



MEMO

To: NCRA Board of Directors

From: Executive Director Stogner

Date: December 9, 2019

Subject: **Agenda Item E.3 – Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Ukiah Proposal to Include NCRA Right-of-Way Within the City’s Park System**

The City of Ukiah has a license agreement, approved by the NCRA Board of Directors in 2014, which authorizes construction of a multi-use trail along NCRA right-of-way within the city limits of Ukiah.

Phase 1 was recently constructed and spans the center of downtown Ukiah and phases 2 and 3, which will extend the trail to both the south and north city limits, are well underway.

To help to ensure safety and protection of trail users, the City proposes to establish an easement along the rail trail, including the entire rail corridor that parallels it, which allows the city to establish this area as a municipal park.

NCRA legal counsel, in consultation with the city attorney, believes that the best way to accomplish this objective is to amend the 2014 license agreement to specifically authorize the City to designate the right-of-way identified in the 2014 license agreement as a City Park under Ukiah City Code. This agreement would require prior approval by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) as per SB 1029.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve amendment to 2014 license agreement between NCRA and the City of Ukiah, authorizing the City to designate the NCRA right-of-way identified in the June 18, 2014 license agreement as a City Park under Ukiah City Code, subject to consent and approval by the CTC as per SB 1029.