

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

958 B



FROM: TLMA - Planning Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
February 21, 2008

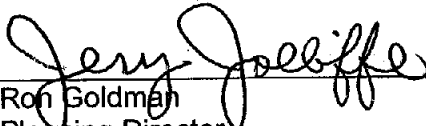
SUBJECT: San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Project

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors extend the period of operation of the San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Task Force for an additional six months, and direct the Task Force to return to the Board at that time with a final report and recommendations on an overall strategy and specific actions for the Board to consider adopting to implement the concept of a Heritage Corridor in the San Gorgonio Pass area.

BACKGROUND: On November 6, 2007, the Board of Supervisors established the San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Task Force, and directed the Task Force to report back to the Board in 90 days with either their recommendations for implementing the concept of a Heritage Corridor in the San Gorgonio Pass area, or a report on their progress in developing the recommendations.

The Task Force has begun to examine the issues and potential for the establishment of the Heritage Corridor. At this time, their report is in regard to the progress of the effort. Due to the variety of farming, resort, and other private stakeholder interests in the project, and the number of public agencies involved, both at the state and local levels in Riverside County, including local cities, and neighboring San Bernardino County, is estimated that it will take an additional six months to complete this project, and provide the Board with the Task Force's final recommendations.

Following preparations at the staff level, the Task Force convened its first meeting on February 14, 2008, at the Edward-Dean Museum in Cherry Valley. Participating in the meeting were representatives of the local community, including Scott Riley of Oak Glen Riley's Farm, Tina Kummerle and Tom Chong of Highland Springs Resort (Ms. Kummerle also represents the


Jerry Jolliffe for
Deputy Planning Director
Ron Goldman
Planning Director

RG:jj

(Continued On Attached Page)

REVIEWED BY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

DATE 2/21/08
Tina Grande

Departmental Concurrence

Dept. Comm.: Consent
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent
 Policy
 Policy

Pass Municipal Advisory Council), Allen Parker, Pamela Scott of Banning Health Services, Mickey Valdivia of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Recreation and Park District, Bob Bolts, representing the City of Banning, Chris Tracy and Kyle Warminski, representing the City of Beaumont, Robin Hastings and Jaime Hurtado, representing Supervisor Ashley, Keith Herron, representing the Regional Park and Open Space District, Terri Bowen and Christie Burton of the Edward-Dean Museum, Laurence Tai, of the County Transportation Department, and Jerry Jolliffe, of the County Planning Department. Members of the Task Force that were unable to participate in the February 14th meeting included the State Departments of Parks and Recreation and Transportation, the Farm Bureau, and the Building Industry Association.

In summary, the Task Force discussed the potential overall context of the Heritage Corridor concept, and some specific ideas that they believe are worthy of further pursuit. It was felt that greater involvement from local citizens and the local business community was needed. Accordingly, additional stakeholders, including local Chambers of Commerce, will be invited to participate in the project.

The City of Beaumont reported that they are currently preparing a design guidelines program for the City's business area, and it was felt by the Task Force that the city's program could be tied in to signage, and other means of identifying a corridor or corridors linking I-10 with local businesses, farms, historical features, etc., in adjacent communities.

It was also noted that it is important to establish an interest in the area's local history, in its children, to ensure that there is a continuing local knowledge and involvement in the area's history, economy, and related activities, in the future. Therefore, the Heritage Corridor would need to include the involvement of local schools and youth-oriented institutions.

The Task Force also cited a need to identify and inventory all local businesses, historical features, and other factors that could contribute to the Heritage Corridor, and information regarding what markets are being targeted, and how to target them; and what types of business, recreational, etc. activities would be appropriate and realistic as part of the Heritage Corridor.

At the conclusion of the meeting, a number of follow-up actions were identified for the participants. It is anticipated that future meetings would be held monthly. The next meeting is set for March 13, 2008, at 2:00 p.m., at the Edward-Dean Museum.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



3.42

On motion of Supervisor Buster, seconded by Supervisor Stone and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the Report/Recommendations from the Planning Department on the San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Task Force-Orchard Overlay, is continued to Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full true, and correct copy of an order made and entered on February 5, 2008 of Supervisors Minutes.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors

Dated: February 5, 2008
Nancy Romero, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in
and for the County of Riverside, State of California.

