

POLICY

No consent items

PROJECTS and PLANNING

6. Accepted Status Report on Highway 1 Projects
7. Accepted Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee 2004 Annual Report and Unmet Transit and Paratransit Needs Report
8. Accepted Information on FY 05-06 AB2766 Grants Awarded by the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District

COMMISSION BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES

9. Accepted FY 04-05 Internal Annual Financial Reports (enclosed separately for Commissioners only)- referred to the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee

ADMINISTRATION

10. Approved Staff Recommendation Regarding FY 05-06 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program (DBE Plan enclosed separately for Commissioners only)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

11. Accepted Draft Minutes of the Bicycle Committee Meeting of June 13, 2005
12. Accepted Draft Minutes of the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of August 4, 2005
13. Accepted Draft Minutes of the August 3, 2005 Traffic Operation Systems Oversight Committee Meeting
14. Accepted Draft Minutes of the August 11, 2005 Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee Meeting

INFORMATION/OTHER

15. Accepted Monthly Meeting Schedule

16. Accepted SCCRTC Staff Comment Letters on Draft Environmental Documents and Plans Prepared by Other Agencies
 - a. Letter to City of Santa Cruz Regarding Arana Gulch Master Plan
 - b. Letter to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Regarding Highway 1/Salinas Road Interchange Project
17. Accepted Correspondence Log
18. Accepted Letters from SCCRTC Committees and Staff to Other Agencies on Policy Issues
 - a. Letter from Bicycle Committee to Caltrans and the City of Scotts Valley Regarding Left Turn Pocket for Cyclists on Scotts Valley Drive
 - b. Letter from Bicycle Committee to City of Santa Cruz Regarding Arana Gulch Master Plan
19. Accepted Miscellaneous Written Comments from the Public on SCCRTC Projects and Transportation Issues
20. Accepted Handouts from Staff and Commissioners at Previous Regional Transportation Commission Meetings
21. Accepted Information Items
 - a. Press Release from the Community Traffic Safety Coalition and SCCRTC on the New Pedestrian Access Report Program
 - b. Memo from the Community Traffic Safety Coalition Regarding Recent Bicycle Program Funding Awards
 - c. Fact sheets from the Santa Cruz Area Transportation Management Association (SCA TMA) Regarding Bike to School Expansion and Folding Bikes in Buses Program Funding Awards
 - d. Bike Smart! Youth Bicycle Safety Program Annual Report from the Santa Cruz Area TMA
 - e. "As Gasoline Prices Rise, Businesses Get Creative" - Article from Christian Science Monitor

SERVING AS THE SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAY EMERGENCIES (SAFE)

No consent items

REGULAR AGENDA

22. Commissioner Reports - None

23. Director's Report

Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin said that an informational Open House regarding the auxiliary lanes project was scheduled for the evening of November 17, 2005 at the Board of Supervisors Chambers. Ms. Dellin also noted the recently developed pedestrian hazard report forms developed by the Community Traffic Safety Coalition.

Ms. Dellin spoke about her decision to resign from the Commission, saying that she wanted to participate in the recruitment of her replacement and help with the transition. She said her years with the Commission, especially in her capacity as Acting Executive Director, have been a time of great professional growth.

Chair Pirie said she had been surprised and saddened at Ms. Dellin's decision and wished her continued success.

24. Caltrans Report

Caltrans Deputy Director Rich Krumholz said it has been a pleasure to work with Ms. Dellin.

Mr. Krumholz reported on various Caltrans projects and said that progress was being made on the Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes Project. He said that Caltrans was working diligently to be able to have the project on the September California Transportation Commission agenda.

He said that the Department spends \$40 million picking up trash and that in the hope of raising awareness about the extent of the problem, orange bags of collected litter are stacking up near the Buena Vista and Ocean Street exits.

Commissioner Beautz asked for a current list of Adopt-a-Highway groups.

In response to a question by Commissioner Pirie, Mr. Krumholz said that Highway 152 was closed in both Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties and will find out if Summit Road can be used during the closure.

Commissioner Reilly said she had been told that the audible pedestrian signs were changed on Mission Street and asked which intersections were affected, what the problems were and who reported the problems. Mr. Krumholz said there had

been some problem with ambient noise in the background and will check into the decision to replace the audible signs.

Commissioner Norton asked if Caltrans would respond to the environmental review for the Home Depot proposed for 41st Avenue. Mr. Krumholz replied that typically Caltrans would want to see the traffic impacts of the project and will follow up at the next meeting.

