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May 31, 2013

City of Arcata
736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

Subject: Support for Arcata Non-Motorized Trail Project

Dear Mayor Britton:

On behalf of Green Wheels and the North Coast Environmental Center (NEC), I'd like to express our full support for the City's "Rail with Trail Connectivity Project." As a program of the NEC, Green Wheels actively works for a healthier community, economy and environment, advocating for balanced and sustainable transportation on the North Coast. This means transit as a viable alternative to driving for working families, land use planning to make sustainable transportation more cost- and time-effective, and bike and pedestrian infrastructure that everyone feels safe using – which would be realized through the completion of a Humboldt Bay Trail between Eureka and Arcata.

The Arcata Rail with Trail Connectivity Project is a unique opportunity to develop a regional trail along Humboldt Bay. When complete, the trail will serve as a key non-motorized means of commuter access and help reduce the level of risk associated with vehicular collision that cyclists and pedestrians currently face when traversing the corridor between Arcata and Eureka. On a personal note as a bicycle commuter, I can personally attest to the dangers of the corridor for bicyclists and motorists alike and, along with many of our supporters, I very much look forward to the day when the Humboldt Bay Trail is complete. The project illustrates a combination of meeting both local and regional non-motorized transportation needs and demonstrates a comprehensive design that is ready to implement.

The City of Arcata's request for federal assistance to help implement this project is a cause we wholeheartedly support. Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding our interests in this project.

Sincerely,


Dan Ehresman
Executive Director