



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's  
**Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)**

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

**\*TELECONFERENCE AND VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING ONLY\***

**Zoom meeting link:**  
**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467167434>**  
**Meeting ID: 874 6716 7434**  
**Passcode: 304539**  
***Alternately participants may dial-in: 1-669-900-9128***  
***or iphone one-tap: +16699009128,,87467167434#***

*Due to precautions associated with COVID-19, and following current state law (AB361) regarding the Brown Act, the Committee meeting will be held by teleconference only. Members of the public can listen and participate in meetings over the phone and through the internet.*

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Oral communications

*The Committee will receive oral communications during this time on items not on today's agenda. Oral communications must be within the jurisdiction of the Committee and may be limited in time at the discretion of the Chair. Committee members will not take action or respond immediately to any oral communications, but may choose to follow up at a later time, either individually, or on a subsequent Committee agenda.*

4. Additions, deletions, or other changes to consent and regular agendas

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*All items appearing on the consent agenda are considered to be minor or non-controversial and will be acted upon in one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes an item be removed and discussed on the regular agenda. Members of the Committee may raise questions, seek clarification or add directions to Consent Agenda items without removing the item from the Consent Agenda as long as no other committee member objects to the change.*

5. Approve Minutes of the November 18, 2021 ITAC meeting
6. Receive RTC Meeting Highlights

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

7. Status of transportation projects, programs, studies and planning documents
  - a. Verbal updates from ITAC members on projects
  - b. Caltrans Announcements and Project Updates
8. Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
  - a. Staff Report, Amy Naranjo, RTC Transportation Planner
9. State and Federal Legislative and Funding Updates
  - a. Verbal updates, Rachel Moriconi
10. Next Meeting – The next ITAC meeting is scheduled for **1:00-2:00pm** on **January 20, 2021 and will be followed by a Monterey Bay Area Active Transportation Program (ATP)-Branch Workshop at 2:00pm.** The January meeting will be held virtually (zoom). ITAC meetings will be canceled if there are no action items to be brought before the committee.

Adjourn

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**HOW TO REACH US:** Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; phone: (831) 460-3200 / fax (831) 460-3215  
email: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org) / website: [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org)

**AGENDAS ONLINE:** To receive email notification when the Committee meeting agenda packets are posted on our website, please fill out the e-subscription form on the website:  
<https://sccrtc.org/about/esubscriptions/> or call (831) 460-3200.

**TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS:** This meeting is being held by teleconference in accordance with guidance for gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health and local health authorities. There is no option to attend this meeting in-person. The Governor's Emergency Declarations related to COVID-19 and [Governor's Executive Order N-29-20](#) allow local board and committee members and the public to participate and conduct meetings by teleconference and/or videoconference, in order to protect public health. Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency COVID resources are online at: [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus)

The RTC is committed to facilitating coordination among agencies and encourages members and interested parties to join the online meeting by clicking the meeting link provided above. If you are unable to participate by web or phone or if you need additional assistance to participate, please contact 831-460-3200 at least 3 days in advance of the meeting.

**Zoom Meeting Tips:** Meeting attendees are strongly encouraged to use the Zoom app for best reception. Prior to the meeting, participants can download the Zoom app at:  
<https://zoom.us/download>. A link to simplified instruction for the use of the Zoom app is:  
<https://blog.zoom.us/video-communications-best-practice-guide/>

**Remote Meeting Public Comments:** Due to current circumstances, there may be limited opportunities to provide verbal comments during the meeting. Persons who wish to provide comments during oral communications or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to [rmoriconi@sccrtc.org](mailto:rmoriconi@sccrtc.org) by 12:00 noon the day before the meeting. Members of the public participating by Zoom are instructed to be on mute during the proceedings and to speak only when public comment is allowed, after requesting and receiving recognition from the Chair.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:** The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. This meeting location is an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance in order to participate, please contact RTC staff at 460-3200 (CRS 800/735-2929) at least three working days in advance of this meeting to make arrangements. People with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those persons affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent-free.

**SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN/ TRANSLATION SERVICES:** Si gusta estar presente o participar en juntas de la Comisión Regional de Transporte del condado de Santa Cruz y necesita información o servicios de traducción al español por favor llame por lo menos con tres días laborables de anticipo al (831) 460-3200 para hacer los arreglos necesarios. (Spanish language translation is available on an as needed basis. Please make advance arrangements at least three days in advance by calling (831) 460-3200.)

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## **Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)**

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### **DRAFT MINUTES**

Thursday, November 18, 2021 1:30 p.m.  
Teleconference

*Due to precautions associated with COVID-19 (coronavirus), the meeting was held by videoconference, consistent with state laws and orders allowing legislative bodies to hold Brown Act meetings via teleconference.*

#### **ITAC Members Present**

Kailash Mozumder (Chair)	Capitola Public Works and Planning Proxy
Josh Spangrud	Santa Cruz Public Works
Claire Gallogly	Santa Cruz Planning
Athena Cheung	Scotts Valley Public Works
Murray Fontes	Watsonville Public Works
Justin Meek	Watsonville Community Development
Steve Wiesner	County of Santa Cruz Public Works
Anais Schenk	County of Santa Cruz Planning
Paul Hierling	Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
Malinda Gallaher	Caltrans District 5
John Uργο	Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
Wondimu Mengistu	Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
Piet Canin	Ecology Action-Transportation
Teresa Buika (Vice Chair)	University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC)
Alan Romero (Ex-Officio)	Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD)

#### **RTC Staff Present**

Rachel Moriconi, Guy Preston, Sarah Christensen

#### **Others Present**

Mark Dettle, Santa Cruz City Public Works; Casey Carlson, Russell Chen, Matt Machado, and Rob Tidmore, County of Santa Cruz Public Works; Oxo Slayer, UCSC Alternate  
Members of Public: Michael Pisano, Joni

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Kailash Mozumder called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.
- 2. Introductions:** Introductions were made. All attendees participated by teleconference.
- 3. Oral Communications:** None.

- 4. Additions, deletions, or changes to consent and regular agendas:**  
Chair Mozumder moved Item 9 ahead of Item 8.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 5. Approved Minutes of the September 23, 2021 ITAC meeting**  
**6. Received RTC Meeting Highlights**  
**7. Received Notice of SCCRTC online system for utility and right-of-entry on the rail corridor**

***The Committee approved a motion (Fontes/Gallogly) approving the consent agenda (15-0), with Wiesner, Mozumder (public works and planning proxy), Spangrud, Cheung, Gallogly, Fontes, Schenk, Meek, Urgo, Mengistu, Gallaher, Buika, Canin, and Hierling voting yes by roll call vote.***

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **9. 2021 Consolidated Grant Program – Preliminary Recommendations**

Rachel Moriconi, RTC, presented preliminary recommendations for programming \$10.7 million in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Surface Transportation Block Grant Program/ Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (STBG/RSTPX), Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA), and federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds and solicited input from the committee. For projects recommended for partial funding, Ms. Moriconi reported that implementing agencies have indicated that they would be able to reduce the scope of their projects and/or would utilize other funds to implement projects. She noted that the preliminary recommendation leaves \$500,000 available for programming to priorities identified by committees or the RTC board.

Matt Machado recommended \$0 be programmed to METRO, Lift Line, and Highway 1 projects and reduced funding for planning, programming, and monitoring (PPM) and that those funds instead be programmed to County resurfacing projects. Several members expressed support for the staff recommendation, recognizing funding is insufficient to fund all of the projects and the range of projects that are eligible for funding.

