



HCAOG

Regional Transportation
Planning Agency

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August 18, 2017

Mitch Stogner, Executive Director
North Coast Railroad Authority
419 Talmage Road, Suite M
Ukiah, CA 95482

Future of the Line North of Willits

Dear Mitch,

In light of recent public meetings regarding the future of the most northern section of rail line, the requests of the Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission (CTC), and the possibility of legislative action, I am writing to stress the importance of local government participation and partnership in future discussions of right of way in Humboldt County.

Of chief concern at the CTC meeting was the statement that a possible action could be to "report to the State that they are in charge of the 300 miles of right of way." As Humboldt County's Regional Transportation Planning Agency representing eight local governments, the Humboldt County Association of Governments Board feels it is necessary to be involved in discussions concerning the future of the railroad corridor in Humboldt County. No matter what the future holds for the line north of Willits, the right of way is best in local hands.

Please feel free to contact Marcella Clem at 707-444-8208 or marcella.clem@hcaog.net for any meeting coordination.

Sincerely,

Ryan Sundberg
HCAOG Chair

cc: State Senator Mike McGuire
State Assembly Member Jim Wood
Caltrans Deputy District Director, Brad Mettam