

The County of El Dorado

Chief Administrative Office

330 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667-4197

Pamela Knorr Chief Administrative Officer

Phone (530) 621-5530 Fax (530) 626-5730

February 17, 2015

TO:

Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM:

Vickie Sanders, Parks Manager

RE:

Request from P&SVRR

Background

A significant portion of the El Dorado Trail exists within the Sacramento Placerville Transportation Corridor (SPTC). This portion of the trail is mostly unimproved with significant portions laying between the rails, adjacent to the rails or sharing bridges with the rails. The County also operates, through the County Museum, a train program using light train equipment (speeders) within Segment 2 of the SPTC as detailed in the Board of Supervisors priority of uses as established at its March 28, 2011 vote:

1) Adopt the map establishing priority uses as follows: a) Segment 1 – 17.5 mile length from the County line through Latrobe to Mother Lode crossing as a multi-use trail including bike path and equestrian trail; b) Segment 2 – 6 mile length from Mother Lode crossing (mile marker 17.5) through Shingle Springs and El Dorado to Missouri Flat Road to be set aside as a joint multiuse trail for all trail uses, historical railroad and an excursion train; c) Segment 3 – Bike routes to the east of Missouri Flat Road existing Class 1 bike path, bike lanes, and bike route;

The Parks and Recreation Commission and the Board of Supervisors approved a once a month pancake breakfast in 2013 and 2014.

P&SVRR has submitted several documents to this item. I have reviewed these documents and provide the following comments on each.

P&SVRR by the Numbers

This document describes the work that has been completed by P&SVRR. The
partnership with the JPA is the maintenance agreement for weed abatement on
the corridor. The JPA pays for all chemicals and the P&SVRR and FEDSHRA
provides the volunteers. Currently, El Dorado Western Rail Road has obtained

- the training and is working with the other groups to provide weed abatement in El Dorado County
- The majority of the work described in this memo occurred outside of El Dorado County. The only project in El Dorado County was the Washout.
- I requested a financial statement from P&SVRR which I have not received so I cannot verify the claim of \$3,000 contribution to the Latrobe Breakfast.

P&SVRR Goals in El Dorado County

- All of these goals are appreciated and will be discussed and reviewed with the JPA, the Board of Supervisors and the Transportation Division.
- The projects in El Dorado County will require engineering, review and oversight by County Staff.

Progress on the West End: A summary of P&SVRR/FEDSHRA accomplishments in 2013.

The majority of the work and accomplishments are outside of El Dorado County.

Progress on the West End: A summary of P&SVRR/FEDSHRA accomplishments in 2014.

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Staff Recommendations

P&SVRR is requesting permission for 10 Latrobe Pancake Breakfast runs and 28 additional runs not past Latrobe. There are also two runs to Lime Mine Gap.

I recommend approval of Latrobe Pancake Breakfast runs, based on past Board of Supervisor action.

I have concerns about the number of additional trips to Latrobe. At first glance I did not have an issue, but as I count the number of additional trips I have concerns. I believe the Board of Supervisors needs to provide clarity to the action of March 2011 in Segment 1. It is difficult for me to make a recommendation on this issue.

I do not support any use beyond Latrobe. This section has not had any rail use for years and I have concerns about the adjacent property owners. I also feel that the areas we are currently discussing have issues that have not been resolved, so why continue to increase the area of concern when a resolution has not been found.

Significant signage for rail and trail use needs to be addressed. None of the current rail operations have been completely brought into compliance with the direction given by the CPUC. This past year, an Adhoc committee of the Parks and Recreation Commission did develop a sign plan for approximately 2.2 miles of the El Dorado Western Rail Road program; however there is no signage in place yet. A sign plan for the remainder of segment 2 needs to be documented.