



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
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Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) December 2, 2021 Meeting Highlights

Election of 2022 Chair and Vice Chair

The Commission RTC voted unanimously to select Commissioner Sandy Brown as chair and Commissioner Manu Koenig as vice chair of the commission for 2022.

Coastal Rail Trail Segment 5 – Phase 2 and Highway 1 Cotoni-Coast Dairies Overcrossing Shortlisted for Federal Funding

Executive Director Guy Preston announced that the RTC's North Coast Rail Trail Project- Phase 2 construction and a new Highway 1 Overcrossing at Yellowbank/Panther Beach to Cotoni-Coast Dairies National Monument preconstruction and construction funding has been shortlisted for a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant in the amount of \$10.65 million. Being on the shortlist means that the project is no longer competing against other projects for funding, but final award is contingent on the FLAP team's evaluation of the project's feasibility during the scoping process. Assuming this grant award is finalized, the full north coast rail trail segment from Wilder Ranch to Davenport would be fully funded, as well as an active transportation bridge over Highway 1 to the Cotoni-Coast Dairy Monument and its new trail system.

The Bureau of Land Management, as owner of Cotoni-Coast Dairies, is a key partner in the Highway 1 overcrossing project, and the Commission appreciates their support to obtain FLAP funding for this project. The RTC also appreciates both the Coastal Conservancy and the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County for their contributions to the North Coast Rail Trail funding plan.

Release of Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan

The Commission reviewed and provided input on the Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and authorized staff to release the plan for public review from December 2, 2021 to January 31, 2022. The RTP identifies transportation needs and priorities in Santa Cruz County over the next 25 years. It sets policy and a vision for the transportation system and estimates the amount of funding that will be available for planned transportation projects. The plan is an essential first step in securing funding from federal, state, and local sources. The RTP includes discussion of highways, local streets and roads, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit services, specialized transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities, airports, and goods movement. A public hearing to receive input from members of the public on the RTP is scheduled for the January 13, 2022 RTC

meeting. The Draft 2045 RTP is available for review at www.sccrtc.org/2045rtp and comments can be submitted by email to 2045rtp@sccrtc.org.

2021 Consolidated Grants and 2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program

Following consideration of public and advisory committee input, the Commission adopted the 2021 Consolidated Grant Program and 2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), approving County and city road, bike, and pedestrian projects to receive the region's anticipated formula share of certain state and federal funds. With a vote of 8-4, the commission directed staff to adjust funding amounts to add an additional \$2 million for County public works road resurfacing projects due to the poor condition of County roads. Projects approved for funding include pavement maintenance and roadway rehabilitation projects on local roads, new and upgraded bike and pedestrian facilities in Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, Watsonville, and on Soquel Avenue/Drive in the county (see full list [here](#)). Staff will make the adjustments based on Commission direction, and the final programming document will be provided to advisory committees and posted on the RTC website.

Upcoming RTC and Committee Meetings

Due to precautions associated with COVID-19 (coronavirus), **all RTC and committee meetings have been held by video conference**. On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 which continues the Brown Act waivers and allows the RTC to continue Commission and committee meetings in a virtual format. Beginning in January, the RTC will hold its commission meetings in a hybrid (virtual and in-person) format. Please check the RTC website [<https://sccrtc.org/meetings/calendar/>] or call 460-3200 to confirm meeting and video conference information for future meetings. Agendas are posted to the website at least 3 days before the meeting and will also include attendance information. Meetings may be canceled if there are no action items to be considered by the committee.

The RTC is committed to its compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) during this time of national emergency. Please contact the RTC at least 3 days in advance of a meeting if special accommodations are needed. If any document, webpage, meeting, or recording is inaccessible to you, kindly notify us at info@sccrtc.org or by calling 831-460-3200.

Regional Transportation Commission Meeting

Thursday, January 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Monday, December 13, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Interagency Technical Advisory Committee

Thursday, December 16, 2021, 1:30 p.m.

Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 1:30 p.m. (Special Meeting)

Public input on transportation issues is welcomed and encouraged. For more information, visit the SCCRTC website at www.sccrtc.org or call 460-3200. Some Regional Transportation Commission meetings are televised countywide by Community TV of Santa Cruz. Consult www.communitytv.org or call 831-425-8848 for schedule and station information.

