

Open Forum Comments:

1. Last March & April there were 2 public park & rec meetings regarding putting park features in the El Dorado Train Park. Since the intent of these meetings were to apply for SB 68 funding, why was a grant not submitted? Depending on the answer to that question, I think the commission should consider 2 different actions:
 - a. Remove the El Dorado Train Park from the park inventory if it's not going to incorporate the public's desire for park features in this public park. Instead call it what it is: A train yard or train museum. OR
 - b. Do a review and update on this park. It was approved conceptually 10 years ago. Let's look at what the plan was back then, the progress that's been made, how the community's input has been incorporated, and make realistic plans for the public use of this park.
 - i. The El Dorado County Parks and Trails Master Plan recommends "at least four neighborhood parks totaling 20 acres would be located in the El Dorado/Diamond Springs area."
2. Recommend the Parks and Rec commission do a complete review of the El Dorado Western Railroad program. This program falls under the Parks & Rec prevue, and has had limited updates. Some of the issues that need review are:
 - a. This is a public program that does not hold regular public meetings.
 - b. Meetings that discuss this public program and budgets are held privately in the El Dorado Western Railway Foundation meetings.
 - c. A public employee, the museum director, and the district 3 parks commissioner are long standing voting board members on the El Dorado Western Railway Foundation. They have a conflict of interest. Best serving the needs of the El Dorado Western Railway Foundation and best serving the needs of the general public. Imagine if your parks manager sat in a private meeting with volunteers, developed and approved a budget, and never itemized it anywhere for public viewing. That is what's happening.
 - d. These conflict of interests have led to the public and commission receiving very slanted information. For example, at the March 21st, 2019 Park and Rec commission meeting, the museum director informed the public that the program has been self-sustaining for 8 years and they expect it to continue to be and any public funds that had been spent were for asset maintenance. You can hear this at 1:15:35 on the audio. The truth is over \$125,000 in El Dorado County funds from various departments has been spent on this program and that is not self-sustaining. Since 2016, the railroad program has been pulling from the library general fund for things like engineering spurs and planning documents for future railroad yards. That is not maintaining the asset.
 - e. This program needs to become accountable and self-sustaining like the River Management program and the Rubicon. Budgets need to be approved through the park and rec commission. The public needs the opportunity to comment and give input to the budget and program. A more objective board needs to be making the final decisions, holding this program accountable.

**RR Expenses Paid by County in Library/Museum Budget
2008-2019**

Custom Prod Corp RR signs	6/2016	\$764.68
Diamond Crane Move rail	6/2017	\$16,068.00
Foothill Assoc. CEQA	6/30/17-6/30/18	\$4,999.75
Nor Cal Containers Storage container	6/2017	\$3,000.00
H & H Engineering RR turnout	4/2018	\$17,894.00
Blain Stumpf Fence rental	6/27/17-6/30/19	\$923.30
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1/15/2019

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Information provided by Jeanne Amos, Director of Library Services