



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
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Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Nov. 3, 2022 Meeting Highlights

Update from Santa Cruz METRO

The RTC received an update on Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) public transportation services and capital projects, which are partially funded by the RTC with Transportation Development Act (TDA), State Transit Assistance (STA), Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), and other grants. Metro's Planning and Development Director, John Urgo, highlighted bus ridership trends, as well as plans to double ridership, provide more rapid transit service along major roadways between Watsonville and Santa Cruz, and replace its aging fleet with zero-emission buses. METRO partners with the RTC through the Cruz511.org and Go Santa Cruz County program to make it easier for residents and visitors to ride the bus.

Recognition of Assemblymember Mark Stone

The Commission presented a Resolution of Recognition to Assemblymember and former RTC Commissioner Mark Stone for his years of distinguished service and leadership as he prepares to retire after four terms as a state legislator. Assemblymember Stone has been an exemplary champion of transportation projects and advocate for a more sustainable Santa Cruz County. He was instrumental in ensuring the passage of key bus-on-shoulder legislation, securing critical funding for transportation projects, programs, and service, and securing the purchase of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line right-of-way, making it possible to develop and construct the Coastal Rail Trail and continue the work toward future passenger rail service.

Public Hearing: Measure D: Five-Year Programs of Projects for Regional Projects

The Commission received input from the public and approved updated Fiscal Years (FY) 2022/23-2026/2027 five-year programs of projects for regional projects funded by Measure D. This includes funding for the Active Transportation/Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network/Rail Trail, Highway Corridors, Rail Corridor preservation, Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing, and San Lorenzo Valley-Highway 9 Corridor Improvements. Some of the projects anticipated to be under construction within the next year include Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus-on-Shoulders between Soquel and State Park, including new bicycle/pedestrian overcrossings at Chanticleer Avenue and Mar Vista Avenue. Also included is the completion of project development activities for a number of projects across all categories to ensure the start of construction within the next five years. The approved 5-year plans for spending Measure D funds are on the RTC website: www.sccrtc.org/move.

Amendments to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 Budget & Work Program

The Commission amended its FY 2022-23 Budget and Work Program to incorporate information from prior year-end balances, new projects or funds, updated estimates, and other necessary changes. The proposed FY 2022-23 budget for the RTC includes continuation of ongoing RTC projects and programs, continued oversight of regional transportation projects, and the administration and implementation of Measure D. Some of the approved funds include \$1.37 million in Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds from the prior two fiscal years. Most of these TDA funds (nearly \$1 million) were allocated to Santa Cruz METRO, whose representatives communicated that these additional funds will be extremely helpful in their efforts to replace aging buses with electric buses and maintain service.

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 is now holding its commission meetings in a hybrid (virtual and in-person) format. 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 or by calling 831-460-3200.

Regional Transportation Commission Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

Interagency Technical Advisory Committee

Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Monday, Dec. 12, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 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 or call 460-3200. Some Regional Transportation

Commission meetings are televised countywide by Community TV of Santa Cruz. Consult www.communitytv.org or call 831-425-8848 for schedule and station information.