



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission*  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
phone (831) 460-3200 ~ fax (831) 460-3215  
email: [info@scrtc.org](mailto:info@scrtc.org); website: [www.scrtc.org](http://www.scrtc.org)

CONTACT: Karena Pushnik, Senior Transportation Planner, Public Information Coordinator  
(831) 460-3200

## ***Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission January 5, 2006 Meeting Highlights***

### ***2006 State Transportation Improvement Funding Plan (STIP) Approved:***

The Regional Transportation Commission unanimously approved a plan to program the projected \$20 million in STIP funds based on the California Transportation Commission's adopted fund estimate. Per the approved plan, approximately 80% of the projected STIP funds would go to regionally significant projects and 20% to local jurisdictions for their priority projects. At a public hearing held on January 5, the Commission approved the list of regionally significant projects which includes highway, pedestrian, bicycle, transit, rideshare, planning and safety projects.

### ***Draft 2006 State and Federal Legislative Agendas Released:***

The Regional Transportation Commission released the draft annual legislative agenda, taking into account information about California's interests in the new federal transportation bill commonly known as SAFETEA-LU. The broad state and federal legislative agendas will be returned to the Commission for final adoption including input from the public, the Commission's advisory committees, local jurisdictions and partner transportation agencies. The Commission will also consider potential projects for inclusion in any statewide Infrastructure Bond Proposal.

### ***Structures Assessment Approved for Rail Line Acquisition:***

The Commission approved a contract to provide detailed structural analysis of structures along the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. A separate firm will also be retained to provide a peer review of the analysis to ensure objectivity. In conjunction with the structural assessment, a Right of Entry Agreement was approved by the Commission and will be forwarded to Union Pacific for their approval.

### ***Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes Project Update Provided:***

Caltrans announced that tree removal for the Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes Project would commence after it is known whether the construction contract bids are reasonably close to the projected project construction costs. This will occur at the end of January 2006. The Public Awareness Campaign is under development and will be ready to be launched in February. Construction on the Merge Lanes project will last about three years and span from the Pasatiempo interchange on Highway 17 to the La Fonda Overcrossing on Highway 1.

Upcoming SCCRTC and Committee Meetings (please call 831/460-3200 to confirm):

***Commission Meetings***

Thursday, February 2, 9:00 am (1)  
City of Santa Cruz Council Chambers  
809 Center Street, Santa Cruz

Thursday, March 2, 9:00 am  
Board of Supervisors Chambers  
County Government Center  
701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz

***Transportation Policy Workshop-Commission meetings***

Thursday, January 19, 9:00 am  
Thursday, February 16, 9:00 am  
Commission Offices  
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

***Bicycle Committee***

Monday, January 9, 7:00 pm  
Monday, February 13, 7:00 pm  
Commission Offices  
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

***Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee***

Tuesday, February 14, 1:30 pm  
Commission Offices  
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

***Interagency Technical Advisory Committee***

Thursday, January 19, 1:30 pm  
Thursday, February 16, 1:30 pm  
Commission Offices  
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

***Caltrans Public Open House***

Thursday, January 19, 7:00 pm (2)  
Scotts Valley High School  
555 Glenwood Dr, Scotts Valley

- Notes: 1. Note meeting location.  
2. Evening open house hosted by Caltrans on the Highway 17 Glenwood project.

**Public input on transportation issues is welcomed and encouraged.**

**For more information, visit the SCCRTC web site at [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) or call 460-3200.**

**Some Regional Transportation Commission meetings are televised countywide by Community TV of Santa Cruz. Consult [www.comunitytv.org](http://www.comunitytv.org) or call 831-425-8848 for schedule and station information.**

**X X X E N D X X X**