

## Handout for Agenda Item 18

**From:** Brian Peoples  
**Sent:** Friday, May 27, 2016 5:43 AM  
**To:** Regional Transportation Commission  
**Subject:** \$8M per mile for 8 foot wide trail

RTC & Land Trust have applied for a Federal grant to build trail (8 foot wide) parallel to tracks from Boardwalk to 17th Ave at a cost of \$13.5M. The length of trail will be 1.7 miles, therefore costing \$8M per mile for a 8 foot wide trail. Does this make sense? When RTC ask Santa Cruz Taxpayers to approve a 1/2% Sales Tax Measure, remember how they are spending your money.

Brian Peoples

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Dear Mr. Peoples,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please note that the agencies submitting a grant application are the City of Santa Cruz and County of Santa Cruz. The grant amount has not been determined yet, though it has been determined that the grant will be to fund preliminary design and engineering, and environmental clearance for a 12-foot wide multi-use trail. The project length will span a portion of Segment 8 and 9 as defined in the MBSST Master Plan.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



*Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news*

-----Original Message-----

From: Daniel Quinto  
Sent: Sunday, May 29, 2016 8:34 AM  
To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
Subject: Widen Hwy 1

Something, anything that will help needs to be started. I work in the Emergency Services, (a Paramedic in this County for 31 years) and when the freeway is congested, it slows our responses, it slows our ability to move resources to area that are in need. The freeway back up is getting worse, starting earlier in the day and lasting longer. A train on 1 track will not help! You can not get the general public out of their cars and on to bicycles, mostly because they are commuting "over the hill" to where there are better paying jobs.

We have waited way too long to address this problem, it now is at a critical point and there is nothing on the horizon to help.

We need an answer and bikes and trains is not it.

Daniel J Quinto  
Paramedic Supervisor  
Chairman Emergency Medical Care Committee Santa Cruz County

---

Dear Mr. Quinto,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....

Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060

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**From:** Contact Request Form [<mailto:admin@sccrtc.org>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 29, 2016 7:08 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact Form

This Contact Request Form has been submitted by a member of the public to <http://sccrtc.org/contact-us/>.

<b>Name</b>
Steven Henderson
<b>Subject</b>
Opposed to the Rail part of the rail trail plan.
<b>Your Message</b>
I fully support removing the rails and building a bike pedestrian trail, you only have to look at Monterey to see how well that works. Please dump the Rail and Trail idea and just make a world class pedestrian/bike trail. It would get massive use just as the Monterey trail does and would enhance the local environment. A trail with the rail will not.
Thanks
Steve Henderson

---

Dear Mr. Henderson,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

**From:** Brian Peoples  
**Sent:** Monday, May 30, 2016 8:57 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** Listen to Alex Clifford (Santa Cruz Metro Chief)

Les White, former Santa Cruz Metro Chief, does not support the current allocation plan for the proposed tax measure.

Alex Clifford, former CEO of Chicago Metra Commuter Rail and now Santa Cruz County Metro Chief, has expressed in public Board meetings concern over the limited availability of operating funding in the region and that rail operations could compete for operating dollars needed by SC Metro. Wouldn't he know best how expensive it is to operate commuter rail given his experience as former CEO of Chicago Metra commuter rail?

We need to listen to Alex and Les' concerns, which are grounded in years of experience?

Brian Peoples

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Dear Mr. Peoples,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

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**From:** Maria Bogdanos  
**Sent:** Monday, May 30, 2016 2:19 PM  
**To:** [info@SCCRTC.org](mailto:info@SCCRTC.org)  
**Subject:** Trail instead of rail

Hello there!

I'm a resident of Seascap and would like to encourage the effort to remove the tracks and put in a bike/walking trail. I'm not in favor of light rail, it will raise our taxes. I'm also not in favor of leaving the track and putting a trail beside it. This won't work logistically! I would like to see a trail go in lieu of the track. It will give us all an easy, healthy alternative to driving downtown.

