



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's
Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee
(Also serves as the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council)

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

In-Person Meeting

1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REMOTE PARTICIPATION: Remote participation is offered to members of the public, nonvoting alternates, and committee members unable to attend in person due to an emergency or for cause per AB2449. E&D TAC Members who need to participate remotely under AB2449 should provide justification prior to the meeting to amarino@sccrtc.org (see end of agenda for more information).

Join the online meeting to see presentations:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89552974932>

Meeting ID: 895 5297 4932

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 9128

- 1. 1:30pm — Call to Order**
- 2. 1:30pm — Introductions**
- 3. 1:32pm — Consider AB2449 request(s) to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances (a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person)**
- 4. 1:35pm — Oral communications**
- 5. 1:40pm — Additions or deletions to the consent or regular agenda**

CONSENT AGENDA

All items appearing on the consent agenda are considered to be minor or non-controversial and will be acted upon in one motion if no member of the E&D TAC or public wishes an item be removed and discussed on the regular agenda.

Members of the E&D TAC may raise questions, seek clarification or add directions to Consent Agenda items without removing the item from the Consent Agenda as long as no other E&D TAC member objects to the change.

- 6. Approve Minutes from October 10, 2023— pg. 5**
- 7. Receive RTC Meeting Highlights— pg. 11**
- 8. Receive November 2023 E&D TAC Roster— pg. 14**

REGULAR AGENDA

- 9. 1:55 pm — Receive Program Updates— pg. 15**
 - a. Volunteer Center
 - b. Community Bridges
 - c. Santa Cruz Metro
 - d. SCCRTC
 - e. Pedestrian Ad-hoc Subcommittee
 - i. Pedestrian Hazard Report
- 10. AMBAG Complete Streets Policies— pg. 16**
- 11. 2023 Consolidated Grants and Regional Transportation Improvement Program Preliminary Recommendations— pg. 18**
- 12. Reimagine METRO Service Changes— pg. 23**

3:30 pm — Adjourn

Next meeting: 1:30 pm, December 12, 2023, hosted in person at the SCCRTC office located at 1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

HOW TO REACH US

*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation
Commission
1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250,
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: (831) 460-3200 / fax (831) 460-3215
Email: info@sccrtc.org / website: www.sccrtc.org*

REMOTE PARTICIPATION –Committee Members (AB 2449)

This meeting is being held in accordance with the California Brown Act. Under traditional Brown Act rules, members of the Committee may attend by

teleconference if the location they are attending from is also open to the public to participate and the remote meeting location is listed on the agenda. **Members of the Committee may also attend via Zoom up to two times per year due to an emergency or for a cause according to requirements set forth in AB 2449, as long as a quorum of the committee is present in person at the RTC office.** Committee alternates who are not voting are considered members of the public, not Committee members.

AB 2449 defines "just cause" as:

- Care of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner;
- a contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person;
- a need related to a physical or mental disability as defined by statute; or
- travel while on official business of the RTC or another state or local agency.

AB 2449 defines "emergency circumstances" as a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person. **The Committee member must provide a general description of the circumstances relating to your need to appear remotely at the given meeting (not exceeding 20 words).** Medical condition does not need to be disclosed. **The Committee must take action to approve the request to participate due to an emergency circumstance at the start of their regularly scheduled meeting.**

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. This meeting location is an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance in order to participate, please contact RTC staff at 460-3200 (CRS 800/735-2929) at least three working days in advance of this meeting to make arrangements. People with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those person affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent-free.

SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN/TRANSLATION SERVICES

Si gusta estar presente o participar en esta junta de la Comisión Regional de Transporte del condado de Santa Cruz y necesita información o servicios de traducción al español por favor llame por lo menos con tres días laborables de anticipo al (831) 460-3200 para hacer los arreglos necesarios. (Spanish language translation is available on an as needed basis. Please make advance arrangements (at least three days in advance by calling (831) 460-3200.

TITLE VI NOTICE

The RTC operates its programs and services without regard to race, color and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person believing to have been aggrieved by the RTC under Title VI may file a complaint with RTC by contacting the RTC at (831) 460-3212 or 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA, 95060 or online at www.sccrtc.org. A complaint may also be filed directly with the Federal Transit Administration to the Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator, East Building, 5th Floor-TCR, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590.

