

**Bosse, Brian**

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**From:** John C Moore [john\_c\_moore@dot.ca.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 10, 2008 1:08 PM  
**To:** Bosse, Brian  
**Cc:** Lea Simpson  
**Subject:** Re: Santa Barbara Rail Road Station - Update and Funding Question

Mr. Bosse:

This email informs the City of Santa Barbara that the California Department of Transportation believes that the Prop. 108, Prop. 116, and other funds spent on the restoration and rehabilitation of the historic Santa Barbara rail depot have been properly spent. The result is an excellent Amtrak railroad passenger station and transportation center in Santa Barbara, which provides important transportation service to the people of California. The goal of the Department of Transportation has been achieved. The property acquired in the process now belongs to the City of Santa Barbara. Provided there is no harm to the station, or the operation of it (such as any reduction of available parking for Amtrak patrons), the City of Santa Barbara may redevelop the unused portion of the property for the benefit of the public as it sees fit.

Regards, John  
(916) 654-6702

"Bosse, Brian"  
<BBosse@SantaBar  
baraCA.gov>

01/04/2008 11:45  
AM

<john\_c\_moore@dot.ca.gov>

To

cc

Subject

Santa Barbara Rail Road Station -  
Update and Funding Question

Happy New Year John:

I hope the holidays treated you well.

Update: I am happy to report that the Santa Barbara Historic Rail Car Restoration Project is up and running with a fully-restored rail car due to be delivered by Fillmore & Western Railway by the end of 2008 and possibly as early as June. Thank you for your patience as we developed this wonderful project.

Question: Back in the late 1990s the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) received Prop 108 and Prop 116 funds to help us acquire the various railroad depot properties and reconstruct the historic depot - which we did and we used those funds as well as RDA funds to make the project an enormous success.

The Prop 108 and 116 funds were of vital importance to the success of the project and helped with land acquisition, planning, engineering, design and construction of the depot.

Recently, Redevelopment Agency staff have been directed by our City Council to enter into negotiations with the Santa Barbara Children's Museum to eventually build a Children's Museum on properties located at 125 State Street (APN 033-075-012, approximately 21,967 square feet and APN 033-075-014, approximately 403 square feet.). The project will be financed by the Children's Museum and possibly some small financial assistance from the Redevelopment Agency. The Children's Museum will be an enormous community benefit and will continue to enhance and revitalize the area as the Depot has done for many years on lower State Street.

I believe the parcels that compose the site of the proposed Children's Museum were purchased (along with numerous other parcels that today make up the Depot) with portions of Prop 108 and 116 funds. The railroad project is complete, the Prop 108 and 116 funds have been expended, the fund transfer agreements expired in 1998 (according to our records), and the Depot was recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

After a thorough review of our records, I do not see any issues with our proposed development of the site into a Children's Museum. However, prior to beginning the process of developing a Children's Museum on the site I wanted to confirm our understanding and see if you could offer any insight into any issues (from the Prop 108 and 116 point of view) that would inhibit us from developing the site as a Children's Museum? Any restrictions that you are aware of?

Your input would be greatly appreciated. Our City Council has asked that we expedite this project in order to maximize the benefits to the Santa Barbara Community so a speedy response, if possible, would be greatly appreciated.

If you are not the appropriate person to discuss this item, could you please let me know the contact information for the appropriate person.

Again, thank you and Happy New Year.

Brian J. Bosse  
Redevelopment Supervisor  
City of Santa Barbara  
805-564-5461