

RECEIVED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EL DORADO COUNTY
8:45 am, Mar 28, 2011

2

Historic Rail Line
Kathryn Corbett

to:

bosfour

03/28/2011 07:51 AM

Hide Details

From: "Kathryn Corbett" <stellarpass@comcast.net>

To: <bosfour@edcgov.us>

LATE DISTRIBUTION

Date 8:45 am, Mar 28, 2011

Dear Ron Briggs, some of my thoughts on our Rail line. Thanks for your time

The Rail line and the train is as American as apple pie, it is a part of the unifying spirit that founded our country. The excitement and allure for that original historic Rail still resides and resonates well in the heart of most us yet today. That spirit is inclusive of ALL ages' young or old, ALL folks across the board- NO borders, no boundaries as to whom. This appeal and excitement that was part of the original magic of the railroad that steamed down the line is well and alive today, it is not hard to know this, ask anyone, anywhere. Those few who have made a loud case for trails, the response is -you have been included in Rail plans for your trails; we have many dedicated trails in this region and in our state. We all have a duty to keep these historic Rail lines open in honoring our past and its significant illustrious history and equally important in looking toward our future and the magnificent potential this presents and provides for all of us.

Sincerely, Kathryn Corbett



Meeting Today
Bill Wilde to: bosfour

03/28/2011 06:40 AM

From: Bill Wilde <billwilde7@gmail.com>
To: bosfour@edcgov.us

Dear Supervisor Briggs:

I am coming to the meeting today but I don't know if there will be time for me to speak so I wanted to share my views on the proposal.

I live adjacent to the tracks in Shingle Springs. I support leaving the tracks in place to allow recreational railroading or other future uses as well as allowing the right of way to be shared with other uses such as hiking, I help maintain the right of way and I know that it is wide enough to allow all of these uses.

If the decision is made to remove the tracks, it will never be possible economically to replace them.

Thank you,

Bill Wilde
Shingle Springs

Keep the Placerville Branchline!

RICHARDSON MASTEN

to:

bosfour

03/28/2011 12:21 AM

Hide Details

From: RICHARDSON MASTEN <ourhidingplace@sbcglobal.net>

To: bosfour@edcgov.us

Dear Mr. Briggs

Just because an historic railroad line is not used every day does not mean that it should be removed, if there are viable reasons to keep it.

I understand that the Board of Supervisors is considering the removal of historic Placerville Branch of what was the Southern Pacific Railroad. I for one, strongly encourage you to keep the rails in place.

What is the proposed use but for recreation, and recreation which can bring only a small financial return to the county from a relatively small number of visitors, and at what cost? The current use is also for recreation, but recreation centered around the railroad and its operation for tourists and railfans.

Historic railroads have become very popular and train rides on those railroads are enjoyed by many, in fact, thousands of people each year ride these historic trains on historic rails. I'm reminded of one example my wife and I road this summer while in Melbourne, Australia. It was a weekday, and it was packed full of people from all over the world; maybe as many as 1,000 fares (each spending money in Melbourne and paying tax on each ticket and on everything else, providing excellent revenue for Melbourne and the county it is located within.

Why, because it is historic. "Puffing Billy" is its name, and it lives up to it as it climbs a grade not dissimilar to the Placerville Branch. Interestingly, while the government wanted to pull it out several years ago, today it is one of the most popular attractions in Melbourne. Not only that, but it is fully self sufficient and requires NO GOVERNMENT MONEY to keep it running. Yes, volunteers (railroad enthusiasts... I know, I spoke with some of them, and they love working there) and a small paid staff together keep it going, but the fare charged covers the expense of keeping the ride alive. There is a similar ride which runs out of Dunedin, South Island, New Zealand. The attraction there is much the same, although there the locomotives are diesel.

Lots of revenue is developed from the fact that the trains are there and people want to ride

10-1169.3M.3

them..., not across the country or state, but for a relatively short day outing. The numbers speak for themselves, and the revenue received in the county could, just as it has here with similar operations in the United States, provide a major benefit.

Something else, Mr. Briggs, Sacramento has become a real railroad hub. Consider the California Railroad Museum, the Western Railroad Museum near Rio Vista, and now, the recent acquisition of the Amador Central Railroad (for use by track railroad motorcars) and as a focal point for the Ione Railfair. Railfans from all over the world come to watch and ride the trains and spend money.

I strongly encourage you, Mr. Briggs, to take the long view and keep the rails and railroad in place.

Sincerely,

Richardson Masten
Stockton, CA
95212



Please say NO to the 'Shingle Springs' trail plan
Barbara Adams to: bosfour

03/27/2011 11:45 PM

From: "Barbara Adams" <badams@directv.net>
To: <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please say NO to the 'Shingle Springs' trail plan

It has come to my attention that a plan is to be discussed that will, if implemented, lead to the removal of the railroad track between Shingle Springs and the County Line.