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Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's
Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee
(Also serves as the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council)

DRAFT MINUTES

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

1. Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Members present:

Tara Ireland, Social Service Provider-Persons of Limited Means
Jesus Bojorquez, CTSA (Lift Line)
Michael Pisano, Potential Transit User (60+)
Janet Edwards, Vice Chair, 1st District
Veronica Elsea, Chair, 3rd District
Christina Witt, Social Services Provider Disabled (County)
Patricia Fohrman, 4th District Hernandez

Unexcused absences:

Alex Weske, Social Service Provider – Disabled
Paul Elerick, 2nd District

RTC staff present:

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner
Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner
Brianna Goodman, Transportation Planner

Others present:

Elizabeth Byrd, Santa Cruz County Adult and Long-Term Care

2. Introductions

3. Consider AB2449 request(s) to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances (a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person)

4. Oral communications

Committee member Michael Pisano requested that the E&D TAC invite the local jurisdictions to present at a future meeting on the efforts that have been made to expand Bicycle Bike Share in Santa Cruz County.

Rachel Moriconi, RTC Senior Transportation Planner announced that the RTC is accepting applications for members of the community to apply to be on its new Transportation Equity Workgroup. The Transportation Equity Workgroup will help guide the development of a Transportation Equity Action Plan and support the implementation of quality transportation infrastructure, services, and solutions that more equitably meet the diverse needs of community members. A fact sheet on the workgroup is available [online](#) in English and Español.

Applications will be welcomed on an ongoing basis, but with the first workgroup meeting anticipated to be held in October 2023. Interested parties can submit an application to rmoriconi@sccrtc.org.

5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda

Item 14. Reimagine METRO Service Changes was deleted from the agenda due to METRO staff experiencing an emergency circumstance resulting in the inability to present. The item will be brought to the next E&D TAC meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Approve Minutes from June 16, 2023

A motion (Edwards/Fohrman) was made to approve the minutes from June 16, 2023. The motion passed unanimously with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Christina Witt, and Patricia Fohrman voting in favor.

7. Receive RTC Meeting Highlights

8. Receive Information Items

- a. Santa Cruz County Local Road Safety Plan
- b. Lift Line Access for All

A motion (Pisano/Fohrman) was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Christina Witt, and Patricia Fohrman voting in favor.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Receive Program Updates

a. Volunteer Center

Tara Ireland stated that the Volunteer Center is continuing their Grocery Shopper and Transportation Programs and does not have anything new to report on.

b. Community Bridges

Jesus Bojorquez announced that Community Bridges "Lift Line Access for All" begun on September 18th providing on-demand WAV rides county wide for a flat fee of \$5. All residents with disabilities in Santa Cruz County can access Lift Line's door-to-door transportation, regardless of income level. For more information to schedule a ride visit: <https://communitybridges.org/liftline/>

Community Bridges Lift Line is also starting an Emergency Transportation program providing free WAV rides for qualified residents between 6 am – 10 pm 7 days a week.

c. Santa Cruz METRO

No update, METRO committee member absent.

d. SCCRTC

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, reported to the committee that the TNC Access for All Program is administered by the RTC, and is funded by the CPUC for Community Bridges Lift Line to provide on-demand WAV rides.

Ms. Marino encouraged the committee to provide input on the Santa Cruz County Local Road Safety Plan that is in the beginning stages of development.

Additionally, she announced that the committee will have a special meeting on November 14th to review projects for the Regional Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Marino also informed the committee that she will no longer be able to staff the committee due to an adjustment in her work schedule.

e. Pedestrian Ad-Hoc Subcommittee

- i. Pedestrian Hazard Report
- ii. Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way

Chair Veronica Elsea stated that the subcommittee is continuing to meet to discuss ways to improve response times in the pedestrian hazard report processes with Jason Thompson, RTC Planning Technician. Ms. Elsea also gave a synopsis of the "Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way" including the significant updates made for pedestrian crossings.

Ms. Elsea also distributed "What Pedestrians and Bicyclists Want Each Other To Know" and "What Motorists and Pedestrians Want Each Other To Know" brochures that the Pedestrian Subcommittee created, as well as cards with the Pedestrian Hazard Report information. She encouraged committee members to distribute the brochures and cards to their networks. The committee discussed bringing these materials to schools, senior centers, and libraries.

Ms. Elsea additionally informed the committee of a Letter of Support written on behalf of the E&D TAC for the City of Watsonville's "Strengthening Watsonville Neighborhoods: Feasibility Study for Equitable, Just, Safe and Prosperous Future for All" grant application.

10. E&D TAC New Member Appointments

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the two applicants expressing interest to fill vacancies on the E&D TAC shown in the October 2023 membership roster. The applicants introduced themselves and provided a statement of why they are applying to serve on the committee.

A motion (Pisano/Edwards) was made to recommend approval to the RTC to appoint new members to the E&D TAC. The motion passed unanimously with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Christina Witt, and Patricia Fohrman voting in favor.

11. Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment and Priorities Report (CAVA) Prioritization Framework

Brianna Goodman, RTC Transportation Planner, presented an overview of

the Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment and Priorities Report (CAVA) to the committee. Ms. Goodman requested input on what hazards should be evaluated, what transportation assets should be considered, and what metrics will be used to assess and prioritize transportation assets for future actions to enhance climate resilience. She also encouraged broader input on the structure of the Framework.

