



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

MINUTES

Thursday, August 20, 2026, 1:30 p.m.

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

Online: Zoom

ITAC Members Present:

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)	Pete Rasmussen
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)	Cayla Hill (Arrived at 1:35)
Santa Cruz Public Works	Matt Starkey
Santa Cruz Planning	Claire Gallogly
Scotts Valley Public Works	Andrew Lee
Santa Cruz County Planning	Fernanda Dias-Pini
Watsonville Public Works	Miguel Lizarraga
Watsonville Community Development	Justin Meek
Ecology Action	Matt Miller
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments	Regina Valentine
Capitola Public Works	Kailash Mozumder
University of Santa Cruz, California	Oxo Slayer
Santa Cruz County Public Works	Steve Weisner (Joined online at 1:35, just cause)

RTC Staff Present: Marshall Ballard, Nick Danty, Jaeden Gales, Nisha Singh

Others Present – In person: Kelly Curlett (Community Traffic Safety Coalition member)

Non-Voting Members online (not AB2449 or Brown Act): Derek Toups (METRO), Georgina Arias (UCSC), Leila Boroomand (Caltrans)

Others Online: Brianna Goodman (RTC staff), Michael Pisano (Resident), Grace Blakeslee (RTC staff), Jimmy Ochoa (Caltrans)

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Starkey called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
2. **Introductions** were made.
3. **Additions, deletions, or other changes to consent and regular agendas:** - *None were made.*

CONSENT AGENDA

ITAC members unanimously approved a motion (Gallogly/Miller) *approving the consent agenda with members Dias-Pini, Rasmussen, Starkey, Gallogly, Lee, Lizarraga, Meek, Valentine, Slayer, and Mozumder voting “aye”.*

- 4. Approve Minutes of the June 21, 2026 ITAC meeting**
- 5. August 6, 2026 Regional Transportation Commission Meeting**

REGULAR AGENDA

- 6. Receive presentation about RTC Measure D Bonding**

Nisha Singh, Director of Internal Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding RTC Measure D bonding. The bonds will fund the following Measure D Highway Projects:

- Phase 1: 41st Ave – Soquel Drive
- Phase 2: Bay/Porter – State Park
- Phase 3: State Park – Freedom + Rail Trail Segment 12.

The bonds will also fund the following Measure D Active Transportation Projects:

- RTC Coastal Rail Trail Segment 5: Wilder Ranch to Davenport
- Segments 8-12: Pacific Ave. to State Park Dr.
- Watsonville Area Segments including Segment 18, Phases 2-3

- 7. Receive presentation about Non-SHOPP PID Workplan**

Jimmy Ochoa, Caltrans Transportation Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Non-State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Planning Initiation Documents (PID) Workplan. Ochoa outlined the differences between various PID categories. Ochoa provided information on how regional and local agencies can nominate a PID for potential state sponsorship. The State Highway System Management Plan (SHSMP) will be updated next year. Marshall Ballard, RTC Supervising Transportation Planner, indicated he will forward Caltrans contact information received from Ochoa to ITAC members.

- 8. Receive update regarding RTC Programming Office Hours**

Jaeden Gales, RTC Transportation Planner, proposed RTC Programming office hours for public agencies and stakeholder members to strengthen collaboration. The office hours will be once a month and held virtually for six months. The office hours will be evaluated after six months to determine if

the frequency of the meetings needs to be adjusted. Gallogly provided a motion to approve the item with an amendment to decouple the office hours from ITAC and partner agencies and keep the office hours as RTC office hours not related to ITAC and other committees. The motion was seconded by Slayer and had unanimous approval.

Staff Recommendation Approved - Establish a six-month pilot of monthly office hours to improve programming coordination, provide technical assistance, and create an additional forum to engage with SCCRTC programming staff.

9. Status of the ad-hoc Data working group data platform procurement

Marshall Ballard, Supervising Transportation Planner, provided a verbal update on the data platform procurement. The City of Santa Cruz and University of California, Santa Cruz opted out of the working group, based on their individual needs. The contract will likely be executed in October 2026. The ad-hoc Data working group participating agencies include: The City of Scotts Valley, the City of Capitola, Santa Cruz METRO, the City of Watsonville, the RTC, and County of Santa Cruz. The agreement will be for one year and will be evaluated throughout the year with highlights brought to ITAC. The ad hoc Data working group will also endeavor to create an online counts database from all partner agencies data.

10. Receive information and discuss the creation of an Ad-hoc Vision Zero advisory group

Marshall Ballard, Supervising Transportation Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the creation of an Ad-hoc Vision Zero advisory group. Marshall highlighted the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) goals, action items, and targets. Kelly Curlett, Community Traffic Safety Coalition (CTSC) member, spoke about CTSC's goals. CTSC assisted agencies with putting together their vision zero action plans. CTSC is also able to help with the implementation of vision zero. CTSC holds bike and pedestrian safety for elementary school children in both English and Spanish. Lizarraga made a motion to create the ad-hoc Vision Zero advisory group, which was seconded by Meek. The motion was unanimously approved.

Staff Recommendation Approved - Establish an ad hoc working group consisting of designated representatives from ITAC member agencies, the CTSC, and other interested partners.

11. Status of the transportation projects, programs, studies and planning documents

AMBAG: No Updates.

