



Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission's
Elderly & Disabled
Transportation Advisory Committee
Social Service Transportation Advisory Council

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

1:30 – 3:30pm

In-Person Meeting

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

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

(see end of agenda for more information)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82217044415>

Meeting ID: 822 1704 4415

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 9128

Accessibility: See end of agenda for details.

En Español: Para servicios de traducción al español, diríjase a la última página.

Agendas Online: www.sccrtc.org/meetings/elderly-disabled/

1:30pm — Call to Order

Chair Veronica Elsea called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

Members Present

Stephanie Auld, Social Services Provider – Disabled (County)

Tara Ireland, Social Services Provider – Persons of Limited Means

Jesus Bojorquez, CTSA (Lift Line)

Nadia Noriega, CTSA (Lift Line)

Michael Pisano, Vice Chair, Potential Transit User (60+)

Caroline Lamb, Potential Transit User (Disabled)

Wells Shoemaker, 2nd District
Veronica Elsea, Chair, 2nd District
Portia Ramer, 5th District

RTC Staff Present

Amanda Marino, Transportation Planner
Sierra Topp, Transportation Planning Technician
Tommy Travers, Transportation Planner
Riley Gerbrandt, Associate Engineer
Janine Ramirez, Engineering Intern

Guests Present

Bobbi Wood, SCMTD (METRO)
Kendra Webster, Social Services Provider – Seniors (County)
Paula Bradley, RTC Bicycle Advisory Committee Member
Jack Brown, RTC Bicycle Advisory Committee Member
Tim Nguyen, County of Santa Cruz Public Works
Jeffrey De Los Santos, County of Santa Cruz Public Works
Leo Trujillo, County of Santa Cruz Public Works
Raymon Cancino, Community Bridges
Brad Cramer, Community Member
Gina Cole, Watsonville Resident and Bicycle Advisory Committee Member
David Dean, Community Member

1:30pm — Introductions

1:32pm — 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)

1:35pm — Oral communications

1:40pm — Additions or deletions to the consent or regular agenda

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 to the change.

1. Receive Information Items

- a. Draft Rural Highways Safety Plan Report Available for Review
- b. SR 17 Corridor Plan Workshop – English
- c. SR 17 Corridor Plan Workshop – Spanish

2. Receive RTC Meeting Highlights

- a. December 4, 2025
- b. January 15, 2026

3. Receive TDA Revenue Reports

4. Approve E&D TAC Draft Minutes from December 9, 2025

Motion (Pisano/Lamb) to approve the February 10, 2026, Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously with committee members Stephanie Auld, Tara Ireland, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Wells Shoemaker, Veronica Elsea, Portia Ramer voting "aye".

REGULAR AGENDA

5. County of Santa Cruz Soquel Drive/Robertson Street Signalization Project

County staff presented updates on the design of the Soquel Drive/Robertson Street Signalization project to receive input from the E&D TAC.

Committee members had questions regarding the length and scope of sidewalk improvements around the project site, the center median island and if its remaining, the purpose of bicycle boxes, and signal prioritization on buses. Members had comments and concerns on vehicle back up from Robertson going into Alamar Mobile Home Park and suggested turn lanes and adding a sidewalk on the south side of Soquel Drive leading up to the shopping plaza as many pedestrians are currently using the shoulder to walk. Concerns were also raised about turning left onto Robertson from Soquel Drive on a bike and how to navigate adjacent and oncoming traffic.

County Staff announced a First District meeting held by Supervisor Manu Koenig on March 12 from 6-7 pm where this project will be discussed. Residents can also call 831-454-2160 to provide comments. The goal is to go to construction Summer 2026.

No action taken.

6. Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail Project (ZEPRT) Update

Riley Gerbrandt, RTC Associate Engineer provided an update on the ZEPRT project and an overview of the final concept report.

Committee members provided comments and concerns over how the costs vs benefits are presented in the analysis and stated there is a lack of information on the opportunity costs vs social impacts of not having transportation options for disabled people and the elderly. Concerns were shared over station locations and the limited conversation of the location decision process within the report, and how abandoning the train is in turn abandoning disadvantaged community members – especially those that cannot or do not drive.

Members asked questions about ridership projections and how accurate they are and if it considers future development.

Gerbrandt shared next steps for the project including bringing a trail concept memorandum for committee review and working with Caltrans' Rail Corridor ID program to create a service development plan to model how the system works and to see how ZEPRT fits in with central coast vision for passenger rail.

No action taken.

7. Construction safety for roadwork and encroachments affecting bicyclists and pedestrians

Members from the RTC Bicycle Advisory Committee presented on a subcommittee that has been formed in an effort to address construction safety for roadwork and encroachments affecting bicyclists and pedestrians. The subcommittee requested that the E&D TAC members consider joining.

Motion (Auld/Lamb) to direct the E&D TAC Pedestrian Subcommittee to work with the BAC Subcommittee on road construction safety documents. The motion passed unanimously with committee members Stephanie Auld, Tara Ireland, Jesus

Bojorquez, Nadia Noriega, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Wells Shoemaker, Veronica Elsea, Portia Ramer voting "aye".

8. Draft 2026 Unmet Transit and Paratransit Needs List

RTC Staff presented on the Draft 2026 Unmet Transit and Paratransit Needs list process and requested feedback on the current list. They also provided a schedule for development of the updated list.

Committee members provided feedback on opportunities they would like to see incorporated into the update including real-time bike rack availability on METRO busses, specialized transit for medical appointments outside of Santa Cruz County without an income requirement, and safety data to inform decision making.

No action taken.

9. Committee Stipends

RTC Staff presented information on the \$50 per meeting committee member stipend opportunity, eligibility requirements, and process.

No action taken.

10. E&D TAC Member Appointments

RTC Staff reviewed the E&D TAC member applications received by Kendra Webster to serve as the Social Services Provider - Seniors (County) representative and Bobi Wood to serve as the SCMTD (Metro) representative.

Motion (Lamb/Shoemaker) to recommend the RTC approve committee member applications. The motion passed unanimously with committee members Stephanie Auld, Tara Ireland, Jesus Bojorquez, Nadia Noriega, Michael Pisano, Caroline Lamb, Wells Shoemaker, Veronica Elsea, Portia Ramer voting "aye".

11. Receive Program Updates

a. Volunteer Center

- i. Commercial came out to recruit more drivers

b. Community Bridges

- i. TNC access for all program is increasing – they have recruited more participants from Aptos and San Lorenzo Valley area.

- ii. Recently became the TNC provider for Monterey.
- c. Santa Cruz Metro
 - i. New website is posted.
- d. SCCRTC
 - i. Staff will be following up with members on their expiring membership positions.
 - ii. Staff are working on scheduling an E&D TAC meeting in South County for 2026.
 - iii. The Guide to Specialized Transportation has been updated and printed copies are available.
- e. Pedestrian Ad-hoc Subcommittee
 - i. Pedestrian Hazard Report

No action taken.

Adjourn – 3:37 pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday April 14, 2026, at 1:30pm hosted in person at the Dorosin Family Conference Room at Aptos Branch Library located at 7695 Soquel Dr, Aptos, CA 95003. Remote participation included.

HOW TO REACH US

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Minutes respectfully submitted by, Sierra Topp, Transportation Planning Technician