This action will be a disaster for El Dorado County and will amount to a complete waste of County Assets at a time of economic difficulty.

I ask you to fully support the concept of Rails with Trails and the Heritage Railroad. Please protect the railroad track along the whole corridor.

The sooner you support the railway the quicker the investment can begin.

Rails and natural trails is the way forward.

bosone@edcgov.us John Knight
bostwo@edcgov.us Ray Nutting
bosthree@edcgov.us Jack Sweeney
bosfour@edcgov.us Ron Briggs
bosfive@edcgov.us Norma Santiago

edc.cob@edcgov.us Clerk to the Board

Barbara & Lewis Adams
zone 9
Latrobe Ca

10-1169.3M.5

Special Meeting, March 28, 2011, Sacramento Placerville Transportation Corridor

Stanley Price

to:

bosfour

03/27/2011 08:47 PM

Hide Details

From: Stanley Price <2stanleyprice@gmail.com>

To: bosfour@edcgov.us

Supervisor Ron Briggs,

I am writing to you as a passionate bicyclist who opposes removal of the rail on the Sacramento Placerville Transportation Corridor. I began bicycling seriously in the early 1970s including amateur road racing. It was the excellent bicycle riding on the rural roads that attracted me to move to El Dorado County twenty-four years ago. Many of those roads are now too dangerous to ride on.

We have truly historic rail, the first railroad in California, with rail that came around the Horn on sailing ships. Do not eviscerate the remaining rails. The Section 1 you are addressing today is quite compatible with hiking, cycling, rail, and equestrians. It should remain available to all groups.

We need to make our roads safe for bicycling. Let's focus on making it possible to bicycle from our homes, rather than on a recreational path to which we drive in order to ride our bicycles.

Stanley Price

3672 Millbrae Road

Cameron Park, CA 95682

Historical railline from county line to Shingle Springs

Russ Zumwalt

to:

bosfour

03/27/2011 06:31 PM

Cc:

bosone, bostwo, bosthree, bosfive

Hide Details

From: "Russ Zumwalt" <russlyn@directcon.net>

To: <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Cc: <bosone@edcgov.us>, <bostwo@edcgov.us>, <bosthree@edcgov.us>, <bosfive@edcgov.us>

To the El Dorado Count Board of Supervisors: This is a request for you to support the historical railroad from Folsom to Shingle Springs or beyond. A lot of hard work has gone into this project, lets give it a chance to become a reality. Excursion railroads in Santa Cruz, Napa, Sacramento, Jamestown, etc, are an asset to there communittees, this will be also. Thank You for your cosideration. Russell Zumwalt Placerville

railroad tracks

Bob Hannaford

to:

bosfour

03/27/2011 05:19 PM

Hide Details

From: "Bob Hannaford" <bob@hannafordranch.com>

To: <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Please help use save our tracks because they are such a large part of our history. My great grandparents used this railroad to ship their vegetables and cows to market. Thank you Robert Hannaford LATROBE CA

Railroad Tracks

Paula Reece

to:

bosfour

03/27/2011 04:56 PM

Hide Details

From: "Paula Reece" <paula@reecesgarden.com>

To: <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Mr. Briggs,

As a long time resident of El Dorado County I would like you to consider the preservation of the Railroad tracks.

Thank you,
Paula Reece
8481 White Hawk Road
Shingle Springs, Ca

Preserving a multi-use rail corridor

John Stettler

to:

bosone, bostwo, bosthree

03/27/2011 04:01 PM

Cc:

bosfour, bosfive

Hide Details

From: John Stettler <josofjsa@yahoo.com>

To: bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us

Cc: bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us

Greetings Supervisors, With regard to the ultimate use of the Placerville Branch of the railroad, the operative term should be "multi-use". The corridor can meet a variety of user groups without the removal of the rails. In fact the users of the rails are an important work force in maintaining the corridor for the use of all. Bicycles, pedestrians (old and young, fast and slow), naturalists, as well as railroad hobbyists can co-exist on the corridor. Removing the rail does not enhance the use of the property but it does eliminate an important piece of local history and perhaps more importantly it removes a source of substantial revenue. Although I am not a resident of El Dorado County, I spend my time and money in several locations for the preservation of railroad history and to participate in making railroad history come alive for resident and tourist populations. If the track remains, I will be there for you too. Thank you for considering this plea.

John Stettler, PO Box 697, Jackson, CA 209-295-2272

Placerville Rail Corridor

Beardsley

to:

bosfour

03/27/2011 01:01 PM

Hide Details

From: "Beardsley" <lbeardsley@volcano.net>

To: <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Ron Briggs,

Please keep the Placerville Rail Corridor intact. I live in Ione and the Amador Central Railroad is a big asset to the City and county.

