



Coastal Rail Trail

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network

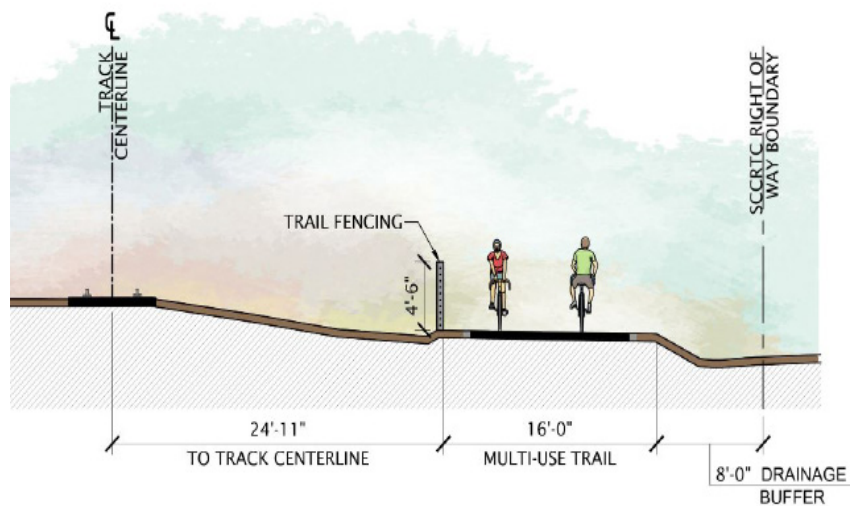
Project Description

The Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST) is a Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) proposed 50-mile bicycle and pedestrian trail project. The spine of the trail network will be the 32-mile Coastal Rail Trail from Davenport to Watsonville, to be built within or adjacent to the RTC-owned rail right-of-way. The remaining miles will be connecting paths, sidewalks, bike lanes, other roadway improvements or unpaved coastal spur trails.

The Coastal Rail Trail promises to be a highly valuable asset to the Santa Cruz County community for transportation, recreation, education, health, eco-tourism, coastal access, economic vitality, and other visitor-serving purposes. It will connect to neighborhoods, schools, parks, transit hubs, commercial and other activity centers. Eighteen miles of projects are in various stages of development and have been funded in full or in part. Project delivery includes completing design, engineering and environmental permitting, as well as receiving public input.

Approximately \$41M to date has been secured from state/federal grants, local jurisdictions, and private donations. Additionally, Measure D, the voter-approved transportation sales tax, will allocate approximately \$135M for the trail over 30 years.

Following extensive public outreach, the RTC prepared and adopted an award-winning Master Plan which provides initial cost estimates and concept designs. All local jurisdictions through which the trail will traverse have also adopted the Master Plan as a guide for implementation.



Project Highlights

- ▶ Half the county population, 92 parks and 44 schools are located within 1 mile of the rail line.
- ▶ Eighteen (18) miles of projects are under development.
- ▶ To date, approximately \$41M has been secured from state/federal grants, local jurisdictions, and private donations.
- ▶ Measure D will allocate approximately \$135M for the trail over 30 years.
- ▶ Construction of the first project began in 2019.



Coastal Rail Trail

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network



Status of Funded Rail Trail Projects

North Coast: Davenport to Wilder Ranch

- **Project Description:** 5.4 miles (fully funded) and 2.1 miles (partially funded) of the Coastal Rail Trail. Trail width estimated at 16 feet. The project will include parking lot improvements and restrooms at Panther/Yellowbank beach and Davenport, and a pedestrian crossing in Davenport.
- **Project Status:** Preconstruction activities are scheduled to be completed in fall 2021, and pending funding availability, could go to construction in 2022. The RTC applied for Federal Lands Access Program funds to fully fund the project.

City of Santa Cruz: Natural Bridges Drive to Pacific Avenue/Santa Cruz Wharf

- **Project Description:** 2.1 miles of the Coastal Rail Trail. Trail width 12-16 feet.
- **Project Status:** Phase 1 (Natural Bridges Drive to California Avenue) was completed in December 2020. Phase 2 (California Avenue to Pacific Avenue at the Wharf) is environmentally cleared and design is complete. It is fully funded and is scheduled for construction in spring 2022.

City of Santa Cruz/County of Santa Cruz: Boardwalk to 17th Avenue

- **Project Description:** 2.2 miles of the Coastal Rail Trail. Trail width estimated at 12 feet.
- **Project Status:** Phase 1 (widening of the San Lorenzo River Walkway at the Boardwalk) was completed in May 2019. Environmental, right of way, and design work is scheduled to be completed by 2023, and pending funding availability, could go to construction in 2024.

County of Santa Cruz/City of Capitola: 17th Avenue to State Park Drive

- **Project Description:** 4.7 miles of the Coastal Rail Trail. Trail width estimated at 12 feet. This project currently does not include the Capitola trestle.
- **Project Status:** Environmental, right of way, and design work is scheduled to be completed by 2023, and pending funding availability, could go to construction in 2024.

County of Santa Cruz: State Park Drive to Rio Del Mar Boulevard

- **Project Description:** 1.25 miles of the Coastal Rail Trail. Trail width estimated at 12 feet. This section is being advanced as part of the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus-on-Shoulder project from State Park Drive to Freedom Boulevard.
- **Project Status:** Environmental, right of way, and design work is scheduled to be completed by 2022, and pending funding availability, could go to construction in 2025.

City of Watsonville: Lee Road to Walker Street

- **Project Description:** 1.2 miles of the Coastal Rail Trail. Trail width estimated at 12 feet.
- **Project Status:** Phase 1 (Ohlone Parkway to the Watsonville Slough Trail Network trailhead) was completed in summer 2021. Pending funding availability, Phase 2 (Lee Road to Ohlone Parkway and Watsonville Slough trailhead to Walker Street) could go to construction in 2024.