



Santa Cruz County Regional  
Transportation Commission's

**BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**Minutes**

**Monday, April 9, 2018  
6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**

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

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

2. Introductions

**Members Present:**

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

**Staff:**

Cory Caletti, Sr. Transportation Planner  
Anais Schenk, Transportation Planner  
Sarah Christensen, Sr. Engineer

**Guests:**

Kelly Bond  
Becky Steinbruner  
Theresia Rogerson, CTSC

**Unexcused Absences:**

**Excused Absences:**

Casey Beyer, District 2 (Alt.)  
Peter Scott, District 3  
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)  
Piet Canin, Ecology Action/Bike to Work (Alt)

**Vacancies:**

District 4 – Voting and 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 announced the unfortunate passing of Kem Akol, voting member of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (Committee) for District 4 and previously, for District 1. Kem was a member of the Committee for 25 years and a tireless advocate for bicyclists in the community. Following a moment of silence, a condolence card for Kem's family was distributed for Committee members to sign. Cory also announced that after 15 years she would be stepping down as staff to the Committee and that Anais Schenk will be the new staff person.

Anais Schenk announced that the Final Draft of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was approved by the Regional Transportation Commission on April 5, 2018. The next step is for the

Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) to certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) which is currently scheduled for June 13, 2018. After the EIR has been certified by AMBAG, RTC will consider adoption of the EIR findings and adoption of the final 2040 RTP.

4. Oral communications – Amelia Conlen announced she has accepted a position with Ecology Action, but would remain on the Committee representing the City of Santa Cruz. Becky Steinbruner asked the Committee to consider a grant to provide helmets and lights to farm workers as well as to write a letter to the County to request the installation of bicycle racks as part of the Aptos Village improvements. She also voiced concerns about the bus stop relocation for the inbound 71 bus at Trout Gulch and Soquel which she commented does not have a pullout large enough for buses to clear the bike lane. She also stated that she observed motorists queuing in the bike lane at this intersection for right turns. She asked the Committee to provide some recommendations for improvements to safety for bicyclists at that intersection.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – Anais Schenk requested that item 15, Draft “5-year Program of Projects” and item 17, Update on Vision Zero Program be moved to follow item 11, Officer Elections.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion (Hyman/Fontes) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with members Conlen, Voss, Johnson, Hyman, Fontes, Ticus, Menchine and Jed voting in favor.

6. Approve draft minutes of the December 11, 2017 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting (pages 5-8)
7. Accept summary of Hazard Reports (pages 9-14)
8. Approve recommendation to the RTC to approve Ecology Action’s Transportation Development Act allocation request for \$60,000 for the Bike to Work Program (pages 15-32)
9. Approve recommendation to the RTC to approve the Health Service Agency’s TDA allocation request for \$130,000 for the Community Traffic Safety Coalition and the Ride ‘n Stride Bicycle and Pedestrian Education Programs (pages 33-60)

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

10. Report on new appointments, reappointments, resignations, and updated roster – Cory Caletti, RTC Senior Transportation Planner summarized the current status of appointments which include some recent reappointments and a number of vacancies. A recruitment process will start this month to fill vacancies. Janneke Straus asked about the appointment process. Cory replied that interested individuals are asked to attend one or two Committee meetings before applying, but it is not required. Applications are online and can be submitted to Anais Schenk once completed. Becky Steinbruner asked about the amount of time required for participation in the Committee. Amelia Conlen replied that a minimum of two hours every two months is required but that there are opportunities for further engagement in ad-hoc committees for those who are interested. Becky Steinbruner commented that the Committee should consider creating an ad-hoc committee to follow the Portola Specific Plan process.
11. Officer Elections – Cory Caletti, RTC Senior Transportation Planner summarized the officer election process. Formerly officers were elected every year; however, the Rules and Regulations

were recently updated to allow for two year appointments. Cory appreciated Amelia Conlen for her service and asked for nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. A motion was made (Ticus/Fontes) to nominate Amelia Conlen for Chair. The motion passed unanimously with members Conlen, Voss, Johnson, Hyman, Fontes, Ticus and Jed voting in favor. Another motion was made (Ticus/Voss) to nominate Murray Fontes for Vice-Chair. The motion passed unanimously with members Conlen, Voss, Johnson, Hyman, Fontes, Ticus, Menchine and Jed voting in favor. The Chair and Vice-Chair will serve through March, 2020.

