



AGENDA ITEM #3.6

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Report Prepared by: Nancy Malecha

Date: February 2, 2016

Subject: Resolution Supporting the Paul Bunyan Trail Association's Special Bonding Request

Report: Attached is a letter from the Paul Bunyan Trail Association asking the City Council to support a special bonding request for the 2016 legislative session in the amount of \$5,000. A resolution supporting this request is also attached for Council review.

Council Action Requested: Council motion adopting the attached resolution supporting the Paul Bunyan Trail Association's special bonding request.



**the
Paul
Bunyan
Trail**

213 S 5th St
Brainerd, MN 56401
(218)829-5278

December 17, 2015

DEC 21 2015

Mayor David Sjoblad
Pequot Lakes City Hall
4638 County Road 11
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

Dear Dave,

We, the members of the Paul Bunyan Trail Association (PBTA), are writing to you today about an important project that will help Paul Bunyan Trail users have a better and safer experience. We are asking you to support a special bonding request for the 2016 session in the amount of \$5,000.

While the Department of Natural Resources is making valuable contributions to the development of the state trail system, trail users tell us that the lack of appropriate way finding and guide markers has negatively impacted their recreational experience. The need for coordinated signage to deliver consistent mileage and messages along the Paul Bunyan Trail, including the Shingobee Connection in Walker, continues to grow. We are proposing placement of mile confidence markers and branded trail signage at strategic locations to provide users of all ages basic information about the trail and its connecting communities.

The timeliness of this project is important because Minnesota's reputation as a bicycle-friendly state has generated increased traffic and interest in our state trail system and communities blessed with these trails are feeling increased pressure from frustrated users. Having a coordinated signage program will enhance, attract and retain recreational consumers and make the route more family friendly. Since the Department of Natural Resources has designated the Paul Bunyan Trail as a destination trail, which sees some of the highest trail traffic in the state, it is time for it to get some of the highest investment.

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet, discuss our signage plan and address the concerns we keep hearing about from dissatisfied trail users.

Respectively,

The Paul Bunyan Trail Association

Chip Borkenhagen
Brainerd City Council
Todd Holman
Baxter City Council/Paul Bunyan Cyclists
Nancy Cross
Brainerd Community Action
Paul Roth
Crow Wing State Park Mgr
Cindy Habedank
Visit Bemidji
Cindy Wannarka
Leech Lake Chamber of Commerce

Val Linn
Hackensack Chamber of Commerce
John Wetrosky
Pine River Chamber of Commerce
Jenna Crawford & Cindy Nelson
Pequot Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Shawn Hansen
Nisswa Chamber of Commerce
Richard Polipnick
Visit Brainerd
Jan Lasar
MN Trails Magazine, Lake Wobegone Association,
Camp Ripley / Veterans State Trail Committee

*To champion the
infrastructure needs
and market the usage
and resources along
and near the
Paul Bunyan Trail.*

**CITY OF PEQUOT LAKES
RESOLUTION 16-___**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PAUL BUNYAN TRAIL
ASSOCIATION'S SPECIAL BONDING REQUEST**

WHEREAS, the Paul Bunyan Trail Association is spearheading an important signage program that will help Paul Bunyan Trail users have a better and safer experience; and

WHEREAS, the need for coordinated signage to deliver consistent mileage and messages along the Paul Bunyan Trail continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, having a coordinated signage program will enhance, attract, and retain recreational consumers and make the Paul Bunyan Trail more family friendly; and

WHEREAS, the placement of mile confidence markers and branded trail signage at strategic locations will provide users of all ages basic information about the trail and its connecting communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PEQUOT LAKES, MINNESOTA, does hereby support the Paul Bunyan Trail Association's coordinated signage program and special bonding request for the 2016 session in the amount of \$5,000 for the Paul Bunyan Trail system.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Pequot Lakes this 2nd day of February, 2016.

David Sjoblad
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Nancy Malecha
City Administrator/Clerk