



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 5/11/2010
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NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Nancy Johnson for Florin, Lawrance - Director
Community and Intergovernmental Affairs Division
REPORT BY: JoAnn Melgar, STAFF ASSISTANT - BOS - 299-1478
SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Napa Valley Vine Trail CAT Statement (Supervisor Dillon)

RECOMMENDATION

Community and Intergovernmental Affairs Manager requests adoption of a resolution endorsing the Napa Valley Vine Trail Case Statement, encouraging support for its inclusion in the Campaign for Active Transportation, other federal and state programs and legislation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To assist the Vine Trail in securing federal and State funds, proponents have requested that the County accept their "case statement" and support it by adopting a formal resolution. The Community and Intergovernmental Affairs Manager has prepared such a resolution and requests the Board's adoption, recognizing that approval of the Case Statement does not commit the County to provide funding, to approve construction of the trail, or to approve property (or easement) acquisition.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Staff report
2. Public comment
3. Motion, second, discussion and vote on the item

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition (Vine Trail), a nonprofit corporation comprised of 19 public and private organizations including public entity representatives, State and local regulatory and resources agencies, trade organizations and nonprofit groups, has developed a Case Statement for inclusion of the Vine Trail in the national Campaign for Active Transportation (CAT) program. The Case Statement describes the Vine Trail as part of an interconnected countywide/regional trail system that also includes the Bay and Ridge Trails. It outlines the need for such a multi-use trail system in Napa County, the community response to meet that need, the plan, its costs, its unique private/public funding approach and the benefits of completing the trail. The Case Statement proposes that the CAT and the next Federal Transportation Funding bill help the Vine Trail achieve its goal of transforming active transportation in Napa County. The Vine Trail has requested that Napa County jurisdictions pass a resolution in support of the Case Statement's inclusion in the CAT program and other federal and state programs and legislation. The cities of Napa, Calistoga and St. Helena and the Napa County Transportation and Planning Authority have each adopted versions of the proposed resolution.

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) is a funding and authorization bill that is intended to improve and maintain the surface transportation infrastructure in the United States including the interstate highway system, transit systems and bicycling and pedestrian facilities. SAFETEA-LU created the Non-motorized Transportation Pilot Program to construct a network of non-motorized transportation infrastructure facilities in order to demonstrate the extent to which bicycling and walking can carry a significant part of the transportation load. The CAT program aims to expand the Non-motorized Transportation Pilot Program in the next federal transportation reauthorization expected to come before Congress in 2011. The goal is to fund dozens of communities across the country with \$50 million per community to promote trails, walking and biking. The campaign aspires to elevate the importance of trails, walking and biking as mainstream transportation options. The Vine Trail's Case Statement is an application for inclusion in this list of engaged communities. According to the Federal Highway Administration University Course on bicycle and pedestrian transportation, nearly half of all trips in the United States are three miles or less.

According to the Surface Transportation Policy Project, a nation-wide non-profit coalition working to ensure safer communities and smarter transportation choices, bicyclists and pedestrians represent 14 percent of all traffic fatalities in the United States yet those groups receive less than one percent of all federal road spending. The greatest potential to increase walking and bicycling in Napa County is by connecting all of the communities in the County together as described in the 2009 Greenway Feasibility Study (see the following website: NapasTransportationFuture.googlepages.com/napagreenwayfeasibilitystudy.)

The Vine Trail project was the subject of in depth planning by consultants under contract to NCTPA, and is being implemented by the private non-profit Vine Trail Coalition. NCTPA is beginning an update of the County-wide bicycle plan that will include the Vine Trail as a part of the proposed County bicycle path network. The coalition is actively seeking public and private support, and hopes to secure the majority of the funding needed to construct the trail system via the upcoming reauthorization of the federal transportation bill. Any State or federal funds ultimately made available to the project would likely be dispersed through NCTPA.

To assist the Vine Trail in securing federal and State funds, proponents have requested that the County accept their "case statement" and support it by adopting a formal resolution. The Community and

Intergovernmental Affairs Manager has prepared such a resolution and requests the Board's adoption, recognizing that approval of the Case Statement does not commit the County to provide funding, to approve construction of the trail, or to approve property (or easement) acquisition.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- A . Napa Valley Vine Trail Case Statement
- B . Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Maiko Klieman