

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

REVISED

AGENDA

**Thursday,
March 3, 2005
9:00 a.m.**

**Board of Supervisors Chambers
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA**

VOTING PROCEDURE

Jan Beautz*	County of Santa Cruz
Tony Campos*	County of Santa Cruz
Randy Johnson*	City of Scotts Valley
Mike Keogh	SCMTD
Dennis Norton*	City of Capitola
Ellen Pirie*	County of Santa Cruz
Antonio Rivas*	City of Watsonville
Emily Reilly*	City of Santa Cruz
Patricia Spence	SCMTD
Mark Stone*	County of Santa Cruz
Marcella Tavantzis	SCMTD
Mardi Wormhoudt*	County of Santa Cruz
Gregg Albright	Caltrans (ex-officio)

- a) Article 4 Claims, Policy Issues, and SAFE issues - all 12 members vote
- b) Article 8 Claims - City and County representatives vote (see asterisks)

The majority of the Commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. For Article 4 claims, policy issues and SAFE, this is 7 members; for Article 8 claims, this is 5 members.

1. Roll Call
2. Oral Communications
3. Additions or Deletions to Consent and Regular Agendas

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approve Minutes of February 3, 2005 Regular SCCRTC Meeting
5. Approve Minutes of the February 17, 2005 Regular TPW Meeting
6. Approve Minutes of the January 20, 2005 Evening Public Hearing on the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Lane Project Alternatives

POLICY

No consent items

PROJECTS and PLANNING

7. Approve Staff and Committee Recommendations Regarding the Final 2005 Legislative Agenda
8. Accept Status Report on Highway 1 Projects

COMMISSION BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES

9. Accept the SCCRTC FY 03/04 Fiscal Audit (enclosed separately for Commissioners)

ADMINISTRATION

10. Accept Meeting Schedule for SCCRTC Committees and Invitation to Commissioners to Participate in SCCRTC Advisory Committee Meetings

COMMITTEE MINUTES

11. Accept Draft Minutes of the Bicycle Committee Meeting of February 15, 2005
12. Accept Draft Minutes of the Budget and Administration/ Personnel Committee Meeting of February 16, 2005
13. Accept Draft Minutes of the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of February 17, 2005

INFORMATION/OTHER

14. Accept Monthly Meeting Schedule
15. Accept SCCRTC Staff Comment Letters on Draft Environmental Documents and Plans Prepared by Other Agencies
 - a. Letter to Caltrans Regarding Initial Study for the Laurel Curve Safety Improvements on Highway 17
 - b. Letter to City of Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency Regarding Tannery Arts Center Draft EIR
16. Accept Correspondence Log (to be distributed at the meeting)
17. Accept Letters from SCCRTC Committees and Staff to Other Agencies on Policy Issues - No Letters
18. Accept Miscellaneous Written Comments from the Public on SCCRTC Projects and Transportation Issues
19. Accept Handouts from Staff and Commissioners at Previous Regional Transportation Commission Meetings
20. Accept Information Items
 - a. Memo from Caltrans Regarding Tire Shred Usage
 - b. Memo from Caltrans Regarding Use of Rubberized Asphalt Concrete
 - c. Letter from Caltrans to the City of Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency Regarding the Tannery Arts Center Draft EIR
 - d. Correspondence from Jim Moose, SCCRTC Legal Consultant, Regarding Recreational Rail EIR (Resubmitted on Letterhead)
 - e. Letter from the City of Santa Cruz to SCCRTC Bicycle Committee Regarding Bike/Pedestrian Path on Mission Street Extension
 - f. Letter from Caltrans to SCCRTC Bicycle Committee Regarding Wilder Ranch State Park Bicycle Path Signage
 - g. Community Traffic Safety Coalition 2003-2004 Annual Report

SERVING AS THE SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAY EMERGENCIES

No consent items

REGULAR AGENDA

21. Commissioner Reports - Oral Reports

22. Director's Report - Oral Report
23. Caltrans Report
 - a. Accept Status Report from Caltrans District 5 on Major Construction Projects and Upcoming Projects
 - b. Accept Status Report on Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes Project
 - c. Accept Information on State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Projects

