

I'm a senior citizen,

REMARKS TO RTC, JULY 27, 2004

Good morning madam chair and commissioners. My name is Bob Yount and I am a member of MASTF, MAC, and your E & D TAC. I am speaking this morning for myself, but with experience from discussions in the advisory committees, from studying the issues in the local newspaper and at various public meetings, and from discussions around the community with those willing to talk about the subject before the commission this morning.

As the Expenditure Plan is currently written, I believe that the paltry sum of \$23 million (4%) over a 30-year period is not adequate to address the needs of the growing elderly and disabled community in the years ahead. We kicked around a figure of \$58 million at a recent meeting of the E & D TAC and I think that is a much more realistic figure (which is 10% of the total Expenditure Plan). I think there are more realistic solutions to the automobile grid-lock currently being encountered several times daily in Santa Cruz County than adding a lane to Highway 1. After the vote in November, I will offer some of those solutions.

I recently had a triple by-pass operation on my heart so I expect to approach being elderly in 20 to 25 years. Elderly is always 20 to 25 years older than me! Sometime later, perhaps when I am elderly, I expect to return before this commission and say, "I told your so on July 27, 2004--It wasn't enough!"

Thank you.

Bob Yount