

City of Palouse
Resolution No. 2015-13

A resolution 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 the western slopes of the Cascade Mountains to the Idaho Border and is the longest rail trail in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Parks Department and Washington State Department of Natural Resources 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 used by cyclists and horse riders, including the John Wayne Pioneer Wagons and Riders Association for their annual "Ride Across Washington" event; and

WHEREAS, Fish Lake Trail, which turns in to the Columbia Plateau Trail near Cheney, provides a direct connection to the John Wayne Pioneer Trail for recreational enthusiasts in the region; and

WHEREAS, there has been recent discussion of closing a portion of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail east of the Columbia River; and

WHEREAS, the closure of the trail would decrease recreational opportunities for citizens throughout the surrounding areas, and close a critical connection to Fish Lake Trail/Columbia Plateau Trail, and forfeit the right-of-way for any possible future rail transport connection; and

WHEREAS, adjacent landowners have brought forward concerns about ongoing maintenance of the trail;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of City of Palouse that the city expresses its support for the preservation of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail as well as the allocation of additional state resources for the maintenance and improvement of the trail east of the Columbia River.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALOUSE, WASHINGTON, this 10th day of November, 2015.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

B. Pearce

R. L. K. Williams

[Signature]

[Signature]

B. R. M.

Joan Hanson

APPROVED:

[Signature]

MAYOR

ATTEST:

[Signature]

CITY CLERK