

## WHAT WE BELIEVE CAN BE SOME OF THE EXPECTED BENEFITS TO OUR LOCAL REGION.

*We believe that the following benefits of a port and rail “land bridge” as proposed by PNR can be expected:*

- 1) A significant private industrial base for our area.*
- 2) Good, decent paying jobs which provide a living wage, enabling families to be formed, and generating future local employment for our children and grandchildren. Better schools and other improved educational opportunities will likely result.*
- 3) With a healthy industrial base, private sector jobs with medical benefits are expected to increase with the result that sufficient medical doctors can be recruited and retained.*
- 4) Local government entities can be expected to experience justifiable growth in revenue from greater economic activity, which should lead to enhanced government services, repaired County roads, and healthy infrastructure improvements such as trails along with better-financed public transportation.*
- 5) The improved economic situation will encourage investment by entrepreneurs with the resulting increase in employment at living wage jobs and a reduction in empty store fronts. The number of high-paying jobs generated with the construction of the railroad and the marine terminals is expected to be large.*
- 6) Expected benefits for timber owners and mill operators should be significant. The value of timber produced in Humboldt County is estimated to increase by at least 8% because rail transport to major markets is expected to make locally produced lumber more competitive.*
- 7) The cost of transporting goods into and out of Humboldt County is expected to decrease, likely resulting in better profit margins and sustainability for local businesses.*
- 8) With the expected increase in business activity and economic transactions, both direct and residual, improved air travel service is also likely.*
- 9) A healthier economy can provide the material assistance needed to reduce and cope with societal ills such as homelessness, substance and child abuse, school dropout rates, and despair.*
- 10) Restoration of hope, optimism, and determination among the people of Humboldt County can be anticipated.*