't lowered. Recommend some type of parcel tax or user fees.

Sanitation

Public Safety

I will be prepared to discuss this topic in depth on Tuesday at the Board Meeting.

Thank you.