

Transportation Improvement Plan

FACT SHEET

Overview

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's Transportation Improvement Plan provides a vision to improve, operate and maintain Santa Cruz County's transportation network. The 30-year plan will benefit all residents, as well as visitors, through a balanced mix of projects across transportation modes and geographic areas of Santa Cruz County.

The plan will provide traffic congestion relief; support and expand active transportation options; protect transportation for seniors, veterans and people with disabilities; preserve critical existing infrastructure; reduce reliance on Sacramento and Washington for transportation funds; and create jobs.

The Transportation Improvement Plan would be supported through a ½ cent sales tax, should voters approve a proposed ballot measure in November 2016. The plan has been approved by the RTC, as well as endorsed by local organizations such as Ecology Action and the Santa Cruz County Business Council.

Summary of Benefits

- **Local street repair:** Improved neighborhoods and increased safety for cyclists and pedestrians by repairing local streets and roads countywide.
- **New bridges for cyclists and pedestrians:** Cyclist- and pedestrian-only bridges to be built over Highway 1 at Chanticleer St. and Mar Vista Dr.
- **Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail:** Expansion of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail for cyclists and pedestrians along the coastal rail corridor in Watsonville, Santa Cruz and Capitola, and connecting to Monterey County.
- **Preservation of rail transit as a future option:** Holding open the option of transit in the future by maintaining the tracks in the coastal rail corridor and researching future technologies; the plan doesn't include funding for any new rail service.
- **Improvements to Highways 1, 9 and 17:**
 - HWY 1: Traffic relief for South County and Mid-County commuters, small businesses, transit buses and first responders through the addition of auxiliary lanes.
 - HWY 17: Protection for wildlife by building an undercrossing at Laurel Curve and funding the Safe-on-17 Freeway Service Patrol.
 - HWY 9: Safety improvements in the San Lorenzo Valley.
- **Safety for kids:** New funding for Safe Routes to Schools.
- **Help for seniors, veterans and residents with disabilities:** Sustain an effective paratransit system.



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (RTC)

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Summary of Proposed Investments

Transportation Improvement Plan

INVESTMENT CATEGORY		Percent of Funds	Estimated Fund Allocation (\$ millions)*
Neighborhood Projects	<p>Eligible neighborhood projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Street/Road - Maintenance and Repairs School Traffic Safety Projects Bike and Pedestrian Projects Neighborhood Safety (reduce speeding and cut-through traffic) Operational Improvements (signal timing, intersections) <p>Specific projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SLV/Highway 9 Corridor Improvements Wildlife Undercrossing on Hwy 17 	30%	\$135
Highway Corridors	<p>Highway 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Auxiliary Lane projects: 41st Ave-Soquel Dr; Bay/Porter-Park; Park-State Park 2 Bicycle/Pedestrian over-crossings <p>Highway 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe on 17 Program and Freeway Service Patrol 	25%	\$113
Mobility Access	Elderly/Disabled/Veterans Paratransit Service	16%	\$72
Active Transportation	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (Rail Trail)	15%	\$68
Rail Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property Management, Repair & Maintenance Environmental analysis of rail transit options Watsonville Junction/Pajaro Train Station (contribution) Conduit for internet and/or utility lines 	14%	\$63
Total		100%	\$450

*Note: Dollar amounts shown in millions reflect amount from a ½ cent sales tax generating an estimated \$15M/year for 30 years; while percent per category would not change, actual amount generated by a local sales tax per year may fluctuate based on inflation and local retail sales.



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