



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
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## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 7, 2008

CONTACT: (831) 460-3200, George Dondero, Executive Director

# **RTC Reaches New Agreement for Purchase of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line**

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) is pleased to announce an agreement in principle with Union Pacific to purchase the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line (Branch Line) for \$14.2 million. The new price requires that the RTC use some of the funding available for this project to make improvements to the Branch Line. The RTC will continue to negotiate other terms and conditions with Union Pacific. In addition, the RTC will complete all of the remaining due diligence work, including an environmental site assessment, appraisals, lease investigation, and business and management plan. The due diligence work will be used to inform the RTC's final decision to purchase the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line, which is anticipated at the end of this calendar year. Detailed information concerning the proposed acquisition will be made available to the public 30 days prior to the RTC's final decision to purchase the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line, if practicable.

*Public input on transportation issues is welcomed and encouraged.*

*For more information, call SCCRTC at 831-460-3200 or visit [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org).*

*The meeting will be televised countywide by Community TV of Santa Cruz. Consult [www.comunitytv.org](http://www.comunitytv.org)  
or call 831-425-8848 for schedule and station information.*