

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5th Street, Suite 111, Eureka, CA 95501-1153 Telephone (707) 476-2390 Fax (707) 445-7299

May 28, 2019

North Coast Railroad Authority 419 Talmage Road Suite M Ukiah, CA 95482 Attn: Mitch Stogner, Executive Director

Re: Support for Rail Runners Humboldt Bay

Dear Mr. Stogner:

I write to convey the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors support for the introduction of rail bicycling on the North Coast Rail Authority right of way in the Humboldt Bay area. The use of existing infrastructure for the establishment of an additional recreational use is a valuable economic opportunity for our region. Rail Runners Humboldt Bay's plans will allow the public a unique opportunity to experience the scenic vistas that include the Woodley Island Marina and a federally managed wildlife area along the railroad right of way.

Research indicates that rail runners have become a very popular form of recreation enjoyed by a variety of demographics while providing safe enjoyment to less physically able people and increases their ability to access this very scenic corridor and coastal area. This popular form of recreation would also benefit associated businesses including Old Town shopping, restaurants and hotels located within close proximity of the proposed operation.

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors also supports the efforts of the proposed Bay Trail and understands there may need to be modest design changes to accommodate all users for maximum benefits.

Sincerely,

Rex Bohn, Chair Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

RB:kh