



## Westport Municipal Advisory Council

P. O. Box 307, Westport, CA 95488  
www.westportmac.org

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December 5, 2012

Jesse Robertson  
Caltrans District 1  
P.O. Box 3700  
Eureka, CA 95502-3770

Re: Pacific Coast Bike Route Engineering Feasibility Study for Route 1 in Mendocino County

Dear Jesse:

The WMAC received public input December 4, 2012 regarding the draft Pacific Coast Bike Route Engineering Feasibility Study (November 16, 2012). Based on that input, the WMAC strongly supports the proposed Tier 1 improvement segments north of the Ten Mile River. They are Project 6 located between post miles 69.5 and 73.25 (Abalobadiah Gulch to Chadbourne Gulch) and Project 7 between post miles 75.5 and 78.5 (Westport to Westport Union Landing).

If the final study will rank the seven proposed Tier 1 projects in a priority order for future project development, care should be taken to control subjective measurement criteria. Some evaluation measures are supported with data (e.g., existing facilities, accidents, and constructability/costs), while others remain subjective. For example, no data were collected to establish bicycle use levels along different sections of the coast (Section 2.6.3), nor was any survey made to measure potential demand for local commuting. We believe the statement in Table 3-1 that Project 7 is in a "lower usage area" is not supported, and that there is in fact demand. Past survey data reveal most bicyclists travel long distance. Even the Fort Bragg to Mendocino segment, which is already improved and thus not directly comparable, appears to have few local commuters.

We can suggest from past community input documented in the *Westport Area Integrated Multi-Use Coastal Trail Plan* (2011:77) that proposed Project 7 should be ranked higher than Project 6. Most of the population around Westport lives north of town. Project 7 will facilitate local bicycle commuting to the village, trips that are presently hampered by the inadequate facility. More potential demand exists there than in the Project 6 segment.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles L. Eyerly".

Chuck Eyerly, Secretary

cc: Janet Orth, MCOG, 367 N. State Street, Suite 206, Ukiah, CA 95482  
4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor Kendall Smith  
4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor-Elect Dan Gjerde