



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission**

MINUTES

**Thursday, June 27, 2019
9:00 a.m.**

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members present:

Ed Bottorff
Sandy Brown
Greg Caput
Trina Coffman-Gomez
Ryan Coonerty
Aurelio Gonzalez

Jack Dilles (alt.)
John Leopold
Bruce McPherson
Patrick Mulhearn (alt.)
Mike Rotkin
John Olejnik (ex-officio)

Staff present:

Sarah Christensen
Fernanda Dias Pini
Ginger Dykaar
Brianna Goodman
Luis Mendez

Joanna Edmonds
Rachel Moriconi
Shannon Munz
Yesenia Parra
Guy Preston

2. Oral communications

Public comments received from:

Rebecca Downing
Michael Saint
Justin Acton

Kristin Praly
Tim Onstad
Keith Otto

Commissioners Coffman-Gomez and Gonzalez joined the meeting.

3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

Handouts for Items 17 and 18.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Rotkin moved and Commissioner Brown seconded the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, Coonerty, Gonzalez, Leopold, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles and Mulhearn voting "aye."

Public comments received from:

Keith Otto

MINUTES

4. Approved draft minutes of the June 06, 2019 Regional Transportation Commission meeting

POLICY ITEMS

5. Accepted Draft 2019 RTC Public Participation Plan

PROJECTS and PLANNING ITEMS

6. Approved Scotts Creek Lagoon and Marsh Restoration Grant Award
(Resolution 42-19)
7. Approved Storm Damage Repairs - Bowman & Williams, Inc. Contract Renewal
(Resolution 43-19)

BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES ITEMS

8. Accepted Fiscal Year 2019/20 Budget Amendment for Staffing **(Resolution 44-19)**

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

9. Accepted appointments to the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee
10. Accepted appointments to the Bicycle Advisory Committee

INFORMATION/OTHER ITEMS

11. Accept letters from RTC committees and staff to other agencies – *none*
12. Accept information items - *none*

REGULAR AGENDA

13. Commissioner reports – oral reports

Commissioners reported that funding options are being explored to expedite the Lee Road project.

14. Director's Report – oral report

Guy Preston, Executive Director, reported on the on-going progress of the countywide bike signage project, and that RTC staff met with Public Work Directors of the County of Santa Cruz and the Cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, and Watsonville to discuss RTC discretionary funds programming and potential formula distribution of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program/Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange funds.

Commissioners comments: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) funding sources; and need for continued discussions with stakeholders regarding distribution of RTC discretionary funds.

15. Caltrans report

John Olejnik, District 5 Senior Transportation Planner, reported that construction season has started and asked that drivers be especially aware and cautious around work zones. Mr. Olejnik stated that Caltrans is taking new measures to improve the safety of workers.

16. Measure D Implementation Plan and Potential Financing Options Presentation

Guy Preston, Executive Director, introduced KNN Public Financing Consultants, David Leifer and Melissa Schick, who gave a presentation on the development of the inaugural Measure D Strategic Implementation Plan and funding and borrowing options for Measure D projects and programs.

Commissioners discussed: Processes and considerations related to pursuing bonding from a sales-tax measure; administrative and operational costs of bonding; option for jurisdictions to bond against local shares; leveraging Measure D funds to accelerate project delivery and as a safeguard to the instability of federal and state funding sources; reserve and debt policy; difference between regional and local bonds; competitive bonding strategies; need to take advantage of currently favorable financial environment and move quickly to access funds to deliver projects; and the importance of being shovel ready and fiscally responsible.

17. Highway 9/ San Lorenzo Valley Complete Streets Corridor Plan

Commissioner McPherson summarized the work of this plan noting that the plan is a result of a long-term cooperative effort between the RTC, Caltrans, local agencies, community groups, and residents, and that it prioritizes safety adjustments and climate event preparedness.

Brianna Goodman, Transportation Planner, presented the staff report on the final Highway 9/San Lorenzo Valley Complete Streets Corridor Plan.

Public comments received from:

Victor Quiroz
Joni Martin
Kelly Howard
Brian Largay
Ross Hitchen
Shay Recler

Donna Ziel
Audrey Johnson
Gabrielle Brick
Christopher Holmes
Jim Helmer
Tom Fredericks

Commissioners discussed: That addressing traffic issues around the school campus is key to relieving congestion on Highway 9; and request that Caltrans provide the RTC frequent progress updates of near-term safety modifications along Highway 9.