Steve Wiesner made a motion that the ITAC recommend the RTC program \$500,000 currently unallocated to Alba Road resurfacing, prior to considering the staff recommendation. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Murray Fontes/Claire Gallogly made a motion to support the staff recommendation. Piet Canin requested a friendly amendment to split the

\$500,000 balance between the Bike Challenge, San Andreas Road and Old San Jose-Soquel Drive resurfacing, consistent with the Bicycle Committee's recommendation. The amendment was not accepted by Fontes/Gallogly. Steve Wiesner requested a friendly amendment to program \$500,000 currently unallocated to Alba Road resurfacing, which was accepted by Fontes/Gallogly as part of the motion.

***The committee unanimously approved a motion (Fontes/Gallogly) recommending the RTC program funds to projects identified in the preliminary staff recommendation, plus \$500,000 for Alba Road resurfacing (12-0), with Wiesner, Mozumder (2), Cheung, Gallogly, Fontes, Schenk, Meek, Urgo, Mengistu, Buika, and Spangrud voting yes by roll call vote. Members Gallaher, Canin, and Hierling abstained.***

Guy Preston appreciated the committee for its input and unanimous recommendation, he noted that funding needs continue to exceed available funding, as demonstrated in the draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and he encouraged agencies to leverage other sources.

*2:40pm Members Mengistu and Urgo left the meeting.*

## **8. Status of transportation projects, programs, studies and planning documents**

Representatives from ITAC member agencies provided updates on projects, programs, studies and planning efforts.

Santa Cruz Public Works & Planning – Josh Spangrud reported that construction has restarted on the Highway 1/9 project. Construction will be starting for the San Lorenzo River levy path lighting project (Water St to Highway 1) and the West Cliff Drive storm damage repair project at Chico. Plans and specs are complete for the Chestnut Street project. Claire Gallogly reported the regional bikeshare program vendor is expected to be selected and to start in Spring/Summer 2022. Mark Dettle announced that Nathan Nguyen is the new Assistant Director and City Engineer.

Watsonville Public Works – Murray Fontes reported that construction on Airport Blvd. is expected to be completed by the end of the year. He noted that the city also applied for a Caltrans planning grant for a citywide Active Transportation Plan. He reported that completion of construction of pedestrian facilities on Lincoln St near Watsonville High School is delayed due to supply chain issues/delivery of materials, such as lights. Watsonville anticipates applying for Cycle 6 Active Transportation Program (ATP) funds the Lee Road trail project.

Watsonville Community Development – Justin Meeks reported they have been identifying bike share parking locations. City staff has been meeting with Caltrans to identify changes that could be made on SR152/Main St.

UCSC – Teresa Buika expressed excitement on progress on the bike share program. She noted traffic, parking numbers, and transit ridership is down and classes with over 150 students meeting online.

County of Santa Cruz Public Works – Steve Wiesner reported the Soquel Drive Buffered Bike Lanes and Congestion Mitigation Project is at about 65% design, with public meetings expected in January. Construction continues on the Soquel Adaptive Signal Project in Soquel Village. He noted the County is also awaiting delivery of materials, such as RRFBs, for several crosswalks. Half of 2016/17 storm damage repairs have been completed, but there are still over 90 locations left, with several locations in San Lorenzo Valley (SLV) under construction. Fire recovery – including new guardrails – is ongoing. Started construction of a new sidewalk and crosswalk near Rio Del Mar Elementary School. The County is gearing up to implement its 2022 Measure D program, including Buena Vista Dr. The County anticipates applying for an Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant for Green Valley and Holohan Road. Rob Tidmore reported that the County is soliciting input on the Notice of Preparation of an environmental impact report for Segments 10/11 of the Rail Trail.

County of Santa Cruz Planning: Anais Schenk reported that the Sustainable General Plan update is scheduled to be released in early 2022, which includes code updates. The County Active Transportation Plan technical advisory committee will meet in October, with a draft project list and plan under development which takes into consideration considerable input from the community. The County is also working with AMBAG on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) and housing element, taking into consideration infrastructure needs associated with new housing.

Capitola – Kailash Mozumder reported that the 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue adaptive signal project is under construction.

Caltrans District 5 – Malinda Gallaher noted updates on Caltrans construction projects were included in the packet. Local assistance is working on the Clean California Program. Local Assistance is also going to be rolling out trainings and other tools to help agencies implementing projects.

Ecology Action - Piet Canin reported they are working with the County to solicit input on the draft Santa Cruz County Active Transportation Plan. The October Bike Challenge wrapped up and Ecology Action is working with the City of Santa Cruz on its downtown e-bike rebate program. He noted

Central Coast Community Energy and MBARD also have electric bike rebate programs. He also reported that they completed a micromobility study for Watsonville funded by the CA Air Resources Board.

MBARD – Alan Romero congratulated Capitola and the County for their adaptive signal projects. He reported more funding is available for infrastructure projects, electric vehicle projects, including light/medium-duty vehicles and city refuge vehicles. He also announced he is retiring at the end of December.

*2:50pm Members Schenk and Romero left the meeting.*

#### **10. Draft 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)**

Paul Hierling, AMBAG provided a summary of the draft 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS). He noted the draft MTP/SCS and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is being released for public review, with several public hearings and workshops to be held in January. ITAC members were encouraged to review the project lists, financial assumptions, and environmental document and to share information on implementation strategies.

*3:00pm Members Fontes and Meek left the meeting.*

#### **11. Updates on Funding Opportunities**

Rachel Moriconi noted Active Transportation Program (ATP) call for projects is anticipated in March, with applications due in June. She urged agencies to apply for state and federal grants, utilize their Measure D funds to implement projects and leverage grants. She also reminded agencies that FY20/21 expenditure reports for SB1 Local Street and Road and Measure D funds are due in December. She noted that staff is still awaiting details on any formula federal funds which may be available for programming from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

- 12. Next meeting.** The next meeting of the ITAC is scheduled for December 16, 2021. Meetings will be canceled if there are no action items to be considered by the committee.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

*Minutes prepared by Rachel Moriconi, Sr. Transportation Planner*

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*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
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Guy Preston, Executive Director  
Luis Pavel Mendez, Deputy Director*

## **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](http://www.sccrtc.org/2045rtp) and comments can be submitted by email to [2045rtp@sccrtc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.communitytv.org) or call 831-425-8848 for schedule and station information.*



