



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

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, April 11, 2022
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 6:00 pm.
2. Introductions

Members Present:

Scott Roseman, District 1
John Hunt, District 2 (Alt.)
Sally Arnold, District 3
Peter Scott, 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
Amelia Conlen, Bike-to-Work, Chair
Leo Jed, CTSC
Arnold Shir, CTSC (Alt.)

Staff:

Tommy Travers, Transportation Planner
Grace Blakeslee, Sr. Transportation Planner
Sarah Christensen, Sr. Transportation Engineer
Rachel Moriconi, Sr. Transportation Planner
Guy Preston, Executive Director

Guests:

Robert Tidmore, County of Santa Cruz
Zach Siviglia, Mark Thomas & Co.
Piet Canin, Ecology Action
Gina Cole, nomination pending

Unexcused Absences:

Excused Absences:

Corrina McFarlane, District 1 (Alt.)
Kathleen Bortolussi, District 2
Liz Hernandez, District 4 (Alt.)
Michael Moore, City of Capitola (Alt.)
Drew Rogers, City of Watsonville (Alt.)
Matt Miller, Bike-to-Work (Alt.)

Vacancies:

City of Scotts Valley – Alternate
City of Watsonville - Primary

William Menchine, Joni Steele, Johanna Lighthill, Tim Brattan, Jean Brocklebank, Barry Scott, Lani Faulkner, Judy Gittlesohn, members of the public

3. Staff announcements – none
4. Oral communications – Anna Kammer announced that the City of Watsonville did not receive grant funding to prepare an Active Transportation Plan, and that the City was awarded \$1 million in funding for construction of the first phase of the Lee Road Trail and construction will begin in 2023 or 2024. William Menchine asked if the committee would have him present at a future meeting on his proposed bicycle improvements for lower Graham Hill Road. Piet Canin announced that May will be Bike Month, with Bike to Work funding from the RTC, and will include the online challenge “Love to Ride” as well as in-person events.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – as indicated in the item 13 staff report, additional exhibits were posted to the Committee meetings & agendas webpage. Contrary to the indication in the item 10 staff report, progress reports were not posted to the Committee meetings & agendas webpage.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

6. Approved draft minutes of the February 7, 2022 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
7. Accepted summary of hazard reports
8. Approved recommendation to the RTC of nomination of new Committee member
9. Approved recommendation to the RTC to approve Ecology Action’s Transportation Development Act (TDA) allocation request for \$72,000 for the Bike to Work/School Program- Committee members expressed appreciation of the program’s sponsored safe group rides in Watsonville
10. Approved recommendation to the RTC to approve the county Health Services Agency’s TDA allocation request for \$156,000 for the Community Traffic Safety Coalition (CTSC) and the Ride N Stride Bicycle and Pedestrian Education Programs – Committee members requested more data about the outcomes of these programs, expressed appreciation for the CTSC’s support of the Watsonville Vision Zero Task Force, and invited other members to attend meetings of the CTSC or join its email list.
11. Accept correspondence from Caltrans District 5 staff regarding Active Transportation Plan

REGULAR AGENDA

12. Committee Elections for Chair and Vice Chair.

John Hunt nominated Amelia Conlen for Chair and Sally Arnold seconded. The vote passed unanimously with members Roseman, Hunt, Arnold, Kammer, Hyman, Bradley, Farrell, Masoner, Conlen, and Jed voting in favor.

Matt Farrell nominated Anna Kammer for Vice Chair and Sally Arnold seconded. The vote passed unanimously with members Roseman, Hunt, Arnold, Kammer, Hyman, Bradley, Farrell, Masoner, Conlen, and Jed voting in favor.

13. MBSST Coastal Rail Trail Segments 8/9, 10/11, and 12 projects – Grace Blakeslee, Sr. Transportation Planner, provided a general overview of all three projects and explained that the purpose of the presentation is to seek comments on the design elements of both the “interim” and “ultimate” schematic design options. Robert Tidmore, Segment 10/11 project manager with the County of Santa Cruz, presented a description of the two design options and reviewed the cost estimates for all three projects.

After Mr. Tidmore presented the designs for Segment 8/9, committee members asked questions regarding the costs for the trail options for each trail segment, requested future discussion on costs and provided the following comments:

- The trail would be a better active transportation facility with fewer delays from yielding to uncontrolled automobile traffic at the road crossings;
- Add pavement markings guiding users through the U turn connecting the Boardwalk parking lot to the San Lorenzo River bridge ramp;
- Appreciate the planned sidewalk widening and consider relocating of the sidewalk on Beach Street where on-street parking causes conflicts with the cycle track;
- Bike and ped connections needed between the trail and small craft harbor on both sides of the harbor; and
- Further study is needed of bicycle and pedestrian circulation between 7th Ave. and Seabright Ave. to minimize use of highly congested Murray Street and the study should consider an additional railroad grade crossing.

Mr. Tidmore presented the Segment 10/11 project schematic plans, noted alignment options for the ultimate configuration along Park Ave, noted that several proposed new rail grade crossings for the ultimate configuration will be subject to CPUC approval, and noted locations where plans differ from the MBSST Master Plan. He announced the in-person open house for the project on April 13.

Committee members commented on coordination between the design for segments under development and future segments and trail widths, and discussed consideration of overall transportation needs in the Pajaro to Santa Cruz corridor.

Sarah Christensen, Sr. Transportation Engineer, presented an overview of the Segment 12 project. Zach Siviglia, design consultant, presented the schematic plans and noted that the interim bridges over Highway 1 are designed with abutments that allow for shifting the bridge decks when the time comes for a railroad bridge.

The Committee received comments from several members of the public.

14. Measure D 5-Year Plan for MBSST/Active Transportation – Rachel Moriconi, Sr. Transportation Planner, introduced the Measure D 5-Year Plan for MBSST/Active

Transportation funding allocations by the RTC. She described options for project funding ranging from approving funding for Segments 8 through 12 and corridor maintenance as shown in the report and issuing bonds for funding to be available earlier than the Measure D tax money is collected, to reducing fund amounts to match pay-as-you-go capacity. Committee members discussed the role of railbanking in advancing trail projects and the cost of bonding. Some members expressed reluctance to provide input on options that might require bonding, or concern about not knowing enough about the costs of bonding.

A motion (Hyman/Jed) was made to state Committee support for all the current MBSST coastal rail trail segment projects to move forward, but for not speaking to either endorsing or not endorsing the funding amounts allocated to each element of the 5-Year Plan. A substitute motion (Hyman/Arnold) was made matching the motion above but also including support for bonding to allow adequate RTC funds to support upcoming grant applications. The motion passed (6-1-2) with members Hunt, Arnold, Kammer, Hyman, Bradley, and Conlen voting in favor, Jed voting against, Roseman and Masoner abstaining, and Farrell not present.

15. Updates related to Committee functions – Theresia Rogerson announced that there will be a new federal grant funding source from the FHWA for which local jurisdictions with Vision Zero plans will be eligible.
16. Adjourn – 8:55 pm

NEXT MEETING: The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2022 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. The meeting will be held **via teleconference**.

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