



**Santa Cruz County  
Regional Transportation Commission**

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**MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 1, 2024  
9:00 a.m.**

**In-Person Meeting**

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Chambers  
701 Ocean Street, Room 525  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

1. Roll call. The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Members present:

City of Capitola	Alexander Pedersen
City of Santa Cruz	Sandy Brown
City of Scotts Valley	Randy Johnson
County of Santa Cruz	Felipe Hernandez
County of Santa Cruz	Andy Schiffrin (Alt)
County of Santa Cruz	Robert Quinn (Alt)
County of Santa Cruz	Manu Koenig
County of Santa Cruz	Bruce McPherson
County of Santa Cruz	Gine Johnson (Alt)
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District	Kristen Brown
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District	Larry Pageler
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District	Mike Rotkin
Caltrans (ex-officio)	Kelly McClendon (Alt)

Staff present:

Mitch Weiss	Rachel Moriconi
Sarah Christensen	Shannon Munz
Krista Corwin	Amy Naranjo
Cindy Convisser	Tracy New
Max Friedman	Yesenia Parra
Riley Gerbrandt	Janine Ramirez
Anna Kalthoff	Tommy Travers
Luis Mendez	Steven Mattas (RTC Counsel)

2. Considered AB 2449 Just Cause and Emergency Circumstances Requests  
- *none*

3. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda

Administrative Services Officer Yesenia Parra communicated that handouts for items 18 and 19 were posted to the website.

4. Review of items to be discussed in closed session

RTC Counsel Steve Mattas provided a brief overview of the items to be discussed in closed session, including labor negotiations and real property negotiations in the earlier closed session and in the later closed session, an item for executive director recruitment and negotiations related to executive director employment.

Commissioner Alternate Quinn recused himself from item 6.

The commission recessed to closed session at 9:05 a.m.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

5. Conference with Labor Negotiators  
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6)  
Agency Designated Representatives: Tony Harris and Jesse Lad  
Employee Organizations: CORE and RAMM
6. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8)

Properties:

APN 041-052-14; APN 041-052-15; APN 041-052-19; APN 041-052-20; APNs 042-067-16 & 042-067-18; APNs 042-067-18, 042-071-01, 042071-02, & 042-071-03; APN 042-073-40; APN 042-067-15; APN 042041-48; APN 044-282-47; APN 041-042-11; APN 041-052-16; APN 041052-17; APN 044-282-47; APN 044-282-48; APN 041-011-41; APN 041011-42; APN 041-561-11; APN 039-231-09; APN 039-471-10; APN 041561-04; APN 042-011-06.

Agency Negotiators: Sarah Christensen & Kimberly Finley Negotiating Parties: Saraliev, Peno and Marlene; Holden, Shain and Kristen L; Holden Living Trust and Whitelaw, Ryan J. and Claire E.; Whitelaw Family Trust; Manning, David J. and Kathleen D.; Manning Family Trust; Baly, James W. and Edith; Baly Family Trust; Sanders, Dean and Missy; PD Niboli Family Partnership; Escondido Verde Homeowners Association Inc.; Ohlmer, Ted and Zausen, Joan; Garcia Sanchez Andrade LLC; Beach Pines Townhouses; Ruso, Sandra Bowersock; Ruso Family Trust; Steinberg, Lee and Taoxiang, Yin; Steinberg Yin Trust; Ruso, Sandra Bowersock; Ruso Family Trust; Beach Pines Townhouses; Tennis Club of Rio Del Mar; Top Shelf, Inc.; Aptos Ventures, LLC; Aptos

Station; KGL, LLC; Potter Commercial, LLC; Britannia Arms Real Estate, LLC; Dominican Health Services.

Under Negotiation: Price and terms for Purchase of Temporary and Permanent Easements, and Fee Simple Acquisitions

### **OPEN SESSION**

The Commission reconvened in open session at 9:38 a.m.

#### 7. Report on items discussed in closed session

RTC Counsel Steve Mattas communicated that there was no reportable action from item 5. On item 6, the commission voted unanimously to authorize staff to make offers for the properties identified at the appraised values.

#### 8. Oral Communications

Received public comment from:  
Michael Saint

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin made a motion and Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioners Pedersen, S. Brown, Johnson, Hernandez, Koenig, McPherson, K. Brown, Pageler, Rotkin and Commissioner Alternates Quinn and Schiffrin voting "aye."

