

Attachment 2
Project Summaries
Projects Considered for Programming
STIP Augmentation, RSTP, and CMAQ funds
To be considered by RTC 4/5/07

Regionally Significant Projects – Additional Funds for Previously Programmed Projects:

Highway 1/HOV Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED)

Staff Recommendation: \$2,000,000

Funds would be used to complete the Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED) phase of this project. This project includes HOV lanes between Morrissey Boulevard and San Andreas/Larkin Valley Road, auxiliary lanes, ramp meters, park and ride lots, bicycle/pedestrian bridges, and soundwalls.

The project cost increased in part because of delay in delivery of the initial traffic model and an unanticipated schedule change due to a decision by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the cultural resource study. These funds replace the \$200,000 in RSTP that was redirected to the Soquel/Morrissey Project PA/ED in June 2006, address the \$1.6 million increase in the Nolte contract and funds needed to cover staff time, public outreach materials and on-call engineering consultant work. These funds supplement the \$7.8 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds previously programmed to this preliminary stage of the project.

Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes –Soquel Ave to Morrissey Blvd.

Staff Recommendation: \$2,734,000

Funds needed to match \$2.9 million federal earmark and \$16.2 million from the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA). The purpose of this project is to improve traffic conditions for merging on and off Highway 1 between the Soquel Avenue and Morrissey Boulevard interchanges, the busiest section of State Route 1 in Santa Cruz County. The average daily traffic volume along this segment is over 110,000 vehicles per day. The project will improve safety for merging vehicles and improve pedestrian and bicycle access across the freeway at La Fonda and Morrissey.

Highway 1: Mar Vista Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing

Staff Recommendation: \$6,564,000

This overcrossing of Highway 1 was identified as the highest priority of three new crossings proposed as part of the Highway 1 HOV Lane project, following a public outreach effort with input provided by RTC's advisory committees in 2005/06. Environmental clearance for the project will be secured through the current PA/ED process for the HOV Lane project and subsequently developed separate from the highway project to ensure early delivery. The project is intended to serve the Mar Vista Elementary School, and replace traffic on State Park Drive and Soquel Drive with pedestrian/bicycle trips.

Freeway Service Patrol

Staff Recommendation: \$300,000

The Freeway Service Patrol is made up of roving tow-trucks which provide free service to motorists on Highways 1 and 17 during peak travel periods, and clear collisions, stalled vehicles and debris from the travel lanes. It is one of the most cost-effective projects for reducing congestion on State Highways. Staff recommends programming \$100,000/year for three additional years of service.

Rideshare Program

Staff Recommendation: \$300,000

The RTC's Rideshare Program, Commute Solutions, provides information and services that assist travelers in accessing mobility choices other than single-occupant car use, such as joining carpools or vanpools, riding transit, biking, walking, or telecommuting. Staff recommends programming \$150,000/year to cover two additional years of this program.

Monterey Bay Scenic Sanctuary Trail Network (MBSST)

Staff Recommendation: \$785,000

Funds will provide the non-federal match to SAFETEA LU Earmark. Construction of a continuous network of bicycle/pedestrian facilities on or near the coast through Santa Cruz County. This project includes the Coastal Rail Trail and will connect to similar trails in Monterey County. Part of the network may be built within the rail right-of-way. The project will be constructed in segments as funding becomes available. The exact segment of pathway to be constructed with these funds will be determined upon completion of the Master Plan for the MBSST and Coastal Rail Trail. Total project cost is unknown.

Pajaro Valley Transportation Management Association (PVTMA)

Staff Recommendation: \$120,000

Provides information and services that assist travelers in accessing mobility choices other than single-occupant car use. Staff recommends programming \$60,000/year to cover two additional years of this program.

Committee Recommendation: At its February meeting, the Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the RTC fund these projects.

Santa Cruz Area Transportation Management Association (SCATMA)

Staff Recommendation: \$120,000

Provides information and services that assist travelers in accessing mobility choices other than single-occupant car use. Staff recommends programming \$60,000/year to cover two additional years of this program.

Committee Recommendation: At its February meeting, the Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the RTC fund these projects.