Thanks for the consideration.  
Best,  
Maria

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Dear Ms. Bogdanos,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

**From:** Brian Peoples  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 4:18 AM  
**To:** Regional Transportation Commission  
**Subject:** Tax Measure

If the tax measure includes train funding, the world-class trail from Boardwalk to Manresa will never be built. If the train is including in tax measure, we will oppose the tax measure.

Brian Peoples

---

Dear Mr. Peoples,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

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-----Original Message-----

From: Miles Reiter  
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 6:26 AM  
To: [info@scrtc.org](mailto:info@scrtc.org)  
Subject: Rail trail

Dear Commissioners,

Please commit now to making the best use of the rail corridor. That would be the elimination of the rail element and using the whole corridor for the creation of a fantastic trail.

Regards,  
Miles Reiter

---

Dear Mr. Reiter,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.scrtc.org](http://www.scrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....

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**From:** David Eselius

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 6:58 AM

**To:** SCCRTC members

**Cc:** Capitola Council & Public Record; Dene Bustichi SV Council Member; Donna Lind SV City Council; Randy Johnson; Stephany Aguilar SV Council Member; METRO Admin

**Subject:** Santa Cruz Bridges

Tuesday May 31, 2016

TO: SCCRTC

cc: City Councils: Watsonville, Capitola, and Scotts Valley

METRO

Subject: **Santa Cruz Bridges**

In August 2013, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) approved a \$4.2 million contract to make repairs to four bridges that "require attention more immediately" along the RR Santa Cruz Branch Line in California. Santa Cruz County and cities pay for RR Bridge and RR right-of-way millions of dollars of repairs.

Santa Cruz County and cities are obligated to pay for three (3) RR bridge replacements: Capitola RR Bridge (more than \$1 billion) and two (2) Aptos RR Bridges that cross State Route 1 (more than \$1 billion each). Federal regulators require Capitola RR Bridge replacement. To improve State Route 1 transportation, State regulators require that the two (2) Aptos RR Bridges crossing State Route 1 are to be wider for improved automotive, METRO bus, and truck transportation. Taxpayers each year make many thousands of trips by way of State Route 1. State Route 1 trip figure does not count increased surface traffic flow on city streets due poor level of the AM, Mid Day, and PM commuter service of State Route 1. Transportation in Santa Cruz County and cities is in "grid-lock" because of year-2000 RR Santa Cruz Branch Line acquisition.

Since the Santa Cruz County Supervisor progressive Democratic cabal acquired the 32-mile RR Santa Cruz Branch Line in year-2000, the SCCRTC members are liars of transportation, rail-to-bicycle trail, and funding.

To meet the challenge of SCCRTC RR Bridge replacements the Commission members have proposed a County half-cent sales tax increase that will go into the Santa Cruz County general fund. However, Santa Cruz County Supervisors and SCCRTC members did not identify RR Bridges obligations.

It is unlikely California Transportation Commission (CTC) will provide additional funding for RR Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line acquisition or upkeep. CTC year-2016 estimates are a \$57 billion ten-year shortfall in system repairs for the existing State Highway System and a \$78 billion ten-year shortfall for taking care of local streets and roads. State and Federal funding is a matter of transportation priorities. SCCRTC RR Bridge obligations for a parks-recreation bicycle trail project exceed \$3 billion.

To justify acquiring the money losing RR right-of-way, the SCCRTC members created a special interest "sensible transportation" group that maintains a image that the RR right-of-way is necessary for the SCCRTC members to infinitesimally improve "bimodal" bicycle use. To date, with acquiring RR Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line costs, maintaining RR right-of-way, and repairing RR bridges, spent many \$10's of millions. County and cities taxpayers (who do not ride bicycles) pay for rail-with-bicycle trail.

