



HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority
Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies
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AGENDA ITEM 7c
HCAOG Board Meeting
August 17, 2017

DATE: August 8, 2017
TO: HCAOG Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)
FROM: Marcella Clem, Executive Director
SUBJECT: **Letter to the North Coast Rail Authority (NCRA)**

STAFF REPORT

Contents:

- Staff's Recommended Action
- Staff Summary
- Draft letter to the NCRA

Staff's Recommended Action:

1. Introduce the item as an action item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss item and consider making the motion:
"I move that the PAC recommend the HCAOG Board direct staff to send an approved letter to the North Coast Rail Authority."

Staff Summary:

For the June 28 California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting, Caltrans prepared a staff report regarding their current involvement with the North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA). While they do not currently have an oversight role with the NCRA, Caltrans and the CTC expressed concerns about their ongoing financial deficit and their ability to continue without dedicated state and/or federal funding. Of concern during the testimony were options the NCRA Executive Director summarized regarding the NCRA's financial position:

1. Continue to grapple with the deficit.
2. Report to the State that *they* are in charge of the (northernmost) 300 miles of right of way.
3. Seek State legislation for funding.

The purpose of the draft letter to the NCRA is to request that HCAOG representatives be involved in discussions regarding the future of the rail line in Humboldt County.