## 2021 Consolidated Grants (Approved 12/2/21\*)

RTIP ID	Agency	Project Name	Approved Funding	STIP	CRRSAA-STIP	CRRSAA-RSTPX	RSTPX	HIP	Description (for projects recommended for partial funding, scope may be reduced)	Primary Benefits, Notes & Committee Recommendations
CAP 20	Capitola	41st Ave Intersection and Roadway Rehabilitation	\$492,000		\$227,000		\$265,000		Reconstruct pavement on three sections of 41st Ave including 1) the intersection of Capitola Road and 41st Ave, 2) the intersection of Clares Street and 41st Ave	<b>System Preservation.</b> Regionally significant road, high traffic volumes. If only \$492k approved, Capitola will use funds on intersections & would wait to reconstruct 41st Ave. <b>Based on input from Bike Committee &amp; E&amp;DTAC - funding contingent on making intersections and 41st Ave more bike friendly and accessible to all pedestrians. E&amp;DTAC recommends safety lights be added at Hwy 1 interchange.</b>
CAP 21	Capitola	Kennedy Drive Sidewalk	\$197,000				\$197,000		Construct approximately 550 feet of sidewalk along Kennedy Drive. Includes curb and gutter, retaining walls, and ADA curb ramps.	<b>Pedestrian Safety &amp; Access.</b> Fills gap in sidewalks next to school
CO 90	County of SC	Emergency Routes Resurfacing: Alba & Jamison Creek Roads	\$1,870,000			\$1,266,120	\$98,942	\$504,938	Pavement maintenance of approximately 7.08 miles of roadway including all of Alba Road (Empire Grade to State Highway 9=3.91miles) and Jamison Creek Rd (Empire Grade to State Highway 236 = 3.17 miles). Isolated sections of digout and asphalt replacement where rutting has occurred & isolated asphalt leveling courses, followed by resurfacing of the entire roadway, restriping. Covers existing roadway edge to existing roadway edge.	<b>System Preservation.</b> Roads are in terrible shape. ITAC and staff recommend \$500k for Alba Rd (Additional \$500k was not included in prelim recommendations reviewed by Bike Committee and E&DTAC)
CO 89	County of SC	Soquel Drive Buffered Bike Lanes & Congestion Mitigation	\$1,000,000				\$1,000,000		Improvements for bus transit, active transportation, and intersections on 5.6 miles of Soquel Ave/Soquel Drive (La Fonda to State Park Dr), including: buffered/protected bike lanes, green bike boxes, sidewalk gap closures, ADA ramps, crosswalk upgrades, adaptive signal control, transit signal priority, and pavement rehabilitation.	<b>Safety, system preservation, bike, transit access.</b> Well rounded, high priority project. \$1M recommended due to pavement priorities. County committed to fund balance. <b>E&amp;DTAC recommends safety lights be added at Soquel/41st Avenue intersection.</b>
CO 91	County of SC	San Andreas Road Resurfacing	\$1,650,000	\$1,645,000			\$5,000		Pavement maintenance of approximately 3.01 miles of San Andreas Rd, from 365' S/O Manresa State Beach to Sunset Beach Rd. Isolated sections of digout and asphalt replacement where rutting has occurred, followed by resurfacing of the entire roadway surface and restriping. Work extends from existing roadway edge to existing roadway edge and includes repaving/restriping existing bike lanes.	<b>System Preservation.</b> Serves state parks and agricultural traffic. Popular with cyclists. <b>Bike Committee recommends increasing to add portion of \$500k (staff recommendation adds funds to Alba Rd instead).</b>
CO 92	County of SC	Soquel San Jose Rd/ Porter St - Road Resurfacing & Multimodal Improvements	\$1,455,000	\$1,455,000					Pavement maintenance of approximately 3.15 miles of Soquel San Jose Road and 0.18 miles of Porter Street, forming a continuous section from Soquel Drive to Laurel Glen Rd. Isolated sections of digout and asphalt replacement where rutting has occurred, followed by resurfacing of the entire roadway surface and restriping. Work extends from existing roadway edge to existing roadway edge and includes repaving/restriping existing bike lanes. Includes multimodal improvements in Soquel Village, possibly green lanes, ped crossing enhancements, etc.	<b>System Preservation.</b> Regionally significant route. <b>Bike Committee recommends increasing funds to project (staff recommending funds to Alba Rd instead) ; county staff notified Bike Committee they will consider adding green or buffered bike lanes and improved ped crossings.</b>

RTIP ID	Agency	Project Name	Approved Funding	STIP	CRRSAA-STIP	CRRSAA-RSTPX	RSTPX	HIP	Description (for projects recommended for partial funding, scope may be reduced)	Primary Benefits, Notes & Committee Recommendations
CO 93	County of SC	Holohan Road Resurfacing	\$440,000				\$440,000		Pavement maintenance of approximately 1.42 miles of Holohan Rd, from Green Valley Rd to 420' W/O State Hwy 152 (the project limit of the planned Holohan/152 intersection improvements). Isolated sections of digout and asphalt replacement where rutting has occurred, followed by resurfacing of the entire roadway surface and restriping. Work extends from existing roadway edge to existing roadway edge and includes repaving/restriping existing bike lanes.	<b>System Preservation.</b> Regionally significant truck and commute route, serves disadvantaged community (DAC), PVUSD Bus Fleet.
SV 33	Scotts Valley	Granite Creek Rd Overcrossing	\$500,000				\$500,000		Repaving of asphalt surface and restriping on Granite Creek Rd from Scotts Valley Dr to the intersection at Santas Village Rd and SV Dr/Santas Village Rd intersection. Widening bike lanes-narrowing travel lanes, adding green treatment to bike lanes, adding a bike box. Adds retaining wall to shore up sloughing under sidewalks. Repaving of AC sidewalks to meet ADA grades. Addition of truncated domes where they are missing at the two intersections.	<b>System Preservation, Bike, Pedestrian Access.</b> Regionally significant roadway. <i>E&amp;DTAC and staff recommend funding be contingent on lighting being added.</i>
SC 52	Santa Cruz, city	Chestnut Street St Storm Drain and Paving Rehab and Safety Improvements	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000				Rehab pavement, install bike/ped improvements including new curb ramps and crossings from Laurel Street to Mission Street (Rte 1). <i>Other funds being used to replace the storm drain system.</i>	<b>System Preservation &amp; Bike, Pedestrian, School Access.</b> City's #1 priority
SC 53	Santa Cruz, city	Ocean Street Pavement Rehab and Bike/Ped Upgrades	\$600,000				\$600,000		Ocean Street pavement rehabilitation and bike and pedestrian upgrades between Felker St and Water Street	<b>System Preservation &amp; Bike, Pedestrian, Transit Access.</b> Regionally significant road.
WAT 47	Watsonville	Complete Streets Downtown	\$1,248,000	\$896,000			\$352,000		Pedestrian and bicycle improvements, including curb ramps, bulbouts, pavement markings and signage. Rodriguez St from 550 feet south of Main St to Second St; Brennan St from Palm St to 5th St and Union St from Alexander St to Elm St	<b>Safety, Active Transportation, Equity.</b> Watsonville's only application, fills gaps in ped network, high collision rates.
RTC 24g	SCCRTC	State Route 1 - Freedom to State Park Auxiliary Lanes, Bus on Shoulder, and Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12	\$300,000	\$300,000					Construct auxiliary lanes on State Route 1 between Freedom Boulevard and State Park Drive Interchanges, construct bus on shoulder facility, construct soundwalls and retaining walls, and 1.25 mile segment of the coastal rail trail.	<b>System Performance, bike/ped, transit access to schools.</b> Consider using Measure D for balance of design. <i>E&amp;DTAC recommends safety lights be added at pedestrian crossings at Highway 1 interchanges.</i>
RTC 04	SCCRTC	Planning, programming, and monitoring (PPM) - 5% of STIP-Covid & 2022 STIP	\$290,000	\$226,000	\$64,000				Funding for 3 years of programming and monitoring use of funds per state and federal mandates, including staff time associated with this grant cycle.	<b>Required to meet state and federal mandates.</b>
	TBD	Other Projects TBD	\$189,000				\$189,000			
Approved Funds			\$11,231,000	\$4,522,000	\$1,291,000	\$1,266,120	\$3,646,942	\$504,938		



## CALTRANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)

**DECEMBER 16, 2021**

Hello ITAC members,

For this month, I want to encourage all partners to consider submitting proposals for the \$300 Million Clean California Grant Program. The upcoming deadline to submit project proposals is **February 1, 2021**. Cities, counties, transit agencies, tribal governments and other governmental entities can submit proposals of up to \$5 million. In addition to litter removal and educational programs, there are several creative examples that Caltrans will consider in proposals – landscaping, Human-scale lighting (energy conserving), architectural fencing, and mosaics that facilitate cultural connections and civic pride. Caltrans will hold a technical workshop to provide potential applicants with technical assistance focusing on what constitutes a complete application and the information and materials on **December 15, 2021** from **1:30-3:30 PM**. For more info or how to apply visit: <https://cleancalifornia.dot.ca.gov/local-grants/workshops-milestones>. Happy holidays!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gustavo Alfaro'.