Santa Cruz City Council members and City have their own problems paying for State Route 1 and Highway 9 new intersection rebuild with roadway San Lorenzo River Bridge reconstruction. The San Lorenzo River Bridge reconstruction is another SCCRTC bridge funding problem.

---

Dear Mr. Eselius,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

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**From:** Haston, Carma  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 7:20 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** Train/Trail

I wanted to express my support for a trail only option. I have lived in Santa Cruz for 35+ years and this is such a shame. Further, the proposed tax measure is something I would vote in favor of if the train part was removed. Please don't bury the train in this much needed infrastructure measure.

I am not a home owner with property near the tracks and I'm not a NIMBY. I'm simply a concerned citizen that sees many other alternatives. If the goal is truly electric then why not pave that area and look at small golf carts or other electric rubber wheeled options. Why go through all the expense of replacing the rails to support an antiquated technology?

**Carma Haston** Sr. Strategic Alliance Manager-Cisco

Connect with Plantronics:    



---

Dear Carma Haston,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

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**From:** Contact Request Form [<mailto:admin@sccrtc.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 7:51 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact Form

This Contact Request Form has been submitted by a member of the public to <http://sccrtc.org/contact-us/>.

<b>Name</b>
Manuel Zavala
<b>Subject</b>
no rail yes trail
<b>Your Message</b>
Please get us a trail without the rail. I do not believe it is economically feasible and ridership is over projected. I do believe that a better trail will be used much more.
thank you

---

Dear Mr. Zavala,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

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-----Original Message-----

From: Donald Hicks

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 8:21 AM

To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

Subject: Tax measure yes, train no.

Although I am for the tax measure to raise funds for transportation improvements in the county, I am not for use of the money for the train. Please convert the train tracks into a useful trail for the residence of the county as well as tourists.

Donald Hicks  
Watsonville, Ca

---

Dear Mr. Hicks,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....  
Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

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**From:** Contact Request Form [<mailto:admin@sccrtc.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 8:42 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact Form

This Contact Request Form has been submitted by a member of the public to <http://sccrtc.org/contact-us/>.

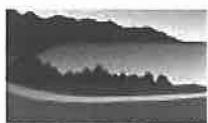
<b>Name</b>
Coni Hendry
<b>Subject</b>
Trail
<b>Your Message</b>
I am writing to say I do NOT want a train to be part of the plan. A trail only would be used much more, be more pleasant to use, way cheaper and doable. This is Santa Cruz where people of all ages walk and walk--- we need the trail now! Forget the train--- it is too expensive and will add to our pollution! Coni

Dear Coni Hendry,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



**SCCRTC**

**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

**From:** Amy Chirman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 9:29 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** No Train Tax!

Hi RTC,

Just want to say that I'm a property-owning, voting, activist in Santa Cruz and I support the trail without rail. I will not support any taxation associated with the rail.

Trail, not rail!  
Amy Chirman  
Live Oak

---

Dear Ms. Chirman,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
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**From:** W B  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 9:32 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** No Train Tax

No train tax please. We need a trail now.  
Thank you, Will Bachar

---

Dear Mr. Bachar,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Harriet Maglin

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 10:12 AM

To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

Cc: [zach.friend@co.santa-cruz.ca.us](mailto:zach.friend@co.santa-cruz.ca.us); [john.leopold@co.santa-cruz.ca.us](mailto:john.leopold@co.santa-cruz.ca.us)

Subject: ½% Sales Tax Measure for November Elections

I am writing to oppose the 1/2 cent sales tax if the train remains in this proposed tax measure. The commuter train will not serve the real daily transportation needs of our community. Currently the Metro is running at a deficit. The proposed train does not serve our current commercial and business centers without added Metro service. Our community does not use the Metro to the extent to make it financially viable and without major subsidies.

Rather than pour "good money after bad" into a rail service that is not fully funded, will not reduce traffic on Hwy 1, has not taken into account the added costs for parking & stations, and does not have the ability to take commuters from point A to an existing commercial or business center, I can not support this measure.

