



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
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Karena Pushnik, Senior Planner/Public Information Coordinator*

## **Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) March 3, 2011 Meeting Highlights**

### ***Outgoing Bicycle Committee chair recognized:***

The RTC awarded a certificate of appreciation to Daniel Kostalec who represented the City of Capitola on the RTC Bicycle Committee since April 2002 and served as Committee Chair since April 2005. Mr. Kostalec was cited for riding his bike to and from work for over 12 years and for being an advocate for the cycling community.

### ***Senior Planner Karena Pushnik honored:***

The RTC presented Senior Planner Karena Pushnik with a plaque for 20 years of outstanding public service to the RTC and the community; professionalism representing the RTC as public information coordinator; genuine passion for improving transportation for seniors and people with disabilities; and superior leadership on numerous diverse projects including the rideshare program, the Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes Project, the Transportation Funding Task Force, rail projects and as co-host of the Transportation Café television show.

### ***Annual Caltrans presentation received:***

The RTC received a presentation from Caltrans on recently completed, current and future transportation projects. Completed projects include the landscaping for the Highway 17 Merge Lanes project which will continue to be maintained by Caltrans through 2013; a retaining wall along Highway 9 near Santa Cruz; and an overlay project on Highway 9. Projects under construction include the Highway 1/Salinas Road interchange scheduled for completion in summer 2013; guardrail projects on Highway 17; and a traffic monitoring system on Highway 1 in south county. Future and potential projects include the Highway 1 Soquel to Morrissey Auxiliary Lanes and HOV Lanes projects; the San Lorenzo River Bridge widening and the Harkins Slough interchange. The report noted Caltrans planning grants and transit grants and that Caltrans partnered with the RTC to secure funding for the Rail Acquisition Project.

### ***Draft Monterey Bay Area Public Participation Plan reviewed:***

The RTC received the draft Monterey Bay Area Public Participation Plan. RTC staff worked with the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) in developing the plan, along with Monterey and San Benito Counties. The plan is designed to encourage public involvement in transportation planning. A 45-day review period began when AMBAG released the document on February 9<sup>th</sup>. The document specifically outlines the public participation practices in use by each of the partner agencies. The plan is located on the AMBAG website at [http://ambag.org/programs/met\\_transp\\_plann/reports/draft\\_PPP%20update.pdf](http://ambag.org/programs/met_transp_plann/reports/draft_PPP%20update.pdf).

***Applying STARS to 2012 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) approved:***

As part of approving the amendments to the RTC's FY10-11 budget and work program, the application of the Sustainable Transportation Access Rating System to the 2012 RTP was approved which will assist in meeting the requirements of SB375.

***Fiscal Year (FY)11-12 budget and work program approved:***

The RTC approved the preliminary FY11-12 budget and work program, citing indications of a slowly improving economy and actual and estimated increases in Transportation Development Act revenues. The FY11-12 budget reinstates revenue apportionments to Ecology Action's Bike to Work Program and the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency's Community Traffic Safety Coalition to their FY09-10 levels. The RTC also approved funding for a small RTC satellite office in Watsonville. Office space will be subleased with the Air District.

***Community Pedestrian Safety Workshop announced:***

A free Community Pedestrian Safety Workshop will be held on Saturday, March 26, 2011 from 10a,-2pm at the Mintie White elementary school, 515 Palm St., Watsonville. The workshop is designed to include the public in developing strategies to promote a safe walking environment. The bi-lingual event will provide lunch and childcare. RSVP by March 18<sup>th</sup> to Sarah Harmon at 831 454 5418 Or at [SCBPWG@co.santa-cruz.ca.us](mailto:SCBPWG@co.santa-cruz.ca.us).

***Upcoming RTC and Committee Meetings***

***Please check the RTC website [[www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org)] or call 831/460-3200 to confirm. Most agendas posted to the website 4 business days before the meeting.***

Commission Meetings

Thursday, April 7, 2011, 9:00 am  
City of Capitola Council Chambers  
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola

Transportation Policy Workshop (TPW)

Thursday, February 17, 2011, 9:00 am  
SCCRTC Offices  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee

Thursday, April 14, 2011, 3:30 pm  
SCCRTC Offices  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Bicycle Committee

Tuesday, March 14, 2011, 6:30 pm – Note Special Time  
SCCRTC Offices  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, March 8, 2011, 1:30 pm  
SCCRTC Offices  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Interagency Technical Advisory Committee

Thursday, March 17, 1:00 pm – Note Special Time

SCCRTC Offices  
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

*Public input on transportation issues is welcomed and encouraged. For more information, visit the SCCRTC web site at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) or call 460-3200. Some Regional Transportation Commission meetings are 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.*

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