May 31, 2013

Mayor, City of Arcata
736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

Dear Mayor Britton:

The Humboldt Bay Bicycle Commuters Association (HBBCA) fully supports the proposed Rail with Trail connectivity project and views this as one of the most significant opportunities to further the interests of bicycle commuters in the history of the Humboldt Bay region. This project substantially improves accessibility for bicyclists around Humboldt Bay. It will help serve to encourage residents to pursue bicycling as a means of physical activity, ultimately leading to a healthier lifestyle and greater interest in taking up bicycle commuting. Creating a Class I path along the Bay that is separate from the US 101 corridor will be especially important to those cyclists who do not feel comfortable sharing a high volume freeway/expressway with motorists. As a matter of fact, that includes most cyclists and prospective bicycle commuters.

The goal of the HBBCA is to improve and encourage bicycle commuting. The HBBCA has adopted the following policies in support of this goal, all of which are consistent with the pursuit of this project:

- Promote the personal and societal benefits of bicycle commuting.
- Serve as an effective advocate for the interests of commuting bicyclists.
- Work cooperatively with State, regional and local agencies to identify and secure improvements and maintenance needed by commuting bicyclists.
- Assure that street, highway, and bike projects are developed consistent with State standards and the requirements of the California Vehicle Code.
- Educate and advocate for the improvement of bike safety.

Our association fully supports the City of Arcata’s effort to secure funding for this project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (707) 445-1097 or by email at info@humbike.org.

Sincerely,

Rick Knapp, President