CLOSED SESSION

24. 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
 - Agency Negotiator: Kirk Trost, Miller, Owen & Trost
 - Negotiation Parties: SCCRTC, Union Pacific
 - Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

OPEN SESSION

25. Welcome New Commissioners and Solicit Committee Preferences
 - a. Staff Report
 - b. 2005 Commission Roster
 - c. Budget & Administration/Personnel Committee Description
26. Transportation Projects in the City of Santa Cruz - Oral Presentation by City of Santa Cruz Public Works Staff
 - a. Staff Report
 - b. City of Santa Cruz Projects from the *RTIP*
27. Acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line - Approve Staff Recommendations Regarding Amending the *2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)* for AB3090 Designation and Request for Funding to the Coastal Conservancy
 - a. Staff Report
 - b. Resolution to Amend the *2004 RTIP*
 - c. Resolution for Coastal Conservancy Reimbursable Grant
 - d. RMC Position Paper on Rail Line Acquisition
 - e. Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Proposition 116 Options

- 27.1 Acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Line - Approve Resolution to Expend Funds for Insurance Coverage Required by the Right of Entry Agreement to Perform Services for the Phase II Environmental Assessment and Other Due Diligence Tasks
- a. Staff
 - b. Resolution
28. Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes Project Soundwall Design
- a. Staff Report
 - b. Memo from Caltrans
29. Next Meetings/Adjournment

The next Transportation Policy Workshop and Public Hearing on the Draft RTP and Draft RTP EIR is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the **City of Watsonville Council Chambers, 250 Main Street, Watsonville, CA.**

An evening Recreational Rail Draft EIR Public Hearing will be held on March 17th, 2005 at 7 p.m. the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

The next regular SCCRTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

ACCESSING THE SCCRTC:

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
1523 Pacific Avenue; Santa Cruz, CA 95060
phone: (831) 460-3200 / fax: (831) 460-3215
email: info@sccrtc.org / website: www.sccrtc.org

Meetings are telecast by Community Television of Santa Cruz. Community TV's channels and schedule can be found online (www.communitytv.org) or by calling (831) 425-8848.

Complete agenda packets are available at the RTC office, on the RTC website (www.sccrtc.org), and at the following public libraries:

- Aptos Branch Library
- Central Branch Library
- Watsonville Library
- Branciforte Library
- Scotts Valley Library

For information regarding library locations and hours, please check online at www.santacruzpl.org or www.watsonville.lib.ca.us.

The SCCRTC encourages the reduction of paper waste and therefore makes meeting materials available online. Those receiving paper agendas may sign up to receive email notification when materials are available online by sending a request to info@sccrtc.org. Agendas are typically posted 5 days prior to each meeting.

To sign up for E-News updates on specific SCCRTC projects, go to www.sccrtc.org/enews.

Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. This meeting location is an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance in order to participate, please contact SCCRTC staff at 460-3200 (CRS 800/735-2929) at least three working days in advance of this meeting to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those persons affected, Please attend the meeting smoke and scent-free.

Spanish Translation Services / Servicios de Traducción al Español

If you would like to attend or participate at this meeting of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission and require information in Spanish or Spanish translation services, please call (831) 460-3200 at least three working days in advance to make the necessary arrangements.

Si gusta estar presente o participar en esta junta de la Comisión Regional de Transporte del Condado de Santa Cruz y necesita información en español o servicios de traducción al español por favor llame por lo menos con tres días laborables de anticipo al (831) 460-3200 para hacer los arreglos necesarios.

