

Excerpt from FY 2010/11 Overall Work Program

WORK ELEMENT (5)

RAILS WITH TRAILS CORRIDOR PLAN

PURPOSE:

To prepare a “Rails with Trails” Corridor Plan, for the rail corridor throughout Mendocino County. The main focus is expected to concentrate on urban areas from Hopland to Willits, along with consideration of possible inter-regional connections

PREVIOUS WORK:

MCOG has done no prior related studies or plans. The City of Ukiah conducted a feasibility study several years ago which studied the rail corridor through Ukiah. The City of Willits has included some potential rail projects in the 2009 Bicycle & Pedestrian Specific Plan. The NCRA adopted “Rails with Trails Guidelines” in 2009.

TASKS:

1. Develop Scope of Work for a regional “Rails with Trails Corridor Plan”. (MCOG staff, Cities of Ukiah, Willits, and County DOT staff)
2. Develop Request for Proposals (RFP) and distribute to qualified firms. (MCOG staff)
3. Review proposals, coordinate consultant selection process, prepare and administer contract. (MCOG staff)
4. Hold project kick-off meeting to refine scope of work and schedule. (MCOG staff, Cities of Ukiah, Willits, and County DOT staff, Consultant)
5. Meet with representatives from the North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) to obtain feedback on the “Rails with Trails” Corridor Plan concept. (MCOG staff, Consultant)
6. Gather and review existing data, and assess existing conditions of the rail corridor. (Consultant)
7. Research adopted NCRA Rails with Trails Guidelines to determine requirements for rails with trails projects. (Consultant)
8. Research safety, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and legal requirements and standards for rails with trails projects. (Consultant)
9. Consult with City of Ukiah, City of Willits, and County DOT staff to identify improvement needs and opportunities in each jurisdiction. (Consultant)

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10. Conduct two public workshops (in Ukiah and Willits) to solicit public input on the proposed “Rails with Trails” corridor; potential trail projects, and improvement needs. (Consultant)
11. Develop potential rails with trails candidate projects with input from MCOG, Cities of Ukiah, Willits, County of Mendocino, and the public. (Consultant)
12. Prioritize candidate projects within each jurisdiction, and identify funding opportunities. (Consultant)
13. Research existing bicycle routes throughout rail corridor to identify inter-regional connections. (Consultant)
14. Prepare Draft “Rails with Trails Corridor Plan”. (Consultant)
15. Review and comment on Draft Plan (MCOG staff, Cities of Ukiah and Willits, County of Mendocino).
16. Prepare Final Plan. (Consultant)
17. Present Final Plan to MCOG for acceptance at a public hearing. (Consultant)

PRODUCTS:

Request for Proposals, Consultant Contract, Draft & Final “Rails with Trails” Corridor Plan

FUNDING & AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Estimated Person Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Funding Sources</u>	
			<u>Local PPM (10%)</u>	<u>State * CBTP Grant (90%)</u>
MCOG Staff	12	\$ 9,000	\$ 900	\$ 8,100
Consultant	81	\$ 81,000	\$8,100	\$72,900
County/Cities of Ukiah & Willits	17	\$ 10,000	\$1,000	\$ 9,000
Total	----- 110	----- \$100,000	----- \$10,000	----- \$90,000

**Caltrans Community Based Transportation Planning grant funds requested*