

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-Q

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EATONVILLE, WASHINGTON, REGARDING THE PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE JOHN WAYNE PIONEER TRAIL

WHEREAS, the John Wayne Pioneer Trail is a 300-mile long stretch of former railway roadbed that goes from King County to the Idaho border and is the longest rail trail in the United States and the second longest in the world; and

WHEREAS, proposed legislation would close a large section of the John Wayne Trail from Malden to Lind, Washington and turn over control of the public land to adjacent private landowners; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Parks Department and Washington State Department of Natural Resources currently own the land the trail sits on; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 the trail was designated a National Recreational Trail by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the trail is actively used by hikers, cyclists and horse riders, and other outdoor enthusiasts, including the John Wayne Pioneer Wagons and Riders Association for their annual "Ride Across Washington" event; and

WHEREAS, the John Wayne Trail is the only statewide trail crossing in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, permanent loss of the only state-wide trail in Washington would be detrimental to not only the current economies of communities all along the trail, but would end any opportunity for future economic development of what could become a vital job producer across the state; now, therefore;

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EATONVILLE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

THAT: the Council of the Town of Eatonville express support for the preservation of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail, the removal of special permit requirements for public use of the trail, as well as the allocation of additional state resources for the maintenance and improvement of the trail.

PASSED by the Town Council of Town of Eatonville and attested by the Town Clerk in authentication of such passage this 8th day of August 2016.

Mike Schaub, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Linnemeyer, Town Clerk