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Assembly  
California Legislature

JOHN LAIRD  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT



STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0027  
(916) 319-2027  
FAX (916) 319-2127

DISTRICT OFFICES  
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY  
701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 318B  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
(831) 425-1503  
FAX: (831) 425-2570  
MONTEREY AND SANTA CLARA COUNTIES  
99 PACIFIC STREET, SUITE 555-D  
MONTEREY, CA 93940  
(831) 649-2832  
(408) 782-0647  
FAX: (831) 649-2935

March 9, 2005

Wayne Horiuchi  
Union Pacific Railroad  
915 L St., Suite 1180  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. *Wayne* Horiuchi,

I am writing in support of the request made by the Santa Cruz County Friends of the Rail Trail (FORT) to hold a "Rail Trail Festival" event on designated portions of the Santa Cruz Branch Line.

This "Rail Trail Festival" would allow residents to experience the rail corridor first hand. Ideally residents will be able to see a demonstration run of a passenger rail vehicle similar to those that have been proposed for service on the line at some point in the future.

I understand that Santa Cruz County and the rail operator for the event in conjunction with FORT will be able provide Union Pacific with the assurance of indemnity against any claims of liability pursuant to this event.

A "Rail Trail Festival" would be valuable to our community and I hope you will give FORT's request every consideration.

Sincerely,

*John Laird*  
JOHN LAIRD

Assemblymember, 27<sup>th</sup> District

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cc: Michael Dalbey, Board of Directors, FORT  
Luis Mendez, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

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