



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission**

MINUTES

**Thursday, June 1, 2023
9:00 a.m.**

In-Person Meeting

Board of Supervisors Chambers
701 Ocean Street, Room 525
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Remote Participation

RTC Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85406910971>

Dial-in: +1 564-217-2000

Webinar ID: 854 0691 0971

1. Roll call.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Members present:

Sandy Brown
Kristen Brown
Alexander Pedersen
Eduardo Montesino
Manu Koenig
Felipe Hernandez

Mike Rotkin
Bruce McPherson (Remote)
Jack Dilles (Alt)
Andy Schiffrin (Alt)
Kelly McClendon (Caltrans Ex-Officio)

Staff present:

Guy Preston
Luis Mendez
Shannon Munz
Amy Naranjo
Grace Blakeslee
Amanda Marino
Rachel Moriconi
Tommy Travers
Riley Gerbrandt

Yesenia Parra
Sarah Christensen
Krista Corwin
Tracy New
Keith Rayburn
Brianna Goodman
Steph Britt
Brian Zamora
Steven Mattas (RTC Counsel)

2. Approved AB2449 request(s)

Commissioner McPherson requested to participate remotely under the "emergency circumstances" clause of AB2449 due to a medical situation. Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin motioned and Commissioner S. Brown seconded the motion to approve Commissioner McPherson's participation in this meeting under the emergency circumstances clause of AB2449. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioners Pedersen, S. Brown, Montesino, Koenig, K. Brown, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles and Schiffrin voting "aye."

3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda

Handouts for items 22 and 28 were posted to the website.

4. Oral communications

Received public comment from:

Brian Peoples
Jack Nelson
Barry Scott
Michael Saint
David Van Brink

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hernandez arrived to the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Commissioner McPherson highlighted his support for item 11.

Received public comment from:

Brian Peoples

Commissioner Rotkin motioned and Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Pedersen, S. Brown, Montesino, Koenig, McPherson, K. Brown, Hernandez, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles and Schiffrin voting "aye."

MINUTES

5. Accepted draft minutes of the March 23, 2023 Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee meeting
6. Accepted draft minutes of the April 20, 2023 Interagency Technical Advisory Committee meeting

7. Approved draft minutes of the May 04, 2023 Regional Transportation Commission meeting
8. Accepted draft minutes of the May 08, 2023 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
9. Accepted draft minutes of the May 18, 2023 Interagency Technical Advisory Committee meeting

POLICY ITEMS

No consent items

PROJECTS AND PLANNING ITEMS

10. Approved the draft final fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 RTC work program (**Resolution 48-23**)
11. Approved amending the Highway 9/San Lorenzo Vally (Hwy9/SLV) Complete Streets Corridor Plan to fulfill the federal requirements of a Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan (**Resolution 49-23**)
12. Adopted Scope of Work and Specifications for the Phase 2 Debris Removal and Erosion Control Project (**Resolution 50-23**)
13. Approved authorizing the Executive Director to amend a contract with the County of Santa Cruz for the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus on Shoulder Project between Bay/Porter to State Park Drive (**Resolution 51-23**)
14. Approved authorizing the Executive Director to amend a contract with Moss, Levy, Hartzheim, LLP (**Resolution 52-23**)
15. Approved authorizing the Executive Director to amend a contract with Harris & Associates for Environmental Permitting for maintenance activities along the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line (SCBRL) right-of-way (**Resolution 53-23**)

BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES ITEMS

16. Accepted status report on Transportation Development Act (TDA) revenues
17. Accepted status report on Measure D revenues
18. Accepted FY2020/21 and FY2021-22 Single Audit Reports prepared by Moss, Levy, & Hartzheim for the RTC

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

19. Approved the FY2023-24 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claim for RTC administration and planning
20. Approved rejecting a claim

INFORMATION/OTHER ITEMS

21. Accepted monthly meeting schedule
22. Accepted correspondence log
23. Accepted letters from RTC committees and staff to other agencies
 - a. May 9, 2023 Letter to California Legislators Re: Request for Funding for SCCRTC Priorities in the State Budget
24. Accepted information items
 - a. Public meeting requirements under the Brown Act and AB 2449
 - b. Letter to Caltrans District 5 Re: 2023 International Conference on Ecology and Transportation (ICOET) Stewardship Award for Local/State/Provincial Organizations

REGULAR AGENDA

25. Commissioner Reports - *none*

26. Director's Report

Executive Director Preston delivered updates on: March 2023 storm damage repairs and tree clearing; FEMA funding updates; strategic grant leveraging with Measure D Funds; Measure D Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) update expected in November.

27. Caltrans Report

Kelly McClendon, Deputy District Director for District 5, delivered an update regarding the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus-on-Shoulder project and reminded drivers that the highway will be an active construction zone until completion expected in 2025; Highway closures related to storm damage repair; AIDS LifeCycle charity bike ride to come through Santa Cruz County on Sunday, June 4 and Monday, June 5.

