

Trails "X" Us



October 2, 2007

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

RE: Agenda Item
25. 07-1598
Final General Services Reorg

Dear Board of Supervisors:

In July of 2007 when those of us in the trails community became aware that the Project Coordinator position was once again, becoming vacant in the Airports, Parks, Grounds and Cemeteries Division, the alarm rang loud and clear for us. The alarm sounded because awareness came to the forefront, that the position may not be filled, and that reorganization appeared to be a possibility. The Manager, Jordan Postlewait was unable to provide any assurance that the department would stand on its own merits and successes.

As I have stated in a previous letter, I believe the community may be closer than it has been in decades, in recognizing the importance that parks and trails play in the health and safety of the community as well as capital improvements, tourism, and the dollars that follows tourism. Also, why would one want to risk a slower implementation of the work required in the Parks and Recreation Element of the 2004 General Plan.

In reviewing the Proposed Reorganization of General Services it appears the above goals will not be met by spreading the work around, or placing them in other departments. This department worked diligently and provided several successes in achieving grants for projects, therefore when achievements are being made, why would one want to consider radically changing operations. Would not the County, and the community be best served to continue forward with the goals already set, rather than trying to reinvent another trail to follow?

This department is needed and vacant positions need to be filled in order to continue the goals for El Dorado County.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melba J. Ray-Leal" followed by a flourish.

MELBA J. RAY-LEAL ~
Trails Advocate

Submitted by Melba
Leal
at Board Hearing of 10/2/07
#25