



**Santa Cruz County Regional  
Transportation Commission's  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**AGENDA**

**Monday, August 8, 2016**

**6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**

**RTC Office  
1523 Pacific Ave  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Grace Voss	Kem Akol	District 1
David Casterson, Vice -Chair	Jim Cook	District 2
Peter Scott	Will Menchine	District 3
Amelia Conlen, Chair	Vacant	District 4
Rick Hyman	Vacant	District 5
Andy Ward	Daniel Kostelec	City of Capitola
Melissa Ott	Vacant	City of Santa Cruz
Lex Rau	Gary Milburn	City of Scotts Valley
Vacant	Vacant	City of Watsonville
Emily Gomez	Piet Canin	Ecology Action
Leo Jed	Jim Langley	Comm. Traffic Safety Coalition

The majority of the Committee constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Announcements – RTC staff
4. Oral communications – members and public

*The Committee will receive oral communications during this time on items not on today's agenda. Presentations must be within the jurisdiction of the Committee, and may be limited in time at the discretion of the Chair. Committee members will not take action or respond immediately to any Oral Communications presented, but may choose to follow up at a later time, either individually, or on a subsequent Committee agenda.*

5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

## CONSENT AGENDA

*All items appearing on the consent agenda are considered to be minor or non-controversial and will be acted upon in one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes an item be removed and discussed on the regular agenda. Members of the Committee may raise questions, seek clarification or add directions to Consent Agenda items without removing the item from the Consent Agenda as long as no other committee member objects to the change.*

6. Accept final minutes of the April 11, 2016 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting (pages 4-6)
7. Approve draft minutes of the June 6, 2016 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting (pages 7-9)
8. Accept summary of Hazard Reports (page 10)

## REGULAR AGENDA

9. 2016 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Recommendations – Rachel Moriconi, RTC Senior Transportation Planner (pages 11-19)
10. 2016 Transportation Improvement Plan Ballot Measure Update - Rachel Moriconi, RTC Senior Transportation Planner (pages 20- 27)
11. Coastal Rail Trail/Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network Update – Oral Presentation from Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner
  - a. Informational Flyer: City of Santa Cruz Art Master Plan along the Coastal Rail Trail (page 28)
12. Updates related to Committee functions
13. Adjourn

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled on one week later than usual, on Monday, October 17, 2016 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the RTC office, 1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA.

### HOW TO REACH US

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
phone: (831) 460-3200 / fax (831) 460-3215  
email: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org) / website: [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org)

### AGENDAS ONLINE

To receive email notification when the Bicycle Committee meeting agenda packets are posted on our website, please call (831) 460-3201 or email [ccaletti@sccrtc.org](mailto:ccaletti@sccrtc.org) to subscribe.

### ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. This meeting location is an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance in order to participate, please contact RTC staff at 460-3200 (CRS 800/735-2929) at least three working days in advance of this meeting to make arrangements. People with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those person affected, Please attend the meeting smoke and scent-free.

### **SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN/TRANSLATION SERVICES**

*Si gusta estar presente o participar en esta junta de la Comisión Regional de Transporte del condado de Santa Cruz y necesita información o servicios de traducción al español por favor llame por lo menos con tres días laborables de anticipo al (831) 460-3200 para hacer los arreglos necesarios. (Spanish language translation is available on an as needed basis. Please make advance arrangements (at least three days in advance by calling (831) 460-3200.*

### **TILE VI NOTICE**

*The RTC operates its programs and services without regard to race, color and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person believing to have been aggrieved by the RTC under Title VI may file a complaint with RTC by contacting the RTC at (831) 460-3212 or 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA, 95060 or online at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org). A complaint may also be filed directly with the Federal Transit Administration to the Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator, East Building, 5th Floor-TCR, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590.*

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**Santa Cruz County Regional  
Transportation Commission's**

**BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**Minutes – Final**

**Monday, April 11, 2016  
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 pm**

**RTC Office  
1523 Pacific Ave  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

1. Call to Order: 6:05 pm
2. Introductions

**Members Present:**

Grace Voss, District 1  
Kem Akol, District 1 (Alt.)  
David Casterson, District 2, Chair  
Peter Scott, District 3  
Amelia Conlen, District 4  
Melissa Ott, City of Santa Cruz  
Lex Rau, City of Scotts Valley  
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola (Alt.)  
Leo Jed, CTSC, Vice-Chair  
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)  
Emily Gomez, Ecology Action/Bike to Work

**Guests:**

Claire Fliesler, City of Santa Cruz  
Murray Fontes, City of Watsonville  
Lynn Lauridsen, Santa Cruz County HSA  
Theresia Rogerson, Santa Cruz County HSA  
Randy Diccico, Member of the public  
Bill Cook, Visitor, District 3

**Unexcused Absences:**

**Excused Absences:**

Jim Cook, District 2 (Alt.)  
Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)  
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)  
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley (Alt.)  
Piet Canin, Ecology Action/Bike-to-Work (Alt.)  
Andy Ward, City of Capitola  
Rick Hyman, District 5

**Vacancies:**

District 4 and 5 – Alternates  
City of Watsonville – Voting and Alternate

**Staff:**

Cory Caletti, Sr Transportation Planner  
Karena Pushnik, Sr Transportation Planner

3. Announcements – Cory Caletti announced the following items of interest: 1) Cheryl Schmitt, City of Santa Cruz Transportation Coordinator is retiring following decades of public service; 2) the Active Transportation Program call for projects has been released and grant applications will be due early June; 3) an Open House to share preliminary designs of the north coast will likely be held at the end of May and an e-news alert will be sent to notify the public; 4) reappointments and new appointment as reflected in the roster were announced and new member Grace Voss was welcomed; 5) the next meeting will be held one week earlier, on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016;

and 6) handouts from member of the public Steve Piercy for Item #11 and one from Committee member Rick Hyman regarding the ATP discussion item were distributed.

4. Oral communications – Lex Rau indicated that a City of Scotts Valley project under design will be coming to the Bicycle Advisory Committee in the near future for review. Scott Hamby, City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department, has been sharing preliminary designs. Leo Jed provided a legislative update.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – None

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion (Jed/Conlen) to approve the consent agenda passed unanimously with members Voss, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Ott, Rau, Kostelec, Jed and Gomez voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.

6. Approved draft minutes of the February 8, 2016 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
7. Accepted summary of Bicycle Hazard reports

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

8. Office Elections – Cory Caletti, RTC Senior Transportation Planner thanked Chair Casterson and Vice-Chair Jed for their service over the past year. A motion was made (Casterson/Voss) to elect Amelia Conlen for the position of Chair for next one-year term. The motion passed unanimously with members Voss, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Ott, Rau, Kostelec, Jed and Gomez voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition. A motion (Scott/Kostelec) was made to elect Leo Jed as Vice-Chair for another one-year term. The motion failed with members Scott, Jed, Kostelec, Rau voting in favor and members Voss, Casterson, Conlen, Ott, and Gomez voting in opposition. Another motion was made (Gomez/Ott) to elect David Casterson to serve as Vice-Chair. The motion passed with the following members voting in favor: Voss, Casterson, Conlen, Ott, and Gomez. All others opposed. All members thanked David Casterson and Leo Jed for their service as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively.
9. City of Watsonville Rail Trail Preliminary Design – Murray Fontes, City of Watsonville Principal Engineer presented preliminary designs for the City's rail trail project tentatively scheduled to be constructed in 2018.
10. City of Santa Cruz Active Transportation Program Grant Project Ideas – Claire Fliesler, City of Santa Cruz Transportation Planner, presented projects that the City of Santa Cruz is considering submitting grant applications for. Committee members provided feedback and expressed support.
11. 2016 Transportation Investment Plan Outreach Ideas – Karena Pushnik, RTC Senior Transportation Planner, solicited and received outreach ideas for informing the public about transportation funding shortfalls and the proposed draft Transportation Investment Plan.
12. Health Service Agency's TDA allocation request for \$100,000 for the Community Traffic Safety Coalition and the Ride 'n Stride Bicycle and Pedestrian Education Programs – Lynn Lauridsen and Theresia Rogerson, County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency (HAS) staff, presented the TDA allocation request and provided a summary of the work programs for CTSC and the Ride'n Stride programs. HSA staff particularly emphasized work proposed on a new Vision Zero policy

aimed at eliminated all traffic related fatalities and serious injuries. A motion was made (Kostelec/Scott) to recommend that the RTC approve the allocation request. The motion passed unanimously with members Voss, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Ott, Rau, Kostelec, Jed and Gomez voting in favor.

