AGENDA: November 7, 2013

TO: Regional Transportation Commission

FROM: George Dondero, Executive Director

RE: Director’s Report

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Rail Line Cleanup

A dozen people of all ages participated in trash clean up and graffiti removal of the rail corridor in Aptos on Make A Difference Day, October 26. The RTC partnered with the Volunteer Center’s Graffiti Removal Program and Americorps, and local business pitched in to provide refreshments and supplies. Two truckloads of garbage -- including chairs, sleeping bags, clothing, and empty alcohol containers -- were hauled off. A special thanks to Commissioner Zack Friend for his involvement.

Before - After -

Trespassing on the Rail Line

The RTC is working with rail operator Santa Cruz & Monterey Bay Railway to make and post signs along the rail corridor to remind the community that trespassing is prohibited and suspicious activity -- including graffiti, camping and dumping -- should be reported to 9-1-1. While there has not been much rail activity in recent years, it is an active rail line and both trains and maintenance vehicles will be using the corridor.
Committee Positions Open

Positions on the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee, representing Supervisorial Districts 2 (Friend) and 4 (Caput) are currently vacant. Recommendations for those positions are welcome. Please forward leads to RTC Staff. (see consent item #10).

Complete Streets Workshop

RTC, jointly with the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, San Benito County Council of Governments, and the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments is hosting a Complete Streets Training Workshop for public works and planning staff on November 13th. This workshop has been specifically designed to provide step-by-step guidance on practical tools that can be implemented locally. The workshop will address comments and questions received during development of the Monterey Bay Area Complete Streets Guidebook and will provide greater detail about how to use the Monterey Bay Area Complete Streets Guidebook. Fifty people representing agencies from all three counties are registered. Staff from all of the Santa Cruz County jurisdictions have confirmed their attendance at the event. Presenters include planners and engineers from local and regional agencies in California and a local architectural firm.

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail

RTC staff has received five project applications for funding of trail segments from local jurisdictions. Recommendations for funding will be presented at the December 5 RTC meeting.

Awards

RTC Deputy Director Luis Mendez was awarded the People Power Sustainable Transportation Award for his stamina and dedication over the decade long effort to purchase the rail line. Awards were made at a fundraising dinner for People Power on October 6.