The committee members comments included prioritizing fallen debris blocking pedestrian facilities, drainage systems, power to road facilities, sinkholes, and access to emergency services. The committee emphasized the need to include pedestrian facilities in assets to be considered in the analysis.

No action taken.

12. Measure D: Five Year Programs of Projects for Regional Projects and Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) Update

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner provided an overview of the proposed updates to the five-year programs of projects and long-range Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) for the regional transportation categories -- Highway Corridors, Active Transportation, and the Rail Corridor, as well as San Lorenzo Valley Highway 9 Corridor Improvements, the Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing.

Committee members asked questions concerning the timeline for the construction of rail trail segments. Additional questions were asked regarding funding opportunities for increased on-demand transportation and incentivizing remote work for the Go Santa Cruz County Program.

No action taken.

13. Measure D: Community Bridges/Lift Line Five Year Plan

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner and Jesus Bojorquez, Lift Line staff, summarized Community Bridges Lift Line's five-year program of projects, identifying how Lift Line will plan to spend its formula share of Measure D funds.

A motion (Ireland/Edwards) was made to recommend that the RTC approve the Community Bridges-Lift Line 5-Year Program of Projects for FY23/24-27/28. The motion passed unanimously with members Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Pisano, Janet Edwards, Veronica Elsea, Christina Witt, and Patricia Fohrman voting in favor.

14. Reimage METRO Service Changes

This item will be brought to the next E&D TAC meeting.

No action taken.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:52 pm.

The next E&D TAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 1:30 located at the SCCRTC office at 1101 Pacific Ave, Suite 250, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Marino, Staff



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*CONTACTS: Shannon Munz, Communications Specialist (smunz@sccrtc.org)
Guy Preston, Executive Director
Luis Pavel Mendez, Deputy Director*

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Nov. 2, 2023 Meeting Highlights

Final 2023 Public Participation Plan

The Commission adopted the [Final 2023 Public Participation Plan](#). The RTC is required by federal and state regulations to prepare and maintain a public participation plan to establish the process by which the public can participate in transportation planning, programming, and project implementation, including the development of the 2050 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan.

Appreciation of Departing Executive Director Guy Preston

The Commission appreciated departing Executive Director Guy Preston for his service to the RTC. Executive Director Preston will retire on Dec. 1, 2023. During his 5-year tenure with the agency, he has used his expertise in planning, engineering, public policy, and program/project management to develop and deliver multi-modal transportation projects. Some of the RTC accomplishments during his tenure include initiating construction of the Highway 1 auxiliary lane and bus-on-shoulder project, storm damage repairs on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line, and securing over \$150 million in grant funding for a variety of projects aimed at creating a vibrant, sustainable, and equitable transportation system for Santa Cruz County. Executive Director Preston is a licensed civil engineer with a 34-year career, which included positions at Caltrans, the Sonoma County Transportation Authority, the California High-Speed Rail Authority, and his own consulting firm.

Public Hearing: Measure D: Five-Year Programs of Projects for Regional Projects and Lift Line, and Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) Update

The Commission received input from the public and approved the Fiscal Years (FY) 2023/24-2027/28 Measure D five-year programs of projects for regional projects funded by Measure D, and Community Bridges Lift Line. Measure D regional projects includes 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 regional 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, and Segment 5 of the Coastal Rail Trail from Wilder Ranch to Davenport on the Santa Cruz County North Coast. 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. Community Bridges Lift

Line will continue to use its Measure D funds to support expanded weekday and weekend paratransit service and fleet upgrades. The approved 5-year plans for spending Measure D funds are on the RTC website: www.sccrtc.org/move.

The Commission also adopted the [2023 Measure D – Strategic Implementation Plan](#) (SIP). The 2023 SIP includes information on the scope, cost, and delivery schedule of each regional project or program, details revenue projections and possible financing tools to deliver the Measure D Expenditure Plan within the 30 years promised to the voters, and describes the risks, critical issues, and opportunities that the RTC should address to deliver the Expenditure Plan.

Amendments to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/24 Budget & Work Program

The Commission approved the proposed FY 2023/24 Budget and Work Program and the FY 2023/24 Measure D Budget to incorporate information from prior year-end balances, new projects or funds, updated estimates, and other necessary changes. The proposed FY 2023/24 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. The Commission also approved the proposed salary schedule for student intern positions so that the RTC can continue to hire student interns, providing them with an opportunity to gain work experience and to help ensure that the RTC has the staffing resources needed for the work performed.

