



*Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
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Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) October 1, 2015 Meeting Highlights

North Coast Rail Trail Project – Funding Update

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) was informed that the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County Board of Trustees agreed to provide an additional \$300,000 needed to complete the funding match for a \$6.3M grant from the Federal Lands Access Program for a 5-mile Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail project. The RTC previously agreed to provide the match for the rail trail project and the Land Trust's contribution relieves the RTC from that commitment. The RTC expressed gratitude to the Land Trust for their partnership and directed RTC staff to send an official correspondence to that effect.

Highway 1 Tier 1 & 2 Draft EIR/EA

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) was informed that the draft environmental documents for the Highway 1 corridor improvement projects remain on schedule with the Federal Highway Administration currently completing their final review of the documents. The anticipated public release of the environmental documents is set for the end of October. As requested by the RTC at the September meeting, Caltrans has agreed to extend the comment period to 75 days, making comments due in mid January 2016. An Open House/Public Meeting on the environmental documents is scheduled for December 3rd from 6:00 – 8:30 pm at the multi-purpose room of Live Oak Elementary School. An overview of the draft environmental documents will be provided at the November 5th RTC meeting.

Rail Motorcar Excursion on the Santa Cruz Branch Line

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) received information on a rail motorcar excursion from Watsonville to Bonny Doon Beach. The operators and their passengers of the 30 individual motorcars anticipated to participate adhere to strict safety procedures and will add to Santa Cruz County's visitor economy. The RTC approved the rail motorcar excursion on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line for October 10, 2015 organized by the North American Railcar Operators Association (NARCOA) and authorized the Executive Director to approve licenses for future rail motorcar excursions, up to twice per year.

2040 Regional Transportation Plan and Environmental Impact Report

The [Regional Transportation Commission](#) received information on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update that is being developed to identify the transportation needs of the county through 2040. With the significant re-visioning of the [2014 RTP](#) to address transportation sustainability, the 2040 RTP will be a minor update and is scheduled for adoption in June 2018. The Regional Transportation Commission authorized staff to coordinate with and enter into agreements with the Association of Monterey Bay Governments (AMBAG), Transportation Agency for Monterey (TAMC), and San Benito Council of Governments (SbCOG); and for the RTC to contribute \$60,000 for the Environmental Impact Report for the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) and RTPs.

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.

Elderly/Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, October 13, 2015, 1:30 p.m.
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Monday, October 19, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Interagency Technical Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 15, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Commission Meeting

Thursday, November 5, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
Watsonville City Council Chambers
275 Main Street, Suite 450,
Watsonville

Transportation Policy Workshop

Thursday, October 15, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
RTC Offices, 1523 Pacific Avenue, 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.