1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present:

Jacques Bertrand
Ed Bottorff
Sandy Brown
Greg Caput
Trina Coffman-Gomez
Aurelio Gonzalez
Randy Johnson

Bruce McPherson
Patrick Mulhearn (alt.)
Mike Rotkin
Andy Schiffrin (alt.)
Aileen Loe (ex-officio)

Staff present:

Sarah Christensen
Cory Caletti
Rachel Moriconi
Shannon Munz

Tracy New
Yesenia Parra
Guy Preston

Per the request of Chair Bottorff, the RTC held a moment of silence in honor of those who served or died on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

2. Oral communications

Public Comment received from:
Brian Peoples

Commissioner Johnson joined the meeting.

3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

Handout for Item 11 and 25, replacement pages for Items 17 and 26, and handout for Item 23.
Guy Preston, Executive Director, informed the RTC that staff and legal counsel recommended the addition of a closed session item relating to anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9b, 2 cases. Mr. Preston stated that there is a need to take immediate action to consider an offer of settlement which came to the attention of the Commission on June 5, 2019, subsequent to the June 6, 2019 RTC meeting agenda being posted because of the statue of limitation relating to one of the anticipated causes of action which would expire prior to the Commission’s next regular meeting.

The vote is to determine that there is a need to take an immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the agency subsequent to the agenda being posted.

Commissioner Rotkin moved and Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin seconded the motion to accept the late addition of a closed session item to the meeting agenda and that the need for action came to the attention of the agency after the meeting agenda was posted. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bertrand, Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, Johnson, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn and Schiffrin voting “aye.”

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin moved and Commissioner Rotkin seconded the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bertrand, Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, Johnson, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn and Schiffrin voting “aye.”

MINUTES

4. Approved minutes of the March 25, 2019 Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee meeting

5. Approved draft minutes of the April 8, 2019 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting

6. Approved draft minutes of the May 2, 2019 Regional Transportation Commission meeting

7. Accepted draft minutes of the May 13, 2019 Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee meeting

POLICY ITEMS

8. Approved RTC Procurement Policies (Resolutions 32-19, 33-19)

PROJECTS and PLANNING ITEMS

9. Approved California Highway Patrol (CHP) Statewide SAFE Call Box Coordination Contract (Resolution 34-19)
10. Approved On-Call Real Property Service for Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line Right-of-Way (Resolution 35-19)
11. Approved Highway 1 Bus on Shoulder Implementation (Resolution 36-19)

BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES ITEMS

12. Approved Fiscal Year 2019-20 Work Program (Resolution 37-19)
13. Accepted status report on Transportation Development Act (TDA) revenues
14. Accepted status report on Measure D revenues and distribution

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

15. Approved the Bicycle Advisory Committee membership appointments
16. Approved Lease Agreement with Humble Sea Brewing Company (Resolution 38-19)
17. Approved Agreement for Financial Advisory Services (Resolution 39-19)

INFORMATION/OTHER ITEMS

18. Accepted monthly meeting schedule
19. Accepted correspondence log
20. Accepted letters from RTC committees and staff to other agencies
   a. Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission regarding Senate Bill 1376 Implementation from Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner
21. Accepted information items - none

REGULAR AGENDA

22. Commissioner reports on RTC related items – oral reports

   Commissioners reported: That time is needed to complete a diligent study for the best options for the rail corridor; discussed the potential repercussions of the 2019 Disaster Relief Bill, particularly as it relates to Federal Highway Assistance fund extensions; directed staff to provide information on the potential impacts of the 2019 Disaster Relief Bill and to provide recommendation for action on this matter.

23. Director’s Report – oral report

   Guy Preston, Executive Director, presented his report (available on the RTC’s website: https://sccrtc.org/meetings/commission/agendas/). Mr. Preston also
reported to the Commission that he and Ginger Dykaar, Senior Transportation Planner, will attend the 2019 Rail~Volution Conference in Vancouver, Canada in September.