Upcoming RTC and Committee Meetings

RTC and committee meetings are now being held in person. Non-voting members of the Commission and its committees, as well as members of the public and staff, will have the option to participate in person or remotely, provided equipment is available at the meeting location to allow remote participation. If there are technical difficulties during a meeting that prevent remote participation, the meeting will continue. Please check the RTC website [<https://sccrtc.org/meetings/calendar/>] or call 460-3200 to confirm meeting location and video conference information for future meetings. Agendas are posted to the RTC website at least 3 days before each meeting and will also include participation 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). 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. 7, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Monday, Nov. 13, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

Transportation Policy Workshop

Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Interagency Technical Advisory Committee

Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023, 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.



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
ELDERLY & DISABLED TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (E&D TAC)
SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SSTAC)

Membership Roster
November 2023
(Membership Expiration Date)

Members	Representing	Alternate
Clay Kempf (2025)	Social Services Provider - Seniors	Patty Talbott (2025)
Elizabeth Byrd (2026)	Social Services Provider - Seniors (County)	Alicia Morales (2025)
Alex Weske (2025)	Social Service Provider - Disabled	Vacant
Christina Witt (2026)	Social Service Provider - Disabled (County)	Vacant
Tara Ireland (2024)	Social Service Provider - Persons of Limited Means	Vacant
Vacant	CTSA (Community Bridges)	Vacant
Jesus Bojorquez (2025)	CTSA (Lift Line)	Nadia Noriega (2025)
Daniel Zaragoza (2025)	SCMTD (Metro)	Rina Solorio Gomez (2026)
Michael Pisano (2026)	Potential Transit User (60+)	Vacant
Caroline Lamb (2026)	Potential Transit User (Disabled)	Vacant

Supervisory District Representatives		
Members	Representing	Alternate
Janet Edwards, Vice Chair	1st District (Koenig)	Phil Kipnis
Paul Elerick	2nd District (Friend)	Vacant
Veronica Elsea, Chair	3rd District (Cummings)	Vacant
Patricia Fohrman	4th District (Hernandez)	Vacant
Ed Hutton	5th District (McPherson)	Vacant

Staff: Amanda Marino, Regional Transportation Commission

Date	First Name	Last Name	Location	Cross Street	City	Category	Additional Comments	Forwarded to	Forwarded Date	Response
10/11/23	Emma	Berendson	16 Rancho Del Mar	N/A	Aptos	Ped: Hazardous drain grate	Missing water grate from the storm drain nearest the bus stop in front of the Safeway in Aptos is dangerous tues)/10th @ 6:00 pm	DPW	10/13/23	10/13/23 Stacey Muller: Thank you for reporting this. I have cc'd our Roads Dispatch team for review and response.
10/11/23	Tara	Ireland	Spreckels Dr	Seacliff Dr	Aptos	Ped: Plant overgrowth or interference	If you attempt to walk on Spreckles down to Rio Del Mar on the right side of the road you will find it very dangerous and uncomfortable one is forced to walk in the road for a stretch in order to get down to the beach.	DPW	10/13/23	10/13/23 Ruby Zaragoza: Thank you for reporting this plant overgrowth into the roadway and right of way. I have cc'd our Road Dispatch for review and response.
10/10/23	Debbie	Bulger	Bay St	King St	Santa Cruz	Ped: Other	Crossing Bay Street heading east there is a sign on the traffic signal arm that says No Right Turn on Red. (indicated by arrow graphic) Twice recently I have been a passenger in a car when the driver, who was not a neighborhood resident, did not see the sign and made a right turn on red. I believe the sign would be more visible if it were posted on the pole in the planter strip which contains the signs "reduce speed" and no trucks, and neighborhood graphic. This crossing has a lot of school children walking and biking to school. Right turns on red are very dangerous to peds here. The sign needs to be more visible.	Claire Gallogly, Dan Estranero	10/13/23	Follow up email sent 11/9/2023
10/04/23	Debbie	Bulger	River St	Water St	Santa Cruz	Ped: Traffic signal problem	There is not enough time for many pedestrians to cross the south leg of the River Street crosswalk at Water. The walk signal timing must be extended. This is particularly important for elderly and disabled pedestrians.	Claire Gallogly, Dan Estranero	10/06/23	Follow up email sent 11/9/2023
10/03/23	Debbie	Bulger	California St	Laurel St	Santa Cruz	Ped: Plant overgrowth or interference, Objects or vegetation blocking sidewalk, Debris on sidewalk	Pedestrians are forced to walk very close to speeding traffic on this busy arterial. Debris, trash, leaves, and water, all make for a pedestrian fall waiting to happen. This area is used by elderly people, blind people and children. There is a wide sidewalk, but it is not available for safety because of lack of maintenance. The entire width of the sidewalk should be available for use. We have reported this before and maintenance is rare.	Claire Gallogly, Dan Estranero	10/06/23	Follow up email sent 11/9/2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: SCCRTC Elderly & Disabled TAC

FROM: Regina Valentine, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: AMBAG Complete Streets Policies

MEETING DATE: November 14, 2023

AMBAG staff will provide an overview of the upcoming development of the AMBAG Complete Streets Policies for committee member feedback.