Gus Alfaro

PHONE: 805-835-6490

WEBSITE: <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5>

EMAIL: [gustavo.alfaro@dot.ca.gov](mailto:gustavo.alfaro@dot.ca.gov)



## **FHWA Invites Comment on New Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Programs to Expand EV Ownership and Tackle Climate Change (12/2)**

- FHWA invites comment on the development of guidance for two new electric vehicle charging station programs included in the recently enacted Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- Law established the National Electric Vehicle Formula Program to strategically deploy an interconnected network of EV charging stations along highway corridors, by providing states with formula funding.
- Charging and Fueling Infrastructure discretionary grant program will make competitive grants available to improve public accessibility to ev charging and hydrogen, propane and natural gas fueling stations, along designated alternative fuel corridors or other community locations accessible to drivers.
- The request for information, published in the Federal Register, is available [here](#). [Federal Register: Development of Guidance for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Deployment](#) with comment period ending on 1/28

## **FTA Seeks Input to Update Key Transit Civil Rights Policies (12/3)**

FTA is calling on transit agencies, transit riders and anyone interested in transit to review the [RFI](#) and provide input. The RFI closes Monday, January 3, 2022.

Specifically, FTA is looking for input on ways to help transit agencies:

- Strengthen the role of public participation in planning decisions;
- Better evaluate the impact of service and fare changes on riders and affected communities; and
- Ensure equitable implementation of rider conduct policies.

For more info visit: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/about/news/fta-seeks-input-update-key-transit-civil-rights-policies>

## **CTC Meetings**

- California Transportation Commission Meeting-December 8(W) - 9(TH), 2021
- All SB 1 Competitive Programs Workshop Incorporating Transportation Equity-December 16(Th), 2021

For more info visit: <https://catc.ca.gov/>





## PROJECT UPDATE – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION									
	Project	Location Post Mile (PM)	Description	Construction Timeline	Construction Cost	Funding Source	Project Manager (Resident Engineer)	Contractor	Comments
1.	<b>Highway 17 Pasatiempo Shoulder Widening (1C670)</b>	South of Pasatiempo overcrossing (PM 0.2/0.5)	Shoulder widening and soil nail wall	Spring 2019- Winter 2021	\$5.7 million	SHOPP	Heidi Borders (BR)	Granite Rock Company	Work to be completed by end of calendar year.
2.	<b>SCr 9 South Drainage and Erosion Control Improvements (1F920)</b>	From SR 1 and 9 to slightly north of Glen Arbor Road (PM 0.0/8.5)	Upgrade drainage systems and stabilize slopes	Winter 2021/22	\$2 million	SHOPP	Doug Hessing	Disney Construction Inc.	Contract awarded and approved to Disney Construction Inc, March 4, 2021
3.	<b>Highway 1/ Highway 17 Ramp Safety Improvements (1H060)</b>	From the Fishhook to Pasatiempo overcrossing (PM 16.7)	Construct ramp safety improvements	Contract Awarded	\$5.8 million	SHOPP	Heidi Borders	Teichert Construction	Project has been awarded to Teichert Construction and is in construction.
4.	<b>Highway 17 Wildlife Habitat Crossing (1G260)</b>	From Laurel Road to just north of Laurel Road (PM 9.442-9.692)	Construct wildlife undercrossing	Winter 2022	\$6.448 million	SHOPP	Aaron Henkel	Granite Rock Construction	Project has been awarded to Granite Rock Construction and is in construction. Construction has been suspended until Feb 2022.



# PROJECT UPDATE – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

## PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION (Cont'd.)

	Project	Location Post Mile (PM)	Description	Construction Timeline	Construction Cost	Funding Source	Project Manager (Resident Engineer)	Contractor	Comments
5.	<b>TMS Detection Repair</b> (1H990)	Various locations throughout District 5 along SRs 1, 17, 68, 156, 101 (PM Various)	Replace failed TMS Detection	Summer 2020/Winter 2021	\$4.9 million	SHOPP SB-1	Nick Heisdorf (PD)	Traffic Loops Crackfilling, Inc.	Project in construction. Contractor is Traffic Loops Crackfilling, Inc. Work is 80% complete.
6.	<b>Highway 129/ Lakeview Road Intersection Improvements</b> (1G990)	Near Watsonville, at Lakeview Road (PM 1.4)	Construct roundabout and improve street lighting	Winter 2021	\$4.5 million	SHOPP	Luis Duazo	Dreambuilder Construction	Construction of the <b>westbound</b> direction of the roundabout is under way. <b>Construction is expected to be complete mid-December 2021.</b>
7.	<b>Highway 9 Hairpin Tieback</b> (1K130)	Near Boulder Creek about 1.1 miles south of the SR 236/9 Junction (PM 19.97)	Soldier Pile Tieback Retaining Wall	Winter 2021/22	\$2.6 million	SHOPP	Doug Hessing	Gordon N. Ball, Inc.	The construction contract was awarded to GORDON N. BALL, INC. One-way traffic control in place.
8.	<b>Highway 1 Soquel Creek Scour Protection</b> (1H480)	In Capitola at Soquel Creek Bridge (PM 13.3)	Bridge preventative maintenance – Place scour protection	Summer 2022	<b>\$1.4 million</b>	SHOPP	Heidi Borders	Construction	<b>Project RTL.</b>
9.	<b>Highway 1 Davenport Culvert Replacement</b> (0J200)	Near Davenport and south of Waddell Creek Bridge (PM 31.9/35.7)	Replace culverts	Winter 2021	<b>\$7.4 million</b>	SHOPP SB-1	Heidi Borders	Construction	<b>Project is in advertisement.</b>



# PROJECT UPDATE – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT									
10.	Project	Location Post Mile (PM)	Description	Construction Timeline	Estimated Construction Cost	Funding Source	Project Manager	Phase	Comments
	Highway 9 PM 1.0 and 4.0 Viaduct  (1K120)	Near SCr north of Vernon Street  (PM 1/1)	Construct side- hill viaduct restore roadway and facilities, place Water Pollution Control BMPs, erosion control	Fall 2022	\$9.9 million	SHOPP	Doug Hessing	PS&E	Route 9 will require long term closure during construction.
11.	SCr 9 Upper Drainage and Erosion Control Improvements  (1G950)	In Boulder Creek from Holiday Lane to just south of Ben Lomond to the SR 236/9 Junction  (PM 8.5/25.5)	Upgrade drainage and erosion control	Spring 2023	\$5.4 million	SHOPP	Nick Heisdorf	PS&E	The project is in the Design and Right of Way phase. Design 60% plans for review November 2021.