Commissioner comments: Appreciation for County Counsel Brooke Miller’s efforts and valuable work for the Commission and wished her well in her future endeavors.

Public Comment received from:
Brian Peoples

24. Caltrans report

Chair Bottorff moved the item to follow Item 25.

25. 9:30 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING: Measure D: Five-Year Programs of Projects for Regional Projects and Community Bridges Lift Line

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the staff report and responded to Commissioner questions.

Commissioners discussed: Relationship between the RTC and Community Bridges in providing services; inquiries regarding potential encroachment issues regarding Highway 1 expansion; Capitola Bridge Rail Trestle analysis report; Measure D fund distribution and how the site-generated portion is managed; Cruz511 effectiveness and incentives to promote commuting solutions; need to use Measure D funds for congestion relief; fund allocation to District 5; need for road repairs; funding for Segment 18 of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (MBSST); Transportation Agency for Monterey County’s safe routes to schools pop-up projects and community outreach; bicycle or pedestrian bridge inclusion in the Capitola Rail Trestle Bridge study.

Chair Bottorff opened the public hearing at 9:28 a.m.

Public Comment received from:
David Van Brink
Peter Stanger
Janet Edwards
Judith Hoelscher
Cathy Marino
Murray Fontes
Gina Cole
Brian Peoples
Tom Nord
Lowell Hurst

Closed public hearing at 10:35 a.m.

Commissioner comments: The need for interagency collaboration to improve safety and pedestrian access on routes to schools; 5-year program of projects is representative of previous RTC determinations of high-priority projects; collaboration with the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to improve community and quality of life for South County residents; appreciation for voters who helped pass Measure D; Measure D formula; Measure D funding for regional transportation needs; appreciation for staff for providing clear information on fund allocation; need to find funding and move forward with Segment 18; lauded Boulder Creek residents for mobilizing for improved safety on Highway 236; Measure D was based on collaboration and the imperative need for collaboration between regional agencies.

Commissioner alternate Schiffrin moved and Commissioner Rotkin seconded the staff recommendation to:

1. Approve the five-year programs of projects for Measure D regional investment categories and projects;
2. Amend the Fiscal Year 2019/20 RTC budget to reflect the approved Measure D “5-year programs of projects”; and
3. Direct staff to use Measure D funds to leverage other grants and to enter into agreements with implementing agencies, as may be necessary to implement projects allocated funds in the Measure D 5-year programs of projects and ensure requirements of the Measure D Ordinance are met.

The motion carried with Commissioners Bertrand, Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn and Schiffrin voting “aye.” And Commissioner Johnson voting “no.”

24. Caltrans report

Aileen Loe, District 5 Deputy Director, gave the Caltrans report and responded to Commissioner questions.

Commissioners discussed: Highway 152 project; parking issues on Highway 1 in Davenport; funds for a traffic signal project at the Highway 1 crossing in Davenport; information on the Watsonville Downtown highway corridor project.
26. Transportation Funding Updates and Priority Projects

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the staff report and responded to Commissioner questions.

Commissioner discussion: Methodology behind the discretionary fund distribution; need for interagency discussion to develop a joint recommendation; Surface Transportation Block Grant program (STGB) funding; need for local streets and roads funding; and Measure D and Senate Bill 1 funds provide stability to fund regional transportation project.

Commissioner Alternate Mulhearn moved and Commissioner Bertrand seconded a motion to:

1. Apportion Surface Transportation Block Grant Program/Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (STBG/RSTPX) funds in a fair and equitable manner to the cities and county by formula. Henceforth those funds would no longer be considered discretionary by the RTC;
2. A committee composed of the city managers and the County Administrative Officer or their delegates shall be formed to establish this formula and to develop a policy that gives maximum flexibility to the cities and county for the use of the STBG/RSTPX funds;
3. That the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee will be delegated responsibility for developing the methodology for the distribution of the remainder of the discretionary funds.

