



Donna Mullens <donna.mullens@edcgov.us>

Fwd: EDC Park & Rec special meeting

1 message

Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>
 To: Donna Mullens <donna.mullens@edcgov.us>

Mon, Nov 5, 2018 at 7:46 AM

Post this to comments. I know you have it. Just trying to keep up.

Vickie Sanders
 Parks Manager
 County of El Dorado
 Chief Administrative Office
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jackie Neau** <jackieno@gmail.com>
 Date: Sun, Nov 4, 2018 at 8:31 AM
 Subject: EDC Park & Rec special meeting
 To: <PRC@edcgov.us>, Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>
 Cc: Steve Yonker <steveyonker@gmail.com>, Michael Kenison <mikejken@gmail.com>

Dear El Dorado County Park & Recreation Commission,

We, (Friends of El Dorado Trail and El Dorado Trail Development Group,) respectfully request you postpone item 18-1751. The trail community has not been engaged, invited, included, or notified by the museum for any of these items. Therefore, they have not gone through an open and inclusive process before asking for your approval. We'd like items 2-5 to come back to the parks and rec manager, scheduling meetings with all stakeholders, so the item can come to you fully vetted and with the endorsement of all interested and involved groups and entities.

The items and our comments:

- 1) **Receive a report on the El Dorado Western Railroad, a program of the El Dorado County Historical Museum;** We'd like to see included in the museum report an update of the El Dorado train park approved in 2009. It's been nearly 10 years since this project has been approved. Where is the project at, addressing each item of the park, funding secured, and when completion of each item is anticipated?
- 2) **Authorize the use of standard rolling stock on the section of track from MP 142 to MP 144.8, in compliance with Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) requirements;** We are conceptually supportive of this as long as the CPUC understands exactly where both the dirt trail and the class 1 trail cross (or are about to cross) the tracks. We want to attend all CPUC meetings and make sure the CPUC understands the trail crossings. DOT should also be present, as they are currently planning this project. Let's plan these crossings and any potential conflicts together. We all know there is a paved trail, dirt trail, and excursion train to consider. Let's work together.
- 3) **Approve the reinstallation of At-Grade Crossing equipment at the Forni Road railroad crossing;** Again, we are conceptually supportive, but would like the opportunity to review what that would look like and how it would effect both the dirt and class 1 trail, and public safety. It again would be appropriate to have DOT review this also, as they have first hand knowledge of the project going in. Again, we're requesting a meeting with the parks and rec manager, the CPUC, DOT and the museum. A crossing that includes all the uses, with all the entities present, will be able to better anticipate and mitigate any potential conflicts. Let's work together.
- 4) **Approve a Management Plan for SPTC Train Operations, Right of Way & Track Maintenance (MP 119.4 to MP 144.8) in El Dorado County;** This is an 18 page document that claims to work with trail users. We need time to review this. The 2003 SPTC Master Plan is cited several times in this document. Is the museum

proposing we follow this document? The SPTC Master Plan states excursion trains will not be subsidized with taxpayer funds, yet the memo states \$33,000 of taxpayer funds through the general fund are going to be used to subsidize excursion rail projects. We would like to work with the parks and rec manager to address concerns, changes, etc. Let's work together.

5) Approve the Diamond Springs Railroad Maintenance Yard concept and give direction to staff to proceed with CEQA analysis budgeted for the 2018-19 fiscal year. This is a very big item that has never been mentioned before. It requires a much larger public process. Over 70 stakeholders were identified for the SPTC Alternatives Analysis conducted by the EDC Transportation Commission. None of these stakeholders have been contacted or included in the planning of this area. Again, we request meeting with the parks and rec manager as a starting point. Let's work together and consider all interests.

Additionally, We'd like to note that the museum does not hold public meetings for their train program and projects. El Dorado Western hosts meetings which members and volunteers are only invited. We'd like the commission to review these policies, and work with the museum to bring a more inclusive, transparent, and public process to the museum program.

Lastly, we'd like to note that these are 5 agenda items, not one. It is a disservice to the public to try to roll them all together.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jackie Neau on behalf of Friends of El Dorado Trail

Mike Kenison on behalf of El Dorado Trail Development Group