BACKGROUND/ DISCUSSION:

With the passing of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (IIJA/BIL) of 2021, the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), as the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Monterey Bay region, is required to set aside a portion of the agency's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Metropolitan Planning Funds (PL funds) allocation to conduct complete streets planning. Complete streets prioritize the safe and adequate accommodation of all users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, children, older individuals, individuals with disabilities, motorists, and freight vehicles.

As identified in AMBAG's Overall Work Program, staff will begin developing Complete Streets Policies in coordination with AMBAG's member agencies, including the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC). Although this is a new federal requirement, complete streets planning has been a priority historically for AMBAG and the jurisdictions in the Monterey Bay region. As an example, AMBAG prepare a *Monterey Bay Area Complete Streets Guidebook* in August 2013. For this reason, these Complete Streets Policies will serve more to memorialize the transportation planning work already being conducted in the region.

For committee feedback, a draft outline and anticipated timeline is provided below:

Draft Outline

- Introduction
- Purpose and Need
- Complete Streets Definition
- Complete Streets Vision
- Complete Streets Goals
- Principles of Complete Streets
- Complete Streets Policies
- Consistency with Regulations
- Scope of Complete Streets Policies
- Exceptions
- Design Guidance
- Context Sensitivity
- Evaluation and Performance Measures
- Implementation and Reporting
- References

Anticipated Timeline

- **November 2023:** Present an overview of the development of AMBAG Complete Streets Policies to regional Advisory Committees, Planning Directors Forum, and to the AMBAG Board of Directors
- **December 2023 – January 2024:** Prepare the Draft AMBAG Complete Streets Policies
- **February 2024:** Present Draft AMBAG Complete Streets Policies to regional Advisory Committees, Planning Directors Forum, and to the AMBAG Board of Directors
- **February 1, 2024 – March 15, 2024:** Public Comment Period
- **March 2024:** Prepare the Final AMBAG Complete Streets Policies
- **April 2024:** Present Final AMBAG Complete Streets Policies to regional Advisory Committees and Planning Directors Forum
- **May 8, 2024:** AMBAG Board of Directors will be asked to adopt the Final AMBAG Complete Streets Policies

Next Steps

AMBAG staff will incorporate committee feedback and prepare the Draft AMBAG Complete Streets Policies in coordination with our partner agencies and local jurisdictions. The Final Complete Streets Policies will be incorporated into the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy.

TO: RTC Advisory Committees

FROM: Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner

RE: *2023 Consolidated Grants and Regional Transportation Improvement Program Preliminary Recommendations*

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission's Bicycle Committee, Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC), and Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) review and provide input on preliminary staff recommendations for programming approximately \$61.3 million in funds from various state and federal funding programs ([Attachment 1](#)) and make Committee recommendations to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC).

BACKGROUND

As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for Santa Cruz County, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) is responsible for selecting projects to receive certain state and federal funds.

This summer the RTC issued a consolidated call for projects for the region's anticipated shares of funds including:

- Discretionary Funds (\$26.6 Million)
 - Surface Transportation Block Grant Program/Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (STBG/RSTPX): \$17.4 Million
 - State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): \$8.6 Million
 - SB1 Local Partnership Program (LPP): \$629 Thousand
- SB 125 Transit Funds (\$34.7 Million)
 - Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP): \$27.6 Million
 - Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP): \$7.1 Million

In total, approximately \$61.3 million is available for programming this cycle. Applications were due on October 25, 2023.

Collectively these funds can be used on a wide range of highway, local road, bridge, transit, rail, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation projects and

programs that advance regional, state, and federal priorities and performance metrics. While some STBG/RSTPX, LPP, TIRCP, and ZETCP funds are available for use beginning in this fiscal year (FY2023/24), STIP funds are programmed over 5 years and might not be available until FY26/27-27/28, since most of the new statewide capacity is in the last two years of the 2024 STIP.

DISCUSSION

Project sponsors submitted 22 applications requesting over \$95 million. [Attachment 1](#) summarizes the projects and preliminary staff recommendations for anticipated funds. Project applications are posted on the RTC website <https://sccrtc.org/funding-planning/project-funding/23-24-rtip/>.

Project Evaluation

FHWA emphasizes that regions should follow a performance-based planning and programming process, with projects evaluated based on how well they advance performance metrics. A performance-based approach to transportation planning and programming aims to ensure the most efficient investment of transportation funds, support improved decision-making, and increase accountability and transparency.

