



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's **Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee** (Also serves as the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council)

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**FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

**1:30 – 3:30pm**

**Tuesday, December 9, 2025**

**In-Person Meeting**

**1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250, Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

**REMOTE Participation:** Remote Participation is offered to members of the public, nonvoting alternates, and committee members unable to attend in person due to an emergency or for cause per AB2449. E&D TAC Members who need to participate remotely under AB2449 should provide justification prior to the meeting to [amarino@sccrtc.org](mailto:amarino@sccrtc.org) (see end of the agenda for more information)

**Join the online meeting to see presentations:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83402772255>**

**Meeting ID: 834 0277 2255**

**Dial by your location: +1 669 900 9128**

**1. Chair Veronica Elsea called the meeting to order at 1:35pm**

***Members Present***

Michael Pisano, Vice Chair, Potential Transit User (60+)  
Stephanie Auld, Social Services Provider – Disabled (County)  
Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)  
Nadia Noriega, CTSA (Lift Line)  
Tara Ireland, Social Services Provider – Persons of Limited Means  
Jesus Bojorquez, CTSA (Lift Line)  
Michael Bois, SCMTD (METRO)  
Wells Shoemaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Katie Nunez, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Portia Ramer, 5<sup>th</sup> District

***Members Remote, voting under Just Cause or Emergency***

Veronica Elsea, Chair, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Clay Kempf, Social Services Provider – Seniors

**Members Remote, not voting**

Marc Yellin, Potential Transit User (Disabled)

**Unexcused Absences**

Elizabeth Byrd, Social Services Provider – Seniors (County)

**RTC Staff Present**

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner  
Sierra Topp, Transportation Planning Technician  
Tommy Travers, Transportation Planner  
Max Friedman, Transportation Planner  
Brianna Goodman, Transportation Planner

**Guests Present**

Bobi Wood, SCMTD (METRO)  
Rick H., Community Member  
Unknown online community member

**1. Introductions**

**2. Consider AB2449 request(s) to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances (a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person)**

*Motion (Pisano/Shoemaker) to approve Veronica Elsea and Clay Kempf's AB2449 request to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances. The motion passed with committee members Michael Pisano, Stephanie Auld, Caroline Lamb, Nadia Noriega, Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Bois, Wells Shoemaker, Katie Nunez, and Portia Ramer voting "aye".*

**3. Oral communications**

Committee member Stephanie Auld shared appreciation for the E&D TAC stating it is one of the only groups in the county that represents disabled people.

Committee members requested for METRO to come to E&D TAC and other advisory groups when design changes are proposed on SCMTD buses.

Committee member Clay Kempf announced that- next week on Tuesday December 16 at 12:30 pm he is making a presentation before the Seniors Council of Santa Cruz County on the California Master Plan For Aging.

Committee Chair Veronica Elsea recognized the Caltrans maintenance crew for how fast and efficient they are in responding to maintenance requests.

RTC Transportation Planner, Tommy Travers, announced the release of the RTC's Equity Action Plan and that staff is bringing it to committees in February to discuss next steps.

#### **4. Additions or deletions to the consent or regular agenda**

RTC Transportation Planner, Amanda Marino, announced an additional handout for item 13 – Rural Highway Safety Plan: Milestone 3 - Draft Safety Enhancement Concepts replacement page for a table in the staff report.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

All items appearing on the consent agenda are considered to be minor or non-controversial and will be acted upon in one motion if no member of the E&D TAC or public wishes an item be removed and discussed on the regular agenda. Members of the E&D TAC may raise questions, seek clarification or add directions to Consent Agenda items without removing the item from the Consent Agenda as long as no other E&D TAC member objects.

