



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1523 PACIFIC AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060-3911 (831) 460-3200 FAX 460-3215

CONTACT: *Karena Pushnik*, (831) 460-3200, (www.sccrtc.org)

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
February 3, 2005 Meeting Highlights

Highway 1/17 Interchange Merge Lanes Project:

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) received a presentation from Caltrans on the Highway 1/17 project including an update on the schedule, funding, project components, public awareness campaign, soundwalls and landscaping. Funding for the project is highly uncertain due to the availability of state funds. The RTC requested an abstract design for the 500-foot segment of soundwall that can not be landscaped.

Highway 1 Soquel/Morrissey Merge Lanes Project:

The Regional Transportation Commission approved a federal funding request in the amount of \$9.85 million for operational improvements on Highway 1 just south of the Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes project. This new project is for merge lanes between the Morrissey Avenue and Soquel Drive interchanges. Environmental review of this segment will be done in the near future.

Rail Acquisition Activities:

The RTC continues to discuss the various aspects of the project to acquire the Santa Cruz Branch line. In upcoming months, the RTC will consider submitting funding requests to state agencies and prepare a draft Request for Proposals for operators of the freight and passenger service. An ad hoc committee is considering passenger rail options other than the Capitola – Aptos/Seascape segment.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report for Recreational Rail:

The RTC released a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Recreational Rail between Capitola and Aptos with an extension to Seascape. A revised document was released to take into account information from the Draft Business Plan developed for acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line and to further clarify noise and traffic impacts. The 60-day comment period ends April 5, 2005 and an evening public hearing will be held on March 17.

Upcoming SCCRTC and Committee Meetings (please call 460-3200 to confirm):

Commission Meetings

Thursday, March 3, 2005, 9:00 am

April 7, 9:00 am

Board of Supervisors Chambers

County Government Center

701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz

Thursday, March 17, 9:00 am

Location to be determined

Public Hearing on Draft Recreational Rail EIR

Thursday March 17, 7:00 pm

Board of Supervisors Chambers

County Government Center

701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz

Transportation Policy Workshop

Thursday, February 17, 9:00 am
Thursday, March 17, 9:00 am
Commission Offices,
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

Bicycle Committee

Monday, February 15, 7:00 pm (See Note 1)
Monday, March 14, 7:00 pm
Commission Offices,
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

Elderly/Disabled Transp. Advisory

Tuesday, March 8, 1:30 pm
Commission Offices,
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

Interagency Technical Advisory

Thursday, February 17, 1:30 pm
Thursday, March 17, 1:30 pm
Commission Offices,
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

Paratransit Coordination Task Force

Wednesday, February 16, 2:00 pm (See Note 2)
ABC Rooms, Civic Auditorium
307 Church St, Santa Cruz

Notes:

- 1. Note that meeting is not on regular schedule
- 2. Last scheduled meeting of the Task Force

For more information, visit the SCCRTC web site at www.sccrtc.org or call 460-3200. Some SCCRTC meetings are broadcast by Community TV of Santa Cruz

X X X END X X X