Applications were evaluated based on how well they advance one or more measures, goals or targets identified in the *Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)*, *Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)*, *California Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP)*, federal MAP-21 and FAST Act, State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Guidelines, and other state and local plans. These include metrics related to safety, infrastructure condition, system performance, and reliability, sustainability, access for all, and/or health and equity. All the projects proposed for funding address at least one or more of the evaluation criteria and are not required to address all of them.

Transit Funds

In addition to the money from the funding sources that are regularly available for programming, for this cycle, the RTC is also responsible for programming one-time funds that can only be used for transit projects. For this programming cycle, there is \$34.7 million available for transit capital and operations projects through the SB125 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and the Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP). The amount of money available for TIRCP is about \$13.8 million per year in FY23/24 and FY24/25. The amount of money available for ZETCP is \$2.6 million in FY23/24 and about \$1.5 million per year in FY 24/25, FY25/26 and FY26/27.

Recommendations

Given that available funding is insufficient to fully fund all the proposed projects, staff recommend partial funding for many of the projects. The staff recommendation focuses funds on projects that are critical to maintain existing facilities, services, and access; fill gaps in the existing bicycle and pedestrian network; or serve the greatest number of people. For projects recommended for partial funding, agencies may reduce the project scope and implement a portion of the project, increase Measure D, local or other funds committed to the project, or work to secure other grants for the project. These funding recommendations include 5% of the region's new STIP shares (\$430,000 through FY28/29), which are set aside for regional planning, programming, and monitoring activities (PPM) performed by the RTC.

Staff recommends that RTC advisory committees provide input on preliminary staff recommendations and make recommendations to the RTC on which projects to fund with anticipated state and federal funds ([Attachment 1](#)).

Next Steps

RTC advisory committees are concurrently reviewing proposals for funds at their November 2023 meetings (BAC, EDTAC, ITAC). Staff will consider input from committees when developing final staff recommendations. The RTC board is scheduled to consider final staff recommendations, committee recommendations, and public input at its December 7, 2023, meeting.

Staff will work with project sponsors to determine the best funding source for each project, considering the project schedule, possible risks to delivery, and the agency's ability and capacity to meet the requirements for each funding source.

Approved projects are programmed in the RTC's *Regional Transportation Improvement Program* (RTIP) and/or RTC budget. Projects that add travel lanes, may affect air quality conformity, or are scheduled to receive federal funding are also included in the Federal/Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), which is prepared by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG). Projects approved by the RTC for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), or Local Partnership Program funds are subject to concurrence from the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The RTC's recommendations for STIP funds are due to the CTC on December 15, 2023, with CTC action on the STIP scheduled for March 2024.

SUMMARY

The RTC is responsible for selecting projects to receive certain state, federal, regional and local funds. Approximately \$26.6 million in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Surface Transportation Block Grant Program/Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (STBG/RSTPX), and SB1 Local Partnership Program (LPP) funds are currently available for programming to projects in Santa Cruz County and another \$34.7 million in Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) funds for transit capital and operations projects. RTC staff are asking advisory committees for input on projects proposed to receive these limited funds. The RTC will select projects at a public hearing in December 2023.

Attachment:

1. [Summary of Applications Received and Preliminary Staff Recommendations](#)

*[https://rtcsc.sharepoint.com/sites/programming/shared documents/2023-next-rtip/staffreports/23-11 sr rtip prelim
recs.docx](https://rtcsc.sharepoint.com/sites/programming/shared%20documents/2023-next-rtip/staffreports/23-11%20sr%20rtip%20prelim%20recs.docx)*

2023 Consolidated Call for Projects Preliminary Recommendations
\$26.6 million available for STIP, STBG/RSTPX, LPP and \$34.3 million for SB125 TIRCP, ZETCP