13. Ecology Action's Transportation Development Act allocation request for \$50,000 for the Bike to Work Program – Emily Gomez, Ecology Action staff, summarized the Bike to Work program and next year's scope of work. A motion was made (Jed/Casterson) to recommend that the RTC approve the allocation request. The motion passed unanimously with members Voss, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Ott, Rau, Kostelec, Jed and Gomez voting in favor.
14. Accepted current roster
15. Updates related to Committee functions – none
16. Adjourned – 8:25 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled one week earlier than usual on **Monday, June 6, 2016**, from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the RTC office, 1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner

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**Santa Cruz County Regional  
Transportation Commission's  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**Minutes**

**Monday, June 6, 2016  
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 pm**

**RTC Office  
1523 Pacific Ave  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

1. Call to Order: 6:05 pm
2. Introductions

**Members Present:**

Grace Voss, District 1  
Kem Akol, District 1 (Alt.)  
David Casterson, District 2, Vice-Chair  
Peter Scott, District 3  
Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)  
Amelia Conlen, District 4, Chair  
Rick Hyman, District 5  
Melissa Ott, City of Santa Cruz  
Lex Rau, City of Scotts Valley  
Andy Ward, City of Capitola  
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola (Alt.)  
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)  
Emily Gomez, Ecology Action/Bike to Work

**Guests:**

Murray Fontes, City of Watsonville  
Scott Hamby, City of Scotts Valley  
Rodney Cahill, Mesiti-Miller Engineering  
Jack Sohriakoff, County of Santa Cruz  
Becky Steinbruner, Public  
Leo Trujillo, Mott MacDonald  
Veronica Elsea, RTC E&D TAC

**Unexcused Absences:**

**Excused Absences:**

Jim Cook, District 2 (Alt.)  
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley (Alt.)  
Piet Canin, Ecology Action/Bike-to-Work (Alt.)  
Leo Jed, CTSC

**Vacancies:**

City of Santa Cruz – Alternate  
District 4 and 5 – Alternates  
City of Watsonville – Voting and Alternate

**Staff:**

Cory Caletti, Sr Transportation Planner  
Grace Blakeslee, Sr Transportation Planner  
Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner  
Raquel Trinidad, Transportation Planning Tech

3. Announcements – Cory Caletti announced that the RTC and the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County committed \$300K and \$700K, respectively, to fund preliminary engineering, design and environmental compliance for an additional 2.1 mile rail trail project to extend the current 5-mile north coast trail project all the way to Davenport. Adjacent parking lots will also be designed. Cory Caletti also distributed copies of an informational mailer that had been sent out to likely

voters to educate the public about the proposed Transportation Improvement Plan that may go to voters in November. She announced that the RTC will hold a public hearing on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 where a final decision regarding placing a measure on the ballot and exact distribution of funds will be made.

4. Oral communications – Vice-Chair Casterson announced that long time Bicycle Advisory Committee member Bill Fieberling, who represented the City of Santa Cruz since 1997, passed away. A card expressing condolences to his family was passed around.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – None. Hand-outs were distributed for items #6 and #11.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion (Casterson/Gomez) was made to approve the consent agenda with changes to the minutes to reflect that Rick Hyman was not in attendance. The motion passed unanimously with members Voss, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Hyman, Ott, Rau, Ward, and Gomez voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.

6. Approved draft minutes of the April 11, 2016 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
7. Accepted summary of Bicycle Hazard reports
8. Accepted roster

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

9. User Oriented Transit Planning – Raquel Trinidad, Transportation Planning Technician, provided an overview of the RTC's pilot program to apply individualized marketing techniques to travel behavior. The program is funded through a Caltrans Transit Planning Grant. The program is aimed at encouraging solo-drivers to switch transportation modes. Attracting new transit riders is an emphasis of the program, although attracting new bicycling and pedestrians is also a goal. Ideas regarding incentives and other bicycling resources that would generate new bicycle riders and discourage single occupancy vehicle use were discussed.
10. Draft *"What Pedestrian and Bicyclists Want Each Other to Know"* Brochure – Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner, introduced the draft brochure and Veronica Elsea, RTC Elderly and Disable Transportation Advisory Committee member, solicited ideas for improvement. Comments focused on ways to mitigate impacts attributed to use of earphones and educating multi-use trail users on appropriate etiquette.
11. City of Scotts Valley Mt. Hermon Rd/Scotts Valley Dr/Whispering Pines Dr Intersection Operations Improvement Project – Scott Hamby, City of Scotts Valley Public Works Director, introduced the congestion and safety improvement project at the Mt. Hermon Rd/Scotts Valley Dr/Whispering Pines Dr intersection. The goal of the project is to improve vehicular traffic circulation and increase bicycle and pedestrian safety. Rodney Cahill of Mesiti-Miller Engineering, outlined three improvement options which include green bicycle lane striping at conflict areas and bike boxes. Feedback was provided and a motion was made (Hyman/Voss) to form an ad-hoc committee to review the next iteration of the designs. Construction is scheduled for spring of 2018. Members Rick Hyman, Amelia Conlen and Lex Rau volunteered to serve on the ad-hoc committee as did Jack Sohriakoff of the County of Santa Cruz Public Works Department. The



motion passed unanimously with members Voss, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Hyman, Ott, Rau, Ward, and Gomez voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.

12. County of Santa Cruz's Draft Striping Plans for Green Bike Lanes – Jack Sohriakoff of the County Public Works summarized the green lane striping plans at Freedom Boulevard and Hwy 1. The striping will occur as part of a chip seal project all within Caltrans' right-of-way. An encroachment permit has been submitted to Caltrans with proposed designs. Members and guests provided minor improvement suggestions and commended the County for initiating this project.
13. County of Santa Cruz Transportation Development Act Claim for Bikeway Maintenance, the Boulder Creek Elementary School Pedestrian Safety Project and the Twin Lakes State Beach/Sanctuary Scenic Trail Project – Cory Caletti, RTC staff, summarized the TDA program, apportionment and allocation process. Jack Sohriakoff of the County Public Works summarized the projects under consideration. A motion (Ward/Casterson) was made to recommend that the RTC approve the allocation request. The motion passed unanimously with members Voss, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Hyman, Ott, Rau, Ward, and Gomez voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.
14. Preliminary Draft Project List for the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy – Ginger Dykaar, RTC Transportation Planner, updated members of the progress made on the RTP since the last presentation and reminded members that the plan will be adopted in 2018 after an environmental review process is completed. Members reviewed the project list and discussed details of identified projects. Members commended staff on the comprehensiveness of the list and overview provided. Another milestone presentation will be coming to the Committee around the December time frame.
15. Update on Campaign to Close Brookwood Drive to Traffic – Amelia Conlen, Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair, indicated that there is neighborhood interest in closing Brookwood Drive to vehicular traffic as cut-through traffic has increased substantially. A public meeting to seek input will be held soon. Amelia will share details as they are available.
16. North Coast Rail Trail Preliminary Designs – Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner, summarized the 30% design plans and referred members to the RTC website where plans are posted. She outlined some of the stakeholder outreach done to date and next steps.
17. Updates Related to Committee Functions – none
18. Adjourned – 8:48 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled on **Monday, August 8, 2016**, from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the RTC office, 1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner