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

MINUTES

**Thursday,
January 20, 2005
7:00 p.m.**

**Board of Supervisors Chambers
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz CA 95060**

1. Roll Call

Members Present:	Jan Beautz	Ellen Pirie
	Edenilson Quintanilla (Alt.)	Emily Reilly
	Andy Schiffrin (Alt.)	Antonio Rivas
	Randy Johnson	Pat Spence
	Marcela Tavantzis (Alt.)	Mark Stone
	Dennis Norton	
	Rich Krumholz (ex-officio)	
Staff Present:	Pat Dellin	Luis Mendez
	Tegan Speiser	Gini Pineda
	Karena Pushnik	Kim Shultz
	Grace Blakeslee	

2. Oral Communications

Dave Eselius said he was interested in the qualifications of the Commission to make decisions regarding Highway 1.

3. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

None

4. Status Report on Highway 1 Projects

Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin said the Commission was still working with AMBAG and the Hwy 1 consultants regarding the traffic model and that staff will bring an update to the February 3, 2004 Regional Transportation Commission meeting.

Ms Dellin said that the Highway Construction Authority (HCA) had met in January and after months of negotiations with Caltrans, was required to agree that the agencies take on the liabilities of the project. The HCA has asked that the Commission continue to oversee the Project Approval /

Item 27 – Attachment 4: Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Proposition 116 Options

AGENDA: March 3, 2005

TO: Regional Transportation Commission/Rail Trail Authority

FROM: Ad Hoc Committee on Proposition 116 Options

RE: Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line Acquisition Project

RECOMMENDATIONS

The ad hoc committee on Proposition 116 options recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission:

1. Direct staff to return to the RTC as soon as practicable with a draft Proposition 116 application and financial plan for purchase of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line right-of-way as a transportation corridor preservation project and including general improvements to ensure continued operation of the rail line. The application materials should also include discussion of the Commission's intention to continue the existing Big Trees recreational passenger rail and the existing freight service, and to consider additional recreational passenger service in the future;
 2. Change its previous direction to staff to prepare a draft request for proposals (RFP) for a combined freight and recreational rail services and instead direct staff to return to the RTC as soon as practicable with a draft RFP only for short line freight service;
 3. After conducting the march 17, 2005 public hearing, direct staff and consultants to prepare the final environmental impact report (EIR) for the proposed recreational rail service between Capitola and Aptos/Seascape to return to the RTC with the draft final EIR when there is resolution on the proposed mitigations for noise impacts (the quiet zone) and traffic impacts at the Monterey Avenue/Park Avenue intersection;
 4. Suspend pursuit of a demonstration train on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line; and
 5. Establish this ad hoc committee as a short term rail acquisition task force to work with staff through the completion of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line Acquisition project.
-

DISCUSSION

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) designated an ad hoc committee, composed of Commissioners Norton, Pirie, and Stone and Commissioner alternates Quintanilla and Schiffrin, to discuss options for a Proposition 116 application for acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. On February 28, 2005 the ad hoc committee met to discuss information recently provided by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) staff that an application for Proposition 116 funds can be for corridor preservation and does not require a passenger rail service component. At that meeting, the ad hoc committee made the recommendations listed above.

AGENDA: March 3, 2005

TO: Regional Transportation Commission/Rail Trail Authority
FROM: Luis Mendez, Acting Deputy Director
RE: Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line Acquisition Project - Railroad Protective Liability Insurance

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission adopt the attached resolution (Attachment 1) to purchase, from Union Pacific, railroad protective liability insurance as required by the right of entry agreement to produce the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and other due diligence reports.

DISCUSSION

At its February 17, 2005 Transportation Policy Workshop (TPW), the RTC approved entering into a right of entry agreement with Union Pacific with the understanding some minor changes to the agreement were still being negotiated. One of those items still under negotiation was Union Pacific's insurance requirements for a right of entry agreement. The RTC's and the contractor's existing insurance policies meet most of Union Pacific's insurance requirements with the exception of railroad protective liability insurance. This requirement was waived in 2001 when the RTC entered into a right of entry agreement with Union Pacific to produce the environmental review for the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Acquisition. The insurance requirement waiver was granted because the 2001 environmental review was a non-invasive analysis. The Phase II Environmental Site Assessment is an invasive analysis so Union Pacific will not grant the waiver in this case.

