



# City Council Memorandum

*City of Arts & Innovation*

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: JULY 28, 2015**

**FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT      WARD: 1**

**SUBJECT: DISPOSAL OF INOPERABLE CABOOSE AT HUNTER HOBBY PARK**

## **ISSUE:**

The issue for City Council consideration is to approve the disposal of the inoperable caboose at Hunter Hobby Park.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Declare as surplus an inoperative caboose located at Hunter Hobby Park formerly known as Southern Pacific Caboose 899, ("Caboose"),
2. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to market and sell or otherwise dispose of the caboose; and
3. Allow City Attorney's Office to draft any agreements associated with a sale of the caboose.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department owns an inoperative caboose formerly known as Southern Pacific Caboose 899 located at Hunter Hobby Park. It is part of a gift accepted by the City in 1965 from the Joseph Hunter Foundation on the condition that it be used for the welfare and amusement of the general public. Unfortunately, the caboose is in a state of disrepair that makes it unfit for public use. The cost to rehabilitate this unit to render it safe for public use and to relocate it would be significant and prohibitive. Given these challenges, this unit is only useful to a private collector.

The Joseph Hunter Foundation is no longer registered as a non-profit organization and its heirs have agreed that the caboose may be disposed of as the City deems appropriate.

The City has had a long-standing relationship with the Riverside Live Steamers (RLS), a non-profit agency that operates the miniature steam trains at Hunter Hobby Park and staff has been working with RLS to find an interested party that would be willing to assist with the disposal of the caboose at no cost to the City. RLS has been in contact with JFS Railcar, LLC., a Missouri based company that is willing to assist in finding a buyer for the unit.

Staff's recommendation is to declare the inoperative caboose as surplus and to authorize staff to dispose of it.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no impact to the General Fund. The value of the inoperative caboose is minimal and the goal is to dispose of the caboose at no cost to the City.

Prepared by: Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director

Certified as to

availability of funds: Brent A. Mason, Finance Director/Treasurer

Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager

Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Photo of caboose at its current location at Hunter Hobby Park