City of Capitola: 41st Avenue and Clares Street Capital Road Survey is open to the public throughout the month -

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T3TX3R8>. The Cliff Drive Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration community meeting will be held 09/03/26 at 5pm. The 41st Avenue multimodal project is under construction. Reposa Avenue was paved this week. The city is developing their first Active Transportation Plan which was supported through a Caltrans planning grant. Engagement is being conducted for the Active Transportation Plan.

City of Santa Cruz: Murray Street bridge is closed and will likely be open for one-way traffic in October 2026. A curb ramp and storm drain project are near completion in downtown Santa Cruz. The Laurel Street striping project is fully funded and is going to construction next Spring or Summer. The Rapid Corridors project is in design and is being worked on with METRO. The Bay Corridor project is set for construction next year. The Safety Action Plan went to the Santa Cruz Transportation and Public Works Commission on Monday night (08/17/26) and will be presented to the Council in October 2026. The city recently adopted an Active Transportation Plan. The Safety Action Plan and Active Transportation Plan will be utilized to update municipal code. The city is applying for an HSIP grant.

City of Watsonville: Lee Road Trail Phase 1 is in construction and will be completed in October 2026. Lee Road Trail Phase 2 is in design. Construction finished on this past season's pavement projects. Additional bike facilities were installed. Next year's pavement projects are in design. The city is looking for ways to incorporate bus stop improvements from the METRO Rapid Corridors project into the pavement projects. Watsonville is working on publishing a Request for Proposal for Safety Action Plan based on their awarded SS4A funds, which will purchase speeding cameras and speed messaging trailers. An HSIP application is currently being worked on for citywide traffic signal improvements. A Transformation Climate Communities grant is also being worked on in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank. The city is applying for a Caltrans Sustainable Planning Grant. The city is currently working on developing more in-fill housing, which is estimated to be approximately 6,000 units.

City of Scotts Valley: The Scotts Valley/Mount Hermon project will be completed in approximately two weeks. The city went out to bid to procure cameras for Scotts Valley Drive and Mount Hermon. There will be curb ramp improvements on Mount Hermon.

County of Santa Cruz: A county-wide pavement project is almost complete. The County awarded contract for a bridge replacement project off

Highway 9 in Felton. Most of the bridge replacement work will take place next Spring. A Request for Proposal was released for design services on Soquel Drive Multimodal Phase 2 project. The County is implementing speed limit changes. The County will be lowering speed limits near East Cliff and in the Ben Lomond area. The County is applying for HSIP grants. The County is pursuing a Caltrans Planning Grant for TOD/Mobility Hub Strategic Plan.

Caltrans: The Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant was opened two days ago. The deadline for submitting a draft application is 09/18/26. The final application deadline is 10/19/26.

METRO: A Master Bus Stop Master Plan is being developed. It includes inventory of bus stop conditions, bus stop guidelines update, and prioritization of future improvements for under resourced areas. Outreach will begin in September 2026. The Pacific Station North apartments residents will receive METRO bus passes.

Ecology Action: Ecology Action is in discussions with the County regarding their planning grants. Ecology Action is also in discussion with the Santa Cruz County Parks to discuss a Trails Master Plan and Active Transportation Plan. More information will be brought forward at the next ITAC meeting. Three working groups have branched off from the Complete Streets Collaborative. One of the groups includes a policy and design working group which will evaluate local agencies' Complete Street standards and policies.

RTC: The RTC wants to work more closely with partner agencies on land use and transportation integration. RTC staff are pursuing a Caltrans planning grant to update their Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP). The RTC is filing an encroachment permit with Caltrans to remove approximately seventy callboxes. METRO and RTC each received \$38,000 in Local Partnership Program (LPP) Formulaic redistribution. State of Good Repair Programming item will be coming forward at the September RTC meeting. The Highway 17 CMCP final draft will be released in the next couple of weeks which will allow agencies to apply for SB 1 funding for projects in their jurisdiction, RTC will coordinate with Scotts Valley, County of Santa Cruz, and the City of Santa Cruz.

Link to California Opportunity Zones: [Opportunity Zone Submissions](#)

The Opportunity Zone (OZ) Program was established under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 to encourage the reinvestment of capital gains into economically distressed communities. The program offers preferential federal tax treatment for capital gains invested in qualified projects located within designated low-income census tracts.

Eligible investments may include new real estate construction, rehabilitation of vacant or underutilized properties, equity investments in operating businesses, and infrastructure or energy-related projects, among others. The OZ incentive is designed to reward long-term, patient capital that generates sustained economic growth, job creation, and community revitalization in historically underserved areas.

The California Department of Finance is accepting public comments on the state's draft Opportunity Zone 2.0 nomination list from August 3, 2026 through August 28, 2026.

UCSC: Working on family-student housing development with a daycare facility. The daycare facility is open, and the residential units are not currently open. UCSC is working with County on striping and traffic calming features. There are speed limit zone changes on campus. An HSIP grant was awarded to install 3 roundabouts. A Request for Quotation is being evaluated. The roundabouts will be constructed in approximately two years. The project will also include lane narrowing and bike facilities. Campus Master Plan is being circulated. Administrative draft to come Fall 2026. Parking expansion is ongoing and will also help with construction staging and bus layovers.

12. **Oral Communications on Matters Not on the Agenda – None.**

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

The next ITAC meeting is scheduled for 1:30pm **September 17, 2026.** ITAC meetings will be canceled if there are no action items to be brought before the committee.

Future agenda items:

- WZDx report
- Safe on 17 established goal revision
- Trails master plan – Ecology Action

14. **Adjourn – 4:09 p.m.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jaeden Gales, Transportation Planner