The required Railroad Protective Liability Insurance may be purchased from Union Pacific for \$2,600. Other potential providers are likely to charge significantly more. In 2001 as the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) was preparing to begin a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment on the Monterey Branch Rail Line, they purchased railroad protective liability insurance through their insurance broker, Driver Alliant, for \$3,090. This was the least expensive policy not provided by Union Pacific that TAMC could find. Driver Alliant is the same broker used by the Santa Cruz County and the RTC.

SUMMARY

Staff recommends adopting the attached resolution (Attachment 1) to purchase, from Union Pacific, the railroad protective liability insurance required by the right of entry agreement for the work necessary to produce the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and other due diligence reports and inspections.

Attachment 1: Resolution to Purchase Railroad Protective Liability Insurance

Attachment 1

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
on the date of March 3, 2005
on the motion of Commissioner
duly seconded by Commissioner

A RESOLUTION TO EXPEND FUNDS FOR RAILROAD PROTECTIVE LIABILITY
INSURANCE AS REQUIRED BY THE RIGHT OF ENTRY AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation
Commission has been working since 2001 to purchase to Santa Cruz
Branch Rail Line from Union Pacific;

WHEREAS in December 2004, the Santa Cruz County Regional
Transportation Commission entered into a Letter of Intent with
Union Pacific to purchase the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line;

WHEREAS in February 2005, the Santa Cruz County Regional
Transportation Commission approved entering into a Right of Entry
agreement with Union Pacific to do the work necessary to Produce
a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and other due diligence
reports and inspections;

WHEREAS Union Pacific requires Railroad Protective Liability
Insurance for the Right of Entry Agreement and the insurance can
be purchased from Union Pacific; and

WHEREAS there are adequate funds in the Rail/Trail Authority
Contingency line item of the Commission's fiscal year 04/05
budget to cover this expenditure;

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

The Executive Director is hereby authorized to expend up to
\$2,600 to purchase Railroad Protective Liability Insurance
from Union Pacific for the Right of Entry Agreement.

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

Ellen Pirie, Chair

ATTEST:

Pat Dellin, Secretary

Distribution: Auditor-Controller
SCCRTC Fiscal
Contractors

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Susan Pearlman

From: Susan Pearlman
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2005 11:11 AM
To: Alec Arago (E-mail); Betsey Lynberg; Charles Lester (E-mail); Cheryl Schmitt, PWTE (E-mail); Cynthia Mathews (E-mail); Danette Shoemaker (E-mail); Dave Vincent (E-mail); Dawn Hayes (E-mail); Donna Blitzer (E-mail); Donna Meyers (E-mail 2); Ellen Pirie (E-mail); Fleur O'Neill (E-mail); Jan Beautz; John Akeman (E-mail); Juliana Rebagliati (E-mail); Julie Barrett Heffinton (E-mail); Kimbra Eldridge (E-mail); Laura Perry (E-mail); Linda Locklin; Maggie Ivy (E-mail); Mardi Wormhoudt (E-mail); Marty Ackerman (E-mail); Pat Dellin; Stacia Fletcher (E-mail); Stephanie Harlan (E-mail); T. Buika; Tegan Speiser
Cc: Tricia Geisreiter
Subject: Dedication of Sanctuary Scenic Trail Interpretive Exhibit and Harbor Beach Plaza

Sanctuary Task Force member Kimbra Eldridge has asked me to forward this very exciting news - The Santa Cruz Port District has completed the new Harbor Beach Plaza where they have installed the first Sanctuary Scenic Trail Major Interpretive Exhibit! The Dedication Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23rd from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Honored guests and speakers will include Congressman Sam Farr, Port Commission President Bill Geisreiter, Port Director Brian Foss, and Plaza designer Leslie Stone. On behalf of Task Force Chair Stephanie Harlan, we look forward to seeing all of you there!

