



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

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, April 21, 2022, 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

Capitola Public Works	Kailash Mozumder (Chair)
Santa Cruz Public Works	Nathan Nguyen
Santa Cruz Planning Proxy	Mark Dettle
Scotts Valley Public Works	Chris Lamm
Watsonville Public Works	Murray Fontes
Watsonville Community Development	Justin Meek
County of Santa Cruz Public Works	Casey Carlson
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments	Paul Hierling
Ecology Action- Transportation Program	Piet Canin
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District & Proxy	John Urgo
Caltrans District 5 Planning	Ingrid McRoberts

RTC Staff Present

Grace Blakeslee, Sarah Christensen, Rachel Moriconi, Amy Naranjo, Guy Preston

Others Present

Rob Tidmore, Santa Cruz County Public Works
Members of Public: Joni Steele, Brian Peoples

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Kailash Mozumder called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.
- 2. Introductions:** Introductions were made. All attendees participated by teleconference.
- 3. Oral Communications:** Brian Peoples requested that Caltrans, City of Santa Cruz, County of Santa Cruz and RTC initiate public outreach on construction schedules for the Murray Street Bridge and parallel projects.

Rachel Moriconi reminded public works departments to complete the Statewide Local Streets and Roads (LSR) Needs Assessment Survey and requested agencies identify staff working on the survey. She reported that

Caltrans plans to issue the call for projects for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) on May 9, with a focus on vulnerable users. She also reported on state meetings regarding Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) implementation and shared webinar information for the New USDOT Safe Streets for All program:

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A/webinars>

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

Item 6 was moved to the end of the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approved Minutes of the March 17, 2022, ITAC meeting

***Committee members present unanimously approved a motion (Lamm/Fontes) approving the consent agenda,** with Urgo, Mozumder, Nguyen, Dettle, Lamm, Fontes, Carlson, Hierling, Canin, and McRoberts voting "yes" by roll call vote. Member Meek was not present at time of vote.*

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Caltrans District 5 Active Transportation Plan (CAT Plan)

Ingrid McRoberts, Caltrans District 5 Planning presented the District 5 Active Transportation Plan (CAT Plan), which was completed earlier this year. District 5 was the first district in the state to develop this Plan and there are currently efforts underway to incorporate new data, methodology, and youth-based outreach activities into subsequent Plans. Going forward it will be important to be able to site the inclusion of a need in the Plan on grant applications.

8. Draft Active Transportation- Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST)/Coastal Rail Trail Five-Year Program of Projects for Measure Revenues (MBSST 5-Year Plan)

Rachel Moriconi presented options for programming Measure D-Active Transportation category funds, including possibly programming additional funding for Segments 8-11, funding for Segment 12, and maintenance and oversight of the Coastal Rail Trail. Any commitments by the RTC would be reflected in grant applications being submitted later this year. She noted that financing may be needed based on current schedules if the RTC approves funding amounts for Segments 10 & 11 and Segment 12 trail alignments next to the railroad tracks as described in the staff report.

In response to questions from committee members, Rob Tidmore and Nathan Nguyen clarified that they plan to submit ATP applications for the trail alignment next to railroad tracks. Sarah Christensen provided additional information on the joint Segment 12 and Highway 1 project. ***The committee unanimously approved a motion (Fontes/Nguyen) recommending that the RTC approve funding for Segments 8–12 and ongoing maintenance and corridor maintenance as shown in Attachment 1: 5 Year Project List – Proposed, and issue bonds if needed to meet those funding commitments, with members Urgo, Mozumder, Nguyen, Dettle, Lamm, Meek, Fontes, Carlson, Hierling, Canin, and McRoberts voting “yes”.***

Guy Preston & Grace Blakeslee left the meeting at approximately 2:45pm.

9. Go Santa Cruz County Program Update

Amy Naranjo, RTC Transportation Planner, provided an update to the Go Santa Cruz County program. She highlighted elements of the program, including services for employers such as system impact and heat map reports, and incentives and rewards for participants. She encouraged members to try out the program, commit to and track smart commutes, and invite them to provide feedback and use data collected.

Nathan Nguyen, Mark Dettle, Justin Meek, and John Urgo left the meeting at about 2:55pm.

6. Status of transportation projects, programs, studies, and planning documents *(Item was discussed after Item 9)*

ITAC members provided updates on projects, programs, studies and planning efforts.