(seal)

By *Jane Blum* Deputy

AGENDA NO.

xc: Planning, COB

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Marion Ashley

SUBMITTAL DATE:
November 1, 2007

SUBJECT: San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Project

BACKGROUND: The San Gorgonio Pass area contains a variety of agricultural activities, some of which are particularly suited to the area due primarily to its altitude and other factors, and it is— and was, historically—very important as the main eastern gateway into Southern California. Crops such as apples, cherries, and lavender are suited to this area, and for many years have lent themselves to local festivals such as those in Beaumont (Cherry Festival) and Oak Glen (numerous apple harvest-related activities, in nearby San Bernardino County, “u-pick” farms, and other important tourism-oriented and community image-making activities. The area was crossed by the historic Bradshaw Trail, and contains important historical resources such as the Edward Dean Museum and Gardens, the Gilman Ranch, the San Timoteo Schoolhouse, the Highland Springs Resort, and other resources. The Pass’s agricultural activities and historical resources are important to the tourism based component of the area’s economy, as well as the special image and character of the area and its individual communities, and they set this area apart from the rest of the County and all of Southern California as a unique and special place.

It would be beneficial to the area’s agriculture, businesses, and the public, to work together with local citizens, cities, and other agencies to enhance the area’s tourism potential and reinforce its agricultural heritage/historical image. In addition, the State of California, through AB 2635, called the “California Heritage Corridor Act” (attached), passed into law in 2006 and gave direction and funding for the California Department of Parks and Recreation, working with Caltrans, to designate and develop signage to identify historical resources around the state. One of the keys to enhancing the tourism

Marion Ashley

Marion Ashley

initials

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Stone, seconded by Supervisor Tavaglione and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Buster, Tavaglione, Stone, Wilson and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: November 6, 2007
xc: Supv. Ashley, E.O., Affected Local Agencies, COB

Nancy Romero
Clerk of the Board
Nancy Romero
Deputy

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District:

Agenda Number:

RECEIVED BY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

DATE

Tina Grande
Departmental Concurrence

Policy

Policy

Consent

Consent

Dep't Recomm.:

Per Exec. Ofc.:

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
RE: San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Project
November 1, 2007
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potential in the Pass area, is to enhance the signage identifying this area and its resources to I-10 motorists, and identifying routes from the freeway to local points of agricultural and historical interest.

Therefore, I propose that a Heritage Corridor be established in the San Gorgonio Pass area, that it be a cooperative effort that includes both the County and initially, the Cities of Banning and Beaumont, and other affected local agencies, and that a task force be appointed to study ways of enhancing the tourism potential and community image of the area, and report back to the Board, within 90 days, with its recommendations. The task force would contact and work with the referenced state agencies, to coordinate the Heritage Corridor project with the California Heritage Corridor program administered by the state. The task force would consider matters relating to identifying routes important to tourism in the area and identifying important sites and activities along those routes, and signage and advertising for both, improvements to cultural, civic, park, and trail facilities in the area, and possible future allowances for small scale businesses, such as fruit stands, bed and breakfasts, restaurants, and hotels/motels that might be appropriate for the area and supportive of the overall objectives for the Heritage Corridor. If the task force has not completed its recommendations within 90 days, the task force would be requested to provide the Board with a report at that time regarding their progress toward producing the recommendations. It is envisioned that their recommendations could constitute an initial step toward possible additional actions in the future. If the Heritage Corridor recommendations are implemented successfully, then later, other local cities (in addition to Beaumont and Banning) and our neighbor, San Bernardino County, might be brought into in an expanded Heritage Corridor effort.

I envision that the San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Task Force would be comprised of the following organizations and individuals: Riverside County TLMA/Planning Department, TLMA/Transportation Department, Regional Parks and Open Space District, Agricultural Commissioner, and Economic Development Agency; the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Parks and Recreation District, the Cities of Banning and Beaumont, the Building Industry Association, the Farm Bureau, Tina Kummerle (Highland Springs Resort) and Scott Riley (Oak Glen).

It should be emphasized that is envisioned this project is intended to benefit the agriculture, businesses, and citizens of the San Gorgonio Pass area, and that wherever possible, implementation measures should be voluntary in nature. No property rights are intended to be adversely affected by this project.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors: 1) establish a San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Task Force, as described herein; 2) direct the task force to develop recommendations, including an overall strategy and specific actions, for the Board to consider adopting that would implement the concept of a Heritage Corridor in the San Gorgonio Pass area; and 3) direct the task force to report back to the Board with their recommendations, or their progress toward preparing them, within 90 days.