# PROJECT UPDATE – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

	Project	Location Post Mile (PM)	Description	Construction Timeline	Estimated Construction Cost	Funding Source	Project Manager	Phase	Comments
12.	<b>Highway 9 San Lorenzo River Bridge and Kings Creek Bridge Replacement</b> <b>(1H470)</b>	Near Boulder Creek, at San Lorenzo River Bridge and at Kings Creek Bridge  (PM 13.6/15.5)	Replace bridges	Summer 2022	\$12 million	SHOPP SB-1	Doug Hessing	PS&E	The project is in the Design and Right of Way phase.
13.	<b>Highway 152 Corralitos Creek ADA</b> <b>(05- 1F620)</b>	Near Watsonville, East of Beverly Drive to Holohan / College Road (PM1.9 to R2.0)	Construct Accessible Pathway	Winter 2022/23	\$3.4 million	SHOPP	Nick Heisdorf	PS&E	Project is in the Design and Right of Way phase. Design 95% plans for review November 2021.
14.	<b>Highway 236 Heartwood Hill Wall</b> <b>(1M450)</b>	Near Boulder Creek (PM 5.4)	Restore Embankment with a Retaining Wall	2022/2023	\$1.8 million	SHOPP	Doug Hessing	PS&E	The project is in the Design and Right of Way Phase.
15.	<b>Santa Cruz &amp; San Benito Rumble Strip &amp; Striping Safety Project</b> <b>(1M330)</b>	Various-multi-county locations.  In Sta. Cruz, the project includes Highways 1, 9, 17, 129	Update Striping and Install Edgeline and Center Rumble Strips at Various Locations	2023	\$4.7 million	SHOPP Safety Collision Reduction	Terry Thompson (J.W.)	PS&E	Improvements at various highway locations, various postmiles: Rte. 1: Edge Line/Shoulder Rumble Strip, Rte. 9: Update Striping Rte. 17: Edge Line/Shoulder Rumble Strip Rte 129: Edge Line/Shoulder Rumble Strip; Centerline rumble strip, Update Striping



# PROJECT UPDATE – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

	Project	Location Post Mile (PM)	Description	Construction Timeline	Estimated Construction Cost	Funding Source	Project Manager	Phase	Comments
16.	<b>Felton Safety Improvements</b>  (1M400)	On Route 9 in Santa Cruz County between Kirby St. and San Lorenzo Valley High School (PM 6.3/7.2)	Construct Accessible Pedestrian Path	2024/25	\$8 million	SHOPP Safety	Doug Hessing (J.W.)	PA&ED	Survey work and environmental studies are in progress.
17.	<b>Highway 129 Paving, Sign Panels, Lighting, TMS Improvement</b>  (1J830)	Near Watsonville for SR129/1 separation to Salsipuedes Creek Bridge (PM 0/0.56)	Pavement Preservation, Lighting, Sign Panel Replacement and TMS Elements improvements	2024/25	\$8 million	SHOPP	Nick Heisdorf	PA&ED	Complete streets additions are being included. environmental studies and design surveys are in progress.
18.	<b>Highway 1 Roadside Safety</b>  (1J960)	0.5 mile north of Larkin Valley Rd. U.C. (San Andreas Rd) to Laguna Rd (North) (8.20/26.00)	Drainage System Restoration; paving at 40 ramps; Install Lighting at Interchanges and Install Count Stations	2024/25	\$15.5 million	SHOPP	Heidi Borders	PA&ED	
19.	<b>Santa Cruz Route 1 CAPM</b>  (1M110)	In and near Santa Cruz from .06 miles south of Route 9 Junction to .09 miles north of the Mission St intersection. (PM 17.5/20.2)	Grinding/ paving 2.7 miles of pavement, upgrading up to 89 curb ramps, guard rail upgrade, sign panel upgrade, loop detector replacement.	2026	\$8.9 million	SHOPP	Nick Heisdorf	PID	PIR approved June 2021.



# PROJECT UPDATE – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

20.	<b>Highway 17 Install High Friction Surface Treatment (HFST)  (1M730)</b>	In Santa Cruz County near Santa Cruz at various locations from 0.2 miles south of Scotts Valley Overcrossing to 1.6 miles south of Summit Road Separation.	Safety Construction includes HFST between the left/right edges of the travel way and cold plane removal of Open Grade Asphalt Concrete (OGAC) and replacement with Hot Mix Asphalt	Winter 2022/ Spring 2023	\$6.5 million	SHOPP	Heidi Borders	PS&E/RW	
	<b>Highway 9 North CAPM  (1K900)</b>	In Santa Cruz County from 0.4 miles south of Saratoga Toll Rd to the Santa Cruz/San Mateo County line (PM 18.89/27.09)	Preserve CAPM Strategies including but not limited to digouts, profile grinding, overlay, placing shoulder backing and dike. Reconstruct guardrail, rehabilitate or replace 6 culvert and replace 67 sign panels	2026	\$6.3 million	SHOPP	Doug Hessing	PID	Project is anticipated to be programmed in the 2022 SHOPP to start PA&ED phase.
	<b>Highway 152 Watsonville Rehab/CAPM (05-1P110)</b>	<b>Santa Cruz County on Route 152 from Jct Route 1 to 0.5 Mile East of Carlton Rd.  (PM 0.31/4.14)</b>	<b>Preserve pavement, rehabilitate or replace Salsipuedes Creek Bridge, replace culverts, rehabilitate traffic signals, upgrade curb ramps, reconstruct guardrail, replace sign panels, and complete streets</b>	2029	\$25 million	SHOPP	Heidi Borders	PID	



# PROJECT UPDATE – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2, 2021 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

## ACRONYMS USED IN THIS REPORT:

<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act	<b>SHOPP</b>	State Highway Operation and Protection Program
<b>CEQA</b>	California Environmental Quality Act	<b>SR</b>	State Route
<b>CMAQ</b>	Congestion Mitigation Air Quality	<b>STIP</b>	State Transportation Improvement Program
<b>CMIA</b>	Corridor Mobility Improvement Account	<b>TMS</b>	Traffic Management System
<b>CTC</b>	California Transportation Commission		
<b>ED</b>	Environmental Document		
<b>EIR</b>	Environmental Impact Report		
<b>PA&amp;ED</b>	Project Approval and Environmental Document		
<b>PM</b>	Post Mile		
<b>PS&amp;E</b>	Plans, Specifications, and Estimates		
<b>RW</b>	Right of Way		
<b>SB1</b>	Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017		
<b>SCL</b>	Santa Clara County Line		

**AGENDA:** December 16, 2021

**TO:** Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)

**FROM:** Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner

**RE:** Release of Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission Advisory Committees review and provide input on the Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (Attachment 1 – Executive Summary; full document available at <https://sccrtc.org/2045rtp>).

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**BACKGROUND**

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission is in the process of updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP is a state-mandated document that identifies transportation needs in Santa Cruz County over the next twenty-five years. It estimates the amount of funding that will be available and identifies planned transportation projects. The plan is an essential first step in securing funding from federal, state and local sources. As required by state law, 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.

The 2045 RTP, through its goals and policies, sets forth a triple-bottom line sustainability framework for expanding options for residents and visitors to access their daily needs in a way that is safe, equitable, protects the natural environment and promotes investment in the local economy. The triple bottom line concept of sustainability starts with the development of the goals and policies which are then used to define the priority list of projects. Individual projects listed in the 2045 RTP must still undergo separate design and environmental processes, and can only be implemented as local, state and federal funds become available.

This RTP, along with those from Monterey and San Benito Counties, has been incorporated into the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) covering the tri-county Monterey Bay area.



Senate Bill 375 requires AMBAG as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region, to prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of the MTP that integrates land use and transportation planning to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The RTC coordinates with AMBAG on the development of the MTP-SCS by identifying financial constraints and transportation projects for inclusion in the MTP-SCS. In order to meet federal mandates, AMBAG must adopt the MTP-SCS by June 2022 and thus the 2045 Santa Cruz County RTP must be adopted by June 2022.

