



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission**

MINUTES

Thursday, August 01, 2019

9:00 a.m.

**City of Scotts Valley Council Chambers
1 Civic Center Drive
Scotts Valley, CA**

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Members present:

Aileen Loe (ex-officio)
Jacques Bertrand
Virginia Johnson (alt.)
Andy Schiffrin (alt.)
Ed Bottorff
Randy Johnson

John Leopold
Patrick Mulhearn (alt.)
Mike Rotkin
Sandy Brown
Greg Caput
Trina Coffman-Gomez

Staff present:

Luis Mendez
Yesenia Parra
Ginger Dykaar
Amy Naranjo
Yolanda Gomez

Sarah Christensen
Joanna Edmonds
Tracy New
Shannon Munz

2. Oral communications

Public comments received from:

Michael Saint
Sally Arnold

Rebecca Downing
Jennifer Lake

3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

Replacement pages for items 9 and 19, and handout for item 17.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin moved and Commissioner Bertrand seconded the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bertrand, R. Johnson, Coffman-Gomez, Caput, Leopold, Brown, Bottorff, Rotkin and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn, Schiffrin and V. Johnson voting "aye".

MINUTES

4. Accepted draft minutes of the June 10, 2019 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
5. Accepted draft minutes of the June 11, 2019 Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee
6. Approved draft minutes of the June 27, 2019 Regional Transportation Commission special meeting

POLICY ITEMS

No consent items

PROJECTS and PLANNING ITEMS

7. Approved letter of support for the Appeal of Permits for Rail Trail Phase II of Segment 7 in the City of Santa Cruz

BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES ITEMS

8. Accepted status report on Transportation Development Act (TDA) revenues
9. Accepted Measure D revenues and distribution
10. Approved FY 2018-19 budget amendments (**Resolution 46-19**)

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

No consent items

INFORMATION/OTHER ITEMS

11. Accepted monthly meeting schedule
12. Accepted correspondence log
13. Accepted letters from committees and staff to other agencies
 - a. Letter to Steve Palmisano, Public Works Director, City of Watsonville from the Bicycle Advisory Committee regarding support for the Preferred Alternative in the Downtown Complete Streets Plan

14. Accept information items – *non*

REGULAR AGENDA

15. Commissioner reports – oral reports

Commissioners thanked the RTC for support on projects in Scotts Valley and extended an invitation to the Strawberry Festival in Watsonville.

16. Director's Report – oral report

Luis Mendez, Deputy Director, reported on: City of Santa Cruz's progress on the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail segments in the city limits and the current lawsuit filed against them which also named the RTC; Work done by Caltrans to address some concerns outlined in the Hwy 9 Corridor implementation Plan; RTC's continued community engagement activities; the need to fill vacancies on the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee; and that the RTC Executive Director had a bicycle accident over the weekend but is doing OK.

Commissioner Schiffrin moved and Commissioner Rotkin seconded to direct staff to send a get well card to Executive Director Guy Preston and wish him a speedy recovery.

17. **9:30 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING:** Draft 2019 Public Participation Plan

Shannon Munz, Communications Specialist, presented the Draft 2019 Public Participation Plan. Ms. Munz noted that if the plan is adopted, it would meet all federal and state requirements and will be the official Public Participation Plan for the RTC through 2023.

Commissioners Comments and questions: the Santa Cruz METRO section on METRO Advisory Committee (MAC) needs updating; language assistance and other accommodations are provided as needed after requested using the process outlined on RTC meeting agendas; Watsonville residents must be engaged and outreach should be multi-lingual; Community workshops are not affective in Watsonville so advisory groups must include Watsonville representatives; what lessons were learned from previous plans and were those incorporated in this plan. Staff noted that committee members were engaged, the 7 guiding principals were incorporated as well as complying with the FAST Act. The comment period was extended from 45 days to close to 90 days. Email blasts were sent to stakeholders and announcements have been made throughout several meetings. The item will return to the October RTC meeting for approval.

