



**Santa Cruz County Regional
Transportation Commission's**

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**MEETING
MINUTES**

**Monday, December 13, 2021
6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**

Teleconference

This meeting was held by teleconference in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, and AB361, which allow local board and committee members and the public to participate and conduct meetings by teleconference, videoconference, or both. [View full executive order.](#) [View AB 361.](#)

1. Call to Order: Chair Amelia Conlen called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
2. Introductions

Members Present:

Scott Roseman, District 1
Corrina McFarlane, District 1 (Alt.)
Kathleen Bortolussi, District 2
John Hunt, District 2 (Alt.)
Peter Scott, District 3
Sally Arnold, District 3 (Alt.)
Anna Kammer, District 4
Rick Hyman, District 5
Theresia Rogerson, District 5 (Alt.)
Paula Bradley, City of Capitola
Matt Farrell, City of Santa Cruz
Grace Voss, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
Richard Masoner, City of Scotts Valley
Murray Fontes, City of Watsonville
Drew Rogers, City of Watsonville (Alt.)
Amelia Conlen, Bike-to-Work, Chair
Leo Jed, CTSC
Arnold Shir, CTSC (Alt.)

Staff:

Tommy Travers, Transportation Planner
Sarah Christensen, Sr. Transportation Engineer
Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner

Unexcused Absences:

Excused Absences:

Liz Hernandez, District 4 (Alt.)
Michael Moore, City of Capitola (Alt.)
Matt Miller, Bike-to-Work (Alt.)

Vacancies:

City of Scotts Valley – Alternate

Guests:

Zach Siviglia, Mark Thomas & Co
Matt Machado, County of Santa Cruz
Tom Kellogg, member of the public

3. Staff announcements – Staff announced an update on the design work for the Soquel Drive multimodal project, and update on the RTC's actions regarding discretionary funding allocations, and follow-up responses on hazard reports in the current agenda.
4. Oral communications – John Hunt asked that there be communication with Farm Bakery on Soquel Drive regarding possible loss of street parking for separated bike lanes. Murray Fontes announced that Watsonville was again awarded the Bicycle-Friendly City Bronze Level,
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – digital handouts pertaining to the meeting are posted on the Committee webpage

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion (Roseman/Bortolussi) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with members Roseman, Bortolussi, Scott, Kammer, Hyman, Bradley, Farrell, Fontes, Conlen, and Jed voting in favor.

6. Approved draft minutes of the November 8, 2021 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
7. Accepted summary of hazard reports.

Member Richard Masoner joined the meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Mar Vista Overcrossing final design and aesthetics – Sarah Christensen, Sr. Transportation Engineer, provided an overview of the project including the design progress and the timeline. Zach Siviglia, project manager with Mark Thomas & Company, presented the map, design, and aesthetics exhibits. He presented options for bike lane width and the adjacent wall of the overcrossing along McGregor Dr. Committee members requested a widened entrance to the southern end of the bike/ped bridge, expressed appreciation for the location of the bridge on the inland side of McGregor, requested design improvements to direct bicyclists across the McGregor/Mar Vista Dr intersection, such as with "crossbike" markings, and requested consideration of buffered or separated bike lanes on the new Capitola Ave bridge as standard. After much discussion about tradeoffs between bike lane width and the special aesthetic treatment of the bike/ped bridge wall along McGregor, a general consensus was reached to support 5-foot bike lanes as well as the aesthetics located above the level of potential vehicle crash impact. Members also brought attention to the time needed for the Capitola Avenue bridge to be out of service, and Mr. Siviglia responded that while these kinds of projects can't build public review of detour plans into their schedule, the team expects to limit the detour period to 14 months, which would be less impact than attempting to replace the bridge in phases.

9. Draft 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner, came to the Committee for the fourth time during the process of developing the new update to the RTP. An overview of the draft 2045 RTP was presented, including descriptions of the Policy Element, the Financial Element, and the Action Element, as well as the EIR for the plan. The draft plan is a culmination of several stages of public outreach and RTC meetings as the elements of the plan were developed. There will be public workshops and a hearing in January, with comments due January 31. She described the Executive Summary and several of the chapters in case individual Committee members are interested in focusing their review manageably. Committee members expressed desire to discuss the plan as a committee and to have more time to read the document, a need for the plan to prioritize clearly a greater shift to bicycling in the county, and for more attention by the committee to the Project List the next time an RTP update is underway.

A motion was made (Farrell/Bradley) to create an ad-hoc subcommittee of Matt Farrell, Grace Voss, Paula Bradley, and Sally Arnold tasked with reading the draft 2045 RTP and drafting a comment letter to send to staff.

A substitute motion was made (Hyman/Bradley) to create the same ad-hoc subcommittee tasked with reading the draft 2045 RTP and drafting a comment letter to send to staff related to opportunities to emphasize the more urgent need to increase bicycling, look for omissions where bicycling can be mentioned, and opportunities to mention promotion of bicycling.

The substitute motion was accepted and passed unanimously with members Bortolussi, Scott, Kammer, Hyman, Bradley, Farrell, Masoner, Fontes, Conlen, and Jed voting in favor.

10. Updates related to Committee functions – Grace Voss announced a recent program called Be Safe, Be Seen wherein the city of Santa Cruz and Bike Santa Cruz County gave away nearly 1,000 front and rear bike lights. Amelia Conlen invited new members of the ad-hoc subcommittee reviewing the plans for the Soquel Drive multimodal project, and Grace Voss and Rick Hyman volunteered. Arnold Shir announced that the Community Traffic Safety Coalition (CSTC) continues to develop its next work plan, to support the Watsonville Vision Zero Taskforce in such projects as applying for Walk-Friendly status for Watsonville and recently holding a World Day of Remembrance event for victims of traffic violence, to implement the Ride N Stride program which has involved 5 schools thus far this fiscal year, and to meet with community members of Scotts Valley regarding traffic safety.

11. Adjourn – 7:50 pm

NEXT MEETING: The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2022 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. The meeting will be held **via teleconference**.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:
Tommy Travers, Transportation Planner