



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission  
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## **Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) May 5, 2022 Meeting Highlights**

### ***Pajaro River Bridge Rehabilitation Project along the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line***

The Commission rejected a construction bid for the Pajaro River Bridge Rehabilitation Project as unreasonable. The project's scope of work included the replacement of bridge superstructure and bridge substructure elements for the Milepost 1.06 bridge, which comprises two timber trestle approaches and a steel through girder central bridge. Staff stated that the bid prices may have been higher than typical unit prices for recent construction projects due to the lack of both competition and the availability (and therefore increased cost) of materials and labor forces needed to complete the rehabilitation work, as well as restrictions on when work could be done. The RTC secured \$285,000 of state Short-Line Railroad Improvement Program grant funds for the project, which would be returned if the project does not move forward. The Commission directed staff to continue discussions with the rail operator and consider re-packaging and re-advertising the contract so as not to lose the grant funds to make the repairs.

### ***San Lorenzo Valley Schools Complex Circulation and Access Study - Funding Cooperative Agreement with San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District***

The Commission adopted a resolution to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District (SLVUSD) for the San Lorenzo Valley (SLV) Schools Complex Circulation and Access Study. The study includes preliminary engineering, traffic analysis, and a feasibility and needs assessment for the SLV Schools Complex on Highway 9 just north of Felton, as well as Highway 9 itself between Graham Hill Road and Glen Arbor Road, which includes improving bicycle and walking facilities for students and other users on Highway 9. The funds contributed by the SLVUSD will go toward the Study, scheduled to be completed later this year.

### ***2022 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List***

Following a public hearing, the Commission adopted the [2022 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs](#) list. The Commission solicited input from the public and worked with the RTC's Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC), Santa Cruz METRO Transit District, Lift Line-Community Bridges, the Volunteer Center and other local organizations to identify unmet transit needs of transit-dependent or disadvantaged persons, and determine if unmet transit needs can be reasonably met. The RTC, METRO and other community transportation service providers will consider unmet paratransit and transit needs from the list as funding becomes available.

## **Measure D-2016 Highway Corridors and Active Transportation - Five-Year Program of Projects**

Following a public hearing, the Commission approved [Highway 1](#) and [Coastal Rail Trail](#) projects to receive sales tax revenues approved by voters in 2016. This included additional funding to leverage state grants to the trail in the rail corridor between California Avenue/Bay Street in Santa Cruz and Rio Del Mar (Segments 7-12); hybrid auxiliary lanes and bus-on-shoulder facilities on Highway 1 between Freedom Boulevard and State Park Drive; Cruz511/Go Santa Cruz County and Freeway Service Patrol-roving tow trucks on Highways 1 and 17. In order to accelerate project implementation, the Commission committed to secure financing if necessary to meet the funding commitments. For the Coastal Rail Trail projects, the Commission approved programming 2016 Measure D-Active Transportation revenues at the higher amount in order to provide maximum flexibility. The commission did not specify a preference between an Interim Trail (trail on the railroad alignment) or an Ultimate Trail (trail adjacent to railroad alignment). The Commission also directed staff to return at a future meeting with additional information on maintenance of the corridor and to advance discussions about railbanking the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line from Lee Road in Watsonville to Davenport as a measure to reduce the RTC's financial exposure for either the Interim or Ultimate trail phases. Both potential phases are being studied as part of three Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) under development.

### **[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, June 2, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

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

Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

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

Thursday, May 19, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

**Bicycle Advisory Committee**

Monday, June 13, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

**Transportation Policy Workshop**

Thursday, June 16, 2022, 9:00 a.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.*

