



**Santa Cruz County Regional
Transportation Commission's**

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 19, 2025
5:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

This meeting was held in person at the RTC Offices, 1101 Pacific Ave #250, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Remote participation was via Zoom and followed AB 2449 requirements.

1. Call to Order: Chair Anna Kammer called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

2. Introductions

Members Present, in Person:

Corrina McFarlane, District 1 (Alt.)
Jack Brown, District 2
Sally Arnold, District 3
Anna Kammer, District 4 (Chair)
Rick Hyman, District 5
Paula Bradley, City of Capitola
Matt Farrell, City of Santa Cruz
Gina Cole, City of Watsonville (Vice Chair)
Matt Miller, Ecology Action
Leo Jed, CTSC

**Members Remote, Voting under Just
Cause or Emergency: None**

Staff:

Tommy Travers, Transportation Planner
Max Friedman, Transportation Planner
Brianna Goodman, Transportation Planner
Amy Naranjo, Transportation Planner
Riley Gerbrandt, Associate Transportation
Engineer

Members Remote, Not Voting:

Steven Jonsson, District 4 (Alt.)
Theresia Rogerson, Dist. 5 (Alt.)

Unexcused Absences:

Excused Absences:

Scott Roseman, District 1
Alex Santiago, District 3 (Alt.)
Christopher O'Connell, City of Capitola (Alt.)
Jae Riddle, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
Jennifer Villegas Moreno, Ecology Action
(Alt.)
Kelly Curlett, CTSC (Alt.)

Vacancies:

District 2 - Alternate
City of Scotts Valley - Primary and Alternate
City of Watsonville - Alternate

Guests:

Abe Downey, Member of the public

3. Considered any AB 2449 requests by voting members to participate remotely: None.
4. Staff announcements

Staff announced that the RTC bicycle purchase and bikeshare incentive program, Go Bike, will be launching soon. Staff also announced an upcoming virtual public workshop for the North Coast Transportation Demand Management Plan. Additionally, staff noted that the upcoming RTC meeting will be held at a different time than usual.

5. Oral communications

Matt Farrell noted that there will be a ribbon cutting event for Segment 7B of the Coastal Rail Trail on Wednesday, May 21st. Matt Miller shared that May is Spring Bike Month and highlighted events hosted by Ecology Action including an e-bike safety workshop and other related activities. Corrina McFarlane noted that the Whale Bridge (Chanticleer) opening was postponed and expressed concern that the delay was not clearly communicated to the public, as evidenced by the fact that many people showed up to the event on the canceled date. Steven Jonsson announced that Bike Santa Cruz County is organizing a community ride this Saturday, May 24th in Watsonville.

6. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas:

Staff announced that two attachments for Item 11 and replacement page for Item 8A were provided.

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Approved draft minutes of the April 14, 2025, Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting
A Committee member noted an error in attendance and voting in the minutes; Paula Bradley was not in attendance.
8. Received Summary of Hazard Reports
Committee members noted hazards related to construction zones, discussed receipt of resolutions to reports, and noted that the system may not be configured correctly regarding the file size limit of photo attachments.

8A. Accept direct appointment of member to serve on Bicycle Advisory Committee

A motion was made (Hyman/Jed) to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with McFarlane, Brown, Arnold, Kammer, Hyman, Bradley, Farrell, Cole, Miller, and Jed voting in favor.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Review and provide input on 2025 Consolidated Call for Projects Process & Evaluation Criteria – Amy Naranjo, RTC

Amy Naranjo presented on proposed evaluation criteria for the upcoming consolidated call for projects. The call is for applications from local jurisdictions and others to apply, through a competitive process, for certain federal and state transportation funds that the RTC has discretion over.

Committee members suggested that weighted scoring would more clearly prioritize community goals. Individual members requested the following areas of prioritization in scoring projects:

- Reduction in deaths and serious injuries (both in the Safety section and the Public Health section)
- Consistency with Vision Zero policies and plans
- Complete streets elements that are community-identified priority projects
- Reduction of vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
- Projects that fill major gaps in the active transportation network
- Projects that improve multimodal connections

A committee member also requested that the importance of reducing deaths and serious injuries be featured prominently overall in the call for projects.

10. Review and provide input on Rural Highways Safety Plan Existing Conditions Brianna Goodman, RTC

Brianna Goodman gave a presentation on the Rural Highways Safety Plan's Existing Conditions Report and requested input based on committee members' experience on the subject state highways in comparison to the findings, particularly on the proposed focus locations. Committee members asked whether crash data distinguishes between recreational and commuting cyclists; staff noted that it does not, but the RHSP team understands which highways are typically used for recreational cycling, which may allow result in more effective recommendations. A committee member commented on conflicts on the North Coast and the potential safety benefits of the Coastal Rail Trail Segment 5. It was asked if staff is considering exploring separated trails in other parts of the project area and staff mentioned that there was interest in exploring a multi-use path from Highway 152 to the fairgrounds in Watsonville. Additional questions were raised about whether reducing speed limits in certain segments is being considered and if more could be done along Highway 1 to better separate cyclists from vehicles. A committee member emphasized that education and enforcement need to remain dynamic, suggesting that certain safety solutions should be targeted at more specific locations and change over time. It was also mentioned that a survey is currently open for the [Santa Cruz County Safety Action Plan](#). Abe Downey commented on the importance of considering the needs of not just current riders, but also those who are currently not bicycling on rural highways for transportation due to safety concerns.

11. Review and provide input on Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail Project Update – Riley Gerbrandt, RTC

Riley Gerbrandt provided a presentation on Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail project updates and solicited feedback from the committee. He provided detail on the most recent preferred alignment for the trail and the rail station in Watsonville and on the impacts of the rail alignment options along Beach Street in Santa Cruz. A committee member expressed approval about the proposed trail on San Andreas Road in Watsonville and noted concern about rerouting the trail to West Beach in Watsonville, stating a preference for keeping it along the rail corridor. A committee

member said Rodriguez Street realignment is a sensible improvement. Staff explained that the public expressed a desire for the trail to be closer to destinations. A committee member asked whether more renderings of the Beach Street (Santa Cruz) area would be made available and emphasized the importance of ensuring the visuals accurately represent conditions. A committee member expressed a strong desire for the rail trail not to be delayed by rail planning, and requested improvements to the bicycle network between Cliff Street and 3rd Street, due to the one-way restrictions. Abe Downey, commented that raised-grade rail crossings are much safer. The ad hoc committee for reviewing and commenting on alignments of the ZEPRT project is reconvening and currently includes Paula Bradley, Sally Arnold, and Gina Cole.

12. Updates related to committee functions – Committee members (oral updates)

Regarding previous conversations on concerns about safety in construction zones, Paula Bradley noted that a letter had been sent to public works directors, but no responses had been received. Members requested that this item be agendaized for the next meeting.

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next Bicycle Committee meeting is a special meeting scheduled for June 9, 2025, from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at the RTC offices. Members of the public and non-voting committee alternates may join remotely.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:
Max Friedman, Transportation Planner