



# THE TRAIN SHEET

News from the Feather River Rail Society



*Preserving "THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE"*

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## WPRM RECEIVING \$1 MILLION GRANT



- Patty Clawson and Eugene Vicknair

The Western Pacific Railroad Museum is pleased to announce that we have been selected to receive a \$1 million grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Fund. This grant will be used for phase 1 construction of our Frederick Whitman Multi-Purpose Building. The application for this funding was overseen by FRRS Director Eugene Vicknair and was made possible with the generous assistance of California District 1 Congressman Doug LaMalfa and his staff.

The Whitman Building's main structure will be a 100 ft. by 200 ft. steel building kit that the FRRS has been purchasing from Olympia Steel Building Company. When fully complete, it will feature a custom facade based on the Western Pacific's Ferry Terminal that formerly stood in Oakland, California. Named for one of the WP's longest serving presidents, the building will feature five tracks for display of equipment. When complete, it will feature temperature control of the internal environment, modern ADA compliant restrooms and a 6 ft. high neon sign on the roof, based on the one that once graced the Ferry Terminal building.

Key features of the building will be gasketing in the rail flangeways, power outlets in the floor and water / drainage hook-ups that will allow its use as a community event center, emergency evacuation shelter or mass casualty support center.

The FRRS is currently completing the last requirements for release of the funds and pulling together a local team of contractors to finalize design details, work with the city and county on all permits and other requirements and begin pre-construction work leading up to a formal groundbreaking.