12. Draft "5-year Program of Projects" recommendations for Measure D funding allocations: Highway Corridors, Active Transportation and Rail Corridor investment categories, the San Lorenzo Valley Highway 9 Corridor Improvements and the Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing – Sarah Christensen, Senior Transportation Engineer, presented the 5-year program for Highway 1. Changes to the draft program of projects include: consolidating the auxiliary lane projects for Park Avenue to Bay/Porter and State Park Drive to Park Avenue, adding funding for these projects earlier in the project life to make them competitive for grant funding sources and moving funds for the Mar Vista Drive overcrossing out one year. Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner reported that the RTC is currently conducting a multimodal study for the Highway 9 / San Lorenzo Valley Corridor which will include preliminary recommendations for projects. Cory also reported on the funding for the Rail Corridor regional project which includes continued funding for the Unified Corridor Investment Study, the bridge analysis and rehabilitation as well as storm damage repair. Cory also reported on the Active Transportation/Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail – Rail Trail regional 5-year program which included a recommendation to add \$200,000 for Segment 10 (17<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue) for preliminary design and right-of-way research in FY 22/23. A motion was made (Hyman/Voss) to express support to the RTC for allocation of funding towards Segment 10. The motion passed unanimously with members Conlen, Voss, Johnson, Hyman, Fontes, Ticus, Menchine and Jed voting in favor.

The Committee requested that in the future the 5 year program of projects include reports on what was allocated in previous years and what was spent versus carried over into future years. Cory replied that RTC staff would further refine the allocation spreadsheets that will go to the RTC based on feedback and provide approved Measure D allocation spreadsheets to the Committee in June for members' information. The Committee also requested more information on the Highway 9 / San Lorenzo Valley Corridor. Cory mentioned that the project managers were planning on attending the Committee meeting in June to present on that project.

13. Update on Vision Zero Program – Theresia Rogerson, Health Services Agency staff provided a background on the philosophy of Vision Zero and reported on the progress of the County Vision Zero program. Recently the City of Watsonville passed a resolution to implement a Vision Zero program. The City of Santa Cruz and the County of Santa Cruz are also in discussion regarding adoption of a resolution and development of a program. The CTSC continues to collect anecdotal data and police reports to tally and map the locations of severe crashes and fatalities. The work program for the CTSC for the next two years, approved as part of item #9 above, includes continuing efforts around implementing Vision Zero.
14. Nomination of member for participation in Downtown Watsonville Complete Streets Plan – Murray Fontes provided a brief synopsis of the Watsonville Downtown Complete Streets project and noted that the outreach process included forming a stakeholder committee. He asked for volunteers from the Committee to participate in the stakeholder committee. Amelia Conlen, Janneke Strause, Kira Ticus and Theresia Rogerson all expressed interest.
15. Procedure for sharing contact information – Anais Schenk noted that in the past the roster was included in every packet with the contact information for members of the Committee. However,

the current RTC practice is to redact contact information; therefore, the current roster does not include emails or phone numbers in recent packets. She asked the Committee if they would like contact information to continue to be published in the packet or if they would like that information to be provided on a Google spreadsheet. The Committee indicated that they would prefer a Google spreadsheet.

16. Draft letter from the Bicycle Advisory Committee to the City of Santa Cruz recommending that the Branciforte Trail remain open – Rick Hyman summarized the issue that prompted the Committee to draft a letter: due to neighbor complaints the City of Santa Cruz began discussions about closing the Branciforte Creek Trail. In December, the Committee voted to draft a letter opposing the closure. After starting the draft letter Rick learned that the City was no longer considering closing the trail. However, since the Committee had voted to provide the letter he finished a draft for discussion and inclusion in the packet. Amelia Conlen provided additional background stating that while the City was no longer considering a full closure, there were still ongoing discussions with the neighbors. Will Menchine added that the path is now gated and shut at night. A motion (Jed/Fontes) was made to provide a letter to the City of Santa Cruz with language encouraging communication to resolve safety and access issues while keeping the path open and to consider lighting for the path. The motion passed with members Voss, Johnson, Hyman, Fontes, Ticus, Menchine and Jed voting in favor. Committee member Amelia Conlen abstained.
17. Status update on the Countywide Bicycle Wayfinding Project – Anais Schenk, Transportation Planner reported that input from the Committee and stakeholders had been incorporated into the signage database. Additionally, a scope change request was submitted to and approved by Caltrans and California Transportation Commission staff to account for the changed number of signs and locations. The next steps for the project include applying for the construction allocation and going out to bid for construction.
18. Updates related to Committee functions - None
19. Adjourn – 8:20 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2018 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the RTC office, 1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:  
Anais Schenk, Transportation Planner