

guess my concern is that they're now trying to expand to take on more obligation when they were unable to indicate an inability to take care of many, many parks...lakes and parks down in my area. I guess my concern is obviously it has to do with finance. I understand that losing this piece of property for the future is important. But my concern is, strictly deals with the financing of it. And what do you propose that....You know, I read in there, I think it was around \$14,000, and I have some real problem with them to, as I indicated earlier, with Game and Parks Department being able to maintain and keep up all the crossings and bridges and culverts, et cetera, along that, what is it 230 some miles? I just wondered how you respond to that, because that's the only thing that really bothers me. I obviously don't own any land up there, and I understand some of those ranchers are not happy. But my big concern has, again, to do with the financing.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, historically, across the nation there have been a whole number of mechanisms that have been used to finance trails. And I would expect in this state probably the preferred method of financing would be with user fees, once we get them established. The leasing out of portions of this particular trail is certainly going to bring in revenue that will help with the maintenance of it. To the extent that parts of it may be habitat, certainly part of the habitat monies might legitimately be used for that purpose. There are a whole number of different kinds of financing mechanisms, leasing out utility right of ways along the lines have been a mechanism for financing a great many trails. So it's hard for me to predict how...what combination of things will be used in this state, certainly private funds, to a large extent, have been used already with regard to the MoPac Trail and other trails in local areas that have been constructed and developed.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, the indication was earlier that there wouldn't be that much expense, and I guess my only point in bringing it up is if it's going to be self-supporting then it would seem to me that natural resources district or some organization in that area should take it over. My real concern is the loss of funding, if in fact the things don't work out, and we start to then hear that they don't have any money and we have to start closing down facilities that people down in my part of the state use at the expense of opening up. And I don't have anything...I'm not opposed to the trails idea, I think it's a good idea, just that I'm really concerned about and I think