***You're Invited to a
 ~ Dedication Ceremony ~***

Harbor Beach Plaza
 &
 Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail
 Major Interpretive Element

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2005

Time: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Location: Harbor Beach Plaza
 2222 East Cliff Drive, Santa Cruz

~PROGRAM~

Introductions

(by Port Director Brian Foss)
 Dignitaries and Special Guests
 Santa Cruz Port Commissioners
 Leslie Stone, Plaza Designer

Speakers

Port Commission Chairman, Bill Geisreiter
 Congressman Sam Farr

Dedication Ceremony

Harbor Beach Plaza
&
Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Major Interpretive Element

Donor Recognition

Thanks to all the donors who contributed to this project.
Special thanks to Russ Rolfe for his generous contribution,
which made this project possible

~ Family and Friends Welcome ~

*For further information, please call
Kimbra or Marian, Santa Cruz Harbor, (831) 475-6161*

Susan Pearlman
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NEWS FROM CONGRESSMAN SAM FARR**17th Congressional District of California**

March 2, 2005

CONTACT: Jessica Schafer, 202-225-2861, jessica.schafer@mail.house.gov<http://farr.house.gov/>**HIGHWAY BILL INCLUDES \$18 million FOR CENTRAL COAST**

Washington, D.C. - Today the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee took an important step in getting a surface transportation bill through Congress this session. The Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (TEA-LU), which is unfinished business from the 108th Congress, would provide communities across the country with needed funds to address their transportation needs through 2009.

Congressman Sam Farr (CA-17) secured \$18 million specifically for Central Coast projects within TEA-LU. The bill was "marked up," or debated and voted on, by the full Transportation and Infrastructure Committee this morning and will now go to the full House for a vote next week.

"TEA-LU is much needed legislation that will help modernize our aging transportation infrastructure. I am optimistic that Congress will be able to pass this critical bill this session," said Farr. "Central Coast commuters, agricultural businesses, and visitors will benefit directly from funds to ease congestion and improve safety on our local roadways. TEA-LU will also boost our local tourism industry by helping to establish a continuous bike and pedestrian trail around the Monterey Bay where visitors and residents can experience nature's best meeting of land and sea."

Congressman Farr included the following projects for the Central Coast in TEA-LU:

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail: \$6 million

→ This funding will be used for the completion of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail. When completely linked, the 50-mile long route will enable visitors to explore and enjoy the coastline of Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties, while respecting residential, agricultural, and environmentally sensitive surroundings along the way.

Airport Blvd. Interchange, Salinas: \$3.67 million

The Airport Blvd. interchange links U.S. 101 to the truck shipping terminals that the Salinas Valley agriculture industry depends on to export much of their produce to North America and the world. This funding will go to updating the interchange's 40 year old design so that it can efficiently handle the over 2,600 trucks that use the interchange *daily* during the spring to fall agricultural season.

Highway 1 Improvements, Santa Cruz County: \$3.67 million

→ Highway 1 is the sole corridor linking the cities of Watsonville, Aptos and Santa Cruz in Santa Cruz County. Although the area's population has increased by more than 100 percent in the past 30 years, no additional capacity has been added to this critical road. This funding will be used to add improvements between Soquel and Morrissey Blvd. including merge lanes and the La Fonda overpass.

Improvements to Highway 25, San Benito County: \$3.66 million

In the past three years there have been 20 tragic fatalities along the 12.5 mile segment of Highway 25 closest to Hollister. This funding will go toward much needed safety improvements for this roadway.

22-1 23-14

Bus equipment for Monterey-Salinas Transit: \$1 million

Funding to help Monterey-Salinas Transit purchase new buses so they can maintain existing transit services to the community, serve the redeveloped Fort Ord area, and meet mandated improvements in engine emissions.

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Jessica Schafer
Press Secretary
Rep. Sam Farr (CA-17)
202.225.2861

22-2 23-15

City of Santa Cruz



San Lorenzo River Parkway
Laurel/Third Streets
Project Opening
Ceremony

Friday | March 4th | 11:00 AM

Laurel Street Extension at the Beach Hill Stairs
by the river bank | Santa Cruz

For more information call (831) 420-5150

Project Sponsors

City of Santa Cruz, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
California Resources Agency, Proposition 40 Funding &
California Coastal Conservancy