#### **6. Receive Information Items**

**a. E&D TAC letter of Support for 2025 SCBRL South County Climate Resilience Plan**

**b. E&D TAC letter of Support for WATRAS Study**

#### **7. Receive 2026 E&D TAC Calendar**

#### **8. Receive 26-27 TDA Claim Calendar**

#### **9. Receive RTC November 2025 Meeting Highlights**

#### **10. Approve Minutes from October 14, 2025**

*Motion (Auld/Bojorquez) to approve minutes from October 14, 2025. Motion passed with committee members Michael Pisano, Stephanie Auld, Caroline Lamb, Nadia Noriega, Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Bois, Clay Kempf, Katie Nunez, Portia Ramer, and Veronica Elsea voting "aye" with Wells Shoemaker abstaining.*

*Motion (Auld/Pisano) to approve the December 9, 2025 Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously with committee members Michael Pisano, Stephanie Auld, Caroline Lamb, Nadia Noriega, Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Michael Bois, Clay Kempf, Katie Nunez, Portia Ramer, Veronica Elsea, and Wells Shoemaker voting "aye".*

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **11. Draft 2050 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan**

Tommy Travers, RTC Transportation Planner, provided an update on the release of the Draft 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. It will be released the week of Dec 15 with a physical copy available in the RTC office. The public hearing will be held at the January 15 RTC meeting in Watsonville.

The committee had questions about:

- RTP goal alignment with the safety of children and youth with active transportation
- Road improvement funding vs maintenance
- Reconfiguration of intersection at Soquel and Morrissey and where that falls with improvement vs maintenance funding
- To whom committee and community members may provide requests for specific projects
- The 6.2 billion for storm damage and emergency funding

Committee Chair, Veronica Elsea, commented on the process of reviewing the Draft RTP and advised that members identify input provided by the E&D TAC and whether it was incorporated.

*No action taken*

### **12. Draft 2026 State and Federal Legislative Program**

Max Friedman, RTC Transportation Planner, provided updates on the draft legislative program including background, why this matters, continued focus areas, and what's new. Friedman requested feedback on the draft.

The committee had questions about

- Funding for pedestrian and bike trails in the county
- Who is responsible for certain intersections along Soquel
- Clarification requested on drone technology

*No action taken*

### **13. Rural Highway Safety Plan: Milestone 3 - Draft Safety Enhancement Concepts**

Brianna Goodman, RTC Transportation Planner, shared information on Milestone 3 of the Rural Highway Safety Plan. Goodman explained how the 10 locations were chosen across the county and how they could be used as examples for enhancement ideas throughout other areas of the county.

The committee looked at specific design concepts in Watsonville, Davenport, and along Highway 9.

Concerns were raised around highway 9 concepts and whether sidewalks are included throughout. Specifically, around the schools.

The committee requested that the RHSP look closer at or expand on

- Blackburn Street and Bridge Street intersection.
- Boulder Creek concept plan.
- Visibility on Bear Creek Road for cars entering Hwy 9.

Committee members commented on how helpful the diagrams are and how knowledgeable staff are of the area.

Committee asked for next steps on the project which includes completing milestone 3 and providing a draft report to the RTC in March 2026.

### **14. Receive Program Updates**

- a. Volunteer Center
  - i. Holiday event
- b. Community Bridges

- i. No updates
- c. Santa Cruz Metro
  - i. No updates
  - ii. Introduced Bobi Wood, new Mobility Training Coordinator position
  - iii. In process of looking into and rolling out tap to pay transit options
- d. SCCRTC
  - i. North Coast TDM Workshop
  - ii. Guide to Specialized Transportation
- e. Pedestrian Ad-hoc Subcommittee
  - i. Pedestrian Hazard Report – most reports coming in are around plant overgrowth and interference in the ROW.

**3:10 pm – Adjourn**

**Next meeting: 1:30 pm, Tuesday February 10, 2026, hosted in person at the SCCRTC office located at 1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.**

Visit [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) for updates.

**HOW TO REACH US**     *Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission*

*1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060*

*Phone: (831) 460-3200*

*Fax (831) 460-3215*

*Email: [info@sccrtc.org](mailto:info@sccrtc.org)*

*Website: [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org)*

Minutes respectfully submitted by, Sierra Topp, Transportation Planning Technician