

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BEFORE THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

on the date of July 27, 2004
on the motion of Commissioner
duly seconded by Commissioner
the following resolution is adopted

**A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND
ADDENDUM FOR THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AS
THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION EXPENDITURE PLAN AND
LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX MEASURE**

WHEREAS, the Expenditure Plan and Ordinance for the proposed Local Transportation Sales Tax Measure would fund projects that were subject to program-level environmental review through the Final Environmental Impact Report ("Final EIR") for the *2001 Regional Transportation Plan for Santa Cruz County* ("RTP") prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") as described more particularly in Resolution 13-02, adopted by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission ("Commission") on October 4, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has reviewed the Final EIR for the 2001 RTP to determine whether the Final EIR adequately evaluates the projects listed in the Expenditure Plan and Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, once an EIR has been certified, CEQA Section 21166 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 provide the rules for determining whether the certified EIR provides a sufficient analysis of modifications to the project addressed in the Final EIR or if subsequent assessment is required; and

WHEREAS, if changes to a certified EIR are needed, CEQA provides that the changes may be in the form of an addendum to the certified EIR or, if certain criteria are met, a supplement to the certified EIR or a subsequent EIR; and

WHEREAS, a supplement or subsequent EIR may only be prepared when (1) substantial changes are proposed in the project or in the circumstances under which the project is undertaken that will require major revisions of the EIR due to the involvement of one or more new significant environmental effects not discussed in the previous EIR, or (2) new information of substantial importance shows that the project will have significant environmental effects not previously examined; or that significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the prior EIR; mitigation

measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternatives; or mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED BY THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION that:

1. The circumstances requiring preparation of a subsequent or supplemental EIR established by Public Resources Code Section 21166 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 are not present for the reasons set forth more particularly in the Addendum. The analysis conducted in the Addendum establishes that the change in the project, involving identification of funding for transportation projects in the RTP, does not involve new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified environmental effects.
2. Though the EIR Addendum identifies some of the possible impacts of individual projects, consistent with the 2001 RTP Final EIR, it does not evaluate site-specific impacts of individual projects. Specific project design efforts and subsequent environmental review for individual projects identified in this program EIR Addendum would be the subject of future technical study and review by the lead implementing agency sponsoring the transportation system modification.
3. The Final EIR and the Addendum have been presented to the Commission, and the Commission has reviewed and considered the information contained therein;
4. That Final EIR, previously certified with findings adopted on October 4, 2001, and the Addendum are determined adequate to serve as a program-level EIR for this project and satisfy all the requirements of CEQA. The Addendum does not raise important new issues about the significant effects on the environment but rather updates the information considered in the original EIR for those projects and programs carried forward into the Expenditure Plan. The findings adopted on October 2, 2001, for the Final EIR are hereby readopted for the purposes of the Addendum.
5. The Final EIR, as modified and supplemented by the Addendum, constitutes the "EIR" for the RTP and Expenditure Plan and Ordinance;

6. The EIR, consisting of the Final EIR and the Addendum, has been completed in compliance with CEQA; and
7. The EIR, consisting of the Final EIR and the Addendum, reflects the Commission's independent judgment and analysis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Expenditure Plan and Ordinance for the proposed Local Transportation Sales Tax Measure be conveyed to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors with the recommendation that said Measure be placed on the November 2, 2004, ballot for consideration by the voters of the County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission this 27th day of July, 2004, by the following vote:

AYES:	COMMISSIONERS
NOES:	COMMISSIONERS
ABSTAIN:	COMMISSIONERS
ABSENT:	COMMISSIONERS

Jan Beautz, Chair

ATTEST:

Linda Wilshusen, Secretary

Approved as to form:

County Counsel

Distribution:

County Counsel, RTP and Expenditure Plan Files

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