August 8, 2016  
Hazard Report

Date	First Name	Last Name	Contact Info	Location	Cross Street	City	Category	Additional Comments	Forwarded To	Forwarded Date	Response	Images
07/24/16	Janine	Honey	<a href="mailto:trainstripes@comcast.net">trainstripes@comcast.net</a>	Soquel Dr		Soquel	debris on shoulder or bikeway	not supplied	General Dept of Co of SC	07/25/16		
07/22/16	Mike	Veglia	<a href="mailto:msvphoto@pacbell.net">msvphoto@pacbell.net</a>	High St		Santa Cruz	plant overgrowth or interference, debris on shoulder or bikeway, other	rider states this is second report for this stretch or road this year. Bike lane is full of debris with very slick mud after sweeping on thursdays. Vegetation has never been cut back. enforcement of bike lane and 3' laws still non-existent and motorists are getting worse. today i was run completely to curb and into bushes along side of road due to distracted driver wandering 2' over bike lane while crawling up hill in	Jim Burr	07/25/16		
07/22/16	Mike	Veglia	<a href="mailto:msvphoto@pacbell.net">msvphoto@pacbell.net</a>	Bay St	btwn Kin & Mission	Santa Cruz	rough pavement or potholes, pavement cracks, debris on shoulder or bikeway, construction hazard	rider states PG&E did some emergency gas line repairs at Bay and King. Apparently the job is completed? Either way, someone needs to go back and fix the pavement in the bike lane. The pavement on the bike lane portion is so bumpy and rough that a rider hitting it at 20-25mph could crash easily if unaware. This is at the bottom of a long downhill so even inexperienced riders are easily hitting speeds	Jim Burr	07/22/16		
07/18/16	Richard	Masoner	<a href="mailto:rmasoner@gmail.com">rmasoner@gmail.com</a>	Capitola Rd.	16th Ave	Santa Cruz County	plant overgrowth or interference	rider states tree branch is right at face level in the bike lane, can be difficult to judge / notice this obstruction until the last second which can result in surprise lane change into traffic to avoid this hazard	General Dept of Co of SC	07/18/16		
07/18/16	Janine	Honey	<a href="mailto:trainstripes@comcast.net">trainstripes@comcast.net</a>	N. Main St	Glen Haven & Cherryvale	Soquel	plant overgrowth or interference	rider states poison oak, pampas grass and blackberry force cyclists fully into car lane at dangerous curve	General Dept of Co of SC	07/18/16		
07/10/16	Rick	Hyman	<a href="mailto:bikerick@att.net">bikerick@att.net</a>	Hospital Dr		Santa Cruz County	traffic signal problem	rider states signal at exit of dominican hospital to travel onto soquel ave does not change for bicycles	General Dept of Co of SC	07/11/16		
06/02/16	Aaron	Romanowsky	<a href="mailto:ajromanowsky@hotmail.com">ajromanowsky@hotmail.com</a>	Laurel St/Front/Laurel/Pacific		Santa Cruz	traffic signal problem	rider states bike detection is not working at intersections	Jim Burr	06/02/16	From Jim - Aaron, Both intersections have limit line detection per MUTCD 4D 105. Front St has video detection, slightly dated, and Pacific Ave has loop detection. If you are on carbon fiber, loops may not pick you but you could use the pedestrian push button. It is more likely that you are being detected, but that Laurel Street timing cycles are set for coordination along Laurel and can be lengthy. Coordination for Laurel Street, which handles 20,000 vehicles per day, reduces overall vehicle emissions, but does come with trade-offs. In the future, there are newer/better technologies for both detection and coordination. These have been implemented on Ocean St and on Water St but Laurel is several years out. I'll forward this to Operations to have the detection checked. - 06/02/16	
06/01/16	Jacob	Pierce	<a href="mailto:chewyjake@gmail.com">chewyjake@gmail.com</a>	Broadway	Ocean St	Santa Cruz	debris on shoulder of bikeway	rider states broken glass in bike lane	Jim Burr	06/02/16	From Jim - Street sweep request - 06/02/16	
06/01/16	Mike	Veglia	<a href="mailto:msvphoto@pacbell.net">msvphoto@pacbell.net</a>	High St		Santa Cruz	plant overgrowth or interference, debris on shoulder or bikeway, other	rider states overgrowth blocking bike lane. Mud, sharp rocks, debris in bike lane. Two steel plates cover entire bike lane. Zero enforcement of bike lane laws.	Jim Burr	06/02/16	From Jim - Forward for Veg/debris clearing (Rich), followed by street weeping (Lupe), along with enforcement (SCPD). Thanks - 06/03/16	

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Advisory Committees

**FROM:** Rachel Moriconi, Sr. Transportation Planner

**RE:** *2016 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) - Preliminary Staff Recommendations*

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission's Bicycle Committee, Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC), and Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) review and provide input on preliminary staff recommendations for the *2016 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) (Attachment 1)* and make Committee recommendations to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC).

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**BACKGROUND**

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), as the state-designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for Santa Cruz County, is responsible for selecting projects to receive funds from a variety of state and federal programs. These include the region's shares of federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds –*previously known as the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP)*.

STBG funds can be used on a variety of projects, as set forth in the Federal transportation act – currently called the "FAST Act"- and Title 23 of U.S. Code, Section 133(b). These include: highway, local street and road, transit and paratransit capital, bicycle, pedestrian, carpool, safety, rail and bridge projects that are consistent with the *Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)*. Funds cannot be used for general operations or maintenance. The RTC selects projects to receive funds through a competitive application process based on criteria approved by the RTC. The RTC also considers input received from RTC's advisory committees and during a public hearing. Approved projects are programmed in the RTC's *Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)*.

Approximately \$7 million of the region's share of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds are available for new projects through FY17/18. *This is the amount remaining after subtracting \$224,813 that the County of Santa Cruz receives directly each year from the region's share, previously committed RSTP funds, and funds that may be needed to prevent delays to previously programmed STIP projects that otherwise will be ready to be delivered through FY17/18. Due to*

*a significant drop in gas tax revenues available for projects previously approved for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funds, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has delayed most projects and deleted over \$750 million in projects statewide. Earlier this year, the RTC approved substituting a portion of the region's share of STBG funds for STIP funds if projects are ready to proceed before the STIP funding is available.*

## DISCUSSION

Applications for the region's share of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds were due July 14, 2016. Project sponsors submitted 22 applications requesting \$13.7 million. Attachment 1 summarizes the projects submitted by project sponsors and preliminary staff recommendations. Project applications are posted on the RTC website <http://www.sccrtc.org/funding-planning/project-funding/>.

### Project Evaluation

The RTC selects projects to receive STBG funds on a competitive basis and funds cannot be suballocated based on a formula distribution. While \$7 million is a significant amount of funding, Santa Cruz County transportation agencies have identified an immediate backlog of over \$500 million needed to preserve existing infrastructure, fill gaps in the transportation network, reduce injury and fatal collisions, and meet regional, state, federal, and local mandates. Through 2035 the total funding deficit increases to over \$2 billion, as discussed in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Given the very limited amount of funding available, it is important to ensure that funds are directed to projects that maximize improvements to the region's multimodal transportation network. Consistent with federal and state requirements, in May 2016, the RTC approved several factors to be considered when evaluating projects for this year's STBG program. The RTC directed staff to give the highest priority to projects that address one or more of the first four criteria.

