

LATE DISTRIBUTION 5-12-14

Robert A. Smart, Jr.

Diamond Springs, CA. 95619

May 10, 2014

Chairperson Norma Santiago
Board of Supervisors
Placerville Office
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Supervisor Santiago and members of the Board:

On your 5-13-14 agenda, item 42, 14-0514 there is a recommendation to dissolve the Trails Advisory Committee and the Sacramento Placerville Transportation Corridor (SPTC) Committee. I urge you to vote no on dissolving the Trails Advisory Committee (TAC). I concur with dissolving the SPTC Committee. The vote in the Parks and Recreation Commission was 2-1 to abolish the Trails Advisory Committee and I am the one opposed. The Commission voted 4-1 to recommend the SPTC Committee be abandoned.

I have been one of your Parks and Recreation Commissioners and the Commission's Liaison with the Trails Advisory Committee continuously since 2000. I have appeared before you many times to discuss the need for the development of a Parks and Trails Master Plan to go with our 2004 El Dorado County General Plan and issues concerning the SPTC. In 2012, the Master Plan was finally completed and it now is the document you use to convey your ... "vision and direction for the planning, implementation, and management of west slope parks and trails resources for the benefit of the residents and visitors". It was the TAC members, past and present that provided much of the public comment for the document in an era when we did not have a recreation staff.

The Trails Advisory Committee, consistently a cross section of user groups of equestrians, hikers, bicyclists (mountain and road) and wheel chair bound, has worked through many complex issues associated with trails during my tenure. Through their efforts, most controversies between competing users have been minimized without ever having to come to the Board. On my watch, they were the moving force on the Highway 50 Bridge above Placerville, the acquisition of the Cronan Ranch, the parking lot and trailhead on Jacquier, the trail from Jacquier to Los Trampas and the very popular trail and bridge between Forni and Missouri Flat Road. During that period, I have watched with considerable frustration when actions by your Board bypassed the Trails Advisory Committee and/or the Parks and Recreation Commission, particularly concerning the trail in the SPTC corridor.

After numerous meetings about the future of the SPTC corridor, your Board decided on March 28, 2011 that rail would have lower priority than trails from Shingle Springs to the County Line. With your direction, I have assumed it is your Board's desire for the diverse Trails Advisory Committee to be a major source of recommendations whether rail proposals in this section were compliant with your board decision. In an email to the Park and Recreation Commission, with copies to staff and the Trails Advisory Committee, I contested staff placing an agenda item on our 4-18-13 Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda without consultation and recommendation of the Trails Advisory Committee. (See Commissioner's comments for item 2). If your Board votes to abolish the Trails Advisory Committee, it will be obvious that my assumption was not your desire.

Your Board is moving into an era where public involvement and transparency is essential in decision making. It would be a major setback to that spirit if you abolish the Trails Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

/s/Robert A. Smart, Jr.

Robert A. Smart, Jr.
Parks and Recreation Commissioner, District III

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EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fwd: El Dorado County Trail Advisory Committee

1 message

The BOSFOUR <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Mon, May 12, 2014 at 9:02 AM

To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Re: Item #42

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Kenison** <mikejken@yahoo.com>

Date: Sun, May 11, 2014 at 9:19 PM

Subject: El Dorado County Trail Advisory Committee

To: Ron Mikulaco <bosone@edcgov.us>, Ray Nutting <bostwo@edcgov.us>, Brian Veerkamp <bosthree@edcgov.us>, Ron Briggs <bosfour@edcgov.us>, Norma Santiago <bosfive@edcgov.us>, Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>

Vickie Sanders and El Dorado County Board of Supervisors,

I support a change to or the closing of the Trail Advisory Committee. TAC is ineffective, not respected and now ties up valuable staff time. We need a change in EDC and we need something better.

We need an open, inclusive group that can discuss trail issues and try to find consensus. This group needs to be active, with a goal to improve, maintain and support development of new and more trails. This group should be made up of interested trail user groups or supporters that are equals and either vote as equals or elect their own representatives to the group.

Please direct the Parks and Recreation Committee to explore a new structure for trail discussion in EDC. Give them 3 months to come up with a plan.

Mike Kenison
El Dorado Trail Development Group
Trail Advisory and SPTC Committee Member
Shingle Springs, CA

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