PROJECT FACT SHEET