Chair Bottorff opened the Public Hearing at 9:41

Public comments received from:
Heather Adamson

Sally Arnold
Michael Saint

Public Hearing was closed at 9:47

18. Caltrans report

Aileen Loe, District 5 Deputy Director, noted that Bob Franzoia has been appointed as Acting Director for Caltrans in Sacramento. Ms. Loe noted that the collaboration with RTC on the Highway 9 cooperative agreement was greatly appreciated and would help move projects along the Hwy 9 corridor. Ms. Loe said that the Caltrans HWY 9 interdisciplinary team is looking for all possible improvements on the corridor.

Commissioner discussed: appreciation to Caltrans and RTC staff for coming up with short and long term plans for the HWY 9 Corridor and for being responsive. Commissioners also discussed the impacts of the Federal Highway funding withholding to several counties in California. Commissioners requested the construction timeline for the Hwy 1/17 ramp safety improvement project.

19. Alternative Analysis 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. She noted that the RFP would be release on August 5th with a proposal deadline of September 2, 2019. Staff will provide consultant recommendations to the Commission at their October 3rd meeting. The final Alternative Analysis Report will be ready by January 2021.

Commissioner comments: appreciation to staff for including all pieces; sufficiency of currently allocated funding; forming an ad-hoc committee and ensuring Watsonville is represented. Commissioners noted request from the community to ensure the document is easily readable, for example, not smaller than 12 point.

Public comments received from:

Sally Arnold
Michael Saint

Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin motioned and Commissioner Leopold seconded to direct Chair Bottorff to consult with staff of the METRO and RTC and return with a proposed ad hoc committee to oversee the process. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Bertrand, Brown, R. Johnson, Rotkin, Bottorff, Coffman-Gomez, Leopold, Caput, and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn, Schiffrin and V. Johnson voting "aye".

20. Cruz511 Program Update

Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner, gave a Cruz511 Program Update and responded to Commissioner questions.

Commissioners discussed: electric vehicles (EV) and EV charging stations; difficulty of securing park and ride lots; Partnering with Cabrillo College; funding for the program; a letter to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) encouraging the agency to participate with Ride Amigos.

Commissioner Leopold motioned and Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin seconded to direct the RTC Chair to write a letter to MTC to encourage use of Ride Amigos. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioner Leopold, Bertrand, Caput, Brown, R. Johnson, Rotkin, Bottorff, Coffman-Gomez, Commissioners Alternate Schiffrin, Mulhearn, and V. Johnson voting "aye".

21. Legal Services Contract

Commissioners thanked County Counsel for their many years of service to the RTC and welcomed Meyers Nave to the team. Steve Mattes from Myers Nave noted that their office offers the full spectrum of services and that the team is looking forward to working with the RTC.

Commissioner Leopold moved and Commissioner Schiffrin seconded staff recommendation to approve **Resolution (47-19)** authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a legal services contract with the firm Meyers, Nave, Ritback, Silver and Wilson, PLC.

The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Coffman-Gomez, Leopold, Bottorff, Bertrand, Brown, R. Johnson, Rotkin, Caput, Commissioners Alternate Schiffrin, Mulhearn, and V. Johnson voting "aye".

22. Review of items to be discussed in closed session- no closed session was held.

CLOSED SESSION

Closed session item was canceled

23. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One Case

OPEN SESSION

24. Report on closed session-no report

25. Next meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the County Board of Supervisor, 701 Ocean Street 5th floor.

The next Transportation Policy Workshop meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Watsonville City Council Chambers 275 Main Street, Suite 400.

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yesenia Parra

Attendees:

Heather Adamson	AMBAG
Mike Saint	Campaing for Sustainable Transportation (CFST)
Pete Rasmussen	Santa Cruz METRO
Rebecca Downing	Seacliff Improvement Association
Sally Arnold	Friends of the Rail and Trail (FORT)
Steven Mattas	Meyers, Nave, Riback, Silver and Wilson, PLC