- 1. Number of people served by project**
- 2. Safety**
- 3. Preservation of existing infrastructure**
- 4. Reduce vehicle miles traveled, air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and/or fuel consumption**
5. Improve access for all modes, especially to and within key destinations
6. Change in travel times and travel time reliability and efficiency of the transportation system, including transit
7. Change in passenger, freight and goods movement efficiency
8. Change in disparities in safety and access for people who are transportation disadvantaged due to age, income, disability or minority status
9. Inclusion in the 2014 RTP "constrained" project list, which implements the SB375-mandated Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)
10. Consistency with the Monterey Bay Area Complete Streets Guidebook

11. Public engagement, in identification of the project as a priority and during project planning and implementation
12. Funding (if all other funding is secured and amount of match)
13. Deliverability (if there are barriers to project schedules)

### Recommendations

**Staff recommends that RTC advisory committees provide input on preliminary staff recommendations and make recommendations to the RTC for approximately \$7 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds (Attachment 1).** In most cases, project sponsors have indicated that they would be willing to accept partial awards, though might have to scale back the project scope.

Consistent with the evaluation criteria noted above, the staff recommendations focus these limited funds to projects that serve the greatest number of users, have demonstrated safety needs, preserve existing transportation infrastructure and programs, and/or would do the most to reduce the number of miles driven and associated air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. For roadway system preservation projects, staff also prioritized roadways that serve multiple modes (e.g. facilities that also serve buses, bicyclists and/or pedestrian use).

### Next Steps

RTC advisory committees are concurrently reviewing proposals for funds at their August 2016 meetings. Staff will consider input from committees when developing its final staff recommendations. Committee recommendations and final staff recommendations will be presented at the September 1, 2016 Regional Transportation Commission meeting. The RTC is scheduled to select projects to receive available STBG funds following a public hearing at that meeting.

### **SUMMARY**

The RTC is responsible for selecting projects to receive certain state and federal funds, including the region's share of funds from the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG). Approximately \$7 million in new STGB funds are available for programming to projects in Santa Cruz County through FY17/18. Staff is seeking input from advisory committees on projects proposed to receive these limited funds. A public hearing is scheduled for the September 1, 2016 RTC meeting to take final actions to select projects to receive the funds.

### Attachment:

1. 2016 STBG Applications Received and Preliminary Staff Recommendations

**Attachment 1**  
**2016 STBG Applications and Preliminary Staff Recommendations**

\$7M Available through FY17/18

#	Agency	Project Name	Description	Total Cost	Funds Requested	RTC Staff Recommendation	RTC Staff Comments/Conditions
1	County of Santa Cruz	Aptos Village Phase 2	Construct new traffic signal and railroad crossing at Soquel Drive/Aptos Creek Road. Includes road widening, center turn lane, sidewalks (750 feet), bike lanes, drainage infrastructure, new street (Parade St), and pavement overlay of Soquel Dr (Spreckels to Trout Gulch) and Aptos Creek Rd.	\$2,000,000	\$800,000	\$650,000	High use, major arterial (Soquel Dr), multi-modal, community revitalization project. Includes improved safety and access for bikes, pedestrians, and transit riders; system preservation. RTC has previously awarded \$690k RSTPX to project. <b>Condition: Include bike parking racks as part of project. Consider transit prioritization for signal.</b>
2	County of Santa Cruz	Branciforte Drive Chip Seal	Asphalt Digouts, Chip Seal, and restriping of 0.62 miles of Branciforte Drive from Granite Creek to PM 2.4	\$197,000	\$174,000	\$174,000	Modest traffic volumes providing alternate route between Scotts Valley and Santa Cruz. Some bicyclist use.
3	County of Santa Cruz	Cassery Rd at Spring Hills Creek Bridge Replacement	Replace a deteriorating bridge on Cassery Road over Spring Hills Creek near the intersection of Smith Road (approx. 4 miles north of Watsonville city limits)	\$752,281	\$307,000	\$0	Bridge does need to be replaced, but due to very low traffic volumes (500 per day) it is less competitive for regional funds. RTC has previously awarded \$125k STIP to project.
4	County of Santa Cruz	Empire Grade Chip Seal	Asphalt Digout, Chip Seal, and restriping of 0.53 miles of Empire Grade from PM 13.86 to PM 14.38	\$137,000	\$121,000	\$0	Low use compared to other projects
5	County of Santa Cruz	Glen Arbor Road Recycle, Overlay, & Chip Seal	Pavement Recycling, Asphalt Overlay, Chip Seal, and restriping 0.52 miles of Glen Arbor Road from Hwy 9 at bridge to Quail Hollow Rd. The project will also include a subdrain at a point where a natural spring is causing subgrade destabilization.	\$467,000	\$413,000	\$400,000	Moderate traffic volumes. Primary roadway for Ben Lomond residents, bus route and used by bicyclists. <b>Condition: Consider wider shoulders, bike sharrows and/or "share the road" signs given neighborhood character.</b>
6	County of Santa Cruz	Granite Creek Road Recycle & Overlay	Pavement Recycling, Asphalt Overlay, and restriping of 1.85 miles of Granite Creek Road from Scotts Valley city limits to PM 0.56	\$1,038,000	\$919,000	\$500,000	Modest traffic volumes, popular with bicyclists. <b>Partially fund construction, project can be scaled.</b>
7	County of Santa Cruz	Seacliff Village Streetscape Project	Construct sidewalks, bike lanes, bus stops, central plaza, electrical vehicle charging stations, on street parking, landscaping, and drainage infrastructure.	\$2,000,000	\$425,000	\$0	A strong, complete streets project, however Aptos Village more regionally significant. RTC has previously awarded \$587k RSTPX, plus TDA for project.
8	County of Santa Cruz	Upper East Zayante Road Chip Seal	Asphalt Digouts, Chip Seal, and restriping of 3.74 miles of Upper East Zayante Road from Summit Road to East Zayante Road	\$649,000	\$575,000	\$0	Very low use compared to other projects
9	City of Santa Cruz/Caltrans	State Routes 1/9 Intersection Improvements	Adds lanes to the Highway 1 and 9 intersection to improve operations and safety. The intersection will be upgraded to include standard lane widths, transitions, shoulders, bike lanes, lighting, sidewalks and access ramps.	\$7,850,000	\$1,770,600	\$950,000	Very high use, multimodal, regionally significant project. Some of bike/ped components of project were constructed earlier as the Highway 1 undercrossing. RTC has previously awarded \$1,329,000 STIP to project. Project requires Caltrans oversight.
10	City of Santa Cruz	Pacific Avenue Sidewalk	Construct new sidewalk and crossing on Pacific Avenue between Front Street and 55 Front St (170 ft near 2nd St/Wharf), including installation of a new accessible crossing at Front and Pacific.	\$317,690	\$285,000	\$0	City's 4th priority. Serves fewer people, sidewalk available on one side of road - unclear would increase walking rates. Low collision rate. Consider for TDA in future.
11	City of Santa Cruz	River Street Pavement Rehabilitation between Water Street and Potrero Street	Pavement rehabilitation of River Street between Water Street and Potrero Street.	\$841,733	\$745,186	\$0	Lower priority for city and meets fewer evaluation criteria than other projects in City of Santa Cruz.