Please put efforts into our current road infrastructure repairs and maintenance, Hwy 1 traffic mitigation and supporting the Metro that has extensive coverage in our County. Use your efforts to expand the community's use of an existing Metro transportation system and also serves as a more efficient "people mover." You don't need to reinvent the wheel, you just need to think of how you can improve its efficiency and community use.

The existing rail corridor and the magnificent environmental splendor it offers, must be converted into a world class trail that connects with the magnificent Monterey Bay Scenic Trail at a fraction of the costs to run and operate a commuter train.

Please serve your community responsibly.

Harriet Maglin

Rio Del Mar

---

Dear Ms. Maglin,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....  
Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

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-----Original Message-----

From: Kristin Tosello

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 11:39 AM

To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

Subject: Trail

Please take the time to look at all options and the impact of a train on our community. We want a trail not a train that no one will use!

Kristin Tosello

---

Dear Ms. Tosello,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....

Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

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**From:** Contact Request Form [<mailto:admin@sccrtc.org>]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 27, 2016 1:50 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact Form

This Contact Request Form has been submitted by a member of the public to <http://sccrtc.org/contact-us/>.

<b>Name</b>
Travis Parker
<b>Subject</b>
Rail Trail
<b>Your Message</b>
<p>I was prodded to write after seeing yet another one of the infuriating (and misleading) ads by the Trail Now organization, which urged citizens to contact you. So I thought I'd would contact you to let you know how much I applaud and appreciate your work on the rail trail and how excited I am by what you've done and where it is going. I live less than 100 feet from the tracks, but I share none of the veiled NIMBYism of the Trail Now group. Please don't let this apparently well funded but total b.s. group alter your plans for a multi use corridor.</p> <p>Keep up the great work, and thank you!</p> <p>Travis</p>

---

Dear Mr. Parker,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

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-----Original Message-----

From: Tamra Scott-Hunt

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 8:25 AM

To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

Subject: No Train Tax

On Thursday, June 2nd, please vote NO on the 1/2% train tax. I support trail only. Please don't ruin our neighborhoods with noisy trains running all day. San Jose has a train down the center of highway 85; that's where trains belong, not in the middle of our serene beach-town neighborhoods.

Tamra Scott-Hunt

---

Dear Ms. Scott-Hunt,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....  
Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

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-----Original Message-----

From: Will Mayall

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 12:51 PM

To: [info@SCCRTC.org](mailto:info@SCCRTC.org)

Subject: TRIP comments

I strongly oppose spending more taxpayer money on a train.

The RTC has spent a large amount of time and money to determine if a passenger train is viable and has failed to do so. Meanwhile, alternative modes of transportation are just around the corner.

A dedicated bike/e-bike trail study has not been done. Such a trail is not the same as the recreational trail in the current plans.

Only a dedicated, bi-directional trail can support efficient transportation via bikes. For example, imagine e-bikes averaging 15mph (which is slow) traveling with pedestrians and strollers on the current mixed-use design. The rail bed is the only realistic location for a true rail trail.

Our county will never again have the opportunity to add such a critical, realistic, and healthy form of transportation. Please spend our money wisely.

Yours,

Will Mayall

---

Dear Mr. Mayall,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....

Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

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**From:** Ryan Whitelaw  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 1:03 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** Want the Tax Measure to Pass?

Folks in this County feel like passenger rail is being forced down our throat. And, rightfully so. We used \$11 million in funding that requires a train, and we're planning on building a trail that was designed to accommodate a train.

To date, the RTC's position is not a matter of "if" a train is coming, it's simply a matter of when. Otherwise, what's the contingency plan? If the RTC is interested in the tax measure passing, there must be a viable "Plan B" if/when passenger rail is determined not to be viable. Please consider a "trail only" option as part of the upcoming tax measure.