RTC Discretionary Funds

ID	Agency	Project Name <i>Click link for project application</i>	Funds Requested (\$)	Total Project Cost (\$)	Anticipated # of Daily Users	Recommend for Award?	Recommended Award Amount (\$)	Recommendation Comments
1	Capitola	41st Avenue Pavement Rehabilitation and Multi-Use Path	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,250,000	35,500	Partial	\$ 1,000,000	Improved traffic flow, enhanced safety, and roadway preservation; 41st is a major arterial.
2	County of SC	Corralitos Corridor Resurfacing	\$ 2,125,000	\$ 2,400,316	6,284	Partial	\$ 1,500,000	System preservation; enhanced bike/ped connectivity to Green Valley Road; serves transit routes (Metro 72 & 72W).
3	County of SC	Emergency Routes Phase 2 Resurfacing	\$ 4,522,000	\$ 5,107,873	2,724	Partial	\$ 3,200,000	System preservation; low ADT but critical routes for emergency access and evacuation during disasters
4	County of SC	Glen Arbor Road Sidewalk	\$ 3,632,243	\$ 4,102,838	40	Partial	\$ 2,100,000	Improves pedestrian safety in rural area but low daily use; identified in SR9/SLV plan as need
5	County of SC	Green Valley Road Multi-Use Path	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 8,916,097	23,524	Partial	\$ 2,000,000	Retains Clean California grant award; benefits a disadvantaged community (equity); improves bike/ped access and increases transit access.
6	County of SC	Highway 17 Corridors Resurfacing	\$ 3,724,000	\$ 5,849,994	15,380	Partial	\$ 1,500,000	System preservation; 15k users/day; used by bikes but no shoulder widening elements.
7	County of SC	Intercounty Routes Resurfacing	\$ 2,044,000	\$ 2,308,822	6,933	Yes	\$ 2,044,000	System preservation; roads heavily used by freight; benefits a disadvantaged community (equity).
8	County of SC	Rio Del Mar Resurfacing	\$ 885,000	\$ 999,661	17,900	No	\$ 300,000	System preservation; lacks bike/ped improvements considering residential project location.
9	County of SC	Robertson Street and Soquel Drive Signalization	\$ 1,595,536	\$ 1,802,254	21,136	Yes	\$ 1,595,536	Enhances the Adaptive Traffic Signal System; Soquel is a major arterial road and transit route; Project located near a school.
10	Ecology Action	Youth SRTS Bike/Pedestrian Education	\$ 310,870	\$ 346,527	1,890	Partial	\$ 300,000	Continue existing, popular program aimed at reducing crashes and getting more kids biking & walking
11	Santa Cruz	Bay Corridor Design	\$ 399,000	\$ 450,000	15,000	Yes	\$ 399,000	Integrates Complete Streets and innovative elements; leverages AHSC grant; public support for the project.
12	Santa Cruz	Bay Street Paving	\$ 875,000	\$ 989,000	10,000	Yes	\$ 875,000	System preservation; improves road surface for cyclists; enhances connectivity between rail trail and Bayview Elementary.
13	Santa Cruz	Bethany Culvert Replacement	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 11,815,850	10,000	Yes	\$ 1,500,000	City's highest priority project; Climate resilience infrastructure; leverages federal funds
14	Santa Cruz	Escalona Complete Streets	\$ 3,401,000	\$ 3,841,000	3,500	Partial	\$ 2,941,656	Improved pedestrian access (ADA ramp upgrades, fill gaps in sidewalks); Cold-in-place asphalt recycling.
15	SCCRTC	Go Santa Cruz County Bicycle Incentives Program	\$ 305,100	\$ 500,000	850	Yes	\$ 305,100	Public support of program; promotes mode shift, reduce emissions, benefits disadvantaged communities
16	SCCRTC	Felton-SLV Schools Complete Streets Improvement	\$ 2,313,000	\$ 32,721,746	19,500	Partial	\$ 1,800,000	Public support; enhances safety in rural area, adds bike/ped safety elements, pavement preservation
17	SCCRTC	Planning, Programming, and Monitoring (PPM)	\$ 430,000	\$ 430,000	-	Yes	\$ 430,000	Per CTC guidelines 5% of STIP funds for regional planning, programming, and monitoring activities (PPM) performed by the RTC to be spread across the years covered by the STIP
18	Scotts Valley	Mount Hermon Road Improvements	\$ 523,000	\$ 723,000	27,648	Yes	\$ 523,000	System preservation; regionally significant road; incorporates multimodal elements.
19	Scotts Valley	Scotts Valley Drive Corridor Improvements	\$ 500,000	\$ 1,078,000	16,542	Yes	\$ 500,000	City's highest priority project; system preservation; regionally significant road; incorporates multimodal elements.
20	Watsonville	Green Valley Road Rehabilitation	\$ 1,833,000	\$ 4,320,000	18,500	Yes	\$ 1,833,000	Benefits a disadvantaged community; adds bike/ped improvements; improves accessibility
			\$ 35,917,749	\$ 90,952,978			\$ 26,646,292	Total

SB 125 Transit Projects

ID	Agency	Project Name	Funds Requested (\$)	Total Project Cost (\$)	Anticipated # of Daily Users	Recommend for Award?	Recommended Award Amount (\$)	Recommendation Comments
1	SCCRTC	Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail	\$ 16,450,000	\$ 26,237,000	13,169	Partial	\$ 8,500,000	Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) funding and anticipated future benefits
2	SCMTD	Rapid Corridors Projects	\$ 8,179,000	\$ 25,051,000	4,985	Partial	\$ 2,275,000	Goal to expand service and reliability; benefits transportation disadvantaged populations
3	SCMTD	Transit Operations	\$ 34,339,199	\$ 34,339,199	20,625	Partial	\$ 23,564,199	Funds service recovery/expansion; benefits disadvantaged communities
			\$ 58,968,199	\$ 85,627,199			\$ 34,339,199	Total
							\$ 346,861	1% Set-Aside for SB125 Administration
							\$ 34,686,060	Total SB125 Allocation for Santa Cruz County

AGENDA: November 14, 2023

TO: Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC)

FROM: Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner

RE: Reimagine METRO Service Changes

RECOMMENDATION

RTC staff recommends that the E&D TAC receive a presentation on the Reimagine Santa Cruz METRO service changes.

