May 28, 2013

City of Arcata
517 5th Street
Arcata, CA 95521

Subject: Support for the City of Arcata Rail with Trail Connectivity Project

Dear Mayor Shane Briton,

The Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA) has a long been committed to developing community-based services and activities designed for low- and moderate-income residents within the Humboldt County region. Our long-term goal is to develop programs that empower residents to become more self-sufficient, ultimately improving health and wellbeing. For over 29 years, our Natural Resources Services Division has been instrumental in the planning and development of regional, multipurpose trails as a way to encourage active living and equitable transportation options through Humboldt County, which coincides with the objectives of this project.

RCAA fully supports the current Rail with Trail Connectivity Project and views this as an opportunity to further the interests of the north coast community and our organization. From our perspective, this project fulfills goals of improving opportunities for residents to be active and increasing transportation equity within the region. The Rail with Trail Connectivity Project will enable residents to have more opportunities to access goods and services by non-motorized modes of transportation. In addition, this effort provides a greater opportunity for residents to be physically active, which can lead to a healthier lifestyle.

A TIGER Discretionary grant is a perfect match for this project. Our local community has a proven track record of developing and maintaining non-motorized transportation corridors but the high cost per mile of this critical section is out of reach for our rural, economically disadvantaged region.

We wholeheartedly support this effort, for residents and visitors alike.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Val Martinez
Executive Director
Redwood Community Action Agency
904 G Street Eureka, CA 95501