Sincerely,

Ryan Whitelaw

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Dear Mr. Whitelaw,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

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-----Original Message-----

From: Brett Graessle

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 12:36 PM

To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

Subject: No on Train Tax

I vote no on the Sales Tax initiative for the new train.

Thanks,

Brett

Brett Graessle

---

Dear Mr. Graessle,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....  
Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

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**From:** Michael Parisi  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 1:35 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** Please hold off on including \$ for the train on Nov's tax measure

Hello,

While I can see the advantages of both sides of the argument, the trail-only option is not well known by local residents and it makes sense to have a cost/benefit comparison for review before more \$ is allocated. Please, let's do this right so we end up embracing what Santa Cruz really wants.

Sincerely,  
Michael and Karen Parisi

---

Dear Michael and Karen Parisi,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



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**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



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**om:** Contact Request Form [<mailto:admin@sccrtc.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 2:24 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact Form

This Contact Request Form has been submitted by a member of the public to <http://sccrtc.org/contact-us/>.

**Name**

John Van De Veer

**Subject**

Rail transit

**Your Message**

I have lived and worked in Santa Cruz County for more than 46 years. Over that time I have had much experience with county wide transportation and congestion involved with my career. I have read detailed studies on public rail transit. None seem to promote the use of our current rail corridor as viable. Santa Cruz does not have the population density and the rails do not serve specific areas for the commuting public.  
(INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION STUDIES  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY). please consider moving forward with Trail only.

---

Dear Mr. Van De Veer,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

**From:** Ken Miller  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 3:33 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** No Train!

Hello -

If the train is included on the tax measure, we will never have a world-class trail from Boardwalk to Manresa.

With a fence dividing the Trail from the Rail, this will be a disaster!

Forget the Train!

Thanks,

Ken Miller  
Aptos

---

Dear Mr. Miller,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

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***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrea Miller  
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 3:42 PM  
To: [info@scrtc.org](mailto:info@scrtc.org)  
Subject: RAIL SUCKS!

Hello,

You people at the RTC have an opportunity to create a World Class Trail.  
It will be a boon to our economy, it will be Awesome!  
Connect it with Monterey and we'll be a bicycle community similar to Amsterdam.

I live in Seacliff, ALL of my neighbors are against the Rail boondoggle.

I will lobby AND VOTE Against any proposed tax increase.

Our taxes are HIGH enough already!!

TRAINS = noise, fences, surface street congestion, EXPENSIVE, Exclusively for tourists

Use the funds to Widen Highway One.

If you tell me that adding another lane won't affect traffic....

With that argument, why not just take a lane away and see what happens.

Please start holding all of your meetings in Watsonville so you Santa Cruzans can enjoy traffic like your South County neighbors do.

I would bike everywhere if it were safe to do so. A TRAIL would make it safe.

Rail & Trail is TOO EXPENSIVE, too narrow, too Loud, ETC.

I can't wait for a WIDE world class trail!

Best Trail Regards,  
Andrea Miller

---

Dear Ms. Miller,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.scrtc.org](http://www.scrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....

Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

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Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news

**From:** Deb Molina  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 6:38 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** No Train!

**Boondoggle - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:**

A boondoggle is a project that is considered a useless waste of both time and money, yet is often continued due to extraneous policy or political motivations.

Otherwise known as RTC's plan for a train in Santa Cruz County!

As a committee, you have not done your duty to consider all options and to consult your constituents. Your surveys never asked the basic question of whether we, the Santa Cruz community, want a train. I have spoken to hundreds of people about the train and when asked, 98% say they want a Trail Only.

We do not want our neighborhoods divided by trains, traffic backed up at crossings, concrete embankments to shore up where you had to dig to widen the tracks. It doesn't bring people where they need to go. It's too expensive and your own ridership estimates show it doesn't make a dent in Highway 1 traffic.

You are trying to push the myth that we can't have a trail without a train. Already you are making big decisions (ex.- rebuilding the La Selva trestle- without any bike or pedestrian space) that are pushing your train agenda. This is not what the community wants!

