

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5
Tom Miller, County Executive Officer

DATE: November 2, 2010

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – Approve a Resolution supporting the American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive Center coordinated by the Placer Nature Center.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve a Resolution supporting the American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive Center coordinated by the Placer Nature Center.

BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

The American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive Center is a collaborative effort coordinated by Placer Nature Center with the support of Federal, State and local agencies and organizations and the private sector, to create a facility to enhance public access, understanding and enjoyment of the American River Canyon, promote preservation of the complex natural systems and resources of the American River Canyon, and expand economic development along the Interstate 80 corridor through development of visitor services and facilities.

Tourism within the American River Canyon would be encouraged by a destination visitor center wherein the wild and scenic wonders of Placer County's river canyon are described, trail and vehicular access are facilitated, stewardship and appreciation for the river and canyon ecology is fostered, healthy public recreation and safe practices in the wilderness are demonstrated and where one of nature's and our nation's most extraordinary landscapes is promoted.

Placer County is being asked to join in support of the American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive Center which will enhance the environmental, economic and social health of the county.

FISCAL IMPACT

No funding has been requested from Placer County nor any related entities such as the Redevelopment Agency, either in the form of capital or operating expenses. Given the fiscal neutrality aspects of their proposal no fiscal impact is anticipated.

**In the matter of a Resolution in support of the
American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive
Center coordinated by Placer Nature Center.**

Resolution No 2010-XXX

Whereas, the American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive Center is a collaborative effort coordinated by Placer Nature Center with the support of Federal, State and local agencies and organizations and the private sector, to create a facility to enhance public access, understanding and enjoyment of the American River Canyon, promote preservation of the complex natural systems and resources of the American River Canyon, and expand economic development along the Interstate 80 corridor through development of visitor services and facilities; and

Whereas, the American River Canyon is visited by millions of tourists and locals each year, who not only enjoy the scenic and recreational opportunities of the canyon but also substantially contribute to the economic well-being of Placer County, including supporting development of locally based jobs and business expansion; and

Whereas; tourism within the American River Canyon would be encouraged by a destination visitor center wherein the wild and scenic wonders of Placer County's river canyon are described, trail and vehicular access are facilitated, stewardship and appreciation for the river and canyon ecology is fostered, healthy public recreation and safe practices in the wilderness are demonstrated and where one of nature's and our nation's most extraordinary landscapes is promoted; and

Whereas, over the past 18 months, representatives of the US Bureau of Reclamation, US Forest Service, US Bureau of Land Management, Cal Fire; State Parks Gold Fields District, Auburn Area Recreation and Park District, Placer County Resource Conservation District, Placer County California Welcome Center, Placer Land Trust, and Placer Nature Center, among other organizations and individuals, through discussion, survey and analysis have determined that the American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive Center, as envisioned, is consistent with principles and purposes of their respective organizations, Placer County tourism goals, and economic development interests of public and private individuals and organizations.

Now, Therefore be it Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, on behalf of the citizens of Placer County, supports the concept of the American River Canyon Visitor and Interpretive Center herein described and further supports the center as having the potential to enhance the environmental, economic and social health of Placer County.

Kirk Uhler, Supervisor, District 4
Chairman 2010

Rocky Rockholm
Supervisor, District 1

Robert M. Weygandt
Supervisor, District 2

Jim Holmes
Supervisor, District 3

Jennifer Montgomery
Supervisor, District 5