County of Santa Cruz – Casey Carlson reported that the County is still working on 2017 storm damage sites, with two recently awarded projects and 35 locations going before the board for approval over next two months. The Soquel Multimodal Project is at 100% design. The Holohan/152 intersection project is projected to start construction this summer. The final draft of the County’s Active Transportation Plan is out for review. For the Soquel area adaptive signal project, intersections currently in adaptive mode include: 41st Ave/Soquel Drive, 41st Ave/Redwood Shopping Center, Soquel/Daubenbliss, Soquel/Porter-Main, and Soquel-San Jose/O’Neill Lane. Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons have been installed at another 12 locations. The 2022 Measure D repaving project in partnership with Capitola is moving forward. County sanitation division is also working on projects and plan to add green lanes on Portola Drive. Environmental review of the Buena

Vista Dr. project is delayed, moving construction to summer 2023. The County is working to get its emergency routes project [Alba and Jamison Creek Roads] out to bid this summer. The San Andreas Road rehab STIP project is also scheduled for construction for summer 2023. The County also won a \$5 million Clean California grant for its Green Valley path and will be getting consultants to help with design.

Watsonville Public Works - Murray Fontes reported that while Watsonville is still waiting for delivery of lighting components for the Lincoln Street pedestrian safety project, utility work is underway that will be needed for several other planned projects. He reported that Caltrans incorporated many of Watsonville's complete streets plans into its Highway 129 and Highway 152 projects. Patrice Theriot is preparing information for the statewide local roads needs assessment. He noted that Watsonville has no bridge projects planned. The city is working on an ATP application for various bike and pedestrian projects near schools identified in complete streets and downtown plans.

Scotts Valley - Chris Lamm reported that the city's Measure D 5-year plan and SB1 project list is going before the City Council on May 4. Chris will be the contact for the statewide local roads needs assessment report. They are recruiting a new senior civil engineer and Council awarded about 20 on-call professional services contracts, including civil engineering, project management, grant support, and construction support services to help address some of the backlog of projects. He reported that candidates for ATP or HSIP have not been identified yet.

City of Capitola - Kailash Mozumder reported 2022 road resurfacing work is going to be done in coordination with the County in June. The city is advertising for construction bids for the Clares Street project. They are still a few months out from bringing an updated Measure D 5-year plan to council. The city's adaptive signals on 41st Ave. from Jade St. to Clares St. are expected to go into detection mode before the end of the month, with adaptive signals at Caltrans intersections expected in next few months. He also reported that the regional bike share program agreement with a contractor is being finalized and expressed interest in trip information from Go Santa Cruz County to identify station locations. He noted that the City has not identified projects for ATP or HSIP applications.

AMBAG - Paul Hierling reported that AMBAG received a Caltrans Partnership Planning grant to develop an updated Central Coast Sustainable Freight Study, which will integrate California Transportation Plan 2050 (CTP), the State Freight Mobility Plan 2020, Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), and sustainability and equity.

Ecology Action – Piet Canin announced May Bike Month. He encouraged everyone to participate: <https://ecoact.org/bikemonth/>. He reported that Ecology Action is implementing several grants, including outreach on EVs for low-income residents. Ecology Action is also partnering with UCSC for implementing bike safety education projects and may submit a Cycle 6 ATP application to expand the UCSC Slug Bike Life (#slugbikelife) program.

SCCRTC - Rachel Moriconi shared the Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee's appreciation for work done on annual reports and audits. She reported that the RTC has been awarded Caltrans planning grants for equity and climate resiliency planning. She announced that the RTC has hired Stephanie Britt as a new planning technician. Sarah Christensen reported that the RTC submitted a federal RAISE grant application for \$14.8 million for the Hwy 1 Soquel-41st auxiliary lanes/bus-on-shoulder and zero-emission buses project. RTC is working with Caltrans to prepare a \$30 million application for a federal Rural Mega grant for the Highway 1 Freedom Blvd. to State Park Dr., plus Segment 12 project.

10. Next meeting. The next meeting of the ITAC is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on May 19, 2022, by Zoom. ITAC meetings may be cancelled if there are no action items to be considered by the committee.

Adjournment: Chair Mozumder adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cindy Convisser and Rachel Moriconi

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