

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
AND
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAY EMERGENCIES

MINUTES

**Thursday,
May 6, 2004
9:00 a.m.**

**City of Capitola Council Chambers
420 Capitola Avenue
Capitola, CA 95010**

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Jan Beautz Dennis Norton
 Tony Campos Ellen Pirie
 Richard De La Paz Emily Reilly
 Mike Keogh Pat Spence
 Scott Kennedy Mardi Wormhoudt
 Randy Johnson Donna Ziel (Alt)
 Rich Krumholz (ex officio Alt)

Staff Present Pat Dellin Cory Irimes
 Kim Shultz Sean Co
 Karena Pushnik Rachel Moriconi
 Gini Pineda Luis Mendez
 Tegan Speiser Grace Blakeslee

2. Oral Communications - None

3. Additions or Deletions to Consent and Regular Agendas

Deputy Director Pat Dellin said that there were two replacement pages, 27-7 and 30-7, which had been given to Commissioners. She added that the closed session, Item 32, would not be held.

CONSENT AGENDA (Reilly/Wormhoudt)

Commissioner Campos abstained from voting on the minutes.

Commissioner Pirie requested a copy of the work plan for the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line which was submitted to the County Environmental Health Department for approval.

Commissioner Keogh said that Item 7 contained language that linked Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Paratransit issues

with the elderly which is inaccurate because ADA services have nothing to do with age, only with disability. He asked that this distinction be clearer in the future.

Commissioner Spence noted that page 14-3 of the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee minutes did not contain the name of the Commission Alternate who suggested a meeting with Congressman Farr's staff.

4. Approved Minutes of April 1, 2004 Regular SCCRTC Meeting
5. Approved Minutes of April 15, 2004 Transportation Policy Workshop Meeting

POLICY

6. Accepted Draft Report on Recommendations for Transforming Caltrans and Report on Smart Growth in California (both enclosed separately for Commissioners)

PROJECTS and PLANNING

7. Approved Staff Recommendations Regarding Unmet Paratransit Needs Process
8. Approved Scoring Committee and Staff Recommendations Regarding Scoring of Section 5310 Applications for State Funding for Paratransit Capital Improvements (Resolution 34-04)
9. Approved Staff Recommendations Regarding Cooperative Agreement Among AMBAG, SCCRTC, and Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) Regarding Funding and Planning Implementation for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail

COMMISSION BUDGET and EXPENDITURES

10. Approved List of Open Purchase Orders for FY 04-05 (Resolution 35-04)

ADMINISTRATION

11. Approved Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and Staff Recommendations Regarding Appointments to the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee
12. Accepted Third Quarter Report on the SCCRTC FY03-04 Work Program

COMMITTEE MINUTES

13. Accepted Draft Minutes of the Expenditure Plan Subcommittee Meetings of March 26, 2004 and April 5, 2004
14. Accepted Draft Minutes of the Budget and Administration / Personnel Committee Meeting of April 22, 2004
15. Accepted Draft Minutes of the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting of April 13, 2004
16. Accepted Draft Minutes of the Bicycle Committee Meeting of April 12, 2004

INFORMATION/OTHER

17. Accepted Monthly Meeting Schedule
18. Accepted SCCRTC Staff Comment Letters on Draft Environmental Documents and Plans Prepared by Other Agencies - No Letters
19. Accepted Letters from SCCRTC Committees and Staff to Other Agencies on Policy Issues
 - a. Letter to Watsonville City Council Regarding Oral Report from Commissioner De La Paz on Environmental Impact Report for Proposed Recreational Rail Service and Use of Proposition 116 Funds
 - b. Letter to California Highway Patrol Regarding New Local Freeway Service Patrol Programs
 - c. Letter from Bicycle Committee Responding to Bicycle Conditions in Santa Cruz County
 - d. Letter from Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee Regarding Draft Expenditure Plan of Projects
20. Accepted Miscellaneous Written Comments from the Public on SCCRTC Projects and Transportation Issues
21. Accepted Handouts from Previous Regional Transportation Commission Meeting
22. Accepted Information Items
 - a. Brochure Spring Bike to Work/School Events (enclosed separately)
 - b. Letter to California Transportation Commission Regarding 2004 Santa Cruz County Regional

