



**Santa Cruz County Regional
Transportation Commission**

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

**Special Meeting
Monday, September 18, 2017
6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**

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

1. Call to Order: Chair Conlen called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
2. Introductions

Members Present:

Janneke Strause, District 1 (Alt)
Jim Cook, District 2 (Alt.)
Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)
Kem Akol, District 4
Rick Hyman, District 5
Amelia Conlen, City of Santa Cruz, Chair
Murray Fontes, City of Watsonville
Leo Jed, CTSC
Kira Ticus, Ecology Action/Bike-to-Work

Staff:

Cory Caletti, Sr Transportation Planner
Gingery Dykaar, Sr Transportation Planner
Anais Schenk, Transportation Planner

Guests:

Scott Hamby, City of Scotts Valley
Theresia Rogerson, County Health Services Agency

Unexcused Absences:

Excused Absences:

Grace Voss, District 1
David Casterson, District 2, Vice-Chair
Peter Scott, District 3
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)
Piet Canin, Ecology Action/Bike to Work (Alt)

Vacancies:

District 4 – Alternate
District 5 – Alternate
City of Santa Cruz – Alternate
City of Scotts Valley – Voting and Alternate
City of Capitola – Voting and Alternate
City of Watsonville – Alternate

3. Announcements – Cory Caletti, staff to the Bicycle Advisory Committee, provided a number of announcements. Anais Schenk, the RTC's new transportation planner, was introduced and welcomed. A special November Bicycle Advisory Committee will be required due to grant funding applications that committees will be asked to provide recommendations on before the RTC's final allocation decisions. The October meeting will be cancelled. A Notice of Preparation for the North Coast Rail Trail was released on September 13th and two scoping meetings will be held on

September 27th and 28th, 2017 in order to accept public input into alternatives to be considered as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). Comments will be due by October 16th, 2017 at 4pm. Rick Hyman asked to have the DEIR presented to the Bicycle Advisory Committee when it will be available for review and comment. The Mar Vista Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing ad-hoc committee is invited to a stakeholder meeting. Members will include Janneke Strause, Kira Ticus, David Casterson and RTC staff Cory Caletti. Kim Shultz, RTC's highway programs manager, will contact members to schedule a meeting in the near future.

4. Oral communications – Amelia Conlen announced that the City of Santa Cruz will be launching a Bike Share program in March of next year and will seek community input into station locations in the coming months. She indicated that the Branciforte bicycle and pedestrian bridge ribbon cutting will be held on September 28th, 2017 at noon. The City of Santa Cruz launched a “Street Smarts” traffic safety education campaign. Finally, an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the City of Santa Cruz's rail trail project (from Natural Bridges to Bay/California) was issued in August and the comment period closed on September 14, 2017. The City's Planning Commission will consider adoption of the MND on the tentatively scheduled date of October 5th, 2017. Kira Ticus announced that October 5th is also Bike to Work Day and Janneke Strause invited members to the Open Streets event scheduled for Sunday, October 8th, 2017 on West Cliff Drive in the City of Santa Cruz. Murray Fontes announced that the City of Watsonville's first Measure D funded project, the Bike Smart! bicycle education training program, will be launched in the near future.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – Item #14 was pulled and moved to the regular agenda

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion (Hyman/Fontes) was made to approve the consent agenda through item 13. Rick Hyman abstained from items #6 and #11. Janneke Strause abstained from item #6. The motion passed with members Strause, Cook, Menchine, Akol, Hyman, Conlen, Fontes, Jed and Ticus voting in favor except for the abstentions noted above.

6. Approved draft minutes of the June 5, 2017 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
7. Accepted Bicycle Advisory Committee roster
8. Accepted Highlights of September 7th, 2017 RTC, including 2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program Call for Projects
9. Accepted summary of Hazard Reports
10. Accepted letter from the Bicycle Advisory Committee to the City of Santa Cruz in support of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Segment 7 (Phase I) of the Rail Trail project
11. Accepted letter from the Bicycle Advisory Committee to the County of Santa Cruz regarding recommendations for hiring considerations for a new Traffic Engineer
12. Accepted the City of Santa Cruz's Street Smart Campaign Kickoff and Safety Tips
13. Approved the City of Santa Cruz's Article 8 FY 17/18 Transportation Development Act allocation claims for \$32,000 for Bikeway Striping and Minor Improvements, and \$2,000 for Bike Parking

