

Electric Passenger Rail Transit & Coastal Rail Trail Project



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Staff Recommendations

- 1. Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a professional engineering and environmental services contract for the project with HDR Engineering, Inc. for a total amount not to exceed \$3 million to begin preparing the project concept report (Task 1);*
- 2. Amend the Measure D-Rail Category Program of Projects to add funding in FY23 through FY24 to partially fund the work through Task 1;*
- 3. Amend the RTC FY23 budget accordingly; and*
- 4. Authorize inter-program loans from other Measure D fund categories to the Measure D Rail category, if needed.*



Project Description

Electric Passenger Rail Transit



- ✓ Along the SCBRL between the Pajaro Junction in North Monterey County and Natural Bridges Drive in the City of Santa Cruz (22 Miles)
- ✓ Convert single track freight railroad to Electric Passenger Rail Transit Facility
- ✓ Includes new passing sidings, stations, and operations, maintenance, and storage facilities
- ✓ Replacement or rehabilitation of major infrastructure including bridges, culvert, track, and signals
- ✓ Adjustments to horizontal and vertical alignment
- ✓ Connection to future Pajaro Station

Coastal Rail Trail



- ✓ Along the SCBRL between Rio del Mar Blvd and Pajaro Junction (Seg 13-20) (excluding Segment 18 Ph1) and the Capitola Trestle (Seg 11 Ph2)
- ✓ Coordination with Coastal Rail Trail Projects under development

Project Description

Electric Rail Transit

Between the Pajaro Junction and Natural Bridges Drive (22 mi)
Identified as the locally preferred alternative in the TCAA/RNIS



TRANSIT CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS



Project Description

Coastal Rail Trail

- Rio del Mar to Lee Road - Seg 13-17
- Potential - Seg 18 Ph2-3
- Beach St to Pajaro Jct - Seg 19-20
- Capitola Trestle – Seg 11 Ph2





Scope of Work

- 1. Project Concept Report**
- 2. Preliminary Engineering**
- 3. Initial Right of Way Services**
- 4. Draft and Final Environmental Document**



Project Concept Report

First 12 months of Task 1:

- Community & Stakeholder Outreach
- Develop Initial Purpose & Need Statement
- Initial Ridership & Operating Model
- Environmental Existing Conditions Initial Screening
- Structures Existing Conditions Assessment
- Develop Concept Alignment
- Crossing Investigation
- Initial Right of Way Investigation
- Project Management



Funding Strategy

Local funds

- Insufficient pay-as-you-go capacity in Measure D-Rail Category to fund all of Task 1
- Staff recommends programming \$3.8M to complete the first 12-months of Task 1
- Funds will serve as local match for competitive grants

Competitive Grant Opportunities

- Transit & Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP)
Project Development Fund
- State Rail Assistance Program – Emerging Corridors



Fiscal Impacts

Challenge:

Insufficient capacity in Measure D-Rail Category to fund all of Task 1 through FY24.

Solutions:

- 1. Staff is proposing to award the cost-plus-fixed-fee contract with a not-to-exceed value of \$3M to cover the first 12-months of work.*
- 2. Staff is actively pursuing competitive grants to fund the project through environmental. Awards for TIRCP will be announced in 2023.*



Fiscal Impacts

Challenge:

RTC has \$4.7M in outstanding invoices to CalOES/FEMA for work completed, due to 2017 storms

Solutions:

- 1. Staff is continuing to pursue full reimbursement from CalOES/FEMA.*
- 2. The Measure D-Rail Category may need to pay back the loan from Regional Surface Transportation Program-Exchange. This may require inter-program loans from other Measure D categories.*



Questions/Discussion



Project Description



Station #	Name	Station #	Name
1	Natural Bridges Station	9	Aptos Village Station
2	Bay Street Station	10	Downtown Watsonville Station
3	Downtown Santa Cruz/Boardwalk Station	11	Pajaro Station
4	Seabright Station		
5	17th Avenue Station		
6	41st Avenue Station		
7	Capitola Village Station		
8	Cabrillo College Station		



Project Description



Station #	Name	Station #	Name
1	Natural Bridges Station	9	Capitola Village Station
2	Fair /Almar Avenue Station	10	Park Avenue/Cabrillo Station
3	Bay Street Station	11	Aptos Village Station
4	Downtown Santa Cruz Depot Park Station	12	La Selva Beach Station (seasonal)
5	Boardwalk Station (seasonal)	13	Ohlone Parkway Station
6	Seabright Station	14	Downtown Watsonville Station
7	17th Avenue Station	15	Pajaro Station
8	41st Avenue Station		