

To: SCCRTC Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee

Date: October 13, 2025

Re: Consolidating Grants Preliminary Recommendations

Dear Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee:

As Watsonville residents and members of the Watsonville Senior Action Committee, we would like to encourage your recommendation to the RTC for the **three City of Watsonville projects** included on the 2025 Consolidated Projects list:

1. **Clifford Avenue Road Rehabilitation and Traffic Calming Project**
2. **Freedom Boulevard Road Rehabilitation and Traffic Calming Project**
3. **Pennsylvania Drive Trail Rehabilitation Project**

These projects have the potential to be game-changers for cross-town transportation in Watsonville by increasing safety and connectivity for biking, walking, and accessible mobility between Main Street (Highway 152), Green Valley Road, and surrounding neighborhoods.

As an economically disadvantaged community, many Watsonville residents rely on multimodal transportation—walking, biking, and transit—as their primary means of getting around town. These three projects together will provide safer and more direct connections between residential neighborhoods, schools, parks, businesses, and transit routes. The areas surrounding each project are home to seniors, students, and residents who use mobility devices to navigate the community.

Collectively, these projects will:

- Improve road and trail surfaces for safety and accessibility.
- Upgrade ADA curb ramps, sidewalks, and traffic signage.
- Add continuous Class II bike lanes, new sidewalks, and speed tables for traffic calming.
- Strengthen multimodal pathways connecting Ohlone Parkway, Clifford Avenue, Pennsylvania Drive, Freedom Boulevard, and Green Valley Road.

Funding these South County projects will ensure an equitable distribution of transportation investments throughout Santa Cruz County. The improvements in these projects will close existing gaps in the bicycle and pedestrian networks, making active and multimodal transportation safer, more convenient, and more inclusive for all road users.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of equitable transportation access for all communities.

Respectfully,

Watsonville Senior Action Committee

City of Watsonville