

# City of Calistoga

## Staff Report

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** James C. McCann, City Manager *JCM*  
**DATE:** March 2, 2010  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration of a Resolution supporting the Case Statement for the Napa Valley Vine Trail

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 2 **ISSUE:** Consideration of a Resolution supporting the Case Statement for the  
 3 Napa Valley Vine Trail.

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 5 **RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt Resolution.

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 7 **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:** The City of Calistoga has long been a  
 8 proponent of walk-able communities, alternate modes of transportation, and, in  
 9 particular, enhanced bicycle facilities. The Calistoga City Council took a  
 10 leadership role in providing funding for the development of a County-wide  
 11 Comprehensive Bicycle Facility Feasibility Study and has supported programs  
 12 and initiatives based upon the outcomes of that study. A broad based, private  
 13 non-profit entity, the Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition has emerged in recent  
 14 years as a result of the excitement created by the completion of the feasibility  
 15 study. This group, made up of private individuals, public entity representatives  
 16 and State and local regulatory and resources agencies, has worked with the  
 17 Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency (NCTPA) to develop the Napa  
 18 Valley Vine Trail concept. The City Council has received presentations regarding  
 19 the Vine Trail proposal over the past 18 months. NCTPA has also received  
 20 briefings and has endorsed the concept and the attached study.

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 22 The Vine Trail Coalition have completed their preliminary plan and project  
 23 concept and now are in a position to seek State and Federal funding to  
 24 complement the private funding which has been pledged to implement the  
 25 elements of the project. Attached is a case statement which outlines the history  
 26 and purpose of the Vine Trail. This document will be the basis for funding  
 27 requests to implement the project. The Vine Trail Coalition has requested that  
 28 the Napa County jurisdictions endorse the case statement to provide strength in  
 29 their application efforts. This endorsement request is before the various  
 30 jurisdictions throughout the County this month (in fact, two or three cities will be  
 31 considering this tonight).  
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33 The Case Statement is a very well done document which presents the proposal  
34 in a compelling and clear fashion. The NCTPA Board has unanimously endorsed  
35 the proposal and has encouraged member agencies to do the same. Calistoga  
36 staff has been involved in the review and has offered recommendations which  
37 are contained in the plan via the NCTPA Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC)  
38 role (Public Works Director Takasugi and Planning Director Charlene Gallina  
39 participate in the TAC).

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41 **FISCAL IMPACT:** The adoption of the Resolution offering the endorsement will  
42 provide advantage to the Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition in their effort to seek  
43 grant funding for the project. No request for funding from the City has been  
44 requested.

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46 **ATTACHMENTS:**

47 Draft Resolution

48 Vine Trail Case Statement

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**RESOLUTION 2010-XXX**

**Resolution Of Adoption Of The Napa Valley Vine Trail Case Statement And Support For  
Its Inclusion In The Campaign For Active Transportation And Other Federal And State  
Programs And Legislation**

**WHEREAS**, nearly half of all trips in the United States are three miles or less<sup>1</sup> and that with significant investment in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, there is an opportunity to demonstrate a substantial shift to these healthy, non-motorized transportation modes; and

**WHEREAS**, bicyclists and pedestrians represent 14 percent of all traffic fatalities in the United States, yet receive less than one percent of all federal road spending<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, SAFETEA-LU created the *Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program* to construct a network of nonmotorized transportation infrastructure facilities in order to demonstrate the extent to which bicycling and walking can carry a significant part of the transportation load, thus playing a major role in transportation solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, four communities (Columbia, Missouri; Marin County, California; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota; and Sheboygan County, Wisconsin) were selected to each receive grants of \$6,250,000 per fiscal year for four years to participate in the *Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program*; and

**WHEREAS**, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and other national organizations are seeking to expand this program in the next federal transportation reauthorization and through other federal and state funding programs with legislation to include additional communities and targeted funding of at least \$50 million per community over six years to promote active transportation (trails, biking and walking) for mobility; and

**WHEREAS**, the greatest potential to increase walking and bicycling in Napa County is by connecting all of the communities of Napa County together as described in the Greenway Feasibility Study<sup>3</sup> and being pursued by the Vine Trail, Ridge Trail, Bay Trail and Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District; and

**WHEREAS**, Napa County has a demonstrated need for additional active transportation facilities in excess of \$50 Million and a plan to create these facilities described in the Napa Valley Vine Trail Case Statement,<sup>4</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, the Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency is currently revising its 2003 Regional Bicycle- Pedestrian Plan, a plan based on constructing inter-municipal links and to close the gaps in the regional pedestrian/bike path network; and

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<sup>1</sup> FHWA. 2006. Federal Highway Administration University Course on Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation: Student Workbook (second edition). Report No. HRT-05-133

<sup>2</sup> STPP. 2003. The \$300 Billion Question: Are We Buying a Better Transportation System? [www.transact.org/library/300B/Executive\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.transact.org/library/300B/Executive_Summary.pdf). Last accessed August 23, 2007.

<sup>3</sup> Napa Greenway Feasibility Study, 2009, <http://NapasTransportationFuture.googlepages.com/napagreenwayfeasibilitystudy>

<sup>4</sup> Napa Valley Vine Trail Case Statement, 1/21/2010, [www.napavalleyvinetrail.org](http://www.napavalleyvinetrail.org).