#	Agency	Project Name	Description	Total Cost	Funds Requested	RTC Staff Recommendation	RTC Staff Comments/Conditions
12	City of Santa Cruz	<b>Water Street Pavement Rehabilitation between North Branciforte Avenue and Ocean Street</b>	Pavement rehabilitation of Water Street between North Branciforte Avenue and Ocean Street.	\$1,453,769	\$1,287,022	<b>\$450,000</b>	Important multimodal corridor, including several transit routes. Consider reducing length of project. <b>Condition: Add bicycle and pedestrian treatments at intersections, especially at Branciforte to reduce conflicts between motorized and non-motorized users.</b>
13	City of Scotts Valley	<b>Glen Canyon Road/Green Hills Road/S. Navarra Drive Bike Corridor and Roadway Preservation</b>	Repave two roads. add bike lanes, and signage. Includes road markings like sharrows and green lane treatments to assist commuters, students, and recreational bikers.	\$1,265,703	\$1,114,293	<b>\$711,000</b>	Moderate traffic volumes, complete streets project. City may consider reducing scope to Green Hills Road due to partial funding.
14	Watsonville	<b>Green Valley Road Reconstruction from Struve Slough to Freedom Boulevard</b>	Reconstruct existing roadway and bike lanes and install pedestrian improvements	\$1,198,000	\$1,047,000	<b>\$795,000</b>	Significant traffic volumes and sidewalk upgrades needed. <b>Condition: increase sidewalk width. Consistent with Complete Streets Guidebook should ideally be 6 feet.</b>
15	Watsonville	<b>Freedom Boulevard Plan Line</b>	Preparation of a plan line for Freedom Boulevard between Green Valley Road and Buena Vista Drive.	\$160,000	\$141,000	<b>\$140,000</b>	Important planning effort to support all modes on a highly traveled - almost regionally significant- arterial. Serves transportation disadvantaged and is a transit corridor. <b>Condition: Expand planning effort - including public outreach to include more of Freedom Blvd. in City limits</b>
16	SCCRTC	<b>Freeway Service Patrol: Highway 1 and Highway 17</b>	Peak period tow trucks dedicated to patrolling highways and assisting disabled vehicles, removing incidents/collisions with CHP, and clearing obstacles impeding traffic flow.	\$300K/year	\$300,000	<b>\$250,000</b>	Serves peak period travelers on Hwy 1 and Hwy 17; high cost/effectiveness rating. Staff recommendation funds only 1 year of program, rather than 2. \$150k STIP programmed in FY17/18.
17	SCCRTC	<b>Cruz511 TDM and Traveler Information Program</b>	Cruz511 provides services and information about availability and benefits of alternative transportation modes, including sharing rides, transit, walking, bicycling, telecommuting, alternative work schedules, alternative fuel vehicles, park-n-ride lots and trip planning using various modes, and also provides traveler information services on traffic conditions, incidents, road and lane closures, etc. Information provided via website and traveler help desk available for personalized assistance by email or phone (429-POOL).	\$313k/year; 2 years \$626k	\$500,000	<b>\$300,000</b>	Consider partial funding for FY17/18.
18	Caltrans/ SCCRTC	<b>Hwy 1 Corridor/HOV and Soquel-41st Aux Tiered Environmental Document</b>	Funds for the Tier 1 (HOV) program-level and Tier 2 Soquel-41st Ave Aux Lanes environmental document. Additional funds needs to update technical studies & respond to comments on Draft EIR	Enviro: \$13.2M; \$600M total project cost	\$920,000	<b>\$830,000</b>	Most heavily used transportation facility in Santa Cruz County. Provides long term vision for the corridor, upgrades design standards and adds new bicycle and pedestrian facilities. STBG is only source available to complete environmental work/respond to comments received on draft environmental. \$13.2M CMAQ, RSTP, and STIP previously approved. <b>Condition: Work closely with Caltrans, FHWA, and consultant to limit extent of work to essential mandated items.</b>

#	Agency	Project Name	Description	Total Cost	Funds Requested	RTC Staff Recommendation	RTC Staff Comments/Conditions
19	County of SC with RTC & FHWA-CFL	<b>Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail - North Coast Rail Trail Phase 2 - (environmental and preliminary engineering)</b>	Develop the preliminary engineering and environmental compliance for 2.1 miles of Class 1, 8 to 12 foot wide multi-use bicycle/pedestrian paved path with decomposed granite shoulders within the rail line right of way along the north coast of Santa Cruz County from Yellowbank Beach to Davenport. Project also includes preliminary engineering and environmental compliance for parking lots at Yellowbank Beach and Davenport Beach and a non-ADA accessible path from the Bonny Doon parking lot to the rail trail.	<i>\$1M for environmental and design phase</i>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	Strong safety benefits. Earlier this year the RTC committed to secure \$300k in order to leverage private and federal funds for environmental analysis and design. Additional funds will need to be secured for future phases, including final design and construction.
20	Ecology Action (RTC sponsor)	<b>Ecology Action Countywide SRTS Youth Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education</b>	EA will serve approximately 34 second grade classrooms with 'feet on the ground' pedestrian safety education and 24 fifth grade classrooms with bike safety education and 'rodeos' serving a total of 58 classrooms at 11 local schools.	\$65,735	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	Effective program for improving safety countywide, serves transportation disadvantaged areas. RTC has funded similar programs in the past, but none for this specific effort.
21	Bike Santa Cruz County (County HSA sponsor)	<b>Open Streets Events – Watsonville, Live Oak and Scotts Valley</b>	Free public events that temporarily transform roadways into parks for people to bike, walk, skate and play in a safe and festive environment by temporarily blocking automobile traffic. Open Streets events in Watsonville, Live Oak and Scotts Valley, with exact locations to be determined.	<i>\$107,415</i>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	Relatively low use, unknown effect in meeting evaluation criteria/stimulating increased bicycling and walking. \$50k RSTPX approved by RTC 2/7/13 for events in Watsonville and Capitola.
22	Santa Cruz METRO	<b>3 CNG Replacement Buses</b>	Replace three 1998, 40' low-floor diesel buses with 40' low-floor CNG buses.	<i>\$1,650,000</i>	<b>\$1,402,500</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	Relatively low use (575/day), but consider funding one bus.
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,656,601</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>	

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#	Project Name	Summary of Benefits	Estimated Daily Use	Sponsor Priority #	Construction/ Implementation schedule
1	<b>Aptos Village Phase 2</b>	Create a pedestrian friendly environment to encourage use of the businesses and community facilities throughout the Village and the new Village Common; create new infrastructure to access the Village core area for new businesses and residences; provide multi-modal facilities; and, maintain Aptos Villages' historical character.	22,000 (20k ADT + 5% bike and 5% ped)	Not Available (NA)	Summer 2017-Dec 2017
2	<b>Branciforte Drive Chip Seal</b>	Extend the life of this road so that it may continue to benefit the community.	4657	NA	Spring-Fall 2017
3	<b>Casserty Rd at Spring Hills Creek Bridge Replacement</b>	Would open up bridge to 2 lanes and remove the stop signs that had to be placed on either end of the bridge. It will also remove the possibility that the bridge may have to be completely closed down in the near future due to the failing structure.	500	NA	Spring 2018-Fall 2018
4	<b>Empire Grade Chip Seal</b>	Extend the life of this road so that it may continue to benefit the community.	2329	NA	Spring-Fall 2017
5	<b>Glen Arbor Road Recycle, Overlay, &amp; Chip Seal</b>	Extend the life of this road so that it may continue to benefit the community.	7720	NA	Spring-Fall 2017
6	<b>Granite Creek Road Recycle &amp; Overlay</b>	Extend the life of this road so that it may continue to benefit the community.	4,249	NA	Spring-Fall 2017
7	<b>Seacliff Village Streetscape Project</b>	Provide gateway to Seacliff Village and the Seacliff State Beach, improve multi-modal access to and through the Village, increase landscaping, formalize parking, and create a public plaza.	12k/day (10,700 ADT, plus 5% bike and 5%ped)	NA	Summer 2017-Spring 2018
8	<b>Upper East Zayante Road Chip Seal</b>	Extend the life of this road so that it may continue to benefit the community.	1719	NA	
9	<b>State Routes 1/9 Intersection Improvements</b>	Improve access and safety, reduce congestion and bottleneck, energy use and emissions. Heavily traveled, provides access for the university, Santa Cruz west side, Harvey West Area and Downtown.	Over 85,000 vehicles/day	1 of 4	Spring 2017-June 2018
10	<b>Pacific Avenue Sidewalk</b>	Improve pedestrian safety and walking levels through construction of new sidewalk and an improved crossing in a highly traveled corridor. Solve conflict between pedestrians and bikes, autos, and transit vehicles and creates a safer environment for all roadway users.	400 peds and bikes per day. (ADT 8350)	4 of 4	Feb 2018-Aug 2018
11	<b>River Street Pavement Rehabilitation between Water Street and Potrero Street</b>	Preserves existing infrastructure and improves accessibility for a multimodal arterial for all users: auto, trucks, transit, bikes and pedestrians. The method of paving may include cold-in-place recycling which is a more sustainable paving practice.	10,535 ADT	3 of 4	Spring 2018

