

RESOLUTION 13-54

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY AND ADVANCE THE FREIGHT RAIL REALIGNMENT IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN YOLO COUNTY

WHEREAS, The cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland and the County of Yolo are impacted by rail routes operated by Sierra Northern Railway and California Northern Railroad, (under lease from Union Pacific Railroad) in Yolo County; and

WHEREAS, such impacts include more than 20 at grade crossings affecting public safety response times, causing congestion, and preventing the economic use of lands in the central parts of the three cities; and

WHEREAS, the Fremont Trestle located within the Yolo Bypass presents a significant flood protection obstacle to Yolo County jurisdictions as well as Sacramento County; and

WHEREAS, potential realignment options that would re-route California Northern Railroad and Sierra Northern Railway lines from the core areas of the cities of Davis and Woodland and more favorably route remaining rail within the City of West Sacramento warrant further study; and

WHEREAS, rail realignment could potentially allow stranded acreage in the Cities of Davis, West Sacramento and Woodland to contribute to smart growth infill development in these communities, enhance response times for public safety, improve flood flows in the Yolo Bypass, and create recreational opportunities through potential rail to trail conversion for the abandoned right of ways; and

WHEREAS, rail realignment would reduce the number of at-grade crossings and in-city switching operations, would better serve existing industrial users and open opportunities for rail to waste/recycling, would significantly reduce truck trips on highways and roadways, would reduce traffic congestion and delays and improve air quality; and

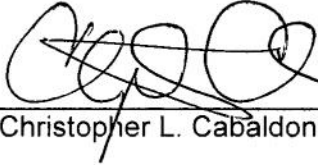
WHEREAS, federal, state, and other funding opportunities exist that could bring substantial resources to bear on developing and implementing a comprehensive relocation plan and multi-jurisdictional grant applications are more highly favored than those submitted by single jurisdictions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland and the County of Yolo commit to exploring strategies for realigning the rail lines, establishing a working group with participation from all of the affected jurisdictions, and collaborating to seek planning grant funding to evaluate the economic benefits and feasibility of rail relocation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County Manager's Group shall meet within sixty days of the date of adoption by the last jurisdiction to sign this resolution to recommend membership of the working group and develop a recommended action plan for pursuing grant funding to study the economic benefits and feasibility of rail relocation in Yolo County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Sacramento on the 17th day of July, 2013 by the following vote:

AYES: Johannessen, Kristoff, Ledesma, Villegas, Cabaldon
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None



Christopher L. Cabaldon, Mayor

Attest:



Kryss Rankin, City Clerk