



**Santa Cruz County Regional
Transportation Commission
Transportation Policy Workshop**

SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, June 25th, 2015

**City of Santa Cruz City Council Chambers
809 Center Street
Santa Cruz, CA**

1. Introductions

Chair Lane called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Members present:

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Don Lane | John Leopold |
| Greg Caput | Dennis Norton |
| Ed Bottorff | Patrick Mulhearn (alt.) |
| Ryan Coonerty | Virginia Johnson (alt.) |
| Randy Johnson | |

Staff present:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| George Dondero | Luis Mendez |
| Jennifer Rodriguez | Yesenia Parra |

2. Oral communications

None

3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas

Agenda item 11 was pulled from closed session.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Norton motioned and Commissioner Leopold seconded the approval of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously, with Commissioners Lane, Leopold, Norton, Caput, Bottorff, Randy Johnson,

Coonerty and Commissioner Alternates Mulhearn and Virginia Johnson voting "aye".

4. Approved out of state travel for Executive Director for the 2015 Community Leadership Visit and the 2016 Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting
5. Received Project Fact Sheet: SR 1/17 Interchange Widening

REGULAR AGENDA

6. State and Federal Transportation Updates

George Dondero, Executive Director, presented his staff report on State and Federal transportation funding. He noted that the authorization to us State Transit Assistance (STA) funds for operations was extended through July 1st 2016. He also gave an update on the status of the cap-and-trade programs, the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding. He noted that, at the federal level, the House Republicans are ruled out a gas tax increase to fill significant gap in transportation funding.

He said that although STIP funding is looking bleak, jurisdictions should have projects ready for when funding is available.

Commissioners discussed the funding allocations to low income housing; the funding for projects that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the urgent need to have local funding to ensure the RTC can compete for funding that requires local match.

7. Amendments to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16 Budget & Work Program

Luis Mendez, Deputy Director, presented his staff report. The proposed amendments include: hiring of a temporary planner and a recent grant award that will help the RTC respond to the need for more public outreach on RTC projects. The outreach will also include the development of a marketing tool kit that will be used by other partner agencies, government agencies and others working on transportation projects. It will also be used for outreach on information for a possible sales tax measure.

Commissioners discussed the importance of agency transparency and asked staff to bring to a future meeting soon an agenda item for the RTC to consider working toward a 2016 sales tax ballot measure for transportation.

Commissioner Leopold motioned and Commissioner Coonerty seconded to approve a resolution approving the amended FY 2015-16 budget and work program as shown on Exhibit A to Attachment 1.

The motion (**Resolution 30-15**) passed with Commissioners Lane, Leopold, Norton, Caput, Bottorff, Coonerty, and Commissioner Alternates Virginia

Johnson, and Mulhearn voting "aye" and Commissioner Randy. Johnson voting "nay".

8. North Coast Pipeline on Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line for the City of Santa Cruz Water Department

Luis Mendez said that the City of Santa Cruz Water Department is requesting a crossing agreement to relocate a pipeline through the Rail Line right-of-way.

Commissioners discussed coordinating with other utilities to collaborate on possible RTC projects while the trenches are open.

George Dondero informed the Commission that the RTC is drafting a letter that will be sent to all utilities that might be interested in the Rail Line right-of-way property. He said the RTC will always go with the "dig once policy".

Commissioner Leopold motioned and Commissioner Coonerty seconded to adopt the resolution authorizing the Executive Director to execute a crossing agreement and license with the City of Santa Cruz Water Department for construction and maintenance of a new pipeline on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line.

The motion (**Resolution 31-15**) passed unanimously with Commissioners Lane, Leopold, Norton, Caput, Bottorff, Randy Johnson, Coonerty, and Commissioner Alternates Virginia Johnson, and Mulhearn voting "aye".

9. Title VI Civil Rights Program & Language Assistance Plan

Luis Mendez presented his staff report stating that the RTC is now required to show that it is in compliance with Title VI Civil Rights Program and Language Assistance Plan. This includes adding language in RTC committee agenda packets, postings on the RTC website and posting the requirements where they are clearly visible.

Commissioner Leopold motioned and Commissioner Coonerty seconded to adopt the resolution approving the draft Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Title VI Civil Rights Program and Language Assistance Plan.

The motion (**Resolution 32-15**) passed unanimously with Commissioners Lane, Leopold, Norton, Caput, Bottorff, Randy. Johnson, Coonerty, and Commissioner Alternates Virginia Johnson, and Mulhearn voting "aye".

10. Meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m. Next meetings

The next SCCRTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Scotts Valley City Council Chambers, 1 Civic Center Dr., Scotts Valley, CA.

The next Transportation Policy Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2015 at 9:00 am at the City of Watsonville Council Chambers, 275 Main St., Ste. 400, Watsonville, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Yesenia Parra, Staff

Attendees:

Alex Clifford
Kevin Crosley

Santa Cruz Metro
City of Santa Cruz

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