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Fw: Letter attachment opposing removal of tracks in the Sacramento Placerville Rail Corridor

The BOSONE to: Cynthia C Johnson

05/23/2011 03:29 PM

Sent by: Loretta M Featherston

I am way behind on my emails. You probably already got this from someone else.

Loretta Featherston

Assistant to Supervisor John R. Knight

District 1

Board of Supervisors, County of El Dorado

Phone: (530) 621-5650

E-Mail bosone@edcgov.us

— Forwarded by Loretta M Featherston/PV/EDC on 05/23/2011 03:28 PM —

Letter attachment opposing removal of tracks in the Sacramento Placerville Rail Corridor

nancy percy to: bosone, bostwo, bosthree, bosfour, bosfive

05/21/2011 12:05 PM

Cc: Loretta Hettinger

Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County

Loretta Hettinger, President of the Heritage Preservation League of Folsom asked me to transmit the attached letter opposing removal of the tracks in the Sacramento Placerville Rail Corridor. The item is on your May 24 Agenda.

Nancy Percy
Vice-President



Heritage Preservation League of Folsom RemoveTracks.doc

**Heritage Preservation League of Folsom
P.O. Box 353
Folsom, California 95763**

May 21, 2011

Honorable Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

It has come to our attention that the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors is considering a proposal to have the historic tracks removed from a portion of the Sacramento Placerville Rail Corridor, which is owned and governed by a multi-jurisdictional Joint Powers Agency.

The rail line is a historic resource, the value of which was recognized by the participating jurisdictions some 15 years ago, when the tracks and the right-of-way were sold by Southern Pacific, and the Joint Powers Agency was formed to buy and manage it. It was the hope that rail excursions on the corridor would enable future residents and tourists, adults and children, to appreciate and enjoy the unique rail heritage and the spectacular scenery on the line. There is nothing in the agreement that would prohibit other transportation uses of the corridor.

However, we understand that some trails advocates are proposing a trails-only use for the corridor.

Removal of the tracks would be an irreversible first step in this strategy. The track could never be replaced.

Not only could they not be replaced, they are a historic resource that is protected by state law.

We have observed that trail users can be contentious – often among themselves, urging exclusive uses for pedestrians, or cyclists, or equestrians. Removing the tracks will not put an end to the contention.

For the above reasons, the Heritage Preservation League of Folsom strongly advises El Dorado County against removal of the historic tracks.

Sincerely,

Loretta Hettinger
President
loretta@shaunv.com