



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission
(Special Meeting)**

MINUTES

**Thursday, December 18, 2025
9:00 a.m.**

In-Person Meeting

Oak Conference Room, 1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250A
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060

Alternative Remote Location

15 Allston Way, Watsonville, CA 95076
1831 S Harbor Blvd, Anaheim, CA 92802

Remote Participation

RTC Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89597173447>

Dial-in: +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 895 9717 3447

The Chair and Vice Chair arrived late and were not present at the start of the meeting. Due to the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Executive Director Sarah Christensen called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Commissioner Martinez made a motion and Commissioner Jensen seconded the motion to appoint Commissioner Clark to chair the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioners Jensen, Keeley, Clark, Hernandez, DeSarpa, Koenig, Martinez and Commissioner Alternate Schiffrin voting aye.

1. Roll call

Members present:

City of Capitola

City of Santa Cruz

City of Scotts Valley

City of Watsonville

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

County of Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Gerry Jensen

Fred Keeley

Steve Clark

Eduardo Montesino (Remote)

Manu Koenig

Kimberly DeSarpa

Andy Schiffrin (Alt.)

Monica Martinez

Felipe Hernandez (Remote)

Fabian Leonor (Remote)

Staff present:

Sarah Christensen

Italo Jimenez

Steve Mattas (RTC Counsel)

Krista Corwin

Nisha Singh

2. Consider AB2449 requests – Commissioner Hernandez requested remote participation under AB2449 due to a contagious illness.
3. Oral communications

Received public comment from:

Matt Farrell, Friends of the Rail and Trail

Brian Peoples, Trail Now

Lowell Hurst

Elaine Rohlfes

4. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – *none*

Commissioner Montesino and Commissioner Leonor joined the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

No consent items.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Report on items to be discussed in closed session

RTC Counsel Steve Mattas provided a brief overview of the items to be discussed in closed session and stated that there would be no reportable action resulting from the closed session.

Received public comment from:

Brian Peoples, Trail Now

Saladin Sale

The Commission entered into closed session at 9:20 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

6. Conference with Real Property Negotiators
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8)
Property: Santa Cruz Branch Line Railroad Right-of-Way
Agency Negotiators: Sarah Christensen and Steve Mattas
Negotiating Parties: SCCRTC and St. Paul & Pacific Railroad, LLC, a
Subsidiary of Progressive Rail Inc.
Under negotiation: Terms for Administration, Coordination, and License
Agreement
7. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2))
Significant Exposure to Litigation: Two cases

OPEN SESSION

8. Report on items discussed in closed session

The Commission returned to open session at 10:31 a.m. RTC Counsel Steve Mattas announced that there was no reportable action from closed session. The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

9. Next meetings

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Watsonville City Council Chambers, located at 275 Main Street, Fourth Floor, Watsonville, CA 95076.

HOW TO REACH US

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250 Santa Cruz, CA 95060
phone: (831) 460-3200 / email: info@sccrtc.org

LIVE BROADCASTS

Meetings of the RTC are broadcast live by Community Television of Santa Cruz. More information about channels and schedule can be found online (www.communitytv.org) or by calling (831) 425-8848.

AGENDA PACKETS

Complete agenda packets and all documents relating to items on the open session are posted online at <https://sccrtc.org> at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Sign up for E-News updates at sccrtc.org/about/esubscriptions/

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Items on the agenda: Written comments received by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday before the meeting will be posted to the RTC website by 2:00 p.m. that same

afternoon to allow time for Commissioner review. The opportunity to make oral comments is offered prior to the discussion period of each item.

Items not on the agenda: Written comments on topics within the RTC's jurisdiction, but not on the agenda, that are received during the monthly correspondence period will be posted to a public document. The correspondence period cut-off is 12:00 p.m. on the second Monday prior to the RTC meeting. A link to that document is provided in the Correspondence Log of that month's meeting. The opportunity to make oral comments to the Commission on such topics is offered during Oral Communications.

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

The public may participate in the meetings of the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) in person or remotely via the provided Zoom link. If technical difficulties result in the loss of communication for remote participants, the RTC will work to restore the communication; however, the meeting will continue while efforts are being made to restore communication to the remote participants. Members of the public participating by Zoom are instructed to be on mute during the proceedings and to speak only when public comment is allowed, after requesting and receiving recognition from the Chair.

PARTICIPACIÓN REMOTAMENTE

El público puede participar en las justas de la Commission Regional de Transporte (RTC) en persona o remotamente a través del enlace Zoom proporcionado. Si problemas técnicos resultan en la perdida de comunicación con quienes participan remotamente, la RTC hará lo posible por restaurar la comunicación. Pero, la junta continuara mientras se hace lo posible por restaurar la comunicación con quienes participan remotamente. A los miembros del público que participan por Zoom se les indica que permanezcan en silencio durante los procedimientos y que hablen solo cuando se permitan comentarios públicos, después de solicitar y recibir el reconocimiento del presidente.

ACCESSIBILITY

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SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN/ TRANSLATION SERVICES

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traducción al español por favor llame por lo menos con tres días laborables de anticipo al (831) 460-3200 para hacer los arreglos necesarios. (Spanish language translation is available on an as needed basis. Please call (831) 460-3200 at least three days in advance to make advance arrangements.

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