Commissioner Beautz said the traffic lights at the 41st Avenue interchange are not coordinated and asked for a written report on the traffic light coordination between the City of Capitola, Caltrans and the County. Mr. Krumholz said he will look into the problem, noting that sometimes sheer volumes of traffic do not allow enough traffic through, causing a back-up.

Commissioner Pirie added that people get stuck in intersections when traffic signals turn red, blocking the flow of traffic. Ms. Pirie suggested marking the street to show where it needed to be kept clear.

Commissioners also asked about the Morrissey exit and solutions for crossing Green Valley Road.

25. Proposed Process for 2006 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

Senior Planner Rachel Moriconi explained that because it is possible that there will not be continued support for Proposition 42 funds to be committed to transportation projects after this year, it would probably be better for the Commission to plan on programming 80% of its State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding to regionally significant projects and 20% to projects submitted by local jurisdictions without going through with a competitive process. Ms. Moriconi added that staff recommends that the Commission would ask Caltrans to program Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) funds to cover ¼ of the costs for the Highway 1 Soquel-Morrissey Auxiliary Lanes Project.

She concluded by saying that the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) concurred with these recommendations and that the RTC would consider the projects for 2006 STIP funds at its December and January meetings.

Commissioner Keogh said that it may be possible for SCMTD to access STIP funds for the MetroBase project earlier than programmed. Ms. Moriconi agreed and said she would continue to coordinate with SCMTD General Manager Les White.

Commissioner Tavantzis moved and Commissioner Rivas seconded to approve the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) and staff recommendations that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC):

1. Indicate its intent to program 80% of projected new State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and STIP Transportation Enhancement (TE) programming capacity to regionally significant projects;
2. Indicate its intent to program the remainder (20%) of new programming capacity to projects submitted by local jurisdictions, distributed on a population basis, with consideration to be applied to smaller local jurisdictions to ensure sufficient funds to allow a minimum project be developed; and
3. Indicate its intent to consider programming a portion of the RTC's share of RTIP funds to the Highway 1 Soquel-Morrissey Auxiliary Lanes Project and request that Caltrans program 25% of the project costs in the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP).

The motion passed unanimously.

26. Comprehensive Transportation Funding Program Task Force

Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin reviewed the directives that the Commission had given to staff to move forward with establishing the Comprehensive Transportation Funding Program Task Force and described the staff recommendations. She also announced that the annual Self Help Counties meeting will be held October 16-18 in San Francisco.

Task Force Convener Fred Keeley proposed allowing sufficient time for the Task Force to prepare itself instead of rushing ahead prematurely. He suggested that a design and process could be developed before meetings began. Mr. Keeley also said that although the Commission had agreed not to directly appoint representatives from the RTC, he thought it may be

best to appoint one or two Commissioners to ensure that the Commission would not be at arms length from Task Force discussions.

Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies, said that she and Mr. Keeley have had meetings with staff to discuss a budget and work plan.

Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of having Commissioners on the Task Force.

Commissioners discussed the composition of the Task Force and if automobile drivers were adequately represented.

Commissioner Tavantzis said that the meeting locations need to have sufficient parking and be accessible by bus. She favored having them in a location midway between the northern and southern ends of the county.

Mr. Keeley said he thought it was agreed that there would be a minimum of two rounds of meetings rotating through each of the five supervisorial districts. He said that many high schools were in good locations with parking and bus accessibility.

Commissioner Keogh raised the issue of proceeding before knowing the costs and source of funding.

Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin said there will be a preliminary budget and revenue sources presented at the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee on September 8th.

Commissioner Reilly said she liked the idea of a driver-at-large position in addition to a commuter-at-large position. She said she supports appointing a member of the Commission because of history and experience. Commissioner Reilly said that passing the resolution today sends a clear message that the RTC wants to move forward.

Public comment was heard.

Paul Elerick, Campaign for Sensible Transportation, said he supports Fred Keeley's proposal and wants the resolution passed today.

Katherine Patterson Valdez asked where Community Bridges fit

in the Task Force. Commissioner Pirie said the Human Care Alliance could appoint Community Bridges as its representative for either the north or south part of the county.

Lynn Robinson said the Task Force has the appearance of a dysfunctional committee and should have transportation funding experts included. She added it was important to accurately capture the car user group, suggested having a public-at-large member from each district and volunteered to serve on the Task Force.

Mr. Keeley said the California Automobile Association of America (AAA) is a well informed car user group. He added that it seemed that the San Lorenzo Valley is underrepresented and suggested that if the Commission decides to include a representative from the RTC, that it should be Commissioner Stone or his alternate. He noted that in order to achieve a 2/3 vote on any transportation plan, all areas of the County need to be represented.

