



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's
Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)

MINUTES

Thursday, June 18, 2026, 1:30 p.m.

In Person: RTC Conference Room, 1101 Pacific Ave, Ste 250A, Santa Cruz

Online: Zoom

ITAC Members Present:

California Department of Transportation	Paul Guirguis
Santa Cruz County Public Works	Steve Wiesner
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)	John Urgo
Santa Cruz Public Works	Matt Starkey
Santa Cruz Planning	Claire Gallogly
Scotts Valley Public Works	Andrew Lee
Watsonville Public Works	Miguel Lizarraga
Watsonville Community Development	Justin Meek
Ecology Action	Matt Miller
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)	Regina Valentine

RTC Staff Present: Marshall Ballard, Nick Danty, Amanda Marino, Tristan Sayre, Jaeden Gales

Others Present – In person:

Non-Voting Members online (not AB2449 or Brown Act): Derek Toups (METRO), Georgina Arias (University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC))

Others Online: Tiffany Mendoza (HDR, Inc.), Jennifer Abrams (HDR, Inc.)
Amin AbuAmara (RTC), Rebecca Downing (METRO Board Member and SCCRTC Commissioner)

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Starkey called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.
2. **Introductions** were made.
3. **Additions, deletions, or other changes to consent and regular agendas:**

CONSENT AGENDA

ITAC members unanimously approved a motion (Gallogly/Lizarraga) *approving the consent agenda with members* Starkey, Wiesner, Valentine, Guirguis, Uργο, Lee, Meek, and Miller *voting “aye”*.

4. **Approve Minutes of the May 21, 2026 ITAC meeting**
5. **Receive Highlights from the June 11, 2026 Regional Transportation Commission Meeting**
6. **Receive information about the Final 2050 MTP/SCS from AMBAG**

REGULAR AGENDA

7. **Receive presentation about Planning for Climate Resilience of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line**

Amanda Marino, RTC Transportation Planner, presented a PowerPoint on a planning study to assess climate hazards impacting the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line transportation corridor. This included but was not limited to coastal erosion and flooding, to evaluate how these hazards may be exacerbated by sea level rise and climate changes. This information will be used to develop climate resilient transportation facility concepts at the SCBRL corridor's most vulnerable sites over the projected life of projects and based on the adaptability of different types of infrastructure.

Meek asked a question regarding the design considerations regarding the Pajaro River bridge. Meek also asked if raising the bridge affects SR 129. Gallogly asked if there is a threshold, cost-wise, to prohibit continuing with this corridor due to climate change. Meek asked to see a map of potential relocations. Wiesner asked if tunneling was considered. Starkey asked when does rail become infeasible in this corridor, since there are a lot of environmental challenges.

Meek asked what to clarify on the guidance the Coastal Commission has provided. Gallogly asked how is the Coastal Commission engaging with the RTC and providing guidance? Miller asked if rail and active transportation need to be paired, if a new corridor is created.

8. **Receive presentation and provide feedback about the updated Hazard Reporting system**

Nick Danty, RTC Transportation Planner, provided a demonstration of the

draft revised hazard report form for input from the committee and public. Meek asked if the RTC's hazard reporting tool can be integrated with the City of Watsonville's hazard reporting tool. A member of the public, commented and stated that Santa Cruz County's hazard tool and Caltrans' incident reporting tool work well.

City of Watsonville - [Watsonville, CA - Report potholes, graffiti, street light out, and other community issues. - SeeClickFix - Web and Mobile Government 311](#)

City of Santa Cruz - [CRSP - Community Request for Service Portal](#)

County of Santa Cruz - <https://cconnect.santacruzcounty.us/>

Caltrans - [Submit Customer Service Request](#)

Scotts Valley - [Report a Concern | Scotts Valley, CA](#)

Capitola - [Report a Concern | Capitola, CA](#)

9. **Receive update and act on the Data ad hoc working group data platform procurement**

Marshall Ballard, RTC Supervising Transportation Planner, provided a verbal update on the next steps for the Data ad hoc working group to procure a data platform. Ballard provided an evaluation rubric for the group review and discuss. Wiesner asked if we need to consider additional platforms.

10. **Status of transportation projects, programs, studies, and planning documents**

AMBAG: Community Flood Forum on June 30th at 6 p.m. at Pajaro Middle School.

City of Santa Cruz: Murray Street bridge is closed. The city submitted an ATP application and Safe Streets for All application. There are several projects in design set to go to construction in Summer 2027.

City of Watsonville: There is construction for road rehabilitation and ADA curb ramp upgrades on Highway 152 and 129 through the City of Watsonville. Recently finished the 2025 Haven Maintenance Rehab project. Lee Road Trail Phase 1 is in construction, Lee Road Trail Phase 2, which is the bridge across Watsonville Slough, is in design. The Harkins Slough Bridge over Highway 1 (bridge widening) notice to proceed has been issued, and construction is expected to begin in July. Clifford Avenue rehabilitation and bike and pedestrian improvements are expected to start Spring 2027. Freedom Boulevard Road Rehabilitation and pedestrian and bike improvements from Airport to Green Valley are expected to start summer of 2027. The city is submitting two ATP applications for Cycle 8. The city is amending the Airport Master Plan.

City of Scotts Valley: The city is putting together an RFP for traffic signal detection cameras. There is active construction on Scotts Valley Drive and Mount Hermon Road.

County of Santa Cruz: A pavement management project, on various roadways in the unincorporated county, is in construction. Storm damage projects have been delayed due to the Yellow-Legged Frog being listed as an endangered species. The county is struggling to find available funds to be used as a match for grants.

Caltrans: Caltrans will provide letters of support for the INFRA grant. The Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program Guidelines are being updated and Caltrans is taking feedback. Kelly McClendon will be the temporary point of contact at D5 after Paul leaves for San Diego. Kelly is currently on vacation but will be back July 13th.

METRO: METRO has 65% plans for the Rapid Corridor project. The project is set to go to construction in Summer 2027. A funding agreement was approved by their board in June 2026. METRO will take their fiscal year 2026-27 budget to their board next week for approval.

Ecology Action: Ecology Action has preliminary survey results from Watsonville residents. The results will be made available soon. Matt mentioned recent release of education videos on Instagram and You Tube, the first series was on daylighting.

SCCRTC: Staff are working on submitting an ATP application for Cycle 8 as well as a grant for the federal CRISI program. A fence installation near Capitola Bluffs will be completed soon.

11. **Oral Communications on Matters Not on the Agenda**

John Urgo, as a member of the public, encouraged people to sign the initiative to get METRO on the ballot for March 2028.

12. **Next Meeting and Future Items:**

The next ITAC meeting is scheduled for 1:30pm **August 18, 2026**. ITAC meetings will be canceled if there are no action items to be brought before the committee.

Future agenda items:

- Non-SHOPP PID Workplan
- WZDx report

- Ad hoc Data Group report
- Safe on 17 established goal revision

13. Adjourn – 3:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jaeden Gales, Transportation Planner