Just because you have a plan doesn't mean it is a good plan. Don't waste this incredible opportunity to have a gorgeous, safe, clean, less expensive, tourist drawing commuter and recreation trail. Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Deb Molina

---

Dear Ms. Molina,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

**From:** Daniel Spero  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 6:52 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** Rail Trail

I strongly think that you should pull out the rail tracks and build a great bicycle trail.

Sincerely-

.....<°)))))><.....<°)))))><

.....<°)))))><.....<°)))))><

.....<°)))))><.....<°)))))><

☺(☺☺)☺ **Dan Spero**

---

Dear Mr. Spero,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**

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Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



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**From:** Contact Request Form [<mailto:admin@sccrtc.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 7:10 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact Form

This Contact Request Form has been submitted by a member of the public to <http://sccrtc.org/contact-us/>.

<b>Name</b>
Glen Stribling
<b>Subject</b>
Rail tax
<b>Your Message</b>
No Rail tax please. Poor investment. Bike path makes money. Train costs money.

---

Dear Mr. Stribling,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



*Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news*

**From:** Jill Borba  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2016 8:00 PM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** Trail

To whom it may concern,

I support creating a trail on the train tracks. It's a far better use of money, as is investing in bus lines that are more frequent and farther reaching.

Thank you,  
Jill Borba

---

Dear Ms. Borba,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

-----Original Message-----

From: Sergey Frolov

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 8:11 PM

To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)

Subject: please do not send my tax dollars towards a train

Dear RTC,

I understand that there is a vote coming up on a tax measure to send our tax dollars towards a watsonville - davenport train corridor. I do not believe that train transport is the best use of this publically-owned corridor. Please reconsider voting for this measure this year and instead put forward an alternative that takes into consideration other transportation options and offers a responsible tax burdens on our diverse community.

Sincerely,

--

Sergey Frolov,

---

Dear Mr. Frolov,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....

Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205

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-----Original Message-----

From: lael ambrose  
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 9:11 PM  
To: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
Subject: Rail trail

To whom it may concern,

I would like to go on record as being adamantly opposed to a train which would be much too expensive not to mention inefficient in resolving our growing traffic problems. Please put money into a more frequent bus service if you really care about solving traffic problems. As a la Selva Beach resident I would love to take the bus in to downtown Santa Cruz however with the present system there is no direct bus and it would take me over an hour.

The bike trail however is a great plan! It is relatively inexpensive, adds great recreational opportunities to our county, would bring in more tourists and would enhance our quality of life here on the coast in much the same way that parks do.

Sincerely,

Lael Ambrose

---

Dear Lael Ambrose,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,

.....

Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205

Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news

**From:** Contact Request Form [<mailto:admin@sccrtc.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 01, 2016 7:06 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact Form

This Contact Request Form has been submitted by a member of the public to <http://sccrtc.org/contact-us/>.

**Name**

Kim Ferrell

**Subject**

Yes yes yes to trail but please no rail.

**Your Message**

This town desperately needs safe transit by bike/ hike facilitated by a great trail. I be lived here in Aptos since 1979. cell phone abuse makes sharing the road even more dangerous. I used to commute from Aptos to Harvey west on my bike (even after getting hit by a car and thrown over the roof back in '80).i continue to ride but admit a am afraid to let my kids share the road with cars. more would ride if the passage was safer. I support the trail now option. A much better solution overall for our community.

Dear Kim Ferrell,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



**Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news**

**From:** joe martinez  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 01, 2016 9:14 AM  
**To:** [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #18 - Tax Proposal

RTC Commissioners,

Any funding of the train/rail corridor will derail your tax plan. Please remove all language that would direct monies towards the upgrading of tracks, crossing guards, future studies that support train operations, and funding of the Pajaro Train station.

Again, if the tax measure contains any monies for the train then I will vote no on the tax measure and encourage everyone I know in Santa Cruz County to do the same.

