



**Santa Cruz County  
Regional Transportation Commission  
Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)**

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**DRAFT MINUTES**

Thursday, March 15, 2018, 1:30 p.m.  
SCCRTC Conference Room  
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA

**ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tim Bailey, County Public Works  
Taylor Bateman, Scotts Valley Planning  
Teresa Buika, UCSC  
Piet Canin, Ecology Action  
Sarah Fleming, Santa Cruz Planning  
Murray Fontes, Watsonville Public Works  
Rich Grunow, Capitola Community Development  
Paul Hierling, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)  
Jessica Kahn, Scotts Valley Public Works  
Justin Meek, Watsonville Community Development  
Pete Rasmussen, Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)  
Chris Schneider, Santa Cruz Public Works  
Todd Sexauer, County of Santa Cruz Planning

**RTC Staff Present:** Cory Caletti, Ginger Dykaar, Rachel Moriconi

**Others:**

Ron Marquez, Consultant for City of Santa Cruz  
Jim Burr, Santa Cruz Public Works  
Rodolfo Rivas, County of Santa Cruz Planning  
Juliette Robins, County of Santa Cruz Planning  
Janneke Straus, Bike Santa Cruz County

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1. **Call to Order:** Chair Fontes called the meeting to order.
  2. **Introductions:** Self introductions were made.
  3. **Oral Communications:** Rachel Moriconi requested updates for the 2018 Committee Roster, reminded public works departments to finalize updates for the Statewide Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment survey, and reported that staff will be seeking AB1012-required updates on projects anticipated to obligate federal funds before the end of the federal fiscal year.
  4. **Additions, deletions, or changes to consent and regular agendas:** Item number 7: Transportation Demand Management Program Updates was tabled to a future meeting.

## CONSENT AGENDA

*The Committee unanimously approved a motion (Buika/Schneiter) approving the consent agenda, with all members present voting "yes".*

### 5. **Approved Minutes of the January 18, 2018 ITAC meeting.**

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 6. **Updates to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines on Transportation Impact Analysis (SB 743): Vehicle Miles Traveled Thresholds**

Ron Marquez, City of Santa Cruz consultant, presented information on the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) proposed updates to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines related to how transportation impacts are analyzed. In response to Senate Bill 743 requirements, transportation impacts of a project will be based on vehicle miles traveled (VMT) generated by the project, though local jurisdictions may also consider level of service.

City of Santa Cruz staff suggested developing a countywide methodology to establish thresholds of significance and to estimate project-level vehicle miles traveled. The committee discussed OPR suggested thresholds and items that would need to be considered, including high quality transit corridors, project impact and transportation improvement fees, assumptions regarding average trip distances, pass through trips, infill development, average VMT per capita countywide, in each city and/or development area, impacts of ride services such as Uber and Lyft on VMT levels, and model types – including state, regional, county-level, and gravity models.

Attendees expressed interest in exploring options at a regional-level. City of Santa Cruz staff agreed to host a meeting of local agencies to focus on SB743 implementation.

### 7. **Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program Updates – *Item tabled to a future meeting***

### 8. **Status of ongoing transportation projects, program, studies and planning documents**

RTC: Rachel Moriconi reported that the RTC continues work on the Unified Corridor Investment Study and received a report on trail scenarios being evaluated in the study at its Transportation Policy Workshop. RTC staff also presented its rail right-of-way maintenance operations plan to the RTC board.

Santa Cruz: Chris Schneiter reported that the city will be going to bid for construction of Segment 7 of the rail trail. Design engineering for a new bicycle/pedestrian bridge over San Lorenzo River next to the railroad trestle is about 50% done. The city is working with the County of Santa Cruz on trail Segment 8/9 environmental review and preliminary design. Storm damage repairs are being done on Upper Park Road.

County of Santa Cruz: Tim Bailey reported that the County is doing several pavement grading and storm damage repair projects, including work on Valencia School Road and Soquel Drive/Aptos Street over Valencia Creek. Redwood Road bridge replacement, Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)-funded striping and guardrail projects, and 70 additional storm damage repair projects are also moving forward.

UCSC: Teresa Buika reported that UCSC is working on its long range plan update and EV charging station projects.

Ecology Action: Piet Canin reported that Bike Week is May 4-12 and that an online bicycle challenge will be available for employers. Ecology Action is also working on implementation of the Caltrans planning grant-funded Watsonville and County safe route to school plans.

Watsonville: Murray Fontes reported that the city is working with, and providing funding to, partners on bicycle and pedestrian education programs and a Bike Santa Cruz County earn-a-bike program. A Measure-D funded flashing beacon project is underway. RTC-funded construction on Airport Blvd. between Freedom Boulevard and the city limits is scheduled to begin in April.

Bike Santa Cruz County: Janneke Straus reported that it is using city and county Measure D funds for earn-a-bike programs in Live Oak and Watsonville. The Watsonville Open Streets event is June 3, 2018.

AMBAG: Paul Hierling reported that public meetings were held on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and AMBAG is working on responses to comments for the final environmental document. AMBAG and RTC staff reminded agencies to immediately submit any final project list updates or other revisions.

Scotts Valley: Jessica Kahn reported that construction started on the Mt. Hermon Rd./Scotts Valley Dr./Whispering Pines intersection project. The Glen Canyon Rd/Green Hills Rd bike corridor and roadway preservation project is out to bid. Design work has started for Glenwood area projects, which includes facilities in the open space reserve and on Glenwood Drive.

## **9. State Funding Updates**

Rachel Moriconi reported that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) staff recommendations for the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) include all of the projects proposed by the RTC. It is expected that all of the projects approved by the RTC in December 2017 can move forward, however if SB1 is repealed there will be a shortfall. RTC and several local agencies have taken positions to support Proposition 69 (June 2018 ballot) which firewalls new SB1 funds for transportation and agencies have taken positions to oppose efforts to repeal transportation funding and SB1.

Ms. Moriconi reported that several agencies also submitted applications to the CTC for the competitive SB1-Local Partnership Program (LPP). The CTC is expected to select projects to receive these and other SB1 funds at its May 16, 2018 meeting. The CTC's guidelines for the next Active Transportation Program (ATP) cycle are being finalized, with applications expected to be due in July 2018. Local jurisdictions reported that they are developing their SB1-Local Streets and Road Program (LSRP) project lists for FY18/19.

## **10. Measure D Updates**

Rachel Moriconi reported that updated revenue estimates for FY17/18 and FY18/19 are available. Several agencies are preparing their annual 5-year plan updates showing how they anticipate using Measure D funds from FY18/19-22/23. Some agencies will include updates on use of FY17/18 funds and any funds carried forward. Final reports on how FY17/18 Measure D funds were use are due December 2018, as part of the annual audit. Staff suggested that agencies take before and after photos of projects funded by Measure D and continue to ensure that the public is aware of which projects are funded by Measure D.

- 11. Next meeting:** The next ITAC meeting scheduled for April 19, 2018 was subsequently canceled.

**The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**

*Minutes prepared by: Rachel Moriconi, RTC Planner*