Commissioners requested input from Chris Schneiter, City of Santa Cruz Public Works Assistant Director, Murray Fontes, City of Watsonville Public Works Principle Engineer, Steve Wiesner, County of Santa Cruz Public Works Assistant Director, and Barrow Emerson, Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District Planning and Development Director.

Commissioners discussed: Need to discuss which method would be the most effective to leverage funds; funding is needed for major arteries; need to discuss where the funding priorities lie; importance of local agencies to be responsive to local needs; funding will become increasingly more difficult to acquire; transportation funds need to be flexible to address everyday needs; County of Santa Cruz is in a funding crisis to address needs of roads that were impacted by the winter storms in 2016-17; transit district is imperative to improve mobility and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and there is less transit now than in the past

Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin moved a substitute motion and Commissioner Brown seconded the substitute motion to approve the staff
recommendation to:

1. Direct staff to continue to meet with its stakeholders for input and return to the RTC in August or September with a proposed process and timeline for programming the RTC’s discretionary funds; and

2. With the added direction that the Commission’s intention is support the distribution of the RSTP/STBG funds by a formula basis to the local jurisdictions for the current round of funding.

The motion passed with Commissioners Bertrand, Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Gonzalez, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin voting “aye”, and Commissioners Coffman-Gomez, Johnson, McPherson, and Commissioner Alternate Mulhearn voting “no.”

*Commissioner Johnson left the meeting.*

Commissioner Rotkin moved and Commissioner Gonzalez seconded a motion to accept the staff recommended priority regional projects list. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bertrand, Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn and Schiffrin voting “aye.”

*Commissioner Caput left the meeting.*

27. Highway 1 Bay-Porter/State Park Auxiliary Lanes Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans and Consultant Contract with Mark Thomas and Company, Inc.

Sarah Christensen, Senior Transportation Engineer, presented the staff report and responded to Commissioner questions.

Commissioners discussed: Bidding requirement for local hiring in going to the state for Request for Proposals; ability to provide a local preference; importance of the bus on shoulder element; and Caltrans approval of the scope of work.

Commissioner Rotkin moved and Commissioner Coffman-Gomez seconded the motion to approve the staff recommendation to:

1. Approve the **Resolution (40-19)** authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans contingent on RTC Legal Counsel review, for the environmental phase of the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes Project between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive, with the RTC as the implementing agency
and Caltrans responsible for oversight.

2. Approve the **Resolution (41-19)** authorizing a professional engineering services contract with Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. for the environmental phase of the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes Project between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive.

The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bertrand, Bottorff, Brown, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn and Schiffrin voting “aye.”

28. Fiscal Years (FY) 2016/17 and 2017/18 Measure D Annual Report

Shannon Munz, Communications Specialist, presented the staff report.

Commissioner Rotkin moved and Commissioner McPherson seconded the staff recommendation to receive the Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee report to the public regarding Fiscal Years 2016/17 and 2017/18 expenditures and audits. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bertrand, Bottorff, Brown, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn and Schiffrin voting “aye.”

29. Preview of item to be discussed in closed session

Guy Preston, Executive Director, informed the RTC that the closed session item relates to anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9b, 2 cases.

No report is expected.

Adjourned for closed session at 12:44 p.m.

30. Next meetings

A special RTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the City of Santa Cruz Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

**There will be no meetings in July.**

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 1, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers, 1 Civic Drive, Scotts Valley, CA.

The next Transportation Policy Workshop meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the RTC Offices, Santa Cruz, CA.

The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Fernanda Dias Pini, staff

Attendees:

Heather Adamson AMBAG
Kirk Ance Lift Line/Community Bridges
Jessica Cassidy MBEP
Gina Cole Bike Santa Cruz County
Janet Edwards Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee
Murray Fontes City of Watsonville
Judith Hoelscher Santa Cruz County Resident
Lowell Hurst City of Watsonville
Tom Nord Hwy 236/Boulder Creek Country Club
Panagos Pateras J/E Properties
Brian Peoples Trail Now
Peter Stanger Santa Cruz County Resident
Steve Wiesner County Public Works