#	Project Name	Summary of Benefits	Estimated Daily Use	Sponsor Priority #	Construction/ Implementation schedule
12	<b>Water Street Pavement Rehabilitation between North Branciforte Avenue and Ocean Street</b>	Preserves existing infrastructure and improves accessibility for a multimodal arterial for all users: auto, trucks, transit, bikes and pedestrians. The method of paving may include could-in-place recycling which is a more sustainable paving practice.	22,184 (20,448 AADT; 1,742 transit trips)	2 of 4	Summer 2017
13	<b>Glen Canyon Road/Green Hills Road/S. Navarra Drive Bike Corridor and Roadway Preservation</b>	Pavement preservation, increase active transportation (biking), reduce GHG and vehicle use, increase safety, enhance public health.	8943/day	1 of 1	August 2017-May 2018
14	<b>Green Valley Road Reconstruction from Struve Slough to Freedom Boulevard</b>	Extend service life of arterial roadway and ensure safe, drivable surface for motorists and bicyclists. Replacement of existing striping and signage shall enhance safety of motorists and bicyclists. Replacement of existing paved path with concrete curb, gutter and sidewalk and replacement of non-ADA compliant curb ramps and driveways shall improve existing pedestrian facilities and extend service life.	20,181 (20,100 ADT + bikes and peds)	1 of 2	Summer 2018
15	<b>Freedom Boulevard Plan Line</b>	Vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities within the project area are inconsistent, incomplete, outdated and/or in need of reconstruction. Some parcels are undeveloped. Preparation of a plan line that delineates the improvements supported and needed by the community would aid in City efforts to improve and develop this segment of Freedom Boulevard.	10,500 (at Airport Blvd) to 20,100 (at Green Valley Rd)	2 of 2	Spring 2017-2018
16	<b>Freeway Service Patrol: Highway 1 and Highway 17</b>	Reduce non-recurrent congestion, which is estimated to cause 30-50% of congestion; reduce emissions caused by idling; improve safety by reducing likelihood of secondary collisions; reduce delay.	3 per day - direct;	NA	FY17/18-18/19
17	<b>Cruz511 TDM and Traveler Information Program</b>	Reduce traffic congestion, trips, VMT, greenhouse gases and improve health and air quality. Make more efficient use of the existing transportation system by shifting SOV trips to carpool, vanpool, transit, bike and walk. Provide real-time traveler information (traffic), and info on transit, carpool, bicycle and walkways.	100-350/day; website has 2500-3500 unique visitors/month	NA	FY17/18-18/19
18	<b>Hwy 1 Corridor/HOV and Soquel-41st Aux Tiered Environmental Document</b>	Analysis of options, impacts and benefits of modifying Highway 1 corridor. Reduce delay and congestion; improve travel times - especially for transit, carpools; improve pedestrian/bike access across highway. Heavily traveled - over 100,000 vehicles per day. Daily congestion results in by-pass traffic on local arterials.	Over 100,000 travelers/day	NA	Complete environmental phase in FY17/18

#	Project Name	Summary of Benefits	Estimated Daily Use	Sponsor Priority #	Construction/ Implementation schedule
19	<b>Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail - North Coast Rail Trail Phase 2 - (environmental and preliminary engineering)</b>	Provide active transportation access along the north coast of Santa Cruz County to and from Davenport, San Vicente Redwoods and BLM Coast Dairies. The benefits of this project are to improve safety of bicyclists and pedestrians by providing a safe path off of Hwy 1, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve health by providing a safe alternative to driving, and improve bicycling and pedestrian access to schools, community centers, beaches, parks, and other recreation areas. Many residents and visitors already visit this beautiful area of the north coast with access to beaches, surfing, tidepooling, hiking and birding and this will only increase as San Vicente Redwoods and BLM Coast Dairies are open to the public.	800/day; 292k/year	NA	Fall 2016 to Feb. 2017
20	<b>Ecology Action Countywide SRTS Youth Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education</b>	Reduce bicycle and pedestrian crash rates; increase helmet use; reduce 'distracted' pedestrian incidents	1536 students	1 of 1	9/16-3/18
21	<b>Open Streets Events – Watsonville, Live Oak and Scotts Valley</b>	Help communities achieve key sustainable transportation goals; reduce SOV trips, mitigate traffic congestion, reduce carbon emissions, and increase access and safety	5,000 per event; 15k total	1 of 1	Sept 2016-June 2018
22	<b>3 CNG Replacement Buses</b>	The diesel buses are beyond their useful lifespan of 12 years, and the new CNG replacements will reduce GhG emissions, be more reliable, safer and have lower maintenance costs than the diesel buses being replaced.	575 for 3 buses	1 of 1	Spring 2017

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**TO:** RTC Advisory Committees

**FROM:** Karena Pushnik, Senior Transportation Planner

**RE:** **November 2016 Transportation Ballot Measure - Update**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Item is for information.

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## **BACKGROUND**

There are insufficient funds available to operate, maintain, and improve the local transportation system, including multi-modal transportation components, especially as state and federal sources have dramatically decreased and become increasingly unreliable. Existing transportation revenues make up less than 50% of what is required to maintain and improve roads, highways, bridges, sidewalks, bicycle facilities, and public transit. As part of the long range *2014 Regional Transportation Plan*, the Regional Transportation Commission adopted a funding strategy, which includes the pursuit of local funding mechanisms to become a "self help" county with local, independent, secure revenue that cannot be taken by the state and can be used to leverage additional state and federal funding. Placing a ½-cent sales tax on the ballot will allow agencies to meet more of the community's transportation needs with dependable local funding

Since approval of the long range transportation plan in June 2014, the RTC has solicited input from community groups, local jurisdictions, project sponsors, and the community at large about a possible ½ cent sales tax transportation ballot measure. At its December 2015 meeting, the RTC approved a draft expenditure plan for using new revenues to repair and maintain local streets and roads; preserve transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities; make traveling safer for drivers, buses, pedestrians and bike riders; preserve and maintain the rail corridor; build the coastal rail trail; improve traffic flow and reduce congestion. The draft plan was shared widely with the public, community groups and RTC advisory bodies to solicit input and seek direction about maximizing community engagement. A poll of likely voters was taken in June 2016.

## **DISCUSSION**

At a well attended public hearing on June 16, 2016, the Regional Transportation Commission finalized and adopted a transportation funding plan and approved placing a Safety, Pothole Repair, Traffic Relief, Transit Improvement Measure on the November 2016 ballot.