- Transportation Improvement Program
- c. March 2004 *Livable Places Update* Article Regarding Keys to a Successful Transit System
 - d. News Release from SCCRTC Regarding Commute Solutions On-Line Tools
 - e. Letter from Riester-Robb Regarding Marketing Award for Coasters for Don't Drive One in Five Campaign

SERVING AS THE SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAY EMERGENCIES

No Items

REGULAR AGENDA

- 23. Commissioner Reports - None
- 24. Director's Report - Oral Report

Deputy Director Pat Dellin announced that the California Transportation Commission was scheduled to hold its first hearing on the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) on Thursday, May 13th. She said that staff will be in Sacramento with the SCMTD General Manager to advocate reprogramming \$7.8 million for the MetroBase project and funding for the Highway 1/17 interchange to allow it to go to construction soon.

Ms. Dellin said that a public hearing regarding the Expenditure Plan is proposed for the evening of June 3rd and that an evening public hearing regarding the Recreational Rail Draft Environmental Impact Report is proposed for June 17th. Commissioner Beautz suggested 6:00 pm for the Recreational Rail Public Hearing. Director Dellin said she would work with Chair Beautz on the location.

Sue Renner requested that the public be notified as soon as the Draft Environmental Impact Report is released. Director Dellin said that the document would be posted to the Commission website prior to the public hearing and that, in addition to media releases, there would be e-news notifications to those who are on the e-news mailing list.

Commissioner Spence asked if there would be opportunity for public comment on the rail acquisition business plan. Commissioner Beautz said there should be a separate public hearing for those comments.

- 25. Caltrans Report

Rich Krumholz, Caltrans District 5, reported that the Highway 9 turn lane project in Ben Lomond is ready to start next week.

Mr. Krumholz said that the current state government has made a commitment to smart growth and that the smart growth policies and position papers were largely put together by Caltrans. He said that Caltrans has developed plans promoting livable communities and smart growth and has policies promoting a range of transportation options.

26. Status Report on Highway 1 Projects and Updated Highway 1 HOV Lane Widening Financial Plan

Deputy Director Pat Dellin said that two well-attended public information meetings on the Project Approval / Environmental Document (PA/ED) had been held in April and that a summary of the input and the Quarterly Progress Report would be presented at the June Commission meeting.

Ms. Dellin said that design/build legislation would go before the Senate Appropriations Committee as early as next week and that the Highway Construction Authority was meeting tomorrow to look at its draft FY 04-05 budget. She said that the draft Expenditure Plan was released to the public following the April Transportation Policy Workshop meeting.

Commissioners Spence and Beautz complimented the PA/ED consultant team for their work.

27. Public Information for Expenditure Plan for a Local Transportation Sales Tax Measure

Deputy Director Pat Dellin reviewed that the Commission released the Draft Ordinance and Expenditure Plan for a November 2004 local transportation sales tax measure at its April Transportation Policy Workshop meeting and noted that comment from the public was being solicited throughout the month of May. She said that staff was recommending an evening public hearing for Thursday, June 3rd.

Ms. Dellin said that the draft expenditure plan was going to the city councils and the Board of Supervisors for their input and asked Commissioner Johnson to report on the Scotts Valley City Council meeting that had taken place the evening before.

Commissioner Johnson said that council members and the public wanted to know how the city would be compensated if the sales tax did not generate enough money for Highway 1. He said that the Council liked that monies would be available without strings attached, more like a block grant, and that the widening of the highway and the \$108 million designated to the local jurisdictions were the most

attractive parts of the Expenditure Plan. The Scotts Valley City Council approved the plan with a 4-0 vote. Councilmember Aguilar abstained, noting that she was uncomfortable endorsing the plan since it had not yet been finalized.

Deputy Director Dellin said that at the last meeting Commissioners asked for additional information on cash flow and project delivery, administrative tasks and costs, and contingency funds.