14. Moved to the regular agenda - Approve the City of Scotts Valley Transportation Development Act Claim in the amount of \$93,963 for the Mt. Hermon/Scotts Valley Rd/Whispering Pines Intersection Improvement Project

REGULAR AGENDA

- Moved item #14: Approve City of Scotts Valley Transportation Development Act Claim in the amount of \$93,963 for the Mt. Hermon/Scotts Valley Rd/Whispering Pines Intersection Improvement Project - Scott Hamby, City of Scotts Valley Public Works Director, was asked to provide a summary of the request. He noted that the intersection improvement project was reviewed by the Committee on multiple occasions, committee suggestions were incorporated as feasible, a notice for construction bidding was released and that a contract was awarded to Granite Construction. He anticipates work to start in October and go through the end of this calendar year. He also noted that video detection was added to the project at intersections versus traffic loops, a detail not reflected in the TDA application, which was in response to committee recommendations about ways to enhance design and functionality features. A motion was made (Hyman/Murray) to approve the recommendation that the RTC approve the TDA claim with members Strause, Cook, Menchine, Akol, Hyman, Conlen, Fontes, Jed and Ticus voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.
15. Unified Corridor Investment Study (UCS): Step 1 Draft Scenario Analysis Results – Ginger Dykaar, Senior Transportation Planner, summarized the UCS scenario analysis results and reminded members of the goals of the study. She indicated that public workshops will be held on October 2nd and 3rd in Watsonville and Live Oak, respectively, and that a community input survey will be released shortly. The following comments or requests were made: use a number system for rating projects and be consistent in comparing projects, highlight environmental and safety benefits, place high value to buffered/protected bicycle lanes and specify priority locations, give greater weight to projects that close gaps in the network and provide high utility benefits, include greater mention of pedestrian facilities and amenities, add video detection at signalized intersections, prioritize safety improvements at intersections, consider bus transit on a dedicated lane on Highway 1, remove language specifying safety benefits to bicyclists if riding in a shared bike/bus lane as there is no evidence of that assertion, and general discussion of the bike and pedestrian trail in the rail right-of-way as the committee's highest priority project.
 16. Vision Zero and "The Impact of Traffic Violence on Santa Cruz County" Report – Theresia Rogerson from the County Health Services Agency (HSA) presented the Vision Zero concept and "The Impact of Traffic Violence on Santa Cruz County" report. The report emphasizes the need to prevent transportation-related deaths and injuries. It includes statistics about collisions, identifies high-injury corridors, and analyzes trends in different areas of the county. Traveling at unsafe speeds and distracted driving are major causes of incidents; 54% of severe/fatal crashes were on 6% of roadways in the county; and pedestrian deaths and serious injuries made up 46% of incidents in Watsonville in the twelve month period from May 2016 to May 2017, as compared to 2% countywide. HSA and the Community Traffic Safety Coalition (CTSC) are working on a toolkit for agencies that includes vision zero policies and plans that prioritize the prevention of traffic deaths and injuries and provides technical support and data that can be used to secure funding for projects that will prevent transportation related fatalities and injuries. HSA/CTSC is also reaching out to the broader community with information to reduce crashes. The report and additional information is online at: www.sctrafficsafety.org/VisionZero
 17. Visualization Sustainable Transportation: Progress Report – Anais Schenk, Transportation Planner, presented the Visualizing Sustainable Transportation Project which is funded by a Caltrans grant. The project focuses on engaging the community through the use of virtual reality technology

displayed through "Owl" viewers. The viewers will be installed in four different locations in Santa Cruz County as a means to engage and survey the public about sustainable transportation concepts. The Owls will be up for 6 weeks and will be operational 24/7 and will include short term and long term visuals.

18. Updates related to Committee functions – Leo Jed requested that an item to discuss returning to a monthly meeting frequency be agendaized for the future. Cory Caletti reminded members that the meeting frequency is specified in the Rules and Regulations.
19. Adjourned - 8:25 PM

NEXT MEETING: The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for the special date of November 13, 2017 and the October 16, 2017 is cancelled. The meeting will be held from 6:00pm to 8:30pm 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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