Joe Martinez

---

Dear Mr. Martinez,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



***Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news***

**From:** Tish & Jim  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 01, 2016 11:09 AM  
**To:** [info@scrtc.org](mailto:info@scrtc.org)  
**Subject:** June 2nd 2016 RTC Meeting, Agenda Item 18  
**Importance:** High

Dear RTC Commissioners:

Subject: June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016 RTC Meeting, Agenda Item 18

Our comments:

1. We support Trail Now and using our existing rail corridor for a trail, without a train.
2. We support widening Highway 1 to a full 6 lanes including HOV/Bus lanes.
3. We support expanding and improving the Metro Bus system.
4. We do support a ½ percent sales tax increase to provide funds to improve transportation, contingent upon the final allocation of funds.
5. We do not support a train, and therefore do not want money allocated to that. Santa Cruz County does not have the population base to justify the need for, nor the means to pay for the on-going cost of a commuter rail.
6. We cannot find in the agenda packet, the current proposed allocation of the sales tax revenues between the 5 investment categories. What is the current allocation?
7. How can this allocation be changed over the course of the 30 year tax life? The proposed ordinance does make reference to Section 180207 of the Public Utilities Code, but how does this work? Does the public have input to those potential changes? Over the 30 year life of this tax, priorities and needs are likely to change.

As the RTC continues to refine Ordinance and Expenditure Plan, please take our comments above into consideration.

Respectfully,

James Dixson & Patricia McGlynn, Aptos

---

Dear Mr. Dixon and Ms. Patricia McGlynn,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



.....  
**Cathy Judd**, Administrative Assistant, Art Exhibit Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission**  
1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Main Office 831.460.3200 | Watsonville 831.460.3205



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# HWY 17 ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN



The Highway 17 Access Management Plan (Hwy 17 AMP) is a long-range plan to help strategically manage how vehicles enter and exit Highway 17 between Granite Creek Road and Summit Road. The objectives of the plan are to maintain safety, improve mobility, and preserve efficient access along this 7.1-mile segment of the roadway.



## DRAFT IMPROVEMENT CONCEPTS

Early improvement concepts for Highway 17 include the following key access points:

- Old Santa Cruz Highway
- Sugarloaf Road/Laurel Road/Glenwood Cutoff
- Vine Hill Road

Your input on these concepts is a crucial step in the process. Join us!

## WORKSHOPS - JUNE 2016



## COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

### HIGHWAY 17 ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

You are cordially invited to help review the *draft* improvement concepts for the Highway 17 Access Management Plan. The discussion will include an overview of access and conflict points, and implementation process.

**Thursday, June 2, 2016** - Scotts Valley Senior Center  
370 Kings Village Road, Scotts Valley, CA 95066

**Thursday, June 9, 2016** - Happy Valley Conference Center  
2159 Branciforte Drive, Santa Cruz, CA 95065

**Tuesday, June 14, 2016** - Loma Prieta Elementary School, Forum Room  
23800 Summit Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033

**ALL WORKSHOPS:** 6:00-8:00 pm

Learn more about the project at: [www.CA-Hwy17amp.org](http://www.CA-Hwy17amp.org)  
Questions or concerns? Email us at [info@CA-Hwy17amp.org](mailto:info@CA-Hwy17amp.org)



Caltrans District 5  
50 Higuera Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401





***"Ice Melt, Super Storms, and Sea Level Rise" -***  
**Cabrillo College Astronomy Chair Dr. Richard**  
**Nolthenius Presents A Discussion of New Climate**  
**Predictions From the Work of Dr. James Hansen**

Join Dr. Nolthenius, **"Astro 7: Planetary Climate Science"** instructor, as he gives a presentation and opens up an illuminating discussion on the new predictions for our climate future by eminent climatologist and former head of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Sciences Dr. James Hansen. Hansen headed a team of 50 co-authors who analyze the latest climate modelling, paleo evidence, and CO2 emission trends and arrive at their disturbing new predictions for policy people at Paris to consider. We'll then discuss policy and technology options, new ideas on the nature of civilization, and take your questions.