Local Projects

Clares Street Traffic Calming (Capitola)

\$200,000

Traffic calming and pedestrian improvements, including bulb outs, raised pedestrian crossing at Clares street from Wharf Road to 41st Avenue. \$200,000 will provide the additional funding

required to complete this project.

Ocean street Rehabilitation (Santa Cruz) \$551,000

Road rehabilitation between Water and Soquel Avenue. \$551,000 will provide the additional funding required to complete this project.

San Lorenzo River Bike/Pedestrian Bridge (Santa Cruz) \$300,000

Construction of a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over the river adjacent to Highway 1 and connecting to the San Lorenzo River Levee Bike Path. \$300,000 will provide some of the additional funding required to complete this project. Additional funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 is still needed to complete this project. The City is also seeking State Riverways grant and local funds for the project to ensure full funding of the project. If sufficient other funds are secured, \$300,000 in RSTP funds previously programmed in this project will be shifted to the Ocean Street Rehabilitation Project.

Traffic Signal Modernization (Scotts Valley) \$200,000

Upgrading/replacing traffic signal hardware and software components. The existing signal hardware components and software are outdated. Replacement parts are very difficult to find and the software is outdated. This is a new RTIP project.

Freedom Boulevard Rehabilitation (Watsonville) \$751,000

Road Rehabilitation and the addition of bike lanes between High Street and Lincoln Street. \$751,000 will provide the additional funding required to complete this project. The total cost of this project is \$958,000.

Calabasas Road Widening (County of Santa Cruz) \$100,000

Installs bike lanes, curb, gutter and sidewalks on Calabasas Road. \$975,000 in a combination of RSTP and RSPTX funds are programmed to this project. The County has also requested that \$375,000 be transferred to another project. This project is also programmed to receive \$50,000 in AB2766 grant funds and \$100,000 in TDA funds. The additional \$100,000 in RSTP funds requested will provide some of the additional funding required to complete this project. Additional funding in the amount of \$500,000 is still needed to complete this project. The funding gap for this project is expected to come from Safe Routes to School Grant and Developer fees.

Graham Hill Road Safety Improvements near Roaring Camp (County) \$350,000

Shoulder widening, drainage and lighting improvements. \$2,626,000 in STIP funds are currently programmed to this project. \$350,000 will provide some of the additional funding required to complete this project. Bike lanes and a left turn lane were removed from the scope of this project to respond to funding shortfalls. The total cost of this project is \$3,500,000.

State Park Drive-Seacliff Area Improvements (County of Santa Cruz) \$150,000

Project to enhance pedestrian, bicycle and transit operations and rehabilitate roadway in Seacliff commercial area. \$437,000 in RSTPX and \$187,000 in TDA funds are currently programmed to this project. \$150,000 will provide some of the additional funding required to complete this project. Additional funding in the amount of \$721,000 is still needed to complete this project.

The funding gap for this project is expected to come from Developer fees, TDA and Sanitation Funds.

Green Valley Road Rehabilitation (County of Santa Cruz) \$500,000

Roadway rehabilitation from Cowles Road to the city limits. \$310,000 in RSTPX monies are currently programmed to this project. \$500,000 will provide some of the additional funding required to complete this project. Additional funding in the amount of \$250,000 is still needed to complete this project.

Bonny Doon Road Rehabilitation (County of Santa Cruz) \$300,000

Roadway rehabilitation from PM 2.34 to Pine Flat Road. \$300,000 in RSTP monies are currently programmed to this project. \$300,000 will provide the additional funding required to complete this project.

Mt. Hermon Road Rehabilitation (County of Santa Cruz) \$200,000

Roadway rehabilitation from Zayante Bridge to 1 mile. East of Graham Hill Rd. \$110,000 in RSTP monies are currently programmed to this project. \$200,000 will provide some of the additional funding required to complete this project. Additional funding in the amount of \$175,000 is still needed to complete this project.

San Andreas Road Rehabilitation (County of Santa Cruz) \$150,000

Roadway rehabilitation from Zils to La Selva. \$128,000 in RSTP monies are currently programmed to this project. \$150,000 will provide some of the additional funding required to complete this project. Additional funding in the amount of \$222,000 is still needed to complete this project.

