

To: Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

From: Chair Montesino and Commissioners Koenig, Clark, Martinez, Keeley, and Cummings

Subject: Recommendations for the 2025 Call for Projects

Dear Chair and Commissioners,

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Commission, we are pleased to submit our shared recommendations for the **2025 Consolidated Call for Projects**. Following a review of proposed projects, we believe these recommendations represent a balanced approach to transportation investments across our region and accomplish our shared objectives.

Improving Bike and Pedestrian Safety. The recommendations fund improved roadway safety projects for bikes and pedestrians across every jurisdiction. They include a special emphasis on these projects in Watsonville demonstrating a commitment to equity.

Supporting Transit. The recommendations fully fund all of the requests from Santa Cruz METRO. They also allocate \$1,000,000 in 2028 STIP shares to the Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail Project so that it can continue to compete for state and federal grants.

Enhancing Arterials. These projects include vital maintenance and improvements to Bear Creek Rd, Empire Grade, Freedom Blvd, and Soquel Dr. These are some of the most utilized local roadways in our county.

We appreciate the leadership of RTC staff in facilitating this process and thank the project sponsors for their continued partnership and dedication to improving mobility in Santa Cruz County. Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Montesino
Commission Chair

Manu Koenig
Commission Member

Monica Martinez
Commission Member

Steve Clark
Commission Member

Fred Keeley
Commission Member

Justin Cummings
Commission Member

Attachment: Recommended Projects

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Applicant	Project Title	Requested	Recommended
City of Capitola	Bay Avenue Corridor - Final Design	\$700,000	\$500,000
City of Capitola	Capitola Complete Streets Sidewalk Infill	\$1,276,000	\$-
City of Santa Cruz	Coastal Rail Trail Segments 8 and 9 Construction	\$10,000,000	\$-
City of Santa Cruz	Prospect Heights Paving	\$4,003,482	\$-
City of Santa Cruz	Bay Street Paving	\$2,191,806	\$-
City of Scotts Valley	Granite Creek Overcrossing	\$1,000,000	\$500,000
City of Watsonville	Freedom Blvd Road Rehabilitation and Traffic Calming	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000
City of Watsonville	Clifford Ave Road Rehabilitation and Traffic Calming	\$1,675,000	\$850,000
City of Watsonville	Pennsylvania Dr Trail Rehabilitation Project	\$1,000,000	\$560,000
County of Santa Cruz	Soquel Drive Multimodal Project	\$5,800,000	\$3,800,000
County of Santa Cruz	Interlaken Routes Resurfacing Phase 1	\$800,000	\$-
County of Santa Cruz	Emergency Routes Resurfacing Phase 2	\$3,400,000	\$3,002,000
County of Santa Cruz	Brommer Yard Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)	\$1,220,070	\$-
County of Santa Cruz	Felton Yard Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)	\$896,575	\$-
County of Santa Cruz	Lode Street Yard Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)	\$806,306	\$-
County of Santa Cruz	Roy Wilson Yard Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)	\$838,973	\$-
Ecology Action	Bike Safe/ Walk Safe	\$295,940	\$100,000
Santa Cruz METRO	90X Operations/ BOS Service	\$650,000	\$650,000
Santa Cruz METRO	ParaCruz Vans	\$288,000	\$288,000
Santa Cruz METRO	Beach St Parking Lot	\$150,000	\$150,000

Applicant	Project Title	Requested	Recommended
Santa Cruz METRO	HASTUS 2026 Upgrade	\$900,000	\$900,000
SCCRTC	Felton/SLV Schools Complete Streets Enhancement	\$679,000	\$-
SCCRTC*	Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail (ZEPRT)	\$15,006,611	\$1,000,000 2028 STIP Shares
SCCRTC	Coastal Rail Trail Segments 8-9 and 10-11	\$8,260,000	\$2,000,000
UCSC	Electric Bus #3 Purchase for Campus Transit ZEV Transition	\$1,328,000	\$-
UCSC	Lower Campus High-Speed Public EV Chargers	\$1,243,800	\$-
	Totals	\$66,209,563	\$15,100,000

*Note: We are recommending the RTC "designate" the future/FY32 STIP funds to ZEPRT and hold the programming action until additional funds are secured to fully fund the PA/ED phase.