

Comments from the Public on Agenda Item 11

From: bikerick
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 7:47 AM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Cc: 'Cory Caletti at work'
Subject: Item Rules & Regs Revisions June 1 2017 meeting

Dear Commissioners:

I see that you are considering changes to the Rules and Regulations affecting the Bicycle Committee, of which I am a member. In the past you have solicited input from the Committee on such changes and hopefully you will continue to do so. One potentially significant change in Exhibit 10 is for the Committee to review basic drawings of projects rather than review plans at the 65% to 80% design stage. An important and successful function of the Committee is to review plans for and that affect bicycling. I'm not sure how "basic plans" are defined, but as you likely are aware – the devil is in the details. For bicycling this typically means pavement markings, signing, and facility design and location. For example, the Committee recently provided specific comments on these plan aspects for the Mount Hermon-Scotts Valley Drive intersection to Scotts Valley. In order to do so, we reviewed plans that were fairly detailed and complete. Thus, a better wording would be "review project design of sufficient detail to identify any changes needed for effective and safe bicycle use by the Bicycle Advisory Committee..."

Some other proposed changes affecting the Bicycle Committee include allowing 2 instead of 1 year terms for officers and deleting Committee recommendations of new members. I would suggest providing a list of these revisions to the Committee for comment at our next meeting before you take final action.

Thank you,
Rick Hyman

From: Info [mailto:info@sccrtc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 5:03 PM
To: 'bikerick'
Subject: RE: Item Rules & Regs Revisions June 1 2017 meeting

Mr. Hyman,

Thank you for your comments. They will be made available to the Commission for their review.

Please visit the SCCRTC website at www.sccrtc.org for information on the Commission and its activities.

Thank you,



[Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission](http://www.sccrtc.org)

831.460.3200 - Santa Cruz Office (main location)

831.768.3205 – Watsonville Satellite Office

1523 Pacific Avenue | Santa Cruz, CA 95060



Follow our social networks for the latest RTC news

Comments from the Public on Agenda Item 21

From: Jaime Sanchez
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 2:40 PM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: railroad

Hello,
My name is Jaime Sanchez and I'm writing to urge the commission to link south and north Santa Cruz County though rail. I'm a Watsonville native and see a move like this as benefiting more people, particularly those who have limited transportation options. It will also help with the environment. Thank you.
-Jaime Sanchez, Watsonville

From: Jerilyn Bodemar
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 5:31 PM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Keep the rail between Watsonville & North SC County

Name
Jerilyn Bodemar
Subject
Keep the rail between Watsonville & North SC County
Your Message
As long-time residents of Watsonville, we ask that you keep the rails in place for the time being, so that we keep the rail option open for the future. The RTC could opt to pave a portion of the corridor for rapid bus lines in the interim, maintaining the rail line, providing bus service, AND keeping the trail corridor in place. This provides transit options and also will serve to reduce GHG as people can get out of their cars and take the bus/train.

From: Scott Visa
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 5:32 PM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Keep the rails!

Name
Scott VISA
Subject
Keep the rails!
Your Message
As long-time residents of Watsonville, we ask that you keep the rails in place for the time being, so that we keep the rail option open for the future. The RTC could opt to pave a portion of the corridor for rapid bus lines in the interim, maintaining the rail line, providing bus service, AND keeping the trail corridor in place. This provides transit options and also will serve to reduce GHG as people can get out of their cars and take the bus/train.

