



Board of Directors
North Coast Railroad Authority
c/o Mitch Stogner, Executive Director
419 Talmage Road, Suite M
Ukiah, CA 95482

October 1, 2019

Subject: REQUEST FOR AN EASMENT FOR THE UKIAH RAIL TRAIL AND ASSOCIATED PROPERTY

Dear Mr. Stogner,

As you are aware, the City of Ukiah has been very active in developing the “rail trail” within the City limits and within the NCRA right-of-way, and is eager to further coordinate trail and trail-related improvements that support and connect with the Great Redwood Trail envisioned to extend throughout the Ukiah Valley and beyond. Phase One of the multi-use Ukiah Rail Trail was recently constructed and spans the center of Ukiah, and construction of Phases Two and Three, which will extend the trail to both the north and south city limits, have begun.

This local section of the trail has the potential to provide a much-needed safe and efficient corridor for bicycle and pedestrian traffic, as well as direct access to major employment centers, services, shopping, residential areas, the future Mendocino County courthouse, and connectivity to other bicycle routes. Unfortunately, there have been incidences of misuse, leading to a perception that the trail is unsafe. So that we may more effectively protect and enforce the trail area, the City proposes to establish an easement along the rail trail, including the entire rail corridor that parallels it, allowing the City to establish this area as a municipal park by the approval of a new resolution. Please refer to the attached map that outlines the footprint of the trail.

The resolution would amend a City ordinance by adding subsection Q to Ukiah City Code Section 1965, to established the Ukiah Rail Trail as a City park. In addition to establishing the park, Ukiah City Code Section 1966 establishes the days and hours when City parks are open to the general public. Additionally, Subsection P further provides that other rules and regulations than those prescribed in Division 1, Chapter 12 of the Ukiah City Code, governing Parks and Recreation Facilities in the City, shall also apply to the Rail Trail, if such rules are adopted by resolution of the City Council.

To assist in the enforcement of Subsection P the City would have the authority to place signs providing notice of Rail Trail hours and acceptable activities. This would greatly enhance our public safety officials in their efforts to promote safe use of the Ukiah Rail Trail.

The City formally requests that your board consider our request for an easement for the Ukiah Rail Trail and in doing so assist our efforts to keep the trail a safe resource for our community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Maya Simerson, at msimerson@cityofukiah.com or (707) 367-0699, or myself.

Sincerely,



Sage Sangiacomo

City Manager

Attachment: City of Ukiah Rail Trail Map



EXISTING PEDESTRIAN TRAIL (VIEW SOUTH)



ORR CREEK BRIDGE (VIEW NORTH)



PERKINS ST. - RR DEPOT BUILDING (VIEW SOUTH)



NORTON STREET ACCESS POINT (VIEW WEST)



PERKINS ST. (VIEW NORTH)



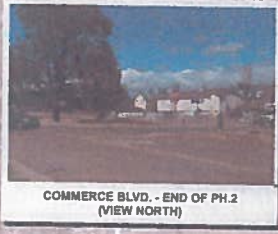
GOBBI ST. SAFETY ENHANCED CROSSWALK



CONCEPTUAL DESIGN (VIEW SOUTH)



CONCEPTUAL DESIGN - BRIDGE CROSSING (VIEW SOUTH)



COMMERCE BLVD. - END OF PH.2 (VIEW NORTH)

PHASE 3

PHASE 1

PHASE 2

LOCATION MAP - CITY LIMITS



CITY OF UKIAH SNAPSHOT OF NWP RAIL TRAIL

