



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
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## **Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) April 7, 2022 Meeting Highlights**

### **RTC Amends FY 2021-22 Budget to Increase Funding for SC METRO, Lift Line and Local Jurisdictions**

The Commission increased the amount of FY 2021-22 Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds apportioned to Santa Cruz METRO, Lift Line, the Volunteer Center and local public works departments. Traditionally, when the RTC receives higher TDA revenues than forecasted, the extra revenues are distributed to recipients in the following fiscal year. For FY 2021-22, the RTC decided to provide these revenues to the recipients sooner. An additional \$1,124,444 will be provided to SC METRO for local transit service, an additional \$123,623 to Community Bridges/Lift Line and the Volunteer Center for specialized transportation services, and an additional \$67,092 to local public works departments for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

### **Director's Report**

Executive Director Guy Preston announced that the RTC received \$786,800 in funding from Caltrans for two Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants for projects that will focus on climate adaptation and transportation equity in Santa Cruz County. With \$448,800 of the grant funds, the RTC and the County of Santa Cruz will partner to develop the Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment and Transportation Priorities Report for unincorporated Santa Cruz County maintained roads and the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. The emphasis of the vulnerability assessment will be on identifying vulnerable transportation infrastructure and the associated hazards such as wildfire, mud debris flows, extreme weather/flooding, and sea-level rise. The RTC will use \$338,000 of the grant funds to develop a Santa Cruz County Transportation Equity Action Plan to address transportation equity and other transportation disparities in the community.

### **Measure D Potential Financing Options Presentation**

The Commission received a presentation on the development of Measure D funding and borrowing options for Measure D projects and programs. RTC staff is currently evaluating funding options and strategies to accelerate the delivery of priority regional projects under the Measure D Expenditure Plan for the highway and active transportation investment categories. If the RTC, the City of Santa Cruz, and the County of Santa Cruz are successful in securing grant funding in the short term, it is anticipated that the RTC would need to finance (such as issuing sales tax revenue bonds) to help fund the local match, which is needed to leverage the grant funds. Over the next couple of months, staff will develop a cash flow model to determine the potential timing and amount of borrowing capability.

## **Go Santa Cruz County Program Update**

The Commission received an update on the RTC's Cruz511 and GO Santa Cruz County programs. The commission also amended the existing agreement with the RTC's commute management platform for continued use of the GO Santa Cruz County online platform. The RTC offers transportation demand management services under the Cruz511 program and encourages travelers to maximize the efficiency of the existing transportation system by providing information and resources to choose sustainable modes of transportation. Additionally, Cruz511 offers ride matching and trip planning through the [GO Santa Cruz County](#) online platform and provides incentives and cash rewards to commuters for choosing sustainable commute options. There are 2,669 participants enrolled in the GO Santa Cruz County program as of March 2022. Since the countywide expansion in April 2021, more than 1,500 new users have joined. Since the platform was first made available in August 2019, all participants have logged more than 49,000 walk, bike, carpool, vanpool, transit, and telecommute trips, saving an estimated \$96,000 in direct commuting costs. By choosing not to drive alone, participants saved more than 73 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions from being released into the atmosphere, which is the equivalent of 16 gas powered vehicles driven for one year.

## **Fiscal Year 2022-23 Proposed Budget**

At the beginning of each calendar year, staff prepares a proposed RTC budget for the following fiscal year. The FY2022-23 budget proposed for RTC and Measure D reflects the most recent revenue projections from the Santa Cruz County Auditor for TDA funds, State Controller's Office of California for State Transit Assistance (STA) funds, and consultant Hinderliter de Llamas for Measure D funds. The FY2022-23 budget includes continued delivery of ongoing RTC projects and programs, and implementation of Measure D. The Commission approved the proposed FY2022-23 budget, established Section 115 trusts with CalPERS for pension and other post-employment benefits, and accepted Transportation Development Act and Measure D revenue forecast and estimates.

## **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, May 5, 2022, 9:00 a.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.

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

Thursday, April 14, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

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

Thursday, April 21, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

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

Thursday, April 21, 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*