



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
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Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) May 7, 2015 Meeting Highlights

2015 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs List and Public Hearing

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) held a public hearing and adopted the 2015 Unmet Paratransit and Transit Needs list. RTC staff also worked with partner agencies, stakeholders and service providers to develop strategies to meet the needs which translate into priority projects, should funding become available. The RTC regularly solicits input to assess and prioritize the transportation needs of seniors, people with disabilities and low income individuals. The [Final Unmet Needs](#) list is posted on the RTC website.

Bicycle Route Signage 2015 Implementation Plan

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) adopted the Santa Cruz County Bicycle Route Signage Program Final 2015 Implementation Plan. As funding becomes available, signs will be installed to provide bicyclists with direction and distance information to common destinations. The plan lists proposed routes and route identification protocols, as well as signage types.

Funds Approved for Bus, Paratransit and Bike Programs (Transportation Development Act Claims)

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) approved over \$9 million in FY2015-16 Transportation Development Act (TDA) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funding for [Santa Cruz METRO](#) to operate and maintain the countywide bus system, which provides over 5.4 million fixed route bus rides and 90,000 paratransit (ParaCruz) trips. The RTC also approved approximately \$626,000 for [Community Bridges](#) Lift Line and \$74,000 for the [Volunteer Center's](#) transportation programs that, with other funding sources, annually provide 82,000 and 4,600 trips respectively, many of which are safety net transportation for residents unable or ineligible to use the traditional public transit or ParaCruz service. Additionally, the RTC approved FY 2015-16 TDA funding for Ecology Action (\$50,000) for the [Bike to Work](#) program and the County Health Services Agency (\$100,000) for the [Community Traffic Safety Coalition](#) and its [Ride 'n Stride](#) bicycle and pedestrian education program.

Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing Project

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) approved sending a letter of support to Caltrans to include the Highway 17 Wildlife Crossing project on the 2016 State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) project list. The [Land Trust of Santa Cruz County](#) has been collaborating with Caltrans to create a safe passageway for wildlife under Highway 17 near Laurel Curve. The dense traffic, concrete median barriers, and lack of under crossings make Highway 17 the biggest barrier for wildlife moving through the Santa Cruz Mountains. The Land Trust has spent \$3.5 million to complete two land acquisitions, protecting 290 acres at the site, including \$1 million from community donors showing their enthusiastic support for this project.

Federal Legislative Update

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) received highlights of transportation-related federal activities from the RTC's federal transportation legislative assistant, Chris Giglio of Capital Edge. As the federal transportation funding bill (MAP-21) is set to expire on May 31 and the Highway Trust Fund is reaching critically-low levels, Congress continues to struggle with how to fund local road and highway safety, bridge repair, transit, bicycle, pedestrian, and other transportation projects.

Upcoming RTC and Committee Meetings:

Please check the RTC website [www.sccrtc.org] or call 831-460-3200 to confirm. Most agendas are posted to the website 4 business days before the meeting.

Transportation Policy Workshop (TPW)

Thursday, May 21, 2015, 9:00 am
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Commission Meeting

Thursday, June 4, 2015, 9:00 am
Watsonville City Council Chambers, 275 Main St. Ste 400, Watsonville

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Monday, June 8, 2015, 6:00 pm
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, June 9, 2015, 1:30 pm
Watsonville RTC Offices, 275 Main St. Room 450, Watsonville

Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee

Thursday, June 11, 2015, 3:00 pm
CAO Conference Room, 701 Ocean Street, 5th Floor, Santa Cruz

Interagency Technical Advisory Committee

Thursday, June 18, 2015 1:30 pm
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Transportation Policy Workshop (TPW)

Thursday, June 25, 2015, 9:00 am
City of Santa Cruz Council Chambers, 809 Center St, Santa Cruz

Public input on transportation issues is welcomed and encouraged. For more information, visit the SCCRTC website at www.sccrtc.org or call 460-3200. Some Regional Transportation Commission meetings are televised countywide by Community TV of Santa Cruz. Consult www.communitytv.org or call 831-425-8848 for schedule and station information.