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

For Information Only

Pedestrian Safety Workshop

The RTC, in conjunction with state and local public safety groups and the City of Watsonville, co-sponsored a Pedestrian Safety Workshop held in Watsonville on March 26. Despite driving rain, 25 people attended the event which included a walkability assessment and information about the 8 E’s (engineering, evaluation, enforcement, education, engagement, empowerment, etc.). RTC staff arranged to have assistive devices such as wheelchairs and walkers available, which helped attendees better understand accessibility issues. A special thank you to Commissioners Caput and Montesino, as well as Watsonville Mayor Daniel Dodge, for participating in the workshop.

Scenic Trail Network planning kickoff

After much anticipation, we’ve officially kicked off the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network project. This is a planned bicycle and pedestrian multi-use path network that will span the Monterey Bay coast line. It is planned to run within the railroad right-of-way wherever conditions permit. Last week staff issued the notice to proceed to RRM Design Group, the consultant firm selected to conduct the Master Plan and Environmental Review for this project. RRM has extensive expertise designing and planning multi-use trail projects. RRM will start by collecting relevant data for the design effort which will include base mapping and conducting a thorough analysis of existing conditions.

We’ll provide regular updates as we move forward and notify you about stakeholder meetings that will also include staff from your local jurisdictions. The first set of public meetings is anticipated for August of this year.