

FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY AGENDA REPORT

DATE: July 6, 2003
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Director Vicknair
MEETING: July 12, 2003
ITEM: Report
SUBJECT: Recent Facilities Work

VOLUNTEER DECK AND RAMP

By the time of the Board Meeting, the final architectural drawing (covering the current deck and its modification to meet building code) should be in the hands of the City Inspector. The city is currently evaluating drawings for the ADA compliant ramp and the deck extension to reach the Silver Debris. A drawing of the current deck and its modification is required due to the deck not being completed to permitted and approved plans. Once the plans are accepted and permits issued, work can begin on the completion of the deck.

SHOWER CAR

Dave Bergman has begun work on modifying the shower car to meet city codes. This is the last main issue on the code correction list. He has completed one end of the car and will be returning soon to complete the work. Thanks to Dave for his time and knowledge. Also thanks to Doug Morgan and Eric Stephens for their recent assistance in this issue.

SILVER DEBRIS

A plan has been drafted for beginning work on the Silver Debris to create a Volunteer Lounge. The interior of the car will need to be demolished and the car rewired and reinsulated to provide a suitable environment. The first step will be demolition of the current interior, a project that we hope to complete before the end of the season. At that point, the work needed will be reviewed and a cost plan presented to the Board.

DIESEL SHOP WINDOWS

We have hired a glass installer (approved by President McClure) to replace missing and broken windows in the Diesel Shop. The work began several weeks ago and should be completed by the Board Meeting or shortly after.

WORK WEEKENDS

There are Work Weekends scheduled for August 9-10 and September 27-28. Facilities work will include the Volunteer Deck, stripping the Silver Debris, general clean-up and reorganization of the Diesel Shop and work to install the chainlink fence surrounding the property. As the August weekend is the lead-up to both Portola Railroad Days and Truckee Railroad Days, there will also be clean-up of the equipment occurring and a need to have the facility safe and clean for Portola Railroad Days. We need as many people as possible on that weekend. PLEASE, spread the word and recruit as many people as possible. The city is aiming to make Portola RR Days a large event and it will be a good chance to show ourselves off.

ACTION: Report.

