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Trails Resolution
dickrein@juno.com

to:

bosone, bostwo, bosthree, bosfour, bosfive
12/02/2010 03:37 PM

Cc:

dickrein, psrose, retallack1596

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Gentlemen, I made a short presentation at your BOS meeting in November regarding the Trails Group Resolution. Due to time limitations, I could not present a few points of interest. The Trails group has presented the proposal as a trail running from Davis to Lake Tahoe and more recently from the Bay area to Lake Tahoe. Have you ever contacted the Supervisors from Sacramento County. Based on our recent Rail Fest in Folsom it appeared most people wanted to preserve the rails and ride and excursion train and I don't believe the Sac Supervisors are interested in pulling up the rails and putting in a trail only. This would leave the trail ending in the middle of nowhere

Also, I don't believe our county would ever fund a trail from where the rail head ends to Lake Tahoe. Even if the trail would follow the Immigrant Trail road, it would cost many millions of dollars to grade and pave a 10 foot wide trail for that distance.

Again, there was no mention of the cost of a pedestrian/bicycle/equestrian bridge over Missouri Flat Road. Based on the bridge over East Bidwell St. in Folsom, that would probably cost over a million dollars.

Although you Supervisors represent all of El Dorado County. I believe this trail proposal benefits the people in Placerville and the local surrounding area. As I mentioned, the trail completely bypasses Cameron Park and El Dorado Hills. I have checked the mileage on my car odometer and found that from the heart of Cameron Park to the old train station in Shingle Springs is 3.5 miles and the only place to park there is on private property. The mileage from close to the freeway (not the heart of EDH) to the closest parking places in Latrobe is 8.4 miles and that is the school parking lot. The closest point from EDH to the tracks is at the the intersection of White Rock Road and Payen Road is 3.1 miles and there is absolutely no place to park there. It would appear that for children to use the trail their parents would have to drive them there.

There is also the issue of safety. The rail head has some very steep banks where a bicyclist or a horse could go over the edge. Safety rails may have to be provided. Also, the trail doesn't go by any schools which the Trails group has said the children will use to go to school. The trail is in some very remote areas and doesn't appear safe for young children or mothers with children to be on. I have talked to the president of the P&SVRR and he is willing to take you on a tour to show you the remote areas the rail head runs through. A lot of the demonstration would be on the rails themselves and some would be on South Shingle Springs Road which somewhat parallels the rail head.

As I mentioned in your meeting, I believe the Trail proposal mainly benefits the long distance bicyclist and you should really check on who is presenting this proposal.

Sincerely, Richard Rein, 512 Santa Cruz Ct., El Dorado Hills