Amendments made at the hearing to the transportation funding plan included increased allocations to both Santa Cruz METRO and Community Bridges bringing the funding category for Transit for Seniors and People with Disabilities up from 16% to 20% of the total. Funding to the rail corridor category was decreased to 8% of the total and now includes funding for two elements: rail line maintenance and repairs, and for environmental and economic assessment of transportation options in the corridor through a transparent, public process. Attached is the adopted final transportation funding plan ([Attachment 1](#)) that will be considered by voters in November 2016.

Since the RTC approved the final transportation measure, other entities have taken positions endorsing the plan, such as:

- Cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz and Watsonville
- County of Santa Cruz
- Bike Santa Cruz County
- Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
- Seniors Council
- Community Bridges
- Human Care Alliance

The RTC Board also approved the ordinance outlining the structure, administration, oversight, bonding authority, formula allocation to local jurisdictions, and other provisions. The full text of the ordinance, including the ballot language and expenditure plan, are on the project page of the website: [www.sccrtc.org/move](http://www.sccrtc.org/move) and will be included in the voter guide.

## **SUMMARY**

To address severe shortfalls in funding for critical local transportation projects, the Regional Transportation Commission worked extensively with the community on a transportation funding plan which has the highest likelihood of securing 2/3 voter support in the November 2016 election.

Attachment 1: Expenditure Plan

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**Exhibit A:**  
**Santa Cruz County**  
**2016 Transportation Improvement Plan - Expenditure Plan**  
*- Approved by the RTC board on June 16, 2016-*

**Overview**

The 2016 Transportation Improvement Plan (TRIP) - Expenditure Plan for Santa Cruz County provides a balanced vision to improve, operate and maintain Santa Cruz County's transportation network. The plan will provide safer routes to schools for local students; maintain mobility and independence for seniors and those with disabilities; invest in bicycle and pedestrian pathways and bridges on an unprecedented scale; repave roadways, repair potholes and improve safety on local streets; ease congestion on major roadways; and invest in transportation projects that reduce the pollution that causes global warming.

<b>SUMMARY OF TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>% of Funds</b>
<b>Neighborhood Projects</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Direct Allocation to Cities and County</b>	
Local roadway pavement repair and operational improvements, school and neighborhood traffic safety projects, bicycle and pedestrian projects	
<b>San Lorenzo Valley Hwy 9 Corridor Improvements</b> - \$10 million	
<b>Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing</b> - \$5 million	
<b>Highway Corridors</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Highway 1 Corridor</b>	
Auxiliary lanes that separate entering and exiting traffic from through lanes to improve traffic flow and safety: 41st Ave-Soquel Dr; Bay/Porter-Park; State Park-Park	
Bicycle and pedestrian over-crossings	
<b>Traveler Information and Transportation Demand Management</b>	
<i>Example Programs:</i> Cruz511, Carpool/Vanpool Programs	
<b>Highway Safety and Congestion Reduction Programs</b>	
<i>Example Programs:</i> Freeway Service Patrol and Safe on 17 Enforcement	
<b>Transit for Seniors and People with Disabilities</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Direct Allocation to Service Providers</b>	
Santa Cruz METRO (16%)	
Community Bridges Lift Line Paratransit Service (4%)	
<b>Active Transportation</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (Coastal Rail Trail)</b>	
Bike and pedestrian trail construction; maintenance, management and drainage of rail and trail corridor; install conduit for internet and electrical services	
<b>Rail Corridor</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Infrastructure Preservation and Analysis of Options</b>	
<i>Example Projects:</i> Analysis (including environmental analysis) of both rail transit and non-rail options for the corridor; rail line maintenance and repairs	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED**

The Expenditure Plan identifies transportation projects to be funded from a new one-half of one percent transactions and use tax, to be collected for thirty (30) years, if two-thirds of voters approve the ballot measure in 2016. The Expenditure Plan is presented to the voters of Santa Cruz County as a means to address insufficient funding to meet current and projected transportation needs in Santa Cruz County. Given current sales tax receipts, one-half of one percent transaction and use tax is expected to generate \$17 million a year in 2016 dollars, totaling approximately \$500 million for transportation investments. These local funds can be used to leverage state and federal transportation funds that would otherwise be unavailable. The investments described in the Expenditure Plan reflect the best efforts to achieve consensus among varied transportation needs of Santa Cruz County residents.

Three types of investments are funded in the Expenditure Plan: investment categories which are allocated a percentage of net revenues, capital investments which are allocated specific dollar amounts, and ongoing direct allocations of a percentage of net revenues to cities, the County of Santa Cruz, and transit operators for capital projects and operations. The following describes the investments funded by the Santa Cruz County 2016 Transportation Improvement Plan - Expenditure Plan.

### **Neighborhood Projects – 30% per year**

#### **Direct Allocation to Cities and County**

The existing local street and road, bicycle, and pedestrian systems are critical to the everyday movement of people within the county. Much of the local roadway system is aging, has potholes, and is in need of major repair. Continued deferred maintenance will result in an exponential increase in the cost of maintaining the roadway system. Additionally, many sections of the county currently have inadequate facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians to travel safely. Current resources, without generation of new revenues for transportation, cannot provide adequate funding to maintain the local roadway system at the level necessary to adequately serve the public or expand the bicycle and pedestrian system to encourage more users.

Approximately \$135 million (\$4.5 million per year) in Measure Revenues will be allocated to the cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, and Watsonville and the County of Santa Cruz for transportation projects. Projects to be funded with Measure Revenues may include: fixing potholes, local roadway repairs, rehabilitation, reconstruction and intersection improvements; new and improved sidewalks, crosswalks and bicycle lanes and paths, especially near schools; and other transportation projects as necessary for the benefit of residents in those jurisdictions. The County of Santa Cruz and the cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley and Watsonville, who are best able to determine their local transportation needs, shall each prepare an annual report through a public process to identify how they plan to spend their share of measure funds and how measure funds were spent in the prior year.

Funds will be distributed at least quarterly to cities and the County of Santa Cruz based on each jurisdiction's proportional share of the countywide population (29%), lane miles of roadway (39%) and site where the Measure Revenue from the transaction and use tax is generated (32%). Population, road mile, and tax site generation figures will be updated each year based on the latest available data.

### **San Lorenzo Valley Highway 9 Corridor**

Ten (\$10) million in Measure Revenues is designated for transportation projects improving travel for residents of San Lorenzo Valley. Example projects may include:

- Safety projects for people walking, biking or driving in the Highway 9 corridor through San Lorenzo Valley
- Projects that provide safe access to schools along or near Highway 9
- Intersection and signal improvements
- Bicycle lanes, paths and/or signage
- Accessible pedestrian crosswalks and sidewalks, including lighting and flashing pedestrian beacons that increase visibility
- Improved access to bus stops and bus service

### **Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing**

Highway 17 is a major connection between the Monterey Bay Region and San Francisco Bay Area. The dense traffic, concrete median barriers, and lack of drainage culverts and/or bridge undercrossings makes Highway 17 a major barrier for wildlife moving through the Santa Cruz Mountains. Mountain lions, bobcats and deer have all been hit trying to cross Highway 17 which also makes it dangerous for the motorists. Five (\$5) million in Measure Revenues will be allocated for construction of a safe passage for wildlife to cross under Highway 17. This project will improve safety for both drivers and wildlife.

### **Highway Corridors – 25%**

Aging highway systems continue to operate under high traffic volumes as population, and thus demand for moving people and goods increases. State highways provide essential mobility for Santa Cruz County residents, businesses, and visitors. The highway corridors are the region's main thoroughfares with Highway 1 carrying over 100,000 people daily. Measure Revenues are needed to improve traffic flow and safety as state and federal formula funds do not fund most highway improvements in Santa Cruz County. Measure Revenues (25% or approximately \$125 million total) will be allocated to Highway 1 and Highway 17 corridor projects to increase the safety and efficiency of these corridors in Santa Cruz County.

