

EDC of Mariposa County  
P.O. Box 751  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
(209) 966-1660



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July 17, 2008

The Economic Development Corporation of Mariposa County (EDC) supports the official designation of State Highway 132 from Modesto through Mariposa County Highway J-132 to its terminus at State Highway 120 as "The John Muir Highway." This contemporary route closely approximates John Muir's original foot journey into the Yosemite area in June of 1869, as described in Muir's "My First Summer in the Sierra."

The EDC endorses such designation for two primary reasons. John Muir is a lasting and important figure both in California's and America's history. Indeed, John Muir and what he represents is so fundamental to the California experience that his image was affixed upon the State's quarter beginning in 2005. It is only fitting, therefore, that the state should designate a highway to further recognize Muir's many contributions.

Secondly, the EDC values what John Muir represents to contemporary California: green, sustainable living with conservation of the natural environment. Economic development in this region around Coulterville and Greeley Hill fully respects these beliefs. For this reason, the area is an appropriate setting to honor John Muir's legacy. This designation would, in effect, recognize and wholeheartedly support such sustainable development as an aspect of the State's efforts to address global warming, while continuing to enhance the economic prosperity of its residents.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Les Marsden", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Les Marsden  
President

# Mariposa County Chamber of Commerce and Mariposa County Visitor Center



August 07, 2008

The Mariposa County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors stands in support of a legislative amendment to officially designate State Highway 132 from Modesto through Mariposa County Highway J-132 to its terminus at State Highway 120 as "The John Muir Highway." In promoting our business members' interest in revitalizing the economy of Mariposa County and the North District, we would like to see this amendment introduced in the next session of the California State Legislature and enacted as soon as possible.

Not only does this route include the highlights of John Muir's historic arrival into the Sierra Foothills during his original foot journey into the Yosemite area in June of 1869 but it is described in detail in journal entries recorded in "My First Summer in the Sierra" read widely by his admirers in all parts of the world. The historical significance of these journal entries will be a vital asset to our web marketing plans to brand the corridor as a uniquely preserved location for "green" advocacy as well cultural heritage tourism retention of our rural lifestyle and light footprint commercial business development.

The Mariposa County Chamber of Commerce seeks such designation for two primary reasons. John Muir's place in California and American history is highly esteemed both within our nation and around the world. His legacy of understanding and preserving the environment and rural lifestyle established the core values of much of what is synonymous with the California experience. We feel, therefore, that the state should honor his memory and the recorded tributes of his original and glorious passage into this segment of the Sierra Foothills by asserting the route's name as John Muir Highway.

We also see this amendment for the naming John Muir Highway as closely aligned to the business sector's future in California. The corridor's uniquely well-preserved rural lifestyle and sustainable living conserves the natural environment while nurturing responsible private enterprise. The people of this region demonstrate their full respect for these values in the way they live, work and manage in the stewardship of the magnificent countryside John Muir originally observed. For this reason, the area provides an unsurpassed opportunity for visitors to savor much of what John Muir saw as he journeyed to Yosemite Valley.

This legislative amendment would honor John Muir's legacy. It would also recognize and reflect our sustainable community development as an aspect of the State's efforts to address global warming, retention of rural lifestyles, and the enhancement of economic health for its residents.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn Huff  
President



# COUNTY of MARIPOSA

P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

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## MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### MINUTE ORDER

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TO: SUPERVISOR TURPIN

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board *MW*

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution Supporting a Proposal from Ken Pulvino to Name Highway 132 and J-132 as John Muir Highway

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on August 12, 2008

#### ACTION AND VOTE:

Supervisor Turpin;

Adopt a Resolution Supporting a Proposal from Ken Pulvino to Name Highway 132 and J-132 as John Muir Highway (Continued from August 5, 2008)

**BOARD ACTION:** Ken Pulvino gave a presentation on his proposal and discussion was held as to whether this change would affect the street addresses and relative to the process for a name change. Supervisor Pickard suggested that Chair Turpin contact CalTrans and the Park Service to help to determine what this process would be and what is entailed.

Input from the public was provided by the following:

Kenneth Gosting, TIE, stated they find this intriguing and he provided input on CalTrans' policy on these matters and he asked if contact has been made with John Muir's family as they have certain rights on the naming. Ken Pulvino responded and advised that preliminary contact has been made with the family and he commented on the need to amend the Streets and Highway Code for the naming.

Paul Chapman stated he feels that there is still two years worth of work to do with the State and he feels that the local tribal council should be consulted.

MaryAnn Huff, President of the Mariposa County Chamber of Commerce, clarified that the request is for a letter of support and she urged the Board to approve a letter. She commented on the need for the Highway 132 corridor to become a destination.

Following further discussion, (M)Pickard, (S)Fritz, direction was given to the Chair to move forward with the concept of renaming Highway 132; and to bring back further information as to the process and the State's requirements for the renaming and what the County's involvement would be/Ayes: Unanimous.

Cc: Dana Hertfelder, Public Works  
Ken Pulvino  
File



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October 3, 2008

Ken Pulvino  
P.O. Box 477  
Coulterville, CA 95311-477

Dear Mr. Pulvino,

The Yosemite-Mariposa County Tourism Bureau wishes to acknowledge its support for the proposed legislative amendment to officially designate State Highway 132 from Modesto through Mariposa County Highway J-132 to its terminus at State Highway 120 as "The John Muir Highway." This historical route includes the highlights of John Muir's arrival into the Sierra Foothills during his original foot journey in 1869 into the Yosemite area. "My First Summer in the Sierra" journals these travel in detail and are widely revered by his admirers in all parts of the world.

The Tourism Bureau Board seeks this designation for two primary reasons. John Muir's place in California and American history is highly regarded throughout our nation as well as around the world. This legacy of understanding, preserving the environment and rural lifestyle established core values, much of which is synonymous with the Californian experience. Although, Mr. Muir has been honored with his image inscribed upon the State's quarter coin in 2005, his contributions are irreplaceable. Therefore a recommendation is made to the state to further honor his memory and the recorded tributes of his original historic passage into this segment of the Sierra Foothills by asserting the route's name fittingly as John Muir Highway.

The John Muir Highway declaration amendment is beneficial as well to contemporary California for what his life represents to the generations of today. It is greatly reflected in the corridor's uniquely well-preserved rural lifestyle and sustainable living, with conservation of the natural environment remaining in the forefront of its communities. The people of this region demonstrate their full respect for these values in the way they live, work and manage in the stewardship of this magnificent countryside John Muir originally observed, as it remains preserved in a predominantly natural state. It is for this reason; the area provides an unsurpassed opportunity for visitors to savor much of what he saw as he journeyed to the Yosemite Valley.

Most importantly, this legislative amendment would honor John Muir's legacy. It would recognize as well as support our sustainable community development as an aspect of the State's efforts to address global warming, retention of rural lifestyles, and the enhancement of economic health for its residents of today and for the future generations of tomorrow.

The Tourism Bureau Board extends best wishes for a successful journey of this amendment in the spirit of the adventures of a man so integral to our greatest of national treasures, our country's historical past, present, and future.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hentz  
Executive Director  
Yosemite/Mariposa County Tourism Bureau