



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
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## **Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) March 3, 2022 Meeting Highlights**

### **RTC Committee Appointments**

The Commission approved appointments of Commissioners to the RTC's Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee, the California Association of Councils of Government (CALCOG), and the Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC). The Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee is the RTC's only standing committee and it serves to review and monitor issues relating to the budget, work program, and other administrative and personnel functions of the RTC and makes recommendations to the Commission regarding such items. The RTC is a member of CALCOG, which provides public policy advocacy and intergovernmental coordination with the state legislature, state agencies, the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties, California's Congressional Delegation, and federal officials. The RTC also has a representative on the CRCC, which advocates for increased passenger rail service between Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area, which would serve Pajaro, and has been successful in securing regular intercity passenger rail service between Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo.

### **Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee Appointments**

Measure D, which was approved by over 2/3 of Santa Cruz County voters in November 2016, includes the formation of an oversight committee. In 2021, the two committee members representing Districts 2 & 3 were reappointed to the committee for a two-year term. At that time, three new members representing Districts 1, 4, & 5 were appointed to two-year terms to fill vacancies. In 2022, one year into their two-year terms, the committee members representing Districts 2 & 4 resigned their positions creating vacancies on the committee. The RTC appointed two new committee members representing Districts 2 & 4 to the Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee for a two-year term.

### **Caltrans Update**

Caltrans District 5 Deputy Director Scott Eades provided information on the Governor's Office announcement regarding the award of 105 local projects approved for nearly \$300 million in Clean California grants for communities throughout the state, including two projects within Santa Cruz County limits.

The City of Santa Cruz was awarded \$727,862 for the Main Street Bathroom Renovation Project.

This project will provide for the complete renovation of the Main Beach Public Restrooms from foundation to roof to fix the deteriorating structures. New ADA compliant, water-conserving fixtures will be added, including a bottle-filling station. Two 20' x 7'-foot tile mosaic wall murals will be developed through outreach with disadvantaged neighborhoods. Picnic tables, trash/recycling receptacles and signage to discourage littering will be added. Security cameras to monitor litter on the adjacent beach will be installed to deter crime, and study coastal resiliency to sea-level rise.

Additionally, the County of Santa Cruz was awarded \$5,000,000 for The Green Valley Road Multi-Use Trail Improvements Project (GVR MUP). This project will replace a dilapidated pedestrian trail with a pervious, two-way, multi-use trail to provide a safe, accessible connection between the City of Watsonville and Santa Cruz unincorporated counties to nearby schools, parks, social services, and numerous transit stops. The 2-mile-long path will be 10' in width and will be protected by a landscaped buffer or bioswale, containing native and drought tolerant plants. The project will upgrade 5 METRO bus stops with shelters and one more with an accessible landing, all upgrades will include trash receptacles. Non-infrastructure elements include education programs at Amesti Elementary, community events at the parks, and community-driven art installation(s). All education will also include litter abatement curriculum.

### **City of Santa Cruz Presentation**

City of Santa Cruz Assistant Public Works Director Nathan Nguyen provided an update to the Commission on the City's transportation projects. Past construction includes: an overlay (.82 miles) and surface seal (37 local/residential roads) project; Pacific Avenue Sidewalk project (180 lineal feet of new sidewalk & bike lanes); and Rail Trail Segment 7, Phase I. Present construction includes: Highway 1/9 intersection improvements; and the Riverwalk Lighting project. Future construction includes: Rail Trail Segment 7, Phase II; Chestnut Storm Drain and Road Rehab project; and the Murray Street Bridge Seismic Retrofit project.

### **Final Draft 2045 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

The Commission reviewed and approved revisions for the Final 2045 RTP. 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. Proposed revisions for the Final 2045 RTP were based on comments received from members of the public, RTC Commissioners, RTC Committees, resource agencies, public interest groups, and partner agencies. Recommended changes included updates to text; updates to the project list based on revised project cost estimates from project sponsors, revised project descriptions, and deletion of completed projects; and updates to financial estimates based on more recent financial information. The Commission is scheduled to adopt the Final 2045 RTP in June 2022.

### **[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. The RTC will continue to hold its commission meetings in a virtual format until further notice. 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, April 7, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

### **[Budget, Administration & Personnel Committee Meeting](#)**

Thursday, March 10, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

### **[Safe on 17 – TOS](#)**

Thursday, March 16, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

### **[Transportation Policy Workshop](#)**

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

### **[Interagency Technical Advisory Committee](#)**

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

### **[Bicycle Advisory Committee](#)**

Monday, April 11, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

### **[Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee](#)**

Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

*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.*