The RTP is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Recognizing an opportunity to achieve efficiencies, the RTC, TAMC and SBCOG decided to merge their environmental analysis for their respective RTPs and AMBAG's 2045 MTP-SCS. A single environmental document that covers the RTPs for the three counties (Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties) in the AMBAG region and the 2045 MTP-SCS has been prepared in lieu of individual environmental documents. AMBAG is the lead agency for the preparation of the 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which includes environmental review of the three regional transportation plans and serves as the EIR for the 2045 RTP. The three regional transportation planning agencies, including RTC, serve as the responsible agencies under CEQA. As the responsible agency under CEQA, the RTC's primary role is to respond to consultation by the lead agency including reviewing and commenting on the Draft EIR.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **2045 Regional Transportation Plan**

The Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) consists of an Executive Summary ([Attachment 1](#)) and nine chapters:

1. Introduction
2. Transportation Network
3. Travel Patterns
4. Vision for 2045 (Policy Element)
5. Funding Our Transportation System (Financial Element)
6. Transportation Investments (Action Element)
7. System Performance
8. Environmental and Air Quality Review
9. What's Next?

The three main components of the RTP are the Policy Element, the Financial Element, and the Action Element.

The **Policy Element** identifies the goals, policies, and targets that guide transportation funding decisions and prioritization. The goals, policies and targets in the 2045 RTP were revised from the 2040 RTP based on community input and shift their function from forecasting to monitoring trends in real-time in order to measure progress toward RTP goals.

- Draft goals, policies, and targets approved by RTC: February 2020

The **Financial Element** identifies funds available to the region and lists the additional funding needs over the next 25 years. Just over \$5 billion in revenues from local, state and federal sources, including Measure D funds, are reasonably anticipated to be available for transportation in Santa Cruz County in the 25-year RTP timeframe.

- Draft financial element approved by RTC: March 2021

The **Action Element** of the RTP identifies specific projects, programs, and actions necessary to implement the policy element of the RTP. As required by state and federal law, the project list shows which projects could be funded within the projected funds identified in the draft Financial Element (Constrained) and which would require new revenues above and beyond those anticipated over the next twenty-five years (Unconstrained). The complete cost of transportation needs in Santa Cruz County is estimated to be \$9.7 billion over the 25-year RTP timeframe.

- Draft complete list of projects approved by RTC: September 2020
- Draft financially constrained project list approved by RTC: March 2021

The Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan can be found on the RTC website at <https://sccrtc.org/2045rtp>. **Staff recommends that the RTC Advisory Committee provide input on the Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.**

### Environmental Impact Report

The CEQA required environmental review for the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is included in the EIR for the 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP. The environmental review evaluates the potential environmental effects of implementing the 2045 MTP-SCS, including the 2045 RTP for Santa Cruz County. The environmental review also evaluates alternative investment scenarios and identifies mitigation measures for potential impacts. As the lead agency under CEQA for the 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR, AMBAG has the primary responsibility for approving the “project” (i.e., 2045 MTP-SCS including the 2045 RTP for Santa Cruz County). The RTC, as a responsible agency under CEQA, will review and provide comments on the Draft EIR focusing on areas which will require decisions to be carried out by or approved by the RTC in the future. The RTC will consider adoption of the EIR findings in concert with adoption of the 2045 RTP after the EIR is certified by AMBAG.

As a programmatic document, the 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR presents a region-wide assessment of the impacts of the proposed 2045 MTP-SCS, including the three RTPs (Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties). The intent of a program-level EIR is to focus, in general terms, on the probable regional environmental effects that can be identified at this point in time that are associated with the implementation of the financially constrained action elements of the plans. The 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR does not analyze impacts of individual projects. Projects will undergo a separate environmental review process, conducted by their agency sponsors, once they actually receive funding and are ready to proceed.

AMBAG released the Draft 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR, in concert with release of the Draft 2045 MTP-SCS, on Monday, November 22, 2021, for a 70-day public review period. The public comment period on the Draft 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR, which includes environmental review of the Santa Cruz County 2045 RTP will close on January 31, 2022. The Draft 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR is available online at [www.ambag.org](http://www.ambag.org). AMBAG will virtually host four (4) public hearings/workshops on the draft MTP-SCS/RTP EIR throughout January 2022. The timing of release of the Draft RTP and the Draft EIR was coordinated with San Benito COG, TAMC and AMBAG staff to meet federal deadlines for approval of the 2045 MTP-SCS.

## **Next Steps**

Input from RTC advisory committees on the Draft 2045 RTP will be solicited and notices about the availability of the document will be sent to the media and community-based groups, including business, social services, environmental and neighborhood groups. The Draft RTP will be posted on the Commission's web site with links provided to the EIR on AMBAG's website. Hard copies will be provided to local libraries in Capitola, Downtown Santa Cruz, Felton, La Selva Beach, and Watsonville.

A summary of dates related to finalizing the RTP are provided below.

- November 22, 2021 – AMBAG release draft 2045 MTP-SCS and draft 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR for public comment for a 70-day public review period
- December 2, 2021 – Draft 2045 RTP released for public comment for a 60-day public review period
- December/January – RTC Advisory Committee Review
- January 13, 2022 – 2045 RTP Public Hearing at RTC meeting (Zoom)
- January 12/19/24/27, 2022 – 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR Virtual Public Workshops/Hearings

- January 31, 2022 – End of 60-day public comment period for draft Santa Cruz County 2045 RTP and end of 70-day public review period for draft 2045 MTP-SCS and EIR
- March 3, 2022 – Approve changes to Draft 2045 RTP for final submission to AMBAG at RTC meeting
- June 2, 2022 – RTC scheduled to adopt Final 2045 RTP and Final EIR
- June 8, 2022 – AMBAG scheduled to adopt 2045 MTP-SCS and certify EIR

## **SUMMARY**

AMBAG released the 2045 MTP-SCS and associated EIR on November 22, 2021. The 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR includes an impact analysis of the 2045 Santa Cruz County RTP. The RTC released the draft 2045 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan for release on December 2, 2021, starting a 60-day review period which will end on January 31, 2022. The draft 2045 RTP is available to review on the RTC website at [www.sccrtc.org/2045rtp](http://www.sccrtc.org/2045rtp), and the 2045 MTP-SCS/RTP EIR is available on the AMBAG website at [www.ambag.org](http://www.ambag.org). Staff recommends that the RTC Advisory Committee are provide input on the draft documents. The RTC has scheduled a public hearing on the RTP for the January 13, 2022 RTC meeting, with adoption of the final 2045 RTP scheduled for June 2022.

### Attachments:

1. 2045 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan Executive Summary

### External Links:

1. Download entire Draft 2045 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan at [www.sccrtc.org/2045rtp](http://www.sccrtc.org/2045rtp)

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# **2045 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan**

## **Executive Summary**

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (herein referred to as the “RTC” or “Commission”) periodically completes a Regional Transportation Plan according to state guidelines to guide short- and long-range transportation planning and project implementation for the county. This 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (called the “2045 RTP”) is the RTC’s comprehensive planning document that provides guidance for transportation policy and projects through the year 2045. The 2045 RTP is based on a sustainability framework using the Sustainable Transportation Analysis and Rating System (STARS) to identify the goals, policies and thus the projects and programs to achieve a more sustainable transportation system. Sustainability is defined as balancing economic, environmental and equity interests. Individual projects listed in the 2045 RTP must still undergo separate design and environmental processes, and can only be implemented as local, state and federal funds become available. This RTP, along with those from Monterey and San Benito Counties, has also been incorporated into the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) covering the three-county Monterey Bay area that will meet state and federal guidelines.

The following is a summary of each chapter in the 2045 RTP.

