



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

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**DRAFT MINUTES**

Thursday, September 22, 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 Community Development & Public Works Proxy	Kailash Mozumder
Santa Cruz Public Planning Proxy	Claire Gallogly
Santa Cruz Public Works	Josh Spangrud
Scotts Valley Public Works	Chris Lamm
Watsonville Public Works	Murray Fontes
Watsonville Community Development	Justin Meek
County of Santa Cruz Public Works	Steve Wiesner
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments	Paul Hierling
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	Paul Guirguis
Ecology Action- Transportation Program	Piet Canin
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District	John Urgo
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District	Pete Rasmussen
University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC)	Oxo Slayer

**RTC Staff Present**

Sarah Christensen, Krista Corwin, Rachel Moriconi, Guy Preston, Tommy Travers

**Others Present**

Caltrans District 5: Malinda Gallaher, Garin Schneider, Scott Kirkish

AMBAG: Chris Duymich, Miranda Taylor

Public: Jill Hough, Brian People, Michael Pisano, Joni Steele

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Kailash Mozumder called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.
- 2. Introductions:** Introductions were made. All attendees participated by teleconference.
- 3. Oral Communications:**

Rachel Moriconi reported that she will send out the California Transportation Commission's (CTC) Active Transportation Program project list to recipients to review and update.

Brian Peoples highlighted \$25 million grant obtained by Monterey County for investment in buses; provided comments on the costs of Segment 7 Phase B; urged the committee to align with the California Coastal Commission.

Josh Spangrud informed the chair that he may have to leave the meeting early.

- 4. Additions, deletions, or changes to consent and regular agendas:**  
Item 6 was moved to the end of the regular agenda. Handouts, including presentation slides for Items 6, 9, 10, and 12, are posted on the ITAC meeting agenda webpage: <https://sccrtc.org/meetings/inter-agency/agendas/>

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 5. Approved Minutes of the June 16, 2022, ITAC meeting**
- 6. ~~Central Coast Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy (CCZEVS) Update~~**  
*Moved to end of regular agenda*
- 7. Received Legislative Updates**
- 8. Received Federal Funding Updates**

***Committee members present approved a motion (Fontes/Lamm) approving the consent agenda, with Mozumder, Gallogly, Lamm, Wiesner, Fontes, Meek, Hierling, Urgo, Rasmussen, Slayer and Canin voting "yes" by roll call vote. Members Guirgus and Spangrud abstained.***

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

- 9. Caltrans Asset Management and State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP)**

The ITAC received a presentation from Scott Kirkish, Asset Manager for Caltrans District 5, on state highway asset management and the Biannual State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Package. Claire Gallogly requested that Caltrans integrate City of Santa Cruz comments into the scope of the Highway 1/Mission Street Capital Maintenance project (PPNO 2725). Guy Preston requested information about what additional projects will be funded given that the SHOPP is being backfilled with Infrastructure and Jobs Investment Act funds. Scott responded that there might be a few very large SHOPP projects in other parts of the state using the funds.

Garin Schneider presented the project queue map; the three-year PID oversight projects work plan; offered advice that the type of operational, capacity-building projects are unlikely to receive funding; and requested that local agencies contact Paul Guirguis with any project questions, especially any related to Complete Streets on state highways. He

encouraged agencies to look at the Caltrans webviewer. He noted that active transportation program applications require a PID or PID equivalent. Sarah Christensen provided feedback on oversight of the County's Pajaro River Levee project. Murray Fontes noted that Watsonville is hoping to have the Freedom Blvd/152-Main St operational improvements/roundabout on the list for future analysis in combination with other Caltrans projects in the area.

## **10. Caltrans Strategic Investment Strategy (CSIS)**

Rachel Moriconi presented information about the new Caltrans Strategic Investment Strategy. She noted that the effort is focused on implementation of the state's Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) and Caltrans is using more evaluation criteria to screen projects and determine priorities for numerous funding programs. She noted that the RTC will also be updating its evaluation criteria and soliciting input from ITAC before its next call for projects for RTC-discretionary funds.

Brian Peoples, Trail Now, stated that sea-level rising requirements of the Coastal Commission should be incorporated into project scoring criteria and requested staff to invite Coastal Commission staff to participate in ITAC meetings. Claire Gallogy stated that the CSIS criteria are very similar to criteria regularly used to evaluate projects.

## **11. Status of transportation projects, programs, studies, and planning documents**

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

Scotts Valley – Chris Lamm reported on a new road striping contract award; city council and staff attended the Think Bike workshop.

Watsonville – Murray Fontes reported on the Think Bike event last week; Freedom Blvd reconstruction project (Alta Vista to Green Valley Rd) is out to bid and will begin construction after a utility project is done, likely early next year; RTC-funded city-wide road maintenance is expected to start Spring 2023; the City Council approved a resolution to support a Caltrans project to do a road diet and build bike and pedestrian facilities on Main Street. Justin Meek appreciated collaboration between Caltrans, public works, and planning on the Main Street project. The Downtown Plan will come forth to City Council in October.

METRO – John Urgo reported that METRO is kicking off its Soquel Dr corridor planning project and appreciated Ecology Action's bike seminar.

County of Santa Cruz – Steve Wiesner reported that the County is wrapping up construction season, finishing Measure D resurfacing and striping

projects; County became a Vision Zero agency and submitted a grant application for the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) federal program for a Vision Zero action plan in partnership with Watsonville, Scotts Valley and others; County received a \$5 million Clean California grant to reconstruct the multi-use path along Green Valley Road, with construction set for next summer; the Soquel Dr SB1-Congested Corridors project will be going to bid this fall, with construction scheduled for early next year; the Highway 152/Holohan intersection project is expected to be ready to list (RTL) in early 2023 and go to construction in summer 2023; the County is going to utilize job order contracts (JOC); and continuing work on 2017 storm damage repair projects.