El Rancho Road Construction (County of Santa Cruz) \$248,000

Roadway slipout repair and construction of a new bridge (viaduct) to reopen the travel way. \$924,000 in RSTP and STIP funds are currently programmed to this project. \$248,000 will provide the additional funding required to complete this project.

Projects Not Recommended this Cycle

Highway 1: Chanticleer Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing \$5,545,000

This crossing of Highway 1 was identified as the second priority of three crossings proposed as part of the Highway 1 HOV Lane project, following a public outreach effort with input provided by RTC's advisory committees in 2005/06. Environmental clearance for the project would be secured through the current PA/ED process for the HOV Lane project and subsequently developed separate from the highway project. The project is intended as an alternative route to the Soquel interchange to cross over Highway 1.

Reason not recommended: Due to funding constraints, staff only recommends funding the Mar Vista Highway 1 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridges this cycle.

Committee Recommendation: At its February meeting, the Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the RTC fund this project.

Highway 1/9 Intersection

The City of Santa Cruz requested \$500,000 for the design phase of this project. This project will modify the existing intersection to include additional turn lanes. The City of Santa Cruz is currently in the process of developing the environmental document and Project Report using local funds. This proposal would add funds for future phases of the project, which would be matched by traffic impact fees and other City funds.

Reason not recommended: Concerns about future funding for the project. Reconsider as part of the 2008 STIP.

Hwy 1 Bridge Widening over San Lorenzo River - Design \$500,000

The City of Santa Cruz has taken the lead on the Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED) phase of this project to widen the Highway 1 Bridge over San Lorenzo River and has requested \$500,000 from the RTC to fund PS&E (design) in local matching funds. The environmental phase is estimated to cost approximately \$1 million.

Reason not recommended: Concerns about future funding for the project. Reconsider as part of the 2008 STIP.

Pajaro Station

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) is working on a \$90 million capital project to extend Caltrain to Salinas in Monterey County. The Caltrain service extension may include a station at the Watsonville/Pajaro rail junction. The Pajaro Station is estimated to cost \$15 million. Based on ridership projections, TAMC has asked the RTC to consider funding a portion of the project.

Reason not recommended: Reconsider project in future STIP cycles as the Caltrain service extension progresses. Under CTC STIP Guidelines, a county may program a portion of its STIP funds to a project in another county.

Highway 1/17 Cost Overruns

Caltrans has estimated that an additional \$5.5 million is needed to complete this project. This project began construction in February 2006. \$57 million has been programmed to this project. During construction the project has experienced unanticipated cost increases. Caltrans will be presenting information on the cost increases at the March 2007 Transportation Policy Workshop.

Reason not recommended: Supplemental funds may not count against the region's 2006 STIP Augmentation target and instead would come out of the region's 2008 STIP share.

Highway 1-Harkins Slough Rd Interchange

Caltrans anticipates that additional funds will be needed to fully fund this project. This joint Caltrans-City of Watsonville project reconstructs the current half interchange to include an off-ramp onto Harkins Slough Road from Southbound Highway 1 and an on-ramp to Northbound Highway 1 from Harkins Slough Road. The project also includes widening of the Harkins Slough Road Bridge over Highway 1 and will add bike lanes and sidewalks. This project has

been programmed in the STIP since 1998. The exact scope of the project will be clarified upon completion of the updated traffic study.

Reason not recommended: Updated cost estimate to be developed after traffic analysis is completed. To be considered as part of future STIP cycles.

Highway 1 Waddell and Scotts Creek Bridge Replacements and Watershed Restoration

The North Coast Advisory Committee, Caltrans, and several resource agencies have been reviewing the possibility of lengthening the bridges to widen the waterway below. Caltrans estimates that replacing the bridges within the existing bridge footprint would cost approximately \$25 million and would be eligible for SHOPP funding. The expanded scope is not eligible for SHOPP funds.

Reason not recommended: Project costs exceed available funds. The estimated cost of the expanded bridges is over \$97 million. Once technical studies are completed, staff will meet with Caltrans, resource agencies, and other interested parties to determine if the project is financially feasible.

Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes: Bay/Porter to Park and 41st to Soquel

Had a portion of these projects been included in the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) program, the RTC would have had to provide any needed matching funds.

Reason not recommended: Project costs exceed available funds. Continue to pursue as part of the HOV Lane/TSM project.