

**TO:** Regional Transportation Committee  
**FROM:** Luis Pavel Mendez, Deputy Director  
**REGARDING:** Negotiating Lease for Office Space

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC):

1. Authorize the Budget and Administration/Personnel (B&A/P) Committee to work with staff on all matters relating to negotiating a lease for office space; and
  2. Direct staff to return to the RTC with the final B&A/P Committee recommendations for lease of office space for consideration by the RTC.
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## BACKGROUND

In 1997, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) began a seven-year lease with the Rittenhouse Building and Investment Association for office space at 1523 Pacific Avenue in Santa Cruz. In 2004, the RTC negotiated a five-year extension to that lease that will expire on April 30, 2009. In 2004, RTC staff worked with the Budget and Administration/Personnel (B&A/P) Committee to negotiate the lease extension.

## DISCUSSION

Since the current RTC lease for office space will expire soon, staff has begun researching current lease rates for available office space in the City of Santa Cruz. As a result of that research staff has been approached regarding the possibility of leasing available space. RTC staff also spoke with the current landlord, Louis Rittenhouse. Mr. Rittenhouse is interested in keeping the RTC as a tenant at 1523 Pacific Avenue in Santa Cruz.

Staff recommends that the RTC authorize the B&A/P Committee to work with staff on all matters relating to negotiating a lease for office space and direct staff to return to the RTC with recommendations. Discussions regarding price, terms and conditions of a real estate transaction may be done in closed session consistent with Government Code 54956.8

## SUMMARY

The current lease for RTC office space will expire soon. Staff recommends working with the B&A/P Committee on matters regarding the lease of office to develop recommendations for the consideration by the RTC.