City of Santa Cruz – Claire Gallogly reported on staffing changes; Rail Trail Segment 7-phase 2 construction; and the regional bike share contract is expected to be presented to boards and commissions soon. Josh Spangrud reported on recruitment for open positions; the Segments 8 and 9 Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) will be released for public review 9/23; the Highway 1/9 project is expected to be completed by the end of October/early November; the Chestnut Street project experienced delays partially due to materials procurement, but should be completed this fall; reconstruction of a portion of West Cliff path from 2017 storm damage is also nearing completion; and Murray Street bridge project is expected to be ready to going out to bid at the end of this year, with construction scheduled to start in spring 2023.

Capitola – Kailash Mozumder reported the Measure D 2022 resurfacing projects are completed; Clares Street project construction is expected to start in October; city is soliciting public input on the Kennedy Road sidewalk project; 2023 road rehabilitation is in design; collecting final data for the regional bike share program; and the 41<sup>st</sup> Ave adaptive signal program should be fully operational by the end of October.

AMBAG – saved their updates and comments for item 13 and 14.

Ecology Action – Piet Canin appreciated everybody for coming to the ThinkBike workshop; he encouraged agencies to participate in Biketober and the online Bike Challenge; he also encouraged agencies to look at partnering on Clean Mobility funding options to advance clean shared mobility projects.

UCSC – Oxo Slayer reported on a campus-wide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan to mitigate vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and will develop an annual VMT monitoring program; UCSC is identifying bike share docking station locations on campus and near Delaware Ave; also developing a study for the historic area gateway at Coolidge, Bay and High Streets, as well as a study for the westside research property that will take into consideration rail trail, bikeways, parking.

SCCRTC - Rachel Moriconi and Sarah Christensen reported:

- The RTC will consider amendments to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and FY22/23 RTC Budget at its November meeting. She requested agencies submit requests for any changes to scope, schedule or other project information.
- RTC staff is preparing updates to the Measure D 5-Year Program of Projects for regional project categories, for consideration by RTC advisory committees in October and the RTC board in November.
- At its October 6, 2022 meeting, the RTC board will receive an update on Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network/Coastal Rail Trail funding, potential grant opportunities, and preliminary recommendations regarding using Measure D –Trail funding for maintenance and to complete construction of the coastal rail trail.
- Hwy 1 41st Ave-Soquel Drive hybrid auxiliary lanes/bus-on-shoulder and Chanticleer Bike/Pedestrian bridge project: Caltrans awarded a contract for the project. Bids came in 13% over the engineer's estimate. Construction is scheduled to start in late 2022 and take approximately 2 years. Agencies should contact Sarah if interested in review bid results.
- Pajaro River Railroad Bridge Rehabilitation: May 2022 RTC rejected bids; staff has revised the scope and will bring these to the RTC at the Oct 6, 2022 meeting to adopt PS&E and advertise this fall. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2023.
- Highway 1 Bay/Porter-State Park auxiliary lanes project is scheduled to be advertised in early 2023.
- SB1-Cycle 3: RTC working with Caltrans, METRO & County to submit applications for Watsonville to Santa Cruz Multimodal Corridor: Freedom-SP Aux/BOS, Soquel Dr multimodal improvements, transit enhancements (in-lane boarding platforms, shelters, real-time displays, e-ticket vouchers), and Segment 12 of rail trail including 2 Hwy 1 bicycle/pedestrian overcrossings and two Soquel Drive bicycle/pedestrian overcrossings.
- San Lorenzo Valley (SLV)/ Highway 9: Caltrans recently finished a complete streets Project Initiation Document (PID) for the corridor; last week RTC submitted a Safe Streets for All grant application for a Boulder Creek Complete Streets project on SR9 and SR236. The project is also on Eshoo/House appropriations list – subject to federal budget approval. Stakeholder and community outreach is scheduled for the Hwy 9 SLV School Access and Circulation Study this fall.
- RTC will be conducting traffic volume counts at several locations throughout the county.

## **12. Caltrans Local Assistance Updates**

Malinda Gallaher, Caltrans District 5 Local Assistance, presented information about:

- Build America Buy America (BABA) requirements

- New Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) or Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Programs – website updates with new links for the CRP and SS4A programs
- Risk Assessment Program for agencies
- Caltrans 2022 Standard Plans and Standard Specifications will be published on Oct 24, 2022; date for Local Agency to incorporate into projects is TBD.

### **13. Draft 2022 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan**

Miranda Taylor, AMBAG, presented the draft Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan and requested agencies provide input on lists of providers of transit services for seniors and people with disabilities, the project lists and any parts of the plan that should be updated for the final document.

Brian Peoples, Trail Now, delivered comments praising Santa Cruz Metro's paratransit program.

### **14. Regional Early Action Planning Grants 2.0 Program**

Paul Hierling, AMBAG, provided an update on the Regional Early Action Program (REAP 2.0) highlighting the eligible uses. He requested that ITAC members provide input for the development of AMBAG's REAP 2.0 framework. Paul will send the presentation to ITAC members and members are encouraged to pursue this funding source that integrates transportation and land use.

### **6. Central Coast Zero-Emission Vehicle Strategy.**

Rachel Moriconi, SCCRTC, encouraged ITAC members to go to the CCCZEV website and provide input on electric vehicle charging station locations.

**15. Next meeting.** The next meeting of the ITAC is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on October 20, 2022. Meeting location (virtual or in-person) will be determined based on the latest health guidance and state law. ITAC meetings may be cancelled if there are no action items to be considered by the committee.

Chair Mozumder adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

*Minutes prepared by Rachel Moriconi and Krista Corwin*

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