Beardsley

Thank you, Larry

Excursion Railroad Request

Geoffrey A. Burns

to:

bosfour

03/27/2011 12:17 PM

Hide Details

From: "Geoffrey A. Burns" <mononfan@gmail.com>

To: bosfour@edcgov.us

Mr Briggs,

I am asking you support the request to open the railroad line between Folsom and Placerville for use as an excursion train route. This would be a large tourist draw and could add a lot of tourist dollars to Folsom, Latrobe, Shingle Springs, El Dorado and Diamond Springs.

Thank you,

Geoffrey Burns

4641 Fawn Street
Shingel Springs, CA
95682
530-677-8554 home
916-356-6091 work

B Babow

to:

bosone, bostwo, bosthree, bosfour, bosfive

03/26/2011 01:01 PM

Cc:

edc.cob

Hide Details

From: "B Babow" <b.babow@comcast.net> Sort List...

To: <bosone@edcgov.us>, <bostwo@edcgov.us>, <bosthree@edcgov.us>, <bosfour@edcgov.us>, <bosfive@edcgov.us>

Cc: <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please say NO to the 'Shingle Springs' trail plan

It has come to my attention that a plan is to be discussed that will, if implemented, lead to the removal of the railroad track between Shingle Springs and the County Line. This action will be a disaster for El Dorado County and will amount to a complete waste of County Assets at a time of economic difficulty.

I ask you to fully **support** the concept of **Rails with Trails** and the **Heritage Railroad**. Please protect the railroad track along the whole corridor. The sooner you support the railway the quicker the investment can begin.

Rails and natural trails is the way forward.

Sincerely,
Barri Babow

Placerville Branch of Railroads tracks.....

Toni

to:

bosfour, bosfive, bosthree, bostwo, bosone

03/26/2011 10:36 AM

Cc:

"Larry Bowler"

Hide Details

From: "Toni" <taklinde@volcano.net> Sort List...

To: <bosfour@edcgov.us>, <bosfive@edcgov.us>, <bosthree@edcgov.us>, <bostwo@edcgov.us>, <bosone@edcgov.us>

Cc: "Larry Bowler" <rrcpres@yahoo.com>

I am writing to each of you in the hopes that you will reconsider a decision to take out the important, historical Placerville Branch of railroads for a bicycle path to replace it!

I don't live in Placerville, but I live in Amador County which just went through very similar situations with our own railroad tracks. I would hope that you could see the value in saving these tracks like Amador County did and preserve what little bits of history we have left that started people coming to this area so many "forgotten" years ago!

I am a teacher in Amador County and we teach the history of these areas to our young students, but it will become more and more meaningless to kids if they never even get to see or experience anything that can connect them to history. Our areas have so much richness to add to their lives but way too much of everything that started these towns has already been lost to developments.

Please don't let these important tracks be another casualty to benefit only a few!

Railroads are not just an important part of that history, but having them in our foothill areas brings so many visitors and events that can be planned around them to bring in tourists from all over. Railroad buffs come in groups and spend their money in our areas which we all so desperately need these days!

Bike trails are already being made around other areas and taking out such an

important part of history to make yet another path for bikes is such a sad compromise. If there isn't a way to make both things work together in the same area, then finding another place for yet another bike path seems like a much better solution than taking out something that can never be replaced again for all of the generations to come!

Having the Placerville Branch connected to the very first railroad to have ever been built east of the Rockies makes this railroad area even more valuable than any others around!

I am writing to you about this as a teacher from the foothill area that just happens to love trains as well. But it's the historical parts of this whole area that I hope you will take into more consideration before just ripping out the tracks that can never be replaced to make a bike path that can be put somewhere else without disturbing our history for future children!

Thank you for your time,

Toni Linde

2nd grade teacher

Plymouth Elementary

Amador County USD

Rails to Trails

Jack Henry

to:

bosone, bostwo, bosthree, bosfour, bosfive

03/26/2011 09:01 AM

Hide Details

From: Jack Henry <jhenry235@gmail.com> Sort List...

To: bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us

Gentlemen: Even though I live in Jackson, Amador County, I feel compelled to address the issue regarding the Rails to Trails controversy. The name says it all "RAILS TO TRAILS." I can't believe you would even consider tearing up ANY of this historic railroad track. The rail folks and the trail folks are supposed to co-exist and share the right of way. One group is not supposed to exert their political influence to push the other group out of the way in order to speed up their agenda. I have never heard the railroad group say they wanted total control over the right of way. Just the opposite. They look forward to a mutual relationship and sharing of that property with the trails group. It is in every ones best interest as well as the community to go forward with the Rails to Trails concept without tearing up any track. Do the right thing and don't be misled by any special interest groups. Jack Henry Jackson, Ca.