

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



FROM: Supervisor Marion Ashley

DATE:
October 28, 2008

SUBJECT: San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Project

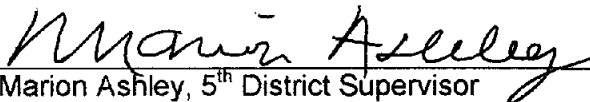
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors: 1) establishes the San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Advisory Committee, to consist of the organizations and persons listed herein; 2) directs the committee to prepare an application to the National Park Service for the designation of the Pass area in both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties as a National Heritage Corridor, identify funding sources for the preparation of the application and related activities, and advises the Board on related matters necessary to support the heritage corridor; and 3) directs the committee to provide a progress report to the Board within six months regarding the preparation of the NHC application.

BACKGROUND: Since February of this year, my staff and the staffs of several County departments have been working, through the San Gorgonio Heritage Corridor Task Force, with local cities and tourism-oriented businesses in the Pass area, neighboring San Bernardino County, the Building Industry Association, the Riverside County Property Owners Association, the State Parks Department, Caltrans, and other interested persons to explore the viability of establishing a heritage corridor program for the Pass area. The purpose of the program is to emphasize the historical, cultural, and scenic attributes of the San Gorgonio Pass area, for the education and benefit of local residents, businesses, and tourists.

On October 7th, the Board directed staff to return within 30 days with specific recommendations regarding the establishment of the San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor, and the establishment of a committee to work with local, state, and federal agencies to advise the Board regarding the proposed corridor.

I recommend that a San Gorgonio Pass Heritage Corridor Advisory Committee be established

jj/rnh


Marion Ashley, 5th District Supervisor

Dept
Per Exec.

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District:

Agenda Number:

3.1

that would consist of the 13 persons/organizations listed below:

- 1) Robin Hastings, Chief of Staff to Supervisor Marion Ashley.
- 2) Office of San Bernardino County Supervisor Neil Derry.
- 3) City of Beaumont.
- 4) Highland Springs Resort.
- 5) Another representative from the local agri-tourism industry.
- 6) Jane Block, Riverside Land Conservancy.
- 7) Yucaipa Historical Society.
- 8) Building Industry Association, Riverside County Chapter.
- 9) Riverside County Property Owners' Association.
- 10) Riverside County Park and Open Space District.
- 11) Riverside County Economic Development Agency.
- 12) Riverside County TLMA/Transportation Department.
- 13) Riverside County TLMA/Planning Department.

The Planning Director or his departmental designee will serve as the committee's chair. In addition, when the Committee convenes, it would select (2) two alternate members.

The committee would be expected to meet on a regular basis, and would bring, through the TLMA/Planning Department, matters to the Board that require the Board's action, as appropriate. The committee will also provide a progress report on this project to the Board in six months.

The Committee would primarily be charged with preparing an application to the National Park Service for designation of the San Gorgonio Pass as a National Heritage Corridor. Later, it would be the County's intention to seek State designation as a California Heritage Corridor, in accordance with AB 2625, whereby the State, through its Parks Department and Caltrans, would assist the County with highway signage associated with the Corridor.

The Committee will also be charged with seeking funding sources for the preparation of the application, the development of a primary theme, logo, and name for the corridor, and the establishment of a project website. This will be a virtual corridor with major area road loops that have been tentatively identified as important to unifying opportunities for educational, tourism, and scenic appreciation purposes, that primarily link San Timoteo Canyon, Beaumont, Cherry Valley, Oak Glen, and Yucaipa/Redlands.

In addition, there are many sites of historical interest in this region that could be linked through the virtual corridor concept, including linkages to existing nationally recognized historical resources, such as the Bradshaw Trail National Scenic Byway, and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historical Trail.