Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC)
March 3rd, 2016 Meeting Highlights

Mural for Railroad Bridge Abutment in Aptos
The Regional Transportation Commission approved the painting of a mural on the eastern abutment wall of the railroad bridge over Soquel Drive and Aptos Street in Aptos. Steven Allen of Allen Property Group once again enlisted the services of local mural artist Arturo Thomae, who painted the apple orchards and crates mural on the railroad bridge abutment at Soquel Drive and Spreckels Drive in Aptos. Mr. Allen and Mr. Thomae worked with the Aptos Chamber of Commerce and Supervisor Zach Friend’s office to develop the mural design. The mural will depict a historic steam locomotive next to the Aptos Train Station.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 proposed budget
The Regional Transportation Commission approved the agency’s FY 16-17 proposed budget, as recommended by the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee. Funding challenges for transportation projects and programs continue to be a major issue. Lower fuel prices and the inability of the federal government to repair the insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund have reduced funding for transportation. The agency’s budget addresses some financial challenges with the aid of grant funds, and balancing on-going RTC projects and programs, while meeting state and federally mandated responsibilities. Included in the budget are continued oversight of the Highway 1 projects; maintenance, property management, and preservation of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line; implementation of priority bicycle and pedestrian projects; and development of new funding sources.
The Regional Transportation Commission approved draft goals, policies and targets for the 2040 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), a long range transportation plan currently under development that identifies the transportation needs for Santa Cruz County over the next twenty-two years. The goals, policies, and targets for the 2040 RTP will be used to prioritize the transportation projects given the limited level of transportation funding. Input was solicited from the public through various formats – RTC website, email distributions, and social media. The most significant addition to the goals, policies and targets for the 2040 RTP is the addition of a total greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 60% below 2005 by 2040. This target is based on executive orders by Governor Brown to reduce GHG emissions by 40% by 2030 and by 80% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels. The target of 60% by 2040 is the midpoint between these goals. The final 2040 RTP is scheduled to be adopted in June 2018.

Upcoming RTC and Committee Meetings:
Please check the RTC website [www.sccrtc.org] or call 831-460-3200 to confirm. Agendas are posted to the website at least 3 days before the meeting.

**TOS/Safe on 17**
Wednesday, March 9, 2016, 10:00 a.m.
CHP Office, 2020 Junction Avenue,
San Jose

**Transportation Policy Workshop**
Thursday, March 17, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue,
Santa Cruz

**Interagency Technical Advisory Committee**
Thursday, March 17, 2016, 1:30 p.m.
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue,
Santa Cruz

**Commission Meeting**
Thursday, April 7, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
County Board of Supervisors Chambers,
701 Ocean Street, 5th floor, Santa Cruz

Public input on transportation issues is welcomed and encouraged. For more information, visit the SCCRTC website at www.sccrtc.org or call 460-3200. Some Regional Transportation Commission meetings are televised countywide by Community TV of Santa Cruz. Consult www.communitytv.org or call 831-425-8848 for schedule and station information.