

SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH
RESOLUTION NO. 2023 -16

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATOR LEE'S SENATE BILL "HISTORIC ROADWAYS PROTECTION ACT" PROHIBITING THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS TO FINALIZE AND IMPLEMENT THE SPECIFIED TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLANS IN THE STATE OF UTAH UNTIL ALL R.S. 2477 CASES HAVE BEEN FULLY ADJUDICATED AND PREVENTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALREADY PUBLISHED REVISED TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLANS REQUIRED BY THE 2017 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT UNTIL THE R.S. 2477 CASES CAN BE ADJUDICATED.

WHEREAS, roads in San Juan County are the life blood network allowing the County to function properly and provide the many services and needs of its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, this road network is a critical part of the County economy and the culture, heritage and lifestyle of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required by the Federal Lands Policy Management Act (FLPMA) to develop, maintain and revise resource management plans and associated travel management plans for BLM-administered lands; and

WHEREAS, BLM-administered lands make up more than 40% of San Juan County; and

WHEREAS, BLM has developed these land management and travel plans and has recently been revising some of these travel plans including plans for areas in San Juan County; and

WHEREAS, some of these plans have and likely will close some roads; and

WHEREAS, closure of any of these roads in BLM travel plans would have a serious impact on the County economy, culture, heritage and lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, closure of roads would prevent the exercise of access rights of State and County residents and County visitors to lands, resources and cultural and heritage values; and

WHEREAS, closure would prevent due maintenance of these roads and allow them to revert to natural conditions and aspect which may negatively influence the outcome of future road adjudication actions; and

WHEREAS, most of these roads qualify as R.S. 2477 roads and have been so claimed by the State of Utah and San Juan County; and

WHEREAS, BLM implementation of travel plans may result in closure of R.S. 2477 roads that agency may have no jurisdiction over.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

San Juan County thanks Senator Lee for his leadership and support of State and County actions in asserting R.S. 2477 road rights.

San Juan County fully supports Senator Lee's 'Historic Roadways Protection Act' and urges the members of Congress to support and pass this legislation.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of San Juan County Commissioners this 07 day of November 2023.

Those voting aye:

Those voting nay:

Those abstaining:

Absent:

BOARD OF SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Bruce Adams, Chairman

ATTEST:



Lyman Duncan, County Clerk/Auditor