



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

FINAL MINUTES

Thursday, January 17, 2019, 1:30 p.m.
SCCRTC Conference Room
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA

ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Piet Canin, Ecology Action
Murray Fontes, Watsonville Public Works
Stephanie Hansen, County Planning
Paul Hierling, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)
Justin Meek, Watsonville Community Development
Wondimu Mengistu, Santa Cruz METRO
Kailash Mozumder, City of Capitola Public Works and Planning Proxy
Claire Fliesler, Santa Cruz Planning and Public Works Proxy
Gus Alfaro, Caltrans District 5 Planning
Pete Rasmussen, Santa Cruz METRO
Steve Wiesner, County Public Works

RTC Staff Present: Rachel Moriconi and Anais Schenk

Others Present: Kelly McClendon and Audrey Ogden, Caltrans District 5 Planning;
Lee Otter, California Coastal Commission (CCC)

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Fontes called the meeting to order.
- 2. Introductions:** Self introductions were made.
- 3. Oral Communications:** A webcast will be held on March 1, 2019 on SB743 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines regarding measuring and mitigating transportation impacts.
- 4. Additions, deletions, or changes to consent and regular agendas:** None.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 5. Approved Minutes of the October 18, 2018 ITAC meeting**
- 6. Received Measure D Quarterly Revenue Updates**

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Status of Ongoing Transportation Projects

Santa Cruz - Claire Fliesler reported on the construction that has started on the San Lorenzo River bicycle/pedestrian trestle. Lee Otter noted that the Coastal Commission is very excited about the project.

Capitola – Kailash Mozumder reported that Capitola has completed construction of RSTPX-funded sidewalks on 38th Avenue and 2018 slurry seal projects. Park Avenue storm damage repairs are in design. Design of Park Ave sidewalks is nearing completion, with construction scheduled for summer 2019. The city has initiated the AB2766-funded adaptive traffic signal system project on 41st Avenue, which includes intersections between Clares Street and Brommer/Jade Street, and integration with three Caltrans traffic signals.

Caltrans – Kelly McClendon announced that Gus Alfaro is the new Caltrans District 5 Planning liaison to Santa Cruz County. Audrey Ogden reported that Caltrans will be holding a partner kickoff meeting in February on the District's active transportation plan, with public outreach planned for Spring 2019. This will be the first District plan in the state and will serve as a model for other Caltrans Districts. Gus Alfaro encouraged agencies to attend the 2019 Caltrans Planning Conference in February, which will focus on emerging trends in transportation.

AMBAG – Paul Hierling reported that AMBAG is hosting a Planning Directors Forum at the end of January and will be soliciting input on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) work plan and timeline.

METRO – METRO is developing its computer aided dispatch/automatic vehicle location (CAD/AVL) project, which includes real-time bus arrival information. METRO is also acquiring 14 buses, including 4 articulated buses to be used for UCSC routes and 10 commuter buses for the Highway 17 Express Bus service.

Ecology Action – Piet Canin reported that Ecology Action is working with local agencies in preparing safe routes to schools plans for 46 grade schools in Watsonville, the County of Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, and Seaside/Marina. Ecology Action assisted with the San Lorenzo River Trestle groundbreaking event, which had over 300 participants. Ecology Action will start work on the Scotts Valley Active Transportation Plan this spring.

RTC - Anais Schenk reported that at its meeting on 1/17 the RTC approved the Phase 2 Progressive Rail contract. A pre-construction meeting is being held with the construction contractor for the Bike Route Signage project. Environmental documents for the Highway 1 Corridor and 41st Ave-Soquel Drive Auxiliary Lanes projects were certified.

County – Steve Wiesner reported that the County submitted a planning grant application for a countywide active transportation plan and the planning department is starting to work on updating the circulation element of the general plan. The Redwood Road bridge project is on hold during the rainy season. The 2017 storm damage repairs on Bear Creek Road at PM 2.0 and Blue Ridge Road in Boulder Creek are nearly completed. The County will be starting work on two Highway Safety Improvement Program-funded (HSIP) countywide striping and

guardrail replacement projects. The county completed 2018 Measure D-funded road resurfacing projects and the Granite Creek Road/Branciforte Drive resurfacing project in the fall of 2018.

Watsonville - Murray Fontes reported the STIP/HSIP-funded Airport Boulevard project is under construction. Watsonville submitted a Caltrans planning grant application for Main Street and parallel roads.

8. Draft 2019 Legislative Program

Rachel Moriconi provided an overview of the RTC's draft 2019 Legislative Program and requested input from the committee. Committee members suggested modification to language regarding zero fatalities safety programs and goals, emphasized the need for federal funding for storm damage repairs, importance of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for local programs and projects, support reducing utility rates for transit electric vehicles, and support modifying the state's definition of disadvantaged communities. Lee Otter noted that the priority project list is in line with Coastal Act policies, especially projects along the rail corridor. Ms. Moriconi requested that agencies submit any additional comments to her by January 28, 2019.

9. Highway 9/San Lorenzo Valley (SLV) Complete Streets Corridor Plan Outreach

Brianna Goodman provided an overview of the Draft Highway 9/San Lorenzo Valley Complete Streets Corridor Plan and public outreach plan. She encouraged ITAC members to review the draft plan, attend informational open houses, and provide input on the draft plan through an online survey or via email by February 15, 2019. Piet Canin suggested that bike and pedestrian access to schools in Felton be the highest priority and asked if sharrows could be added on sections of Highway 9 where there is insufficient space for bicycle lanes or standard shoulders. Kelly McClendon and Steve Wiesner discussed options for sharrows, implementation and maintenance.

10. Caltrans Draft Corridor Planning Guidebook

Kelly McClendon reported on the draft Caltrans Corridor Planning Guidebook. It serves as guidance on the process and policies for developing corridor plans, linking state and regional plans, and serves as framework for implementation of multimodal projects. While the prior Transportation Concept Reports (TCR) focused on existing conditions, the corridor plans are focused on being actionable, link to projects in the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) and help identify projects for future SB1 grants. Comments on the draft plan are due to CaltransCorridorPlanning@dot.ca.gov by February 5, 2019.

11. Transportation Funding Updates

ITAC members discussed the CTC staff recommendations for [Active Transportation Program \(ATP\)](#) grants, expressing concerns that only one project in Santa Cruz County was recommended for funding. Cycle 9 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant awards were announced in December. Gus Alfaro reported that applications for federal INFRA grants are due March 4.

12. Unified Corridor Investment Study Update

ITAC members received copies of the staff recommended Unified Corridor Study preferred scenario. Staff reported that the RTC approved a preferred scenario at its January 17, 2019 meeting.

13. Meeting Guy Preston, RTC Executive Director – *tabled to future meeting*

14. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Rachel Moriconi, RTC Planner

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