

and perhaps one other community. But there are 292 rail trails around the nation now, and Nebraska has done nothing in regard to the development of recreational trails. I might point out to you that there are some short railroad lines around the state that may or may not be able to be revitalized, but as they are able to be revitalized, of course, they're not available for trails and no one would suggest they should be used for trails. There are other abandoned railroad right-of-ways that may, at some future point in time, be appropriate for railroad use again. And in that regard there is a federal program that's used by the states, that are in conjunction with the states, it's called rail banking. And what they do is take railroad right-of-ways and keep them intact for future, possible railroad uses, for future telecommunication uses. They are corridors that are important for different forms of communication uses, and also can serve temporarily, or perhaps indefinitely as recreational trails. But we're not doing any of that in Nebraska either, even though a lot of our railroad lines are now being abandoned. What is our neighbor, Iowa, doing? Iowa is spending \$1 million a year, out of state money. And, Senator Warner, I mentioned to you earlier that they're spending \$1 million out of state money, out of state gas tax money, road money. Folks, this is an easy path we're following today. No gas tax money, and it's not anywhere near a million dollars, it's \$100,000, it's trivial compared to what some other states are doing. Iowa has 176 miles of rail trails, and they have 6 other projects that don't involve rail trails; 75 percent of the funding comes from the state. I'm not asking for 75 percent of the funding coming from the state, I'm not even asking 50 percent, it has to be somewhat less than 50 percent, and probably,...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...given the number of projects that I predict will apply for these funds, you're not going to get more than 20 or 25 percent of your project costs out of the state. And as this becomes more competitive, which I predict that it will, because this is an idea whose time has come, there's going to be a clamor for more funds for these purposes. And I don't think that's something to be afraid of, I think that's something that we should grasp onto and control intelligently. Missouri, what has Missouri done? Missouri has 52 miles of trails, and they're working on more. They've set up a continuing program for trails. Kansas just bought 22 miles of trails, they're just