RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

(Policy Item: Yes __ No __X__) 

Please see attached staff report.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

COSTS: (x) Not Applicable
A. Budgeted Current FY $5
B. Total Anticipated Costs $5
C. Required Additional Funding $5
D. Internal Transfers $5

SOURCE: (x) 4/5ths Vote Required $5
A. Unanticipated Revenues $5
B. Reserve for Contingencies $5
C. Source Description:
Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:
Staff Report
Copy of letter from Congress Member Radanovich

CLERKS USE ONLY:
Res. No. 01-2407 Ord. No. 

Vote - Ayes: ________ Noes: ________
Absent: ________ Abstained: ________

(x) Approved ( ) Denied
(x) Minute Order Attached ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office
Date: ____________________________

ATTEST: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

BY: Deputy

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

Recommended
Not Recommended
For Policy Determination
Submitted with Comment
Returned for Further Action

Comment: ____________________________

CAO's Initials: ________________________

x:oadm\winword\maryy\agenda\National Heritage Area

Action Form Revised 5/92
November 30, 2001

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Greg Iturria, County Administrative Officer
(by Mary Hodson, Staff Analyst)

Subject: Highway 49 North National Heritage Area Designation

Recommendation:
Consider and discuss pursuing the National Heritage Area designation of Highway 49 North and direct staff to forward comments to Congress Member George Radanovich. Designate a contact person for the project if the Board desires to pursue designation.

Background:
Congress Member George Radanovich is considering introducing legislation that would direct the National Park Service to evaluate the feasibility and suitability of the designation of State Highway 49 North (Golden Chain Highway) as a National Heritage Area. He is requesting comments from the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors concerning your interest in pursuing this program. If the Board is interested in the program, he is also requesting a contact person to represent the County for purposes of further reviewing local interest and for developing plans for the limited technical and financial assistance that may be available.

National Heritage Areas are designated in regions where natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources combine to form a distinctive landscape with patterns of human activity shaped by geography. They seek to preserve and celebrate many of our country’s defining landscapes. To date, Congress has established 18 National Heritage Areas around the country.

If an area is designated as a National Heritage Area then Congress will name a management entity to develop a management plan, and who is authorized to receive Federal funds on the area’s behalf. The management entity may consist of a State or local governmental agency, a non-profit organization, or an independent Federal commission. The management plan represents the goal(s) of the interested participants and details action initiatives such as a visitor’s guide publication, rehabilitating a historic building or site, or creating a walking trail/tour of a certain area. The authority to implement the management plan rests in the hands of local officials. Participation by individuals or local businesses in the management plan is strictly voluntary.
The National Park Service is the Federal agency responsible for preserving significant natural and historic resources, and Heritage Areas are one way that the Park Service can carry out this mission. National Park Service staff will assist the local community in organizing and planning a heritage area, and enters into a "compact" with the local parties. The compact is a statement of assent to mutually shared goals and serves as the legal vehicle for Federal funds to be passed to non-governmental management entities.
December 11, 2001

Honorable George Radanovich  
United States Congress Member  
123 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: National Heritage Corridor

Dear Congress Member Radanovich:

During their December 11, 2001, Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board approved supporting your proposed legislation that will initiate a study of a possible National Heritage Corridor along State Highway 49 North. The Board understands that if your legislation is successful, that it will enable the National Park Service to perform a study and solicit community input on the feasibility and suitability of establishing a heritage corridor along State Highway 49 North.

The Board of Supervisors approved Greg Iturria, County Administrative Officer, as the initial contact person for this program and is requesting who in your office will be the County’s contact. The Board is also requesting that your office provide information on the process of the study that the National Park Service will be performing as soon as it becomes available.

Thank you for your assistance on this matter and we hope your legislation is successful.

Sincerely,

Doug
DOUG BALMAIN  
Chairman

DB/mbh

cc: Board of Supervisors  
    County Administrative Officer

bcc: Margie Williams, Clerk of the Board
COUNTY of MARIPOSA
P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222
DOUG BALMAIN, CHAIRMAN
ROBERT C. STEWART, VICE-CHAIRMAN
PATTI A. REILLY
GARRY R. PARKER
BOB PICKARD

MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: GREG ITURRIA, County Administrative Officer
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: Pursuing the National Heritage Area Designation of Highway 49 North
Resolution No. 01-347

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on December 11, 2001

ACTION AND VOTE:

Greg Iturria, County Administrative Officer;
Consider and Discuss Pursuing the National Heritage Area Designation of Highway 49 North and Direct
Staff to Forward Comments to Congress Member George Radanovich; Designate a Contact Person for the
Project if the Board Desires to Pursue Designation

BOARD ACTION: Greg Iturria advised that staff has been informed that the Congressman is proposing
that a feasibility study be performed for designating a corridor versus an area, and that they are requesting a
point of contact for this community. Discussion was held concerning the request.

Dana Jones, Mining and Mineral Museum Director, provided input relative to heritage corridors and this
proposal. She stated she feels this area would be prime for heritage tourism.

Further discussion was held. Supervisor Parker suggested moving forward with an emphasis on private
property rights. Supervisor Pickard suggested the County Administrative Officer serve as the contact
person until the Economic Development and Tourism director’s position is filled. Further discussion was
continued for the following hearing to be opened.

10:01 a.m. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Public hearing to consider adopting the 2002 Regional Transportation Improvement Program was opened
and continued to after the following matters.

Further discussion was held relative to the National Heritage designation. Dana Jones stated she would be
interested in working with the County on behalf of the State Parks on this project. She feels a partnership
could be the managing entity for this project. Supervisor Reilly stated she feels that more information
needs to be obtained as to what it means for the County to participate and what will be asked; and she stated
legislation has already been introduced and she feels the legislators should work closer with the Board
earlier in the process on these matters. She requested that a report be provided to the Board as to what is going to be required of the County for the feasibility study. She suggested that consideration be given to including the History Center and possibly the Highway 140 Merced River corridor. Supervisor Balmain requested information on the existing National Heritage areas and how well they are received. He expressed concern with protecting private property rights; and as a taxpayer, with the costs for these programs without knowing more information.

(M)Pickard, (S)Parker, Res. 01-347 adopted approving the sending of a letter, to be signed by the Chairman, supporting the legislation for a feasibility study and designating the County Administrative Officer as the contact person until further notice. Supervisor Parker requested that the County Administrative Officer work with others that are interested in this project. Supervisor Reilly stated she would like to see the letter indicate that the County is willing to take this first step, but that more information is requested. Ayes: Unanimous. Dana Jones advised that she has corridor studies and management plans for other areas available for review.

cc: Candy O'Donel-Browne, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce
    Dana Jones, Mining & Mineral Museum
    Mary Hodson, Staff Analyst
    File