Commissioner McPherson moved and Commissioner Coffman-Gomez seconded the staff recommendation to:

1. Receive the final Highway 9/San Lorenzo Valley Complete Streets Corridor Plan (SR9/SLV Plan), inclusive of any modifications requested by the board;
2. Submit the plan to Caltrans and County of Santa Cruz for consideration;
3. Encourage continued partnerships with Caltrans and the County of Santa Cruz to implement near term maintenance and safety projects, to integrate project components into forthcoming projects where feasible, to secure funding for priority projects in the corridor, and to integrate the SR9/SLV Plan into other active transportation and other planning documents as appropriate; and
4. Authorize RTC staff to negotiate funding and cooperative agreements with Caltrans and the County of Santa Cruz as may be necessary to facilitate implementation of priority projects identified in the plan and recommend future action by the Commission.

The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, Coonerty, Gonzalez, Leopold, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles and Mulhearn voting "aye."

18. Alternatives Analysis for High Capacity Public Transit on the Rail Right-of-Way
– Scope of Work for Request for Proposals

Ginger Dykaar, Senior Transportation Planner, presented the staff report on the draft scope of work for the Alternatives Analysis for High-Capacity Public Transit on the Rail Right-of-Way.

Commissioner comments: The scope of work needs to include the triple-bottom line analysis, and include an economic analysis that is representative of disadvantaged communities and all county residents.

Public comments received from:

Brett Garrett

Robert Arco

Dianne Dryer

Jessica Evans

David Van Brink

Saladin Sale

Casey Beyer

Mark Mesiti-Miller

Keith Otto

Commissioners discussed: Inclusion of non-rail alternatives and any potential legal ramifications from a non-rail option; extensive analysis of available funding sources; and inclusion of political metrics in the analysis;.

Commissioner Leopold moved and Commissioner Coonerty seconded a motion to direct RTC staff to incorporate input received at this meeting in a revised scope of work and return to the Commission in August for further discussion. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, Coonerty, Gonzalez, Leopold, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles and Mulhearn voting "aye."

Commissioner Coonerty left the meeting.

19. Federal Legislative Update from RTC Federal Assistant

Chris Giglio, RTC Federal Assistant, gave a legislative update on federal items and activities in 2019 of interest to the RTC.

Commissioner comments: How potential changes to federal legislation could have detrimental impact to Santa Cruz County, especially in addressing damages incurred during the 2017 Winter Storms.

Commissioner Leopold left the meeting.

20. Capitola Trestle Feasibility Study Update

Sarah Christensen, Senior Transportation Engineer, presented the staff recommendation to shift funding allocation of the Capitola Trestle Feasibility Study from Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/20 to 2020/21.

Commissioner comments: The historical value of the trestle should be evaluated and addressed in the study.

Commissioner Rotkin moved and Commissioner Gonzalez seconded the staff recommendation that the Measure D 5-year plan be modified and shift the \$50,000 allocated for the Capitola Trestle feasibility study from Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/20 to 2020/21 to line up with the completion of the Alternative Analysis for High-Capacity Public Transit on the Right-of-Way.

The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bottorff, Brown, Caput, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, McPherson, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles and Mulhearn voting "aye."

Public comments received from:

Keith Otto

21. Next meetings

No meetings in July.

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

The next Transportation Policy Workshop meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.

Meeting adjourned at 1:27p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fernanda Dias Pini

Attendees:

Audrey Johnson	Felton/Hwy 9
Brett Garrett	Santa Cruz PRT
Brian Largay	
Casey Beyer	
Christopher Holmes	
David Van Brink	
Dianne Dryer	
Donna Ziel	Hwy 9
Fred Nielsen	Felton
Gabrielle Brick	Felton/SLV

Gina Cole	Bike Santa Cruz County
Gine Johnson	County of Santa Cruz
Heather Adamson	AMBAG
Jessica Evans	Santa Cruz
Jim Helmer	Ben Lomond
Joni Martin	Felton
Justin Acton	Boulder Creek
Keith Otto	Santa Cruz County
Kelly Howard	Hwy 9 Corridor
Kristin Praly	Ben Lomond
Leah Samuels	Felton
Mark Mesiti-Miller	
Martha Dable	MNS Engineering
Michael Saint	CFST
Rebecca Downing	
Rebecca Sheen	La Selva Area
Robert Arco	
Ross Hitchen	Hwy 9 Corridor
Saladin Sale	Santa Cruz
Sebastien Praly	Ben Lomond
Shay Reckler	
Tim Onstad	La Selva Area
Tom Fredericks	
Victor Quiroz	Felton