### **Chapter 1 – Introduction**

The transportation system not only enables us to get around but it is also interlinked with our health and safety, the quality of the built and natural environment, and the economic vitality of our region. The 2045 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan endeavors to work towards a sustainable transportation system that addresses the challenges that face transportation in Santa Cruz County now and in the future. The challenges discussed in Chapter 1 include:

- System Preservation – Maintenance needs for the existing transportation network are increasing. Roadway, bikeway, sidewalk, bridge and other repairs must be addressed in parallel with capacity and operational enhancements. If ongoing routine maintenance needs are not addressed, the cost of deferred maintenance will grow exponentially, leaving little funding for new projects.
- Safety – The federal transportation act, Investing a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act, identifies safety as a national goal area and requires each state to set Safety Performance Management Targets in order to achieve a significant reduction in motorized and non-motorized traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads. The Metropolitan Planning Organizations must also establish targets in coordination with the state.
- Congestion – Traffic congestion exists in Santa Cruz County and will not go away in the foreseeable future. Population growth and region-wide jobs to housing imbalances that encourage driving as the mode of choice result in more drivers making more automobile trips.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The frequent traffic jams on Highway 1 are the most obvious example of congestion on county roadways.

- **Environmental and Public Health** - A sustainable transportation system can play a vital role in the environmental health of Santa Cruz County and the health of its residents. Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) have global environmental and public health effects, and air pollutants can affect both the environment and public health on a regional scale. The link between limited use of active transportation, such as biking and walking, and adult and childhood obesity is increasingly strengthened through research. Strategies for addressing this concern are being discussed at federal, state and local levels.
- **Economy** – The economic vitality of a region can be affected by transportation in a number of ways. Improved access is likely to positively affect businesses through faster goods movement and increased tourist activity. Implementation of transportation projects can provide jobs, and the smaller the percentage of household income that goes to transportation, the greater the amount of money that is available to go back into the local economy.
- **Funding** – Funding for transportation in Santa Cruz County has notably improved in recent years. Measure D, approved by Santa Cruz County voters in 2016, provides over \$20 million in revenues per year from sales taxes that are dedicated for use on the transportation categories approved by voters. In 2017, the California legislature provided more stable funding for transportation for the first time in nearly 25 years with passage of Senate Bill 1. Despite the recent funding improvements, there continues to be insufficient funds for all of the community's transportation needs.

The 2045 RTP endeavors to work toward a sustainable transportation system that addresses these challenges and results in safer, healthier and more efficient travel choices that provide improved multimodal access to opportunities such as jobs, education, and healthcare for our residents.

## Chapter 2 – Transportation Network

Santa Cruz County has a rich multi-modal transportation network. The county's existing transportation network comprises a broad range of transportation facilities and modes. These include state highways, local streets and roads, an extensive bus system, a specialized transport system for seniors and people with disabilities, bikeways, sidewalks, an airport and a rail line. The most notable improvements to the highways have been on Highway 1 including Mission St, the Highway 1 and 17 interchange and auxiliary lanes between Soquel Drive and Morrissey Boulevard.

In 2012, the RTC became the owner of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line that extends almost 32 miles between Davenport and Watsonville. The RTC purchased the rail corridor on behalf of the community to preserve the corridor for existing and future transportation uses, including freight rail, passenger rail service/transit, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The Unified Corridor Investment Study performed an analysis of the options for transportation uses of the rail right-of-way as required by Measure D. The Transit Corridor Alternatives Analysis and Rail Network Integration Study accepted by the RTC in February 2021 selects electric passenger rail as the locally preferred alternative for the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. The Master Plan and Environmental Impact Report for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail, a network of multiuse trails with the spine along the rail line, have been completed. Eighteen (18)

miles of trails along the rail right of way have been funded in full or in part, with construction to begin as soon as design, engineering and environmental permitting are completed. The first project was completed in 2020.

Transportation system management and transportation demand management programs are also components of the transportation network. Transportation System Management (TSM) projects incorporate operational improvements that improve traffic flow and safety. Examples include signal synchronization, new turning lanes, striping, auxiliary lanes and detectors for assessing real time traffic conditions. Transportation Demand Management includes strategies that reduce the number of people that are driving alone. These strategies include increasing the number of people carpooling, bicycling, telecommuting and taking transit through programs such as Cruz511 and GO Santa Cruz County commuter services.

This multi-modal transportation network is crucial to meeting the travel needs of all county residents, including drivers, non-drivers and commercial traffic.

## Chapter 3 – Travel Patterns

The majority of the population in Santa Cruz County lives and travels within a small area of the county. The areas of the county with higher population density are primarily along the coast (City of Santa Cruz, Capitola, Live Oak, Soquel and Aptos), in the cities of Watsonville and Scotts Valley, and along portions of the San Lorenzo Valley. Although the distances that people travel within Santa Cruz County are not extensive, increasing the diversity of land uses within neighborhoods to improve access to goods and services can result in even greater reductions in trip lengths.

The patterns of travel within Santa Cruz County are very much dependent on the number of people who live, work and visit the county. Population growth in Santa Cruz County between 2000 and 2010 increased by only 3% but future projections indicate that population will grow by 9% between 2020 and 2045. Similarly, the number of jobs in Santa Cruz County is forecasted to increase by 9.5% between 2020 and 2045.

Much effort on this 2045 RTP and the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan has been focused on prioritizing projects that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions primarily from a reduction in vehicle miles traveled (VMT). One vehicle traveling one mile equals one “vehicle mile traveled.” The 2010-2012 California Household Travel Survey (CHTS) data results for the state show that there has been a doubling of walk, transit and bike trips compared to data collected in 2000 and a reduction of drive alone trips of approximately 10%. Mode share data for Santa Cruz County from this CHTS data shows that Santa Cruz County residents’ bike more often than the state average. The American Communities Survey provides mode share data for the “typical mode taken to work” for Santa Cruz County. The ACS data from 2015-2019 shows that Santa Cruz County residents are choosing to walk and ride their bike to work more often than in 2000, but carpool less, and the percent of drive alone trips remain the same. The data also show an upward trend in working from home.

## Chapter 4 – Vision for 2045

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission utilizes a rating system called the Sustainable Transportation Analysis Rating System (STARS) to support development of the RTP. The goals, policies, performance measures and targets were developed with extensive public and partner input using STARS to form the foundation for a sustainable transportation plan. The measures are shaped by readily available data and are expected to evolve as new data becomes available. The goals for the 2045 RTP are as follows:

- **Goal 1:** Establish livable communities that improve people's access to jobs, schools, recreation, healthy lifestyles and other regular needs in ways that improve health, reduce pollution and retain money in the local economy.
- **Goal 2:** Reduce transportation related fatalities and injuries for all transportation modes.
- **Goal 3:** Deliver access and safety improvements cost effectively, within available revenues, equitably and responsive to the needs of all users of the transportation system and beneficially for the natural environment.

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan identifies measurable outcomes, called targets that are each linked to a sustainability goal. Incorporating targets into the goals and policies enables the Regional Transportation Commission to assess how well the long-range plan performs over time in advancing the targets. The assessment of performance is provided in Chapter 7.

## Chapter 5 – Financial Plan

Transportation programs and projects in Santa Cruz County are funded from a variety of local, state and federal funding programs. Local sources account for 46% of the transportation revenues, 39% from state and 15% from federal. Based on current and projected revenue sources, approximately \$5 billion are reasonably anticipated to be available to finance transportation projects in Santa Cruz County through 2045 (\$200 million per year). The vast majority of anticipated revenues are committed to specific dedicated uses. Over one third of local, state and federal funds can only be used for transit and paratransit projects and operations. A large proportion of these transit revenues come from our county's dedicated half-cent local sales tax for transit. Airport improvements and highway safety also account for a large portion of the dedicated funds.

