

Notice of Exemption

#054-10

To: Tess Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street, # 520
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

From: Santa Cruz County Regional
Transportation Commission
1523 Pacific Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

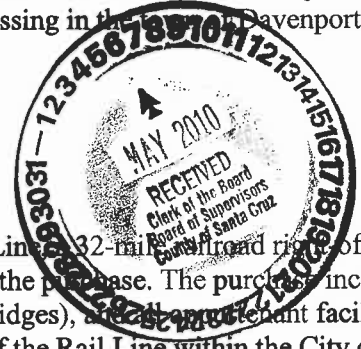
Project Title: Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line Acquisition, Recreational Rail Service and Improvements

Project Location – Specific: Rail line beginning at the eastern edge of Salinas Road in the town of Pajaro, Monterey County extending 31 miles to 250 feet north of the State Route crossing in the City of Davenport, Santa Cruz County

Project Location – City: Watsonville, Capitola and Santa Cruz

Project Location – County: Santa Cruz and Monterey

Project Description: This project will acquire the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line, a 32-mile railroad right-of-way and conduct all of the due diligence studies and negotiations associated with the purchase. The purchase includes the right-of-way, track, signal system, yard facilities, structures (including bridges), and all appurtenant facilities. An existing recreational rail service currently operates over a small section of the Rail Line within the City of Santa Cruz. The project will also institute recreational passenger rail service between Santa Cruz and Davenport and make improvements to existing structures on the rail line to ensure continued operation of the existing freight and recreational passenger rail service. The improvements consist of repairs and minor alterations, including drainage improvements, joint bar replacement, track replacement, structure improvements, grade crossing improvements, and safety improvements.



Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1, Code of Regulations 15301
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: Public Resources Code 21080(b)(10)

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A

PERIOD COMMENCING 6 May 20 10

AND ENDING 5 Jun 20 10

Reasons why project is exempt:

Improvements will be made to existing facilities on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line that is currently in use. Recreational passenger rail service currently exists on a portion of the line and will be instituted on an additional portion of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. The Line already has freight service.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Luis Pavel Mendez

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (831) 460-3212

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 5/2/10

Title: Executive Director

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing: