

**AGENDA:** September 1, 2016

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission  
**FROM:** George Dondero, Executive Director  
**RE:** Director's Report

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**THIS ITEM FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

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**Bikeways Map Updated**

The bikeways map for Santa Cruz County has been updated and is available free of charge. The bike map is the most requested RTC publication and includes locations of bike lanes, paths, alternate routes, and unpaved multiuse trails within Santa Cruz County, as well as schools, transit centers, bike shops, major attractions. Cycling organizations in our area are listed. Safety tips are shown in English and Spanish. The map was last updated in 2010. We now have the capability to update the maps in house. The RTC's goal of facilitating the use of all transportation modes is aided by providing this map for both new and seasoned bicycle users to choose routes on which they feel most comfortable traveling. The map can be picked up at the RTC office all our office at 460-3200 for other locations in your area where you can pick one up.

**Frazier-Beall Transportation Funding Bill**

On August 17 Assemblyman Jim Frazier (D-Oakley) and Sen. Jim Beall (D-San Jose) released a \$7.4 billion transportation funding package to repair and maintain state and local roads, stabilize the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), improve trade corridors, and support public transit and active transportation. If approved by 2/3rd of the state legislature and the governor, the plan would be funded through a range of revenues, including gas and diesel taxes and vehicle registration fees. Last summer, Brown called a special session of the Legislature to highlight the backlog in state and local road repairs and other transportation budget deficits, but with the FY15/16 Legislative Session coming to a close on August 31, action on this major transportation funding package is on hold. The special session on transportation was convened briefly on the Assembly floor Tuesday, but **no action was taken and none is likely unless lawmakers return to the Capitol after the November election and vote on the proposal before November 30.**

Governor Jerry Brown and Democratic legislative leaders announced they did reach a deal to spend \$900 million in cap-and-trade revenue. The agreement, which has been in the works for months, directs \$135 million to the competitive Transit and Intercity Rail Program and \$10 million to the California Transportation Commission's Active Transportation Program. The remaining funds are directed to the Air Resources Board and other non-transportation programs. The money comes from a system in which businesses buy permits to offset the climate-altering emissions of burning fossil fuels.

### **City of Santa Cruz Coastal Rail Trail Progress**

The City of Santa Cruz and design firm RRM will be presenting the Final Schematic Plan to the City Transportation and Public Works Commission (TPWC) on Monday September 19 for the City's 2.1 mile Coastal Rail Trail project. The City of Santa Cruz is implementing the project in partnership with the RTC. The Final Schematic Plans will show the progress to date including moving the trail to the coastal side of the tracks between Swift St. and Almar Ave. after successful negotiation with New Leaf Market to grant an easement, and widening of the trail to a 14-16 foot paved width between California St. and Pacific Ave. The Final Schematic Plans will be used as the basis of the construction plans. In early to middle 2017, the construction plans will be brought to Council for final approval after the environmental, permitting, and right-of-way phases are complete. In total, over 11 miles of the Coastal Rail Trail are in progress with construction scheduled to occur for nine of those miles by 2018. Over \$19M has been secured or committed to date including \$14.5M in public funds and \$4.5M in private donations. Additional funding has been committed pending grant applications award selections.

### **Measure D is on the Ballot**

The Commissioners and RTC staff continued public information activities for Transportation Improvement Plan, now designated as Measure D, to be on the November 8 ballot. RTC and legal staff met with all the cities and the county, Metro and Community Bridges to discuss outreach about pothole repair, road maintenance, improvements to routes to schools, transit and paratransit services that will be preserved with funding from the measure, and the state and federal funds that will be available by having local match funding. More information is on the RTC website (which will be continually updated): [www.sccrtc.org/move](http://www.sccrtc.org/move)