**Tuesday Evening June 14 7-9pm, Cabrillo College STEM Building, Room 806**



# There Are Sensible Solutions to Traffic

## Transit on the rail corridor

The Rail Transit Feasibility Study estimates 6,800 trips per day on the rail corridor, with a 36-minute travel time from Watsonville to Santa Cruz. Electric rail vehicles can be quiet and non-polluting.

(SOURCE: <http://scrtc.org/projects/rail/passenger-rail>)



## Improve Metro

Running express buses on the shoulder of Highway 1 should be studied. "Bus-on-Shoulder" has been successfully implemented in the Twin Cities, Cleveland, Miami, Ottawa, San Diego and Atlanta. More frequent and convenient bus connections will offer an alternative to automobile dependency.

## Safer routes for bikes and pedestrians

A majority of trips during commute hours are less than 3 miles. A greater portion of these trips could be made by bicycle and walking if routes are made safe and convenient. Full funding of the Watsonville-Davenport multi-use trail (Rail-Trail) is a top priority.



# Highway Widening Doesn't Work

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) is drafting a half-cent sales tax for transportation for the November, 2016 ballot. Included in the current draft is \$102 million to widen Highway 1 for auxiliary lanes between Soquel Avenue and State Park Drive.

We are urging the RTC to eliminate highway widening from the sales tax draft before it is finalized in July 2016. Here's why:

The Caltrans Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on Highway 1 widening indicates that congestion relief as a result of auxiliary lanes will be negligible:

**ITS UC DAVIS**

**INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION STUDIES**

"Adding capacity to roadways fails to alleviate congestion for long."

— Susan Handy, PhD  
"Increasing Highway Capacity Unlikely to Relieve Traffic Congestion" (2015)

- The project "would result in a very slight improvement in traffic congestion when compared to the No Build Alternative."
- The EIR projects that a wider Highway 1 will fill up with even more traffic, resulting in a state of "severe breakdown by year 2035."
- The EIR projects more traffic—and a 25% increase in greenhouse gas emissions—if the project is built.

The public supports commuter alternatives, not highway widening. Recent polling shows 72% support for reducing congestion on Highway 1. However, only 46% support actually widening the highway. (SOURCE: Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Assoc., May 2015 RTC meeting.)

**We need a tax measure to support effective and sustainable transportation options. (See other side.)**



**Campaign for Sensible Transportation**  
[sensibletransportation.org](http://sensibletransportation.org)

## What Can We Do?

Join the Campaign for Sensible Transportation's advocacy for a sales tax measure we can support. Sign the petition at [sensibletransportation.org](http://sensibletransportation.org) and/or write to the Regional Transportation Commission ([info@scrtc.org](mailto:info@scrtc.org)).



# Necesitamos fondos para el METRO

## Dar prioridad al transporte público

Debido a la financiación inadecuada, METRO planea eliminar 11 rutas y reducir 13 rutas

# No para la carretera

- Ampliar la Carretera 1 no reducirá congestión
  - Ampliar la Carretera 1 aumentará las emisiones de carbon
- segun el Informe de Impacto Ambiental

Firme la petición a [SensibleTransportation.org](http://SensibleTransportation.org)



The Campaign for Sensible Transportation



# Cut Highway Widening

## Widening Highway 1 Won't Work

The Caltrans Environmental Impact Report estimates that widening "would result in very slight improvement in traffic congestion" And it would result in 25% more greenhouse gases.

# Not METRO

## Prioritize Public Transit

Due to inadequate public funding, Metro plans to eliminate 11 routes and reduce 13. At the same time the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) plans to fund highway widening. These priorities are backwards.

Sign the petition to the RTC at [SensibleTransportation.org](http://SensibleTransportation.org)