Commissioners discussed: appreciation for Caltrans' attention to Highways 9, 35 and 236; upcoming town hall meetings on the SLV schools complex

access study; concerns about parking along the North Coast.

Received public comment from:
Linda Wilshusen

In response to a question, Deputy Director McClendon provided information about distribution lists for news releases and project updates.

28. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus on Shoulder from State Park Drive to Freedom Boulevard and Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 Project Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment

Deputy Director, Luis Mendez noted in Spanish that a translator was available for anyone requiring Spanish interpretation.

Senior Transportation Engineer Sarah Christensen and consultant Zack Siviglia delivered a presentation and responded to questions regarding: the question and answer process for the EIR; possibility to obtain Caltrans approval in the future to have the buses run in the shoulder next to the auxiliary lanes;

The public hearing opened at 10:04 a.m.

Received public comment from:
Charlie Wilcox, Seacliff Business Association
Matt Ferrell, Friends of the Rail and Trail
Sally Arnold, Friends of the Rail and Trail
Susan Cavalieri
Dan Holdren
Saladin Sale
Brian Peoples, Trail Now
Jack Nelson
Michael Saint
Jean Brocklebank
Michael Lewis
Rick Longinotti, Campaign for Sustainable Transportation
Barry Scott
Paula Bradley
Sean
Dianne D.

In response to a Commissioner's question, Ms. Christensen clarified that the EIR is a separate stand-alone document that is not tiered off any other EIR.

29. Potential GO Santa Cruz County Bicycle Incentives

Transportation Planners Amanda Marino and Amy Naranjo delivered the staff report and responded to questions regarding: response to concerns about vehicle miles travelled; methods of collecting data; incentive stacking; simplification of the application process and assistance for Spanish speakers; how applicants are prioritized for the vouchers; adaptive bikes; whether any funds are available for the infrastructure that is required for e-bike transportation; and funding from the Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD) intended for the bikeshare program.

Commissioners discussed: events and organizations in South County that present opportunities for outreach; collaboration with Central Coast Community Energy and request for funding for e-bike vouchers; advertising program over several weeks so as not to overwhelm the program; phased roll-out countywide; and suggestion to local jurisdictions to move bikeshare programs forward in their own communities.

Received public comment from:

Claire Gallogly, City of Santa Cruz

Joanna Edmonds

Sally Arnold, Friends of the Rail and Trail

Matt Farrell

Matt Miller, Ecology Action

Michael Lewis

Piet Canin, Ecology Action

Sean

Commissioner Rotkin motioned and Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin seconded the motion to approve the staff recommendation to seek grant funds for a pilot bicycle incentive/voucher program focused on lower income individuals to assist them with purchasing regular bicycles, electric bicycles, and bike sharing services.

The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Pedersen, S. Brown, Montesino, Hernandez, Koenig, McPherson, K. Brown, Rotkin, and Commissioner Alternates Schiffrin and Dilles voting "aye."

The RTC Chair, Commissioner Koenig, said that he would send a letter to Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) requesting that funding continue to be available for these types of programs.

30. Review of items to be discussed in closed session.

RTC Counsel Steve Mattas communicated that he did not anticipate any reportable action from the closed session.

Received public comment from:
Grace Blakeslee

CLOSED SESSION

The Commission entered closed session at 11:30 a.m.

31. Conference with Labor Negotiators (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8)

Agency Designated Representatives: Guy Preston and Jesse Lad

Employee Organizations: CORE and RAMM

32. Report out of items discussed in closed session

Because there was no reportable action from the closed session, the RTC did not reconvene in open session. The meeting adjourned at 12:25p.m.

33. Next meetings

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 03, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., at the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Chambers located at 701 Ocean St. Rm. 525, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

The next Transportation Policy Workshop meeting has been cancelled.

Respectfully submitted,

Yesenia Parra, Administrative Services Officer

Attendees

Shilpa Trisal
Brian Peoples, Trail Now
Barry Scott
Lowell Hurst
Dianne D
BobFi
Lani Faulkner for Equity Transit
Joni
(831)-***-6833

Sean
Michael Saint
Amy Johnson
Sharon Polak
Ray Welch
David <3 Public Transit
Peter Haworth
Bill Philipps
Jeanette Guire RC RR

Heather Adamson, AMBAG
Kate Elliot
Linda Wilshusen
(831)-***-7526
Chris Schneiter
Roberto Radrigan
Paula Bradley
Frank Rimicci
Jim MacKenzie
Jean Brocklebank
Michael Lewis
Ricky Longinotti
Maggie Barr
Pauline Seales
PD
Julia Mousavi, Caltrans
Paul Guirguis, Caltrans
Jack Nelson
Johanna Lighthill
Michael Pisano
Mark Johannessen
Piet Canin
Jerry Cannella
Tom Walker
Claire Gallogly, City of Santa Cruz
Joanna Edmonds
Sally Arnold
Matt Farrell
Matt Miller, Ecology Action
Sean
Saladin Sale
Susan Cavalieri
Dan Holdren
Charlie Wilcox
Madilyn Jacobsen
Judy Gittelsohn
Derek Leffers