BACKGROUND

Santa Cruz METRO is undertaking a comprehensive review of the transit route network in Santa Cruz County to make it more convenient, reliable, and sustainable. On December 16, 2022, the Santa Cruz METRO Board awarded a contract to Jarrett Walker & Associates, LLC to analyze METRO's existing fixed-route network, complete a Bus Network Reimagining Plan for both near term and long-term service improvements, and conduct a robust public outreach process.

Key goals of the Reimagine METRO effort include:

- Increasing the amount of service provided, assuming a return to pre-COVID bus operator levels by the end of 2023.
- Making transit more reliable and relevant to the community's needs.
- Adapting to post-COVID travel patterns.
- Creating a network that is useful and attractive for many people's trips.

Based on an initial assessment of METRO's existing fixed-route bus network presented to the Board in March 2023, the project team identified important reasons to redesign parts of METRO's existing fixed-route network. Issues that rose to the forefront include service being infrequent, reduced several times in recent years, slow, and unreliable.

The project timeline includes:

- **March 2023:** Phase 1 Public Outreach and Existing Conditions
[View the Public Forum Presentation](#)
- **May 2023:** Early Wins defined

- **July 2023:** [Alternatives Report](#)
- **July-August:** Phase 1 Public Outreach:
- **September 22:** [Public Hearing Meeting](#)
 - METRO Board approved [Phase 1 of Reimagine METRO service changes](#), which are being implemented December 2023
- **October - November 2023:** Public Outreach on Draft Phase 2 Plan
- **December 2023:** Final Phase 2 Plan

DISCUSSION

The METRO Board of Directors unanimously approved the Phase 1 service changes at its meeting on Friday, Sept. 22 that will begin in METRO's Winter Schedule starting December 2023. The changes include:

- **More service** (a 10% increase over today and 25% more than spring 2023)
- **Higher frequency** service in areas with high transit demand
- Simpler, **more direct routes**, especially in Watsonville
- Better transfers with shorter wait times and **no additional fare**
- Some changes to route numbers and names
- Some changes to bus stop locations and which streets have bus service

A draft Phase 1 system map can be viewed [here](#). Specific service changes include:

- A significant increase in night and weekend service:
 - NEW Routes 1, 2, and 3 would each operate:
 - Every 30 minutes until 9 PM
 - Every 60 minutes until midnight
- Higher frequency between Watsonville and Santa Cruz:
 - Until 9 PM, in both directions:
 - A bus every 15 minutes between Santa Cruz and Watsonville.
 - A bus every 10-20 minutes at Cabrillo College
 - A bus every 30 minutes (or better) on all of Soquel Drive
- The return of an express route between Watsonville and Santa Cruz during peak commute times
- A NEW route in Watsonville serving the County's new Health and Human Services facility
- Continued 15-minute service on Routes 18 and 19
- A NEW route connecting the UCSC campus to Live Oak and Capitola Mall

Later this year, the METRO Board of Directors will review a second round of

bus service changes that could go into effect starting in April 2024. These changes include:

- Increased, 15-minute frequency on three cross-county corridors serving Watsonville and Mid-County
- Service extension from the east side of Santa Cruz through downtown to the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) campus, creating a frequent, one-seat ride from Cabrillo College or the Capitola Mall all the way to UCSC
- A new, frequent route connecting Watsonville to Cabrillo College via Freedom Blvd. and Airport Rd.
- All-day service on a Watsonville to Santa Cruz express route

Staff recommends that the E&D TAC receive a presentation from Santa Cruz METRO staff on the Reimagine METRO service changes and provide input.

SUMMARY

In December 2022, Santa Cruz METRO initiated Reimagine METRO which is a 15-month planning and public outreach effort to re-envision where buses go and how often they run. The changes included in Reimagine METRO come into service in three phases starting with phase 1 in December 2023 utilizing current operating resources. Phase 2 is over the course of 2024 and is based on additional funding and operators. METRO is also planning for a phase 3 once phase 2 is completed and further resources become available. Visit the [Reimagine METRO website](#) to learn more and provide comments.

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