



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

MINUTES

Thursday, April 18, 2019, 1:00 p.m.
SCCRTC Conference Room
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA

ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Gus Alfaro, Caltrans District 5 Planning
Tim Bailey, County Public Works
Piet Canin, Ecology Action
Claire Fliesler (Chair), Santa Cruz Planning and Public Works proxy
Maria Esther Rodriguez, Watsonville Public Works and Planning proxy
Paul Hierling, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)
Kimarie Jones, Scotts Valley Public Works
Kailash Mozumder (Vice Chair), Capitola Public Works and Planning proxy
Pete Rasmussen, Santa Cruz METRO
Stephanie Hansen, County Planning

RTC Staff Present: Sarah Christensen, Grace Blakeslee, Rachel Moriconi, Guy Preston

Others Present: Lee Otter, California Coastal Commission; Sean Vienna, AMBAG

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Fliesler called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.
- 2. Introductions:** Self introductions were made.
- 3. Oral Communications:** Rachel Moriconi reminded members that the committee approved Claire Fliesler and Kailash Mozumder as the new committee Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Gus Alfaro distributed announcements about various state and federal Department of Transportation programs, including Cal FIRE funding for forest management, FTA Capital Investment Grants Program and FTA programs to prevent human trafficking, the California Highway Safety Plan, work zone safety, and cap-and-trade programs.
- 4. Additions, deletions, or changes to consent and regular agendas:** A handout "*Recommended Guidelines to Protect the Safety of Bicyclists and Pedestrians, including those with Disabilities During Road Construction, Maintenance or Encroachment*" was provided for Item 9.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 5. Approved Minutes of the March 21, 2019 ITAC meeting**
- 6. Accepted status report on Measure revenues and distribution**
- 7. Received Caltrans Project Updates**

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Status of Ongoing Transportation Projects

Capitola – Kailash Mozumder reported that the city will be going out to bid for construction of the Brommer St. complete streets infill project (38th Ave to 41st Ave) and Park Avenue sidewalk project.

County Planning – Stephanie Hansen announced that the County awarded a contract to update the countywide travel model to be used for General Plan and code updates. The County is releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

County Public Works – Tim Bailey reported that the County is paving Blue Ridge Drive next week. Other construction projects this spring include: Eureka Canyon Road PM 0.36 storm damage repairs, HSIP-funded guardrail and striping projects, Measure D-funded roadway repairs, and Soquel Village sanitation line replacement.

RTC – RTC staff reported that Anais Schenk will be working for the County of Santa Cruz Planning Department. Sarah Christensen reported that RTC is holding a meeting with local jurisdictions and other stakeholders about possible Highway 1: Soquel-41st Ave Auxiliary Lane project aesthetic treatments for bridges, retaining walls, sound walls, etc.

Scotts Valley – Kimarie Jones reported that the city is working on closing out the Kings Village Road sidewalks, Green Hills Road bicycle and roadway rehab, and Mt. Hermon Rd./Scotts Valley Dr. intersection projects. The Glenwood Preserve trails project is expected to start construction soon.

Ecology Action – Piet Canin reminded members that May is Bike Month, with Bike to Work/School Day on May 9.

Santa Cruz – Claire Fliesler reported that construction continues on Cedar Street and the San Lorenzo River bicycle/pedestrian trestle. The city also approved an additional 100 Jump bikes; each bike is ridden an average of five trips per day and over 2 miles. HSIP- and ATP-funded school crossing projects are in design. The Bay Street Sidewalk and Bay/King Street protected left turn projects are almost done. The environmental document for Segment 7, phase 2 of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST) is being considered for certification 4/18/19.

Coastal Commission - Lee Otter reported that the Coastal Commission is interested in a potential new pedestrian undercrossing of Highway 1 on the northern end of Davenport.

9. Accessibility reminders for construction projects

Grace Blakeslee discussed challenges for people walking or biking through construction zones, especially those with disabilities. She requested that agencies provide training and remind contractor, maintenance and other construction crews about safety and access measures related to detours, signage, and pavement surface. She also requested that agencies seek input from people with disabilities and/or the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory

Committee (E&D TAC), especially when designing or upgrading intersections. She agreed to email the Community Traffic Safety Coalition's *"Recommended Guidelines to Protect the Safety of Bicyclists and Pedestrians, including those with Disabilities During Road Construction, Maintenance or Encroachment."*

10. Measure D: Draft 5-Year Program of Projects for Regional Projects

Rachel Moriconi presented and solicited input on the draft Measure D 5-year program of projects for regional investment categories/projects – Highway Corridors, Active Transportation/Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST), Rail, San Lorenzo Valley-Highway 9, and Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing. She highlighted updates from the 5-year plans that were approved in 2018.

In response to a question from Kailash Mozumder, staff clarified that the proposed County Rail Trail project for Segments 10-12 does not include the section of trail from Jade Street Park to Monterey Avenue in Capitola. Piet Canin requested that agencies implementing sections of the rail trail, design pavement where bicyclists may cross the tracks to maximize rideability and safety. He also expressed support for the Highway Corridors item to issue a call for projects for Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs that could provide commuter relief quickly. In response to a request from Claire Fliesler, staff agreed to share the template for the Measure D Fact Sheets with Measure D recipient agencies.

11. 2019 Public Participation Program

Sean Vienna, AMBAG, provided an update regarding the federally required update for the AMBAG Public Participation Plan (PPP), highlighting the timeline for the next update. It was noted that the PPP could also serve as the participation plan for RTC, METRO, and others. Grace Blakeslee requested that agencies share outreach strategies that have worked well and noted that the PPP could serve as a resource of outreach ideas.

12. Regional Transportation Improvement Program Development

Rachel Moriconi provided a summary of the proposed consolidated programming process and timeline for programming RTC-discretionary State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)/Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (RSTPX), Local Partnership Program (LPP), and Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds in 2019. She recommended that project sponsors begin preparing updated cost estimates and funding plan information for projects that were previously programmed for funds by the RTC, identify any additional funding needs and identify priority projects for RTC discretionary funds. She noted that the RTC has committed to backfill \$6.4 million in funds to Watsonville's bike/ped bridge over Highway 1 at Harkins Slough Rd if the project is not awarded Active Transportation Program (ATP) or other grant funds. Tim Bailey stated that County Public Works staff is still interested in some STBG/RSTPX funds being distributed by formula. Claire Fliesler stated support for a consolidated application process. Maria Esther Rodriguez noted the RTC process seems fair and expressed appreciation for the RTC's continued support for the Harkins Slough project. Piet Canin stated that Ecology Action supports the staff recommended process and the importance of education and outreach programs to complement infrastructure projects.

13. Transportation Funding Updates

SB1 Programs: Local jurisdictions confirmed that they will meet the CTC's May 1 deadline to submit project lists for local street and road formula funds and that agencies are preparing their Measure D 5-year plan updates. A local workshop on the Active Transportation Program (ATP) will be held at the RTC office on May 1 at 2:00 p.m. for agencies planning to apply for funds in the future. Santa Cruz and Capitola staff stated that they are likely to apply for AB2766 Air District grants. Several agencies may seek Proposition 68 park grants for new trails and rehabilitation of existing trails. Federal BUILD grant applications are due July 15, 2019.

14. The next meeting was rescheduled to May 23, 2019, one week later than the typical meeting date.

The meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Rachel Moriconi, RTC Planner

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