From: Carol Long
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 9:04 PM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Rail Option

Please keep open the option to provide rail service between Santa Cruz & Watsonville. Thanks,
 Carol Long, Santa Cruz, CA

From: Pam Stearns
Sent: Saturday, May 27, 2017 9:25 AM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: New submission from Contact Form

Name
Pam Stearns
Subject
Rail corridor
Your Message
<p>Dear Transportation Commissioners, I'm writing on behalf of the south county commuters who waste many hours a week stuck in their cars away from their families and healthy activities spewing carbon in our air while waiting on our main transportation corridors to and from their north county employment. You must not make the damaging decision to remove the rail line that could provide a future alternative to the mess we've made over the years with our unwise housing and transportation decisions.</p>

From: Olivia Silva
Sent: Saturday, May 27, 2017 9:53 AM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: tener encuentra que dejen vias del tren

Name
Olivia Silva
Subject
tener encuentra que dejen vias del tren
Your Message
<p>Hola, Mi nombre es Olivia. Trabajo en la Universidad de Santa Cruz como custodian. Vivo en Watsonville. Me transporto a mi trabajo en un van pool porque me interesa el medioambiente y de esa manera estoy contribuyendo a no usar mi carro todos los días para no dañar el medioambiente. Me gustaría en el futuro que hubiese una manera para todos los que trabajamos en Santa Cruz o más lejos como San Jose de transportarnos en un tren. Y una vez más les pido que mantengan las vías del tren en conservación para en un futuro mis hijos tengan una vida más segura sin tanto impacto del cambio climático.</p> <p>Sinceramente, Olivia Silva</p> <p><i>SEE TRANSLATION BELOW</i></p>

*Hello
 My name is Olivia. I work for UCSC as a custodian. I live in Watsonville. I get to work on a vanpool because I am interested in the environment and that way I am contributing to not damaging the environment by not using my car every day. In the future I would like for there to be a way for all of us who work in Santa Cruz or further away like San Jose to travel by train. And once more I ask you to preserve the rail tracks so in the future my children can have a safer life without as many climate change impacts.
 Sincerely,
 Olivia Silva*

From: Jeanne Greatorex
Sent: Saturday, May 27, 2017 10:01 AM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Rail Service

Name
Jeanne Greatorex
Subject
Rail Service
Your Message
As a Watsonville resident who must travel to Santa Cruz for various meetings and appointments, I find it unbelievably frustrating that I cannot predict when I should leave the house to be on time - Will the back up today be for 20 minutes, half an hour or perhaps an hour? (And I imagine the frustration for daily commuters must be even worse.) Beside that it is a terrible climate-polluting issue with all the backup of idling cars sending out CO2. Until which time as all vehicles are electric, and self-driving, we need options; and a rail line would be a perfect fit.

From: Nancy Faulstich
Sent: Saturday, May 27, 2017 10:14 AM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: preserve rail option

Name
Nancy Faulstich
Subject
preserve rail option
Your Message
<p>Hello, My name is Nancy and I live and work in Watsonville. Occasionally I travel to Aptos, SC or beyond and try to time those trips to avoid driving in heavy traffic, which means eliminating several hours each morning and afternoon. I urge you to maintain the rail option for several reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) we need more public transportation systems 2) many low income people work in SC and live in Watsonville due to housing costs, who would appreciate option of a train 3) most importantly this would help get people out of cars and reduce carbon emissions

4) I personally love the idea of riding a bike to the train and taking bike with me to North County.
 I'm extremely concerned about climate change and believe we need to do everything possible to reduce emissions, as quickly as possible. Climate change is a social justice issue, in which the people who did the least to cause the crisis are being hit first and worse by effects. We need to think about equity, environment, and economics when considering big issues like transportation around our County. Thank you for considering my thoughts, Nancy

From: Denise Lucy
Sent: Saturday, May 27, 2017 2:28 PM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Rail Transport

Name
Denise Lucy
Subject
Rail Transport
Your Message
We need alternate means of transport north of Watsonville such as rail transport. Please include rail transport as one more way to travel north of Watsonville.

