



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission**

MINUTES

**Thursday, March 7, 2024
9:00 a.m.**

In-Person Meeting

County Board of Supervisors Chambers
701 Ocean St., Rm. 525
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

1. Roll call. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present:

City of Capitola

City of Santa Cruz

City of Scotts Valley

City of Watsonville

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Caltrans (ex-officio)

Alexander Pedersen

Sandy Brown

Jack Dilles (Alt)

Eduardo Montesino

Felipe Hernandez

Andy Schiffrin (Alt)

Robert Quinn (Alt)

Shane Mckeithen (Alt)

Bruce McPherson

Kristen Brown

Larry Pageler

Mike Rotkin

Scott Eades

Staff present:

Mitch Weiss

Steph Britt

Grace Blakeslee

Sarah Christensen

Krista Corwin

Riley Gerbrandt

Anna Kalthoff

Luis Mendez

Rachel Moriconi

Shannon Munz

Amy Naranjo

Tracy New

Yesenia Parra

Tommy Travers

Steven Mattas (RTC Counsel)

2. Considered AB2449 "Just Cause" requests - *none*
3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda

A staff report for item 31 was posted to the website. Handouts for items 4, 28, and 29 were also posted to the website.

4. Review of items to be discussed in closed session

RTC Counsel Steve Mattas communicated that no reportable action was anticipated from the closed session discussions. The Commission entered closed session at 9:03 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

5. Conference with Labor Negotiators
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6)
Agency Designated Representatives: Tony Harry and Jesse Lad
Employee Organizations: CORE and RAMM
6. Public Employment
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)
Title: Executive Director
7. Public Employee Performance Evaluation/Public Employment
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)
Position: General Counsel
8. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4))
Initiation of Litigation – One Case

OPEN SESSION

9. Reconvene in open session and report on items discussed in closed session

The Commission reconvened in open session at 10:55 a.m. Steve Mattas communicated that there was no reportable action resulting from the closed session discussions.

10. Oral Communications

Received public comment from:

Christopher Parry
Karen Anderson
Roxanne

Christine McGill
Maria Romiller
Jim Helmer
Pedro Frevoso
Jean Brocklebank
Michael Lewis
Johanna Lighthill
Rebecca Downing
Michael Saint, Campaign for Sustainable Transportation
Terry Wood

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin made a motion and Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioners Pedersen, S. Brown, Montesino, Hernandez, McPherson, K. Brown, Pageler, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles, McKeithen, Quinn, and Schiffrin voting "aye."

MINUTES

11. Accepted draft minutes of the January 18, 2024 Interagency Technical Advisory Committee meeting
12. Approved meeting notes of the January 23, 2024 Transportation Equity Workgroup
13. Accepted draft minutes of the February 01, 2024 Regional Transportation Commission meeting
14. Accepted draft minutes of the February 13, 2024 Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee meeting

POLICY ITEMS

No consent items

PROJECTS AND PLANNING ITEMS

15. Approved authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Knightscope to maintain the Santa Cruz County call box system (**Resolution 24-24**)

BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES ITEMS

16. Accepted status reports on Transportation Development Act (TDA) revenues
17. Accepted status reports on Measure D revenues

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

18. Approved appointments to the Measure D Taxpayer Oversight Committee
19. Approved appointments to the Bicycle Advisory Committee
20. Approved appointments to the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee, the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) and the Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC)

INFORMATION/OTHER ITEMS

21. Accepted monthly meeting schedule
22. Accepted correspondence log
23. Accepted letters from RTC committees and staff to other agencies
 - a. January 26, 2024 Letter to Matt Orbach RE: City of Watsonville Draft 6th Cycle Housing Element Update (2023-2031)
24. Accepted information items - *none*

REGULAR AGENDA

25. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Hernandez reported on his tour of the pedestrian and bicycle overcrossing construction with Caltrans and his work in Watsonville promoting electric vehicle transportation.

Commissioner K. Brown reported on an upcoming traffic calming project in the City of Capitola at Bay Avenue.

26. Director's Report

Interim Executive Director Mitch Weiss reported updates on: work underway on Highway 1 between Bay/Porter and State Park interchanges, including a long-term closure of the Capitola Avenue overcrossing and a 24-hour closure of Highway 1 for the demolition of the overcrossing; Commissioner tours of the construction of the bus-on-shoulder and auxiliary lanes project, including the Chanticleer pedestrian and bicycle overcrossing; upcoming CivicWell Policymakers conference will be attended by Commissioner Hernandez and the executive director.

