



August 2, 2026

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
1101 Pacific Avenue, Suite 250
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Comment Letter on Item 6. Cooperative Agreement with the City of Capitola for Capitola Trestle Seismic Assessment

Friends of the Rail and Trail supports the staff recommendation to enter into a cooperative agreement with the city of Capitola to contract with the Regional Transportation Commission's bridge consultant for a seismic assessment of the Capitola Trestle.

While supporting this effort to assess the current condition of the Capitola Trestle, Friends of the Rail and Trail's support for this work is founded on our consistent advocacy and support for preservation of the existing rails as part of any project. This position is supported by the Monterey Bay Scenic Sanctuary Trail Network Master Plan's statement:

"The spine, or primary alignment, of the MBSST Network will be built parallel to (not in place of) the operational rail line, within the rail right-of-way, to the extent possible so freight service can continue and future passenger rail may be provided." (page vi) (emphasis added)

Thank you for your service to our community,

Matt Farrell
Chair
Santa Cruz County Friends of the Rail and Trail