From: Yvonne Undeen
Sent: Monday, May 29, 2017 11:31 AM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Keep rails connecting north and south Santa Cruz county in place

Name
Yvonne Undeen
Subject
Keep rails connecting north and south Santa Cruz county in place.
Your Message
As a long-time resident of Watsonville, I ask that you keep the rails in place for the time being, so that we keep the rail option open for the future. The RTC could opt to pave a portion of the corridor for rapid bus lines in the interim, maintaining the rail line, providing bus service, AND keeping the trail corridor in place. This provides transit options and also will serve to reduce GHG as people can get out of their cars and take the bus/train.

From: Manu Koenig
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 1:22 PM
To: zach.friend@co.santa-cruz.ca.us
Cc: allyson.violante@co.santa-cruz.ca.us; patrick.mulhearn@co.santa-cruz.ca.us; info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Vote NO on RESOLUTION NO. 40-12 - Stand Up for Trail-Only

Dear Supervisor Zach Friend,
 I urge you to vote NO at the upcoming vote on: RESOLUTION NO. 40-12. A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMS OF PROJECTS FOR REGIONAL MEASURE D PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY BRIDGES/LIFT LINE AND AMENDING THE RTC BUDGET TO REFLECT PLANNED USE OF

MEASURE D REVENUES IN FY17/18 Stand up for the Trail-Only option NOW instead of frittering away another \$1.4 million* on railroad analysis, rehabilitation, track repair, study, and design & contractor outreach. I can't believe that the proposed plan doesn't even call for Trail development south of 17th Ave. in Live Oak. This leaves more than 50% of the total Santa Cruz County bikeshed across Capitola, Soquel, Aptos, and Seascapes without Trail service for at least another 5 years. That's 100% of the population in 2nd District that will be denied service to a functioning cross-county bike trail for the foreseeable future. Where is your urgent commitment to providing transportation options and sustainable development? As the independent study by Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. demonstrates**, the Trail-Only option makes the most sense in terms of capital efficiency for the County: \$1.6 million/mile Trail-Only vs. \$4 million/mile Rail-With-Trail. This is to say nothing of the ongoing operating expense Rail-With-Trail would cost the County, most likely at a net loss. Ignoring this and the many other obvious facts and examples in this report is tantamount to neglect. Acquiescing to spend more money studying and conversing with railroad managers, at this point, is pure group-think. The RTC is suffering from an information cascade and only your bold action can reverse it! I understand that the Trail-Only stance is politically difficult but there is finally a bargaining chip on the table - funding for other county projects. There is no need to rush to approve this particular budget - the County has survived many long years without this tax revenue and will survive a few more months. Any budget worth passing should strip all funding for rail related projects from the budget, and only fund studies and designs for a Trail-Only option. Moreover it should seek to fund completion of the entire Trail within the next 5 years using 50% matching funds from the community. Defend our hard earned tax revenues from inefficient waste. Extend Trail-Only service to 2nd District as soon as possible.

Thank you, Manu

* From Agenda: <https://sccrtc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/2017-06-01%20RTC%20Packet.pdf> page 173, Exhibit A. \$1.4 million includes the following line items: Railroad bridge analysis - \$300,000; Railroad bridge rehabilitation - \$300,000; Track and signage repair - \$108,000; Unified corridor investment study - \$500,000; City/RTC coordination: CPUC, Iowa Pacific (IP), Env Health Svc (EHS), Right-of-Way (ROW), design & contractor, outreach - Seg 7,8,9 - \$30,000 - \$45,000 per year totaling \$195,000
 ** <http://static1.squarespace.com/static/57596c8c3c44d8d8be8c0b2a/t/57a2b0d1e4fcb574ae64ab38/1470279892145/GSCT-Study-Web-Version.pdf>

From: Patricia Ruppelt
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 3:06 PM
To: info@sccrtc.org
Subject: Rail needed

Name
Patricia Ruppelt
Subject
Rail needed
Your Message
I am a Watsonville resident. Rail is the only option to get cars off the road! I have lived in the Bay Area. Widening highways does not decrease traffic. Roads just fill up. Rail and bike/hike trail too. We need to get out of cars. Patty Ruppelt, Watsonville