Proposed Access and ADA Work for Portola Railroad Museum

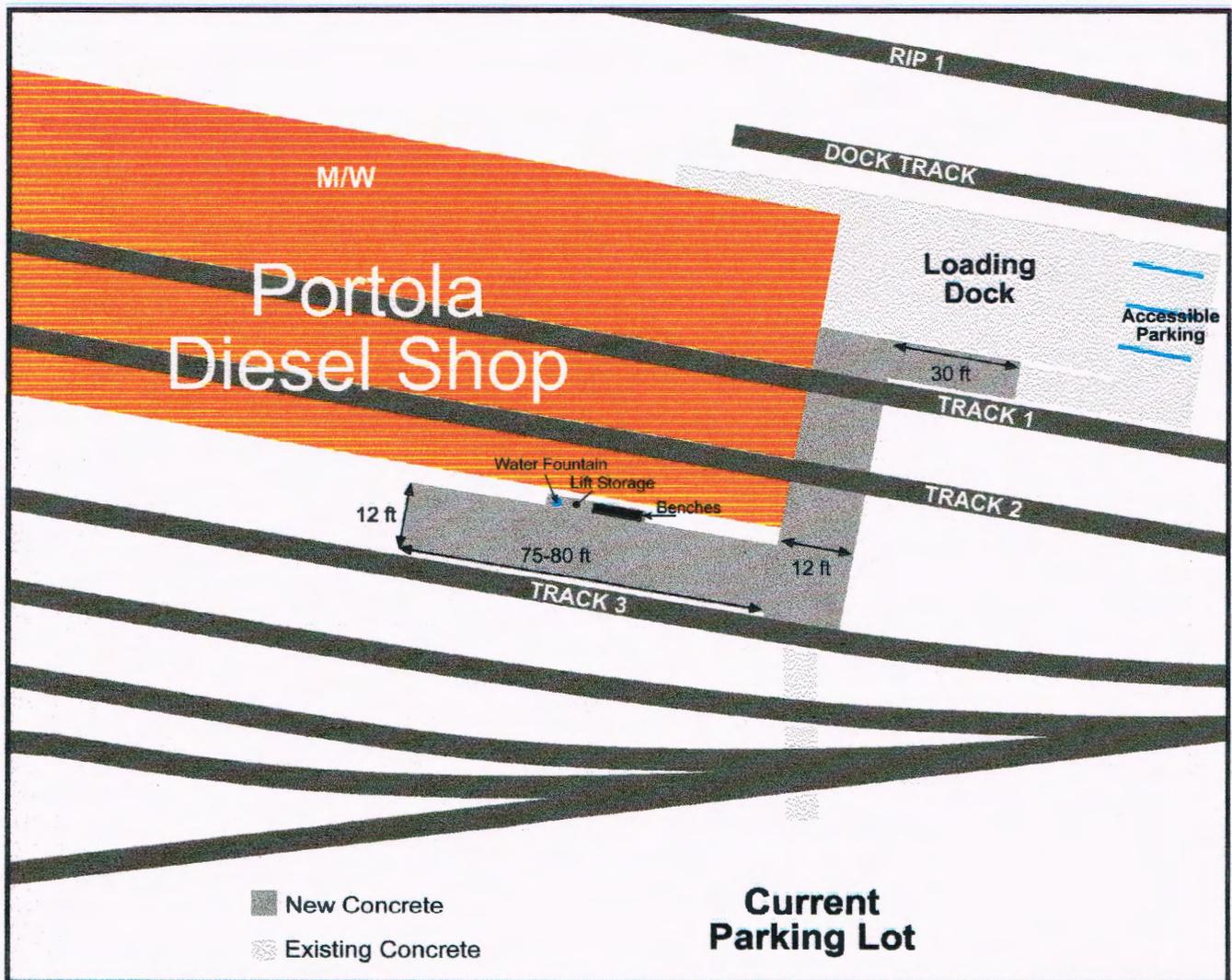
Phase 1

Based upon the recent donation of \$15,000 by Ed Wagner for ADA and access work, I have explored options for increasing the ADA accessibility within this budget and the estimated \$2500 already collected for the purchase of a wheelchair lift.

Of primary importance is that ANY lift device, accessible restrooms or other improvements are useless if they are isolated from access or have no proper place to function. Basic accessibility to the museum's core is non-existent and must be address first.

Recently the Board designated the paved space at the end of the Loading Dock as handicapped parking. New signs have been placed and the area is being improved. This brief proposes tying this parking area into the Caboose Loading area and the Diesel Shop in accordance with the adopted Master Plan and acquiring a portable wheelchair lift when this access work is complete.

Three segments of walkway would be built under this plan. Starting from the new handicapped parking, 30 feet of broken existing concrete would be removed and replaced with new material, a new 12 ft wide apron would be placed along the east end of the Diesel Shop and 75-100 feet of 12 ft wide walkway would be placed as the first part of the planned Caboose Loading Gallery. Associated with this segment would be new benches, a water fountain and a storage area for the wheelchair lift, as well as associated drainage and utility work.



The budget breaks down as follows:

Total donated for Wheelchair Lift: \$2500 (estimated)
Total donated by Ed Wagner for ADA: \$15,000

Total Donations: \$17,000

Required for Wheelchair Lift: \$7000 (estimated)
Required for Walkways: \$9000 (estimated)
Required for Benches, Lights, Amenities: \$1500 (estimated)
Required for Drainage and Utilities: \$1500 (estimated)

Total Phase 1 Estimate: \$19,000

Since drainage and utilities work are required leading up to the walkway installation, as well as some amenities, but are not authorized under either donation set, I am requesting that the Board either allocate an additional \$2000 from the General Fund Facilities line item to cover this work and/or empower me to try raising the funds separately.

Groundbreaking ideally would begin in late September with drainage and other prep work being completed before mid to late October. Following spring thaw, contractors would be used for construction of the walkways following demolition of the existing concrete by FRRS volunteers. Following the completion of the walkways, targeted for late April, a suitable Wheelchair Lift would be acquired and available for the opening of Operations Season 2004.

This work would serve as an initial springboard to other approved access improvements, including ADA compliant restrooms in the Diesel Shop, additional walkways and an accessible caboose train.

A logical next step from this would be to make the caboose train wheelchair accessible. Norm Holmes and Eric Stephens both suggested that the MoPac caboose would be a logical candidate for such a conversion, using the outside seating areas in one end for wheelchair tiedowns. I would concur that this car would be a good choice for future discussion.

Issues leading up to the commencement of work that could delay action include the need for city permits and permission from the Union Pacific to dig for the drainage, utilities and footings. Drainage work is essential due to the collection of water around the Diesel Shop during snow and rain and must be accommodated in the work.

I have reviewed this proposal with Ed Wagner and he feels that it meets his donation requirements. He expressed his hopes that it will be adopted.