### **MINUTES**

9. Approved draft minutes of the June 06, 2024 Regional Transportation Commission meeting
10. Accepted draft minutes of the June 11, 2024 Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee meeting
11. Accepted draft minutes of the June 20, 2024 Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) meeting
12. Accepted draft minutes of the July 08, 2024 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting

### **POLICY ITEMS**

*No consent items*

## **PROJECTS AND PLANNING ITEMS**

13. Received an informational update on the status of the Caltrans cost overruns on the Highway 1 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue to Soquel Drive Auxiliary Lanes and Bus on Shoulder Project
14. Approved authorizing the Executive Director to amend a contract with Clean Team Associates for ongoing janitorial services on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line (**Resolution 1-25**)
15. Accepted the bid for 2024 Ditch and Culvert Maintenance along the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line and authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with Irish Excavation (**Resolution 2-25**)

## **BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES ITEMS**

16. Approved Amendment to the RTC (FY) 2023-24 budget and work program and Measure D (FY) 2023-24 budget (**Resolution 3-25**)
17. Approved Amendment to the RTC (FY) 2024-25 budget and work program and Measure D (FY) 2024-25 budget (**Resolution 4-25**)
18. Accepted status report on Transportation Development Act (TDA) revenues
19. Accepted status report on Measure D revenues

## **ADMINISTRATION ITEMS**

20. Accepted Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 Measure D Annual Report

## **INFORMATION/OTHER ITEMS**

21. Accepted monthly meeting schedule
22. Accepted letters from RTC committees and staff to other agencies
23. Accepted correspondence log
24. Accept information items - *none*

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

25. Commissioner Reports - *none*
26. Director's Report

Interim Executive Director Mitch Weiss delivered updates on a grant awarded to the RTC by the Caltrans for climate resilience planning; Milestone 2 outreach for the Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail project; the 2023

Measure D Annual Report; open positions on the Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee; appreciation for the Commissioners and staff as his tenure comes to a close.

Mr. Weiss responded to Commissioner's question regarding coordination with the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District on Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail project connection planning.

Commissioner McPherson departed the meeting and Commissioner Alternate Gine Johnson replaced him at the dais.

#### 27. Caltrans Report

Branch Chief of District 5 District Planning Kelly McClendon delivered the Santa Cruz County project update list and provided updates on: follow-up information regarding the cost overruns on the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lane and Bus on Shoulder Project from 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue to Soquel Drive; full and partial lane closures; reminder to utilize the Caltrans lane closure portal provided in the agenda packet.

#### 28. Presentation from City of Santa Cruz

Director of Public Works Nathan Nguyen delivered a presentation and responded to Commissioner questions regarding: coordination among public works agencies regarding traffic planning during the construction periods of the Murray Street Bridge project and Soquel Drive project; engineering staff; segments 8 and 9 trail funding; planning for protection and management of West Cliff Drive; impacts to City projects resulting from the Laurel Street project of the Soquel Creek Water District and its challenges; funding and timeline for construction of segment 7 of the Coastal Rail Trail; appreciation for staff; interim operations on Front Street.

Director Nguyen responded to questions regarding adaptation planning and the exploration of a one-way West Cliff Drive. Commissioners discussed public outreach regarding the question of one-way designation.

Received public comment from:  
Michael Saint

#### 29. Review of items to be discussed in closed session

RTC Counsel Steve Mattas announced the items to be discussed in closed session.

The Commission adjourned to closed session at 10:45 a.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

- 30. Public Employment  
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)  
Title: Executive Director
  
- 31. Conference with Labor Negotiators  
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6)  
Unrepresented Employee: Executive Director  
Agency Designated Representatives: Kristen Brown and Steve Mattas

The Commission reconvened to open session at 3:00 pm.

**OPEN SESSION**

- 32. Report out of items discussed in closed session

Steve Mattas communicated that there was no reportable action from closed session.

- 33. Next meetings

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., at the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Chambers, located at 701 Ocean Street, Room 525, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Respectfully submitted,

Yesenia Parra, Administrative Services Officer

Attendees

Portia Ramer  
Michael Saint  
Max Chun  
Madilyn Jacobsen  
Nadene Thorne  
Johanna Lighthill  
Justin Meek  
Jeanette Guire  
Celeste Gutierrez  
BobFi  
(831)-\*\*\*-2319

Paul Guirguis  
Nadia Noriega  
Brian  
Linda Wilshusen  
Brooke  
Jacob Wysocki  
T  
Fernanda Dias Pini  
Paula Bradley  
Peter Haworth  
Heather Adamson

David Carlson  
Nancy Yellin  
Nick

(831)-\*\*\*-6833  
Nate Abrego