In response to ongoing funding shortfalls and the large backlog of maintenance and other projects, Santa Cruz County voters approved Measure D in November 2016, a 30-year half-percent sales tax dedicated to local transportation projects and programs. Measure D provides over \$20 million per year in stable funding for projects in Santa Cruz County. In 2017, the California legislature passed Senate Bill 1 – The Road Repair and Accountability Act to stabilize transportation funding and help address the diminishing transportation revenues from the per gallon gasoline and diesel tax.

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) has discretion over less than 4% of the funds available for transportation projects in the next 25 years (approximately \$8.5 million per year). These funds are from regional shares of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) and SB 1- Local Partnership Program.

It is important to note that transportation funding can be incredibly unpredictable. State and federal actions can result in elimination of certain funding programs or diversion of transportation funds to the



State General Fund, as has happened regularly to transit funds over the past several years. Inevitably, some of the funding sources assumed within the financial projections for this plan will not actually be realized. Even if all of the revenues assumed in this document are realized, projected funds are insufficient to keep up with the maintenance, operational, safety, and major improvement needs of the region discussed in Chapter 6. Therefore, this document identifies additional sources for new funds that could potentially become available. The RTC works with entities locally, statewide, and nationally to seek new transportation revenue sources. These could include new local or state gas taxes, transportation impact fee programs, statewide transportation bonds, special federal funding programs (such as economic stimulus bills), special state legislative budget requests, and new grants.

## Chapter 6 – Transportation Investments

A list of programs, projects and actions needed to operate, maintain, and improve the transportation system in Santa Cruz County has been developed – based on input from the public and sponsoring agencies -- as part of the Action Element of the RTP. The cost of implementing this list of transportation projects in Santa Cruz County is approximately \$9.7 billion, whereas the estimated funds available through 2045 is approximately \$5 billion – just over half of the estimated need.

Given the significant gap between funding needs for transportation and projected revenues, the projects listed in the RTP must be divided into two groups. Transportation improvements that can be funded with foreseeable transportation revenues between 2020 and 2045 are shown as “Constrained.” This group includes projects with dedicated funding, already funded projects to be constructed in the short term, and planned projects that could be constructed anytime within the 2045 RTP’s 25-year timeline as projected funds become available. Transportation improvements to be implemented only if new revenues are generated or become available show their funding as “unconstrained.” Some projects are identified with both constrained and unconstrained funds, indicating a need for additional funds to complete the entire project, though portions of those projects may be completed using available funding.

In order to determine which projects are prioritized for the constrained list for the 2045 RTP, input was solicited from project sponsors, the public, public interest groups and RTC advisory committees throughout the process in developing the final project list that identifies the projects as either constrained and/or unconstrained.

The within projected funds or constrained project list consists of approximately 360 projects that could be fully implemented and 150 projects that could be partially implemented over the twenty-five year timeframe. These projects and programs address the region’s accessibility, economic, safety and environmental sustainability needs over the next 25 years and constitute the 2045 RTP’s constrained project list described in Chapter 6 with the full list of projects and programs provided in Appendix E. During the next 25 years, approximately \$5 billion from federal, state, and local funding sources is projected to be available to finance transportation projects in Santa Cruz County. Over 290 projects are on the unconstrained list, for which additional funds will be needed in order to be implemented.

The 2045 RTP assigns future transportation funds to a range of projects and programs designed to maintain the current transportation system, and improve access, safety and environmental and public health by broadening transportation options. Key proposals, based on available funding, include:

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Maintenance of the existing transportation network including roads, highways, bike lanes, sidewalks, and transit
- Safety and operational improvements to Highways 1, 9, 17, 129 and 152
- Addition of auxiliary lanes and bus on shoulders on Highway 1 between Freedom Boulevard in Aptos and Soquel Ave
- Bicycle and pedestrian crossings over Highway 1 at Chanticleer and Mar Vista
- Modifications to major arterial roads -- including intersection improvements and bus, pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Freeway Service Patrol along Highways 1 and 17
- Expanded bus service for high ridership routes to serve University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC), south county and San Jose commuters
- Transit queue jumps and high occupant vehicle signal priority
- Construction of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail, the Pajaro River Trail, and the San Lorenzo Valley Trail
- Local bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs designed to increase bicycle commuting, and provide safe bicycle and pedestrian routes to schools and key destination areas
- Expansion of specialized transport services in response to projected increases in senior and disabled populations
- Individualized marketing programs to employers to increase carpooling and vanpooling

Development of the RTP project list is a preliminary step towards actual implementation of the projects identified in the 2045 RTP. Prior to the beginning of project construction, a number of steps must be taken which can take from 6 months to 20 years, depending on the particular project's complexity, impacts, level of public interest, funding and environmental requirements, and availability of funds. These steps include developing a detailed project cost estimate; obtaining local, state and/or federal funds; designing the project; determining the project's environmental impacts; securing right-of-way, if necessary; and throughout the process, incorporating public input.

## Chapter 7 – System Performance

Performance-based planning is a strategic approach that uses key information to help inform investment decisions. The performance of the previous regional transportation plans for Santa Cruz County completed in 2014 and 2018 was analyzed in detail to determine how well the constrained list of transportation projects and programs advance the goals and targets established for the 2014 and 2018 RTPs and affect the county's future. The analysis that was performed is still largely applicable to the 2045 RTP given the project list for the 2045 RTP has not changed substantially from the 2014 and 2018 versions.

The 2045 RTP focuses the system performance on presenting available data that monitors the performance of the transportation system to date. Data is not available at this time to monitor all of the measures in the 2045 RTP although many of the more fundamental indicators (safety, vehicle miles traveled, greenhouse gas emissions, pavement condition) are presented.

## Chapter 8 – Environmental and Air Quality Review

The California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA) requires that the environmental effects of the 2045 RTP be analyzed. This analysis was prepared as a separate program-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR) released along with the 2045 RTP. The EIR, prepared in coordination with the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), and the San Benito County Council of Governments (SBCOG), collectively evaluates the MTP/SCS and the Regional Transportation Plans for the Monterey Bay region - Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties. The EIR analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the 2045 RTP, including alternative investment scenarios, and identifies potential mitigation measures for impacts of the transportation program for the whole region. The EIR does not analyze impacts of, or mitigations for, individual projects. The respective agency sponsors will conduct a project-specific review, once funding is received and the project is initiated.

Together Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties comprise the North Central Coast Air basin (NCCAB). Many projects in the plan implement the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District's (Air District) approved Transportation Control Measures for the region, which are developed to reduce transportation-related emissions by reducing vehicle use or improving traffic flow. The three-county region (or NCCAB) is an attainment area for air quality impacts and therefore exempt from the required conformity analysis.

## Chapter 9 – What's Next?

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan is a work in progress that will be updated approximately every four years. This chapter identifies a number of considerations that will likely be prominent features of the RTP over the next couple of decades.

Santa Cruz County is susceptible to a wide range of climate change effects. The RTC is aware of the need to undertake efforts to respond to *impacts* of climate change along with the current effort to reduce GHG emissions. Future editions of the RTP may address the impacts of climate change by identifying areas at most risk to sea level rise as well as other additional transportation considerations.

The effects of automated vehicles on future transportation systems are under much debate. Automated vehicles (AVs) are an emerging technology that could bring a number of benefits to the transportation system including increased safety, increased throughput due to driving efficiencies, and improved system management through vehicle data. Conversely, there is also the potential of AVs to drastically increase traffic congestion and the amount of vehicle miles traveled particularly when self-driving vehicles no longer require a person on board. There are many uncertainties associated with AVs including a currently unfolding set of federal and state regulations, resolution of questions around programming ethics, solutions to liability and insurance concerns, potential criminal abuse, and market adoption rates. The RTC will be watching the evolution of this technology for incorporation into future RTPs.