Commissioner Reilly said she wanted to approve the staff recommendations separately and moved to approve the first recommendation to formally establish, by resolution, the Transportation Funding Task Force. Commissioner Norton seconded.

Commissioner Keogh said he would oppose the motion until the costs and funding sources had been identified.

The motion passed with Commissioners Keogh, Beautz and Spence voting "no". (Resolution 03-06)

Commissioner Reilly moved to approve the the second staff recommendation to approve the final Task Force membership list that added a staff representative from the Transit District and from the five local jurisdiction Departments of Public Works as ex-officio members to provide expert information, with the addition of one Commissioner from the RTC, and an advocate for auto transportation.

Commissioner Beautz seconded but said she thinks a citizen should represent auto users.

Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin suggested that the AAA could serve in an ex-officio capacity.

Commissioner Beautz asked about including a member from the Highway Construction Authority.

Commissioner Reilly said her motion included adding one member from the RTC, one member from the community at large appointed by the Regional Transportation Commission as an advocate of automobile transportation, the AAA as an ex-officio member and a representative from the Highway Construction Authority.

Chair Pirie clarified that the additions to the staff recommendations were that the list would include one representative from the RTC, a representative of the auto driving community appointed by the RTC, adding AAA as an ex-officio member and having the Highway Construction Authority appoint a representative who was not necessarily a member of the HCA.

Commissioner Tavantzis asked for a friendly amendment adding an ex-officio member from Community Bridges since the transit district had an ex-officio staff representative.

Commissioner Reilly accepted the friendly amendment and Commissioner Beautz seconded, adding that she wanted to discuss how many representatives from the Commission would be appointed. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reilly moved to approve the fourth staff recommendation to direct staff to return to a future meeting with recommendations regarding the overall timing, work plan, budget and meeting format for the Transportation Funding Task Force.

Commissioner Pirie noted that there are several Task Force members not yet identified. Commissioner Reilly said she would like to vote on the recommendations now and vote on who the representatives would be later.

Commissioner Beautz seconded.

Commissioner Tavantzis asked if the motion could include a list of potential meeting places. Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin said that staff could provide some possible locations when reporting back to the Commission.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reilly moved to approve the fifth staff recommendation requesting Commissioners to indicate interest in attending the Focus on the Future Conference in San Francisco October 16-18.

Commissioner Beautz asked how much was available in the travel budget. Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin said enough for a couple of people to attend.

It was decided by consensus that Commissioners would let staff know if they wanted to attend.

Commissioner Beautz noted that the third recommendation regarding the appointment of a land use developer and a commuter had not been addressed. Commissioners discussed the process and decided that it would be similar to the process used for applications for a position on a committee.

Commissioners discussed if the motion to approve the second recommendation provided for one or two representatives from the RTC. It was confirmed that technically appointing one member was approved.

Commissioner Wormhoudt asked if a motion was needed to establish an application committee. The Commissioners agreed it was not.

Commissioner Pirie said the Commission may want to wait to make its own appointments until other agencies had made their appointments.

Commissioner Tavantzis asked for a copy of the application when it was ready so that she could distribute it.

Commissioners discussed the representation from the land use and development community and concluded that it could be a land use planner, developer or company.

CLOSED SESSION

27. 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

28. Acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line - Additional Structural Analyses

Acting Executive Director Pat Dellin gave a brief staff report saying that no new information was available regarding the budget and firm to perform the detailed analysis of selected structures.

Bill Comfort said that selecting a structural analysis consultant acceptable to both Union Pacific and the SCCRTC is fine but that if the consultant has worked for Union Pacific in the past, their findings may not be completely objective.

Commissioner Beautz suggested getting a report comparing how much work the consultant did for each party.

29. Next Meetings/Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

The next Transportation Policy Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2005 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, October 6, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the Scotts Valley City Council Chambers, 1 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley, CA.

An Open House/Public Information Meeting and Public Hearing on the Highway 1 Soquel/Morrissey Auxiliary Lane Project is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2005 at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz CA 95060. The Open House will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Public Hearing will begin at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gini Pineda, Staff

ATTENDEES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Robert Yount	
Bill Comfort	
Bob Scott	SCCRTC Technical Advisor
Paul Elerick	CFST
Cliff Walters	Big Trees Railroad
Lynn Robinson	
Les White	SCMTD
Fred Keeley	Santa Cruz County Treasurer
Sandra Coley	Pajaro Valley Transportation Management Association
Catherine Patterson-Valdez	Lift Line
Timothy Schewe	

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