Senior Transportation Engineer Sarah Christensen responded to a Commissioner's question about the likelihood the team would be able to

open the Chanticleer overcrossing earlier than the scheduled completion of the Highway auxiliary lanes and bus-on-shoulder project.

27. Caltrans Report

Caltrans District 5 Director Scott Eades delivered the Caltrans project updates: minimal winter storm damage in Santa Cruz County; Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) report released by the California State Transportation Agency; Safe Streets for All funding opportunities opening nationwide; the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is soliciting bids for construction of the North Coast Rail Trail project, funded by the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant.

28. Glydways Presentation

Deputy Director Luis Mendez delivered the staff report and introduced Dustin Earle, Vice President of Business Development and Paul Jamtgaard, Vice President of System Design and Infrastructure Planning.

Mr. Earle and Mr. Jamtgaard delivered a presentation and responded to Commissioner questions regarding: last mile options; right-of-way at pedestrian and road crossings; right-of-way acquisition; operations; cost to the user; delivery of the public private partnership; vehicle coordination; grade flexibility; passenger ridership per day; leasing space from RTC or local government; next steps; invitation to Commissioners to tour the vehicles; whether Glydways is a standalone alternative to passenger rail, or whether the technology feeds into a passenger rail concept.

Received public comment from:

Brett Garrett

Fred Geiger

Portia

Matt Farrell, Friends of the Rail and Trail

Michael Saint

Ben Vernazza

29. Informational Update Regarding Community's Preference between Two Single-Span Bridge Types for the Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge Over Aptos Creek & Soquel Drive

Transportation Planning Intern Anna Kalthoff delivered the staff report. In response to commissioners' questions, Executive Director Mitch Weiss communicated that the item was an informational item only, and Communications Specialist Shannon Munz provided more information about

survey methods.

Received public comment from:
Rebecca Downing

30. Highway 1 State Park to Bay/Porter Auxiliary Lanes and Bus on Shoulder Project Construction Update – Proposed 24-Hour Closure of Highway 1 for Demolition of the Capitola Overcrossing

Senior Transportation Engineer Sarah Christensen delivered the staff report. Commissioners discussed coordination with the jurisdictions which are managing construction projects in the surrounding areas in order to minimize traffic impacts.

31. Consideration and Approval of a Legal Services Agreement with Redwood Public Law, LLP for continued General Counsel Services by Steve Mattas and His Team of Transportation Agency Attorneys Through June 30, 2025 and Approval of an Extension of the Legal Services Agreement with Meyers Nave, PLC to Continue to Provide Litigation and Labor Relations Services Through June 30, 2025.

Executive Director Mitch Weiss delivered the staff report.

Commissioner Hernandez made a motion and Commissioner Montesino seconded the motion to approve the staff recommendation to approve authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Redwood Public Law, LLP for general counsel legal services and extend the agreement with Meyers Nave, PLC for litigation and labor relations legal services. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioners Pedersen, S. Brown, Montesino, Hernandez, McPherson, K. Brown, Pageler, and Commissioner Alternates Dilles, McKeithen, Quinn, and Schiffrin voting "aye."

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

32. Next meetings

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2024 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 (TPW) is scheduled for March 21, 2024, and 9:00 a.m. at the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District Administrative Offices, located at 110 Vernon St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Respectfully submitted,

Yesenia Parra, Administrative Services Officer

Attendees

Judy Gittelsohn

Gine Johnson

Nancy

David Carlson, County of Santa Cruz

Christina Watson, TAMC Director of
Planning

Alissa Guther, TAMC

Barry Scott

David <3 Public Transit

Sally

Linda Wilshusen

Rebecca Downing

Ben Vernazza

Brian Peoples (Trail Now)

BobFi

Kristina Glavis

Jacob Wysocki

Nadene Thorne

Joni

Carlos Chavez

Carlos

Jaime Renteria

(831)***-9874

Susan Cavalieri

Michael Saint

Johanna Lighthill

FORT Zoom Host

Kathleen

Ron Swenson

Terry Wood

Paula Bradley

Rob Tidmore, Santa Cruz County
Parks

Murray Fontes, City of Watsonville

Paul Guirguis, CT Planning

Frank Rimicci Jr.

Paul Hierling, AMBAG

Roxanne Spaully

Fred J Geiger

Susen Martinez

Jeff Parry

Karen Anderson

Christine Miguel

Brett Garrett

Jim Helmer

Paul Jamtgaard, Glydways

Dustin Earle, Glydways