### **Highway 1 Corridor**

Highway investments included in the Expenditure Plan, improve traffic flow and safety on Highway 1, especially for South County and Mid-County commuters, small businesses, bus riders and first responders (law enforcement, fire, medical) by adding auxiliary lanes between three interchanges: 41st Ave-Soquel Dr; Bay Ave/Porter St-Park Ave; and State Park Dr-Park Ave. Auxiliary lanes are lower cost highway projects that can improve flow by separating entering or exiting traffic from the through lanes. Approximately 10% of all of the injuries and fatalities in



Santa Cruz County in 2013 occurred between Soquel Dr and Park Ave on Highway 1. Auxiliary lanes can help to improve safety on this high traffic volume corridor.

### **New bridges for cyclists and pedestrians**

Highways can separate neighborhoods and make it harder to ride a bike or walk to access locations of interest. In order to improve bicycle and pedestrian movement between neighborhoods, employment, retail, medical, and recreation sites on either side of Highway 1, Measure Revenues can be used to construct bicycle/pedestrian bridges crossing over Highway 1 including crossings in Live Oak near Chanticleer Avenue and in Aptos/Seacliff near Mar Vista Elementary School. Measure Revenues can also improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities on existing crossings.

### **Traveler Information and Transportation Demand Management**

The efficiency of the existing transportation system can be increased by promoting use of transit, carpooling, vanpooling, as well as bicycling and walking. Transportation demand management strategies can reduce the number of vehicles on our roadways especially during peak periods. Examples of transportation demand management programs that could be funded by this measure include "Cruz511", the traveler information service for Santa Cruz County, and carpool/vanpool programs.

### **Highway Safety and Congestion Reduction Programs**

Improving safety is a primary goal of this measure. Programs that reduce fatal and injury collisions on highways and reduce congestion are also funded by Measure Revenues. Examples of programs that improve safety and reduce congestion are the Safe on 17 Task Force and the Freeway Service Patrol (roving tow trucks that remove stalled or disabled vehicles, debris, and other obstructions that may cause backups).

### **Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities – 20% per year**

#### **Direct Allocation to Service Providers**

Seniors and disabled persons make up an increasing percentage of Santa Cruz County's population. For seniors and persons with disabilities, access to healthcare, social services, shopping, and recreation is key to quality of life. A number of specialized transportation programs have been implemented which meet specialized needs for transportation to medical services, social service programs, shopping and other purposes that cannot be met by conventional bus transit. An aging population will require maintenance and expansion of transit and paratransit services for elderly and disabled residents into the future.

Measure Revenues (16% or approximately \$2.75 million per year) will be distributed to Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) to provide transit and paratransit service for seniors and people with disabilities. Measure Revenues (4% or approximately \$680,000 per year) will be allocated to the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency for Santa Cruz County (Community Bridges-Lift Line) for paratransit service. Paratransit works with social service agencies to increase transportation options for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and persons with low incomes. Funds will be distributed at least quarterly.

## **Active Transportation – 17%**

### **Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (Coastal Rail Trail)**

Measure Revenues (17% or approximately \$85 million total) will be allocated for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network, otherwise known as the Coastal Rail Trail, for people walking and bicycling along the coast in Santa Cruz County. The coastal rail and trail corridor connects Watsonville, Aptos, Capitola, Live Oak, Santa Cruz, and Davenport and links to trails in Monterey County. The trail offers spectacular views of the Monterey Bay, historic trestles, and a flat surface free of automobile traffic. This trail will provide kids, commuters and recreational bicyclists and walkers a safe and enjoyable way to travel. Funds will be used for trail construction, maintenance, operation, management and drainage of the rail and trail corridor and will leverage other state and federal grants for completion of the trail network.

## **Rail Corridor – 8%**

### **Infrastructure Preservation and Analysis of Options**

Eight percent of Measure Revenues (approximately \$40 million total) will be used for preservation of the Rail Corridor infrastructure and analysis of its future potential use to better serve Santa Cruz County residents and visitors. Projects include analysis (including environmental and economic analysis) to answer important community questions about possible future transit and other transportation uses of the corridor through an open, transparent public process; and maintaining and repairing the publicly-owned Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. The Measure Revenues do not include funding for any new train/rail service. If the Regional Transportation Commission determines that the best use of the corridor is an option other than rail transit, funds may be utilized for other transportation improvements along and near the corridor.

### **Notes**

*(1) Estimated revenues from a ½-cent transaction and use tax are \$17 million per year (in 2016 dollars) for 30 years. The present value (i.e., present day purchasing power) of the Measure Revenues is forecasted to be approximately \$500 Million. The actual revenues to be received over the 30-year life of the tax will be affected by various economic factors, such as inflation and economic growth or decline. The estimated amounts for each category reflect the allocation of approximately \$500 Million. The estimated amounts for each category, divided by \$500 Million, establishes ratios for the allocation among the categories. While total revenues will vary, the net percentages to each investment category will remain constant over the 30-year life of the tax.*

*(2) Percentages are net after costs required for administration, implementation and oversight of the measure -- including annual independent fiscal audits, reports to the public, preparation and implementation of state-mandated reports, oversight committee, and other administration, implementation and oversight responsibilities as may be necessary to administer and implement the Ordinance and the Expenditure Plan. Administrative salaries and benefits shall not exceed 1% of total Measure Revenues.*

*(3) If bonding is used to advance implementation of any of these projects, finance costs will be paid from the percent of funds designated for the associated investment category.*

*(4) It is anticipated that a portion of the total costs of the projects included in the Expenditure Plan will also be funded from federal, state, and local sources, as described in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).*

*(5) Outside of the funds to local jurisdictions and transit agencies which will be allocated on an ongoing basis, based on revenues generated, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission shall allocate Measure Revenues to all other categories of transportation projects and specific capital projects. Capital investments will be made based upon clearly defined project descriptions and limits resulting from the outcomes of environmental analyses, design engineering, and public input, as applicable.*

*(6) In the event that any agency that is designated funds through the Expenditure Plan is dissolved, the redistribution of funds will be based on the same formulas minus the dissolved agency. New or successor entities that come into existence in Santa Cruz County during the life of the Expenditure Plan, such as incorporation of a new city, merging of agencies, or designation of a new agency as the county Consolidated Transportation Services Agency or transit agency, may be considered as eligible recipients of funds through the amendment process as set forth in the Ordinance.*

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# SANTA CRUZ ARTISTS

THURSDAY  
AUGUST 11  
6 PM - 7:30 PM

Visit different tables featuring sections of the trail and share your creative ideas of how to make the Rail Trail pop with art!

## BACKGROUND

The COASTAL RAIL TRAIL is the result of a 20-year long effort to purchase the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. In October 2012, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) secured a 32-mile section connecting Davenport to Watsonville, placing the trail in public ownership with plans to create a multi-use bicycle and pedestrian trail. The City of Santa Cruz has committed to completing the section that runs from Natural Bridges to the Beach Boardwalk by 2018.



santa cruz  
cityarts

## HELP US PLAN FOR ART ALONG THE COASTAL RAIL TRAIL

KELLY'S BAKERY  
SWIFT ST. COURTYARD\*  
402 INGALLS ST. / SANTA CRUZ

\*parking limited - bike/carpool suggested

## WHERE YOU FIT IN

The trail represents a significant opportunity to incorporate and display public art! Help us craft a vision for art that welcomes visitors to Santa Cruz and highlights unique features along the trail. We will invite local artists and artist teams to collaboratively develop installation ideas along the city's portion of the trail, with artwork selected for installation as funds allow.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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### VISIT

SantaCruzCityArts.com/  
programs-partnerships

SantaCruzTrail.org