Ms. Dellin said that the original financial plan that would have other projects waiting for funding until the highway widening project received its funds had been revised over time. The new financial plan provided that all projects will receive their percentage of money every year. She said that local jurisdictions will have the option to use financing tools to construct projects in the early years since they know they will have continuous funding streams over the years. She said it is assumed that the Highway Construction Authority will bond to deliver the Highway 1 HOV Lane project as soon as possible.

Ms. Dellin referred to replacement page 27-7 for Attachment 2 which described administrative tasks related to implementing the sales tax measure including annual financial audits, compensation to the Auditor-Controller, public information tasks and various reports, reviews and document preparations. She said that these costs would be reviewed annually.

Commission consultant Eileen Goodwin presented an example of the type of annual document that could be produced to track costs, cash flow and information on individual projects. In response to a question from Commissioner Reilly, she said the document would also include updates to the schedules for delivery of the projects.

It was noted that population estimates would be updated every year to determine the annual distribution of 20.5% of the funds to local cities/county projects.

David Eselius said it is difficult for the general public to understand what the Commission does and suggested using the Commission website to explain the benefits of approving the tax measure and widening the highway.

Sue Renner agreed that information in the newspapers is not always correct and the subjects are complex and difficult to understand. She said she wanted to know more about how elective funds are spent, especially with regard to the Recreational Rail project.

Bill Comfort asked to see how the tax revenues would be spent and when funding would be available by year for each category of project. Director Dellin said a spreadsheet with this information will be ready soon and posted on the web.

Commissioner Beautz asked that Pat Busch, CAO, attend the May Transportation Policy Workshop to answer questions about the Expenditure Plan.

Neal McElwee suggested forming a committee composed of commuters to assist in getting information out about the highway widening and the Expenditure Plan.

Commissioner Beautz described the four main projects before the Commission: the Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes Project which is ready to go to construction but was impacted by the availability of state funds; the Environmental Impact Report on the Highway 1 HOV Lane Widening Project which will take many years and will be administered by a Highway Construction Authority; the Recreational Rail Project including the application for Proposition 116 funds, which is going forward and will include an Environmental Impact Report and a business plan; and the development of an Expenditure Plan for a sales tax measure scheduled for the November 2004 ballot.

Commissioner Reilly moved and Commissioner Wormhoudt seconded to approve the staff recommendations that the RTC schedule an evening public hearing on the draft Expenditure Plan for Thursday, June 3, 2004.

After discussion, it was decided to hold an Open House at 7:00 pm with the public hearing commencing at 7:30 pm at the Board of Supervisors Chambers.

The motion carried unanimously.

28. FY 04-05 Budget Amendment to Reprogram Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funds for the Don't Drive 1 in 5 Program, Creating More Transportation Development Act (TDA) Funds for Allocation

Commissioners Beautz and Wormhoudt summarized the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee plan to shift \$75,000 in Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding to the SCMTD. The process, which took three steps, moved Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for FY04-05 from the Don't Drive 1 in 5 campaign to two other projects that qualify for CMAQ funding and allocated TDA funding from those projects to the Metro.

Les White, SCMTD General Manager, thanked the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee and Deputy Director Pat Dellin for their work.

Commissioner Beautz read the staff recommendations to

1. Accept the attached information on the history of Transportation Development Act (TDA) projections, revenues and allocations;
2. Reprogram the remaining available Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for the Don't Drive 1 in 5 Program, \$75,000, to the Bike to Work and Community Traffic Safety Coalition Safety Programs in the SCCRTC FY04-05 budget, thereby freeing an equal amount of TDA funds for allocation;
3. Allocate the freed-up \$75,000 in TDA funds as a special allocation to SCMTD;
4. Approve the attached resolution (Attachment 1) amending the budget and the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) consistent with the recommendations above; and
5. State your intention to increase SCMTD's TDA allocation by \$85,000 at a later date if TDA revenues exceed projections.

Commissioner Reilly moved and Commissioner Kennedy seconded to approve the staff recommendations. The motion (Resolution 36-04) passed unanimously.

29. FY 04-05 Article 4 Transportation Development Act and State Transit Assistance (STA) Claims from Santa Cruz Metro Transit District

Deputy Director Pat Dellin said that the recommendations for this item were consistent with what was just approved and asked for a report from SCMTD General Manager, Les White.

Mr. White reviewed the recent service cuts the Metro has had to make due to the difficult economic situation, saying that cuts to fixed route service impact paratransit services that complement fixed route service.

On a positive note, Mr. White said that if the California Transportation Commission re-allocates the \$7.8 million in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funds to Metro, construction of the Metro Base could start in Spring 2005 with the first phase completed in 2007 and the entire project completed by 2010. He said transit should resume being a viable means of transportation in 5-10 years.

Commissioner Wormhoudt moved and Commissioner Norton seconded to approve the staff recommendations to:

1. Approve the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District's FY 04/05 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 4 claim in the amount of \$5,413,251 per the attached resolution;
2. Approve the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District's FY 04/05 State Transit Assistance Act (STA) claim in the amount of \$860,994 per the attached resolution; and
3. Accept Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District's 2003 Annual Report, presented orally by the SCMTD General Manager.

The motion (Resolutions 36-04 and 37-04) passed unanimously.

Neal McElwee commented that the Commission has set aside \$10 million of State Transportation Improvement Program funding for a tourist train that does not serve the county and duplicates existing service. He asked the Commission to move the funding to the Metro to offset budget cuts.

30. Paratransit Task Force Appointments

Senior Planner Karena Pushnik gave the staff report and referred to the list of nominees to fill positions on the Task Force and the list of self-appointed representatives.

Ms. Pushnik said that both taxi company operators were interested in serving on the Task Force, and since this position is self appointed, the Commission could either add a position, split the vote between the two companies, or appoint the representative. Commissioners discussed these alternatives.

Ms. Pushnik said that at the last Regional Transportation Commission meeting Commissioner Wormhoudt had been selected to chair the Task Force and that Commissioner Campos had expressed interest in serving as the other representative from the Commission. She said that the first meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19th from 3pm to 6pm at the Civic Auditorium.

Commissioners discussed the nominees, how the meetings will be structured and the regular time the meetings will be held.

Commissioner Spence distributed a list of her concerns and comments regarding the staff recommendations. She indicated that it was her understanding that the Community Bridges position would be filled by a board member and not a staff person. She said that the Task Force membership should either include both Community Bridges and SCMTD staff persons as voting members or both agencies should exclude staff persons as voting members.

Commissioners discussed the issue and Chair Beautz said she would contact Community Bridges to see whether they would appoint a board member to the Task Force.

Commissioner Spence noted that the Metro is the largest stakeholder in the Task Force, providing 50% of the paratransit service. She also said that it may be inappropriate for a company or organization that potentially stands to receive financial gain to make decisions on a planning body. She supported Courtesy Cab as the representative from the taxi companies and said it would not be fair to designate the alternate for this position.

Commissioner De La Paz nominated Richard Camperud, Courtesy Cab, to represent the taxi companies. Commissioner Campos seconded.

Chair Beautz recommended making a comprehensive motion on the staff recommendations as a whole. Ms. Beautz suggested a motion on staff recommendations 2, 4, 5 and 6 with language to include Commissioner Campos as a member representing the SCCRTC on the Task Force.

Commissioner Wormhoudt moved to approve staff recommendations 2, 4, 5, and 6 which were to:

1. Accept appointments from other entities to be represented on the Paratransit Coordination Task Force;
2. Confirm the appointment of Commissioner Tony Campos to represent the RTC on the Task Force along with Commissioner Wormhoudt who was appointed in April 2004 as the Task Force Chair;
3. Direct staff to notify RTC representatives of their appointments to the Task Force; and,
4. Direct staff to organize and host the first Paratransit Coordination Task Force meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2004 from 3pm to 6pm in the ABC Room of the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium.

Commissioner Kennedy seconded. It was decided by consensus that Commissioner Beautz would talk to Community Bridges regarding their appointment to the Task Force.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners discussed Item 1, to review nominations and make RTC appointments to three positions on the Paratransit Coordination Task Force: one representing a skilled nursing/residential care facility, one from the medical community or senior housing development, and one consumer of paratransit and Item 3, to appoint one of the two

paratransit taxi operators as a member of the Task Force and appoint the other as an alternate.

Commissioner Norton nominated Kathleen Johnson to represent skilled nursing/residential care facilities. Commissioner Wormhoudt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Wormhoudt nominated Roger McKowan to represent the medical community. Commissioner Reilly seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Pirie nominated Adam Tomaszewski to represent the users of paratransit services. Commissioner Wormhoudt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Campos nominated Richard Camperud to represent taxi operators. Commissioner De La Paz seconded.

Commissioner Wormhoudt moved to amend the motion to have James Monroe, the new owner of Yellow Cab Company, serve as the alternate. The makers of the motion accepted the amendment and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Spence asked that the legal counsel for the Metro be present at the first Task Force meeting to explain ADA requirements. Senior Planner Karena Pushnik said that the first meeting would be largely organizational but that the Task Force would be working with Metro's legal counsel for a presentation at the Task Force in the future.

31. FY 04-05 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funding and Evaluations for On-Going Programs

Deputy Director Pat Dellin said that Santa Cruz County is now considered an attainment area and not eligible for future CMAQ funding. She said that the Commission should assume that only 50% of the funding for FY04-05 would be forthcoming.

Commissioners discussed the list of projects recommended for funding.

Gine Johnson, Ecology Action and Santa Cruz Transportation Management Agency, reviewed the projects provide and invited the Commission to Bike Week activities. She said that evaluation reports for the Electric Bike Program and Bike to Work Day showed these programs had met all goals for the last fiscal year and had improved goals for next year.

Sandra Coley described some of the programs provided by the Pajaro Valley Transportation Management Agency including school programs, programs to entice new riders, a Commuter

Club program to not drive one day in five, and bike light and helmet distribution programs.

Commissioner Wormhoudt moved and Commissioner Pirie seconded to approve the staff recommendations to:

1. Review the attached evaluations for the:
 - a. Santa Cruz Area Transportation Management Association
 - b. Pajaro Valley Transportation Management Association
 - c. Electric Bike Subsidy Program
 - d. Bike to Work Day
 - e. Commute Solutions Rideshare Program
 - f. Don't Drive One in Five
2. Approve the use of CMAQ funds for:
 - a. Santa Cruz Area Transportation Management Association (\$31,000) and Pajaro Valley Transportation Management Association (\$30,000) with remaining half-year FY 04/05 CMAQ funds;
 - b. Commute Solutions (\$150,000 in FY 03/04 CMAQ funds transferred from Don't Drive One in Five in March 2004)
 - c. Bike to Work Day (\$40,000 in half-year FY 03/04 CMAQ funds transferred to Bike to Work Day, proposed in separate agenda item.)

The motion passed unanimously.

32. Conference with Real Property Negotiator for Acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line Property: Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line from Watsonville Junction to Davenport

The Closed Session was cancelled.

33. Next Meetings/Adjournment

The next Transportation Policy Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, May 20, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at the SCCRTC offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

The next regular SCCRTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 3, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at Board of Supervisors Chambers, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz CA 95060.

A public hearing on the Draft Expenditure Plan is scheduled for Thursday June 3, 2004 at the Board of Supervisors Chambers. An open house is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. and the public hearing will start at 7:30 p.m.

A public hearing on the Draft EIR for the Recreational Rail Project is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 17, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at the Board of Supervisors Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Gini Pineda, Staff

ATTENDEES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Neil McElwee	
Charles Sanchez	Caltrans
Les White	SC Metro
Sandra Coley	PVMTA
Bill Comfort	
Mark Dettle	City of Santa Cruz
Spike Alper	CFST
Sue Renner	
Gine Johnson	Ecology Action / SCTMA
Eileen Goodwin	Apex Strategies
Ken Kannegaard	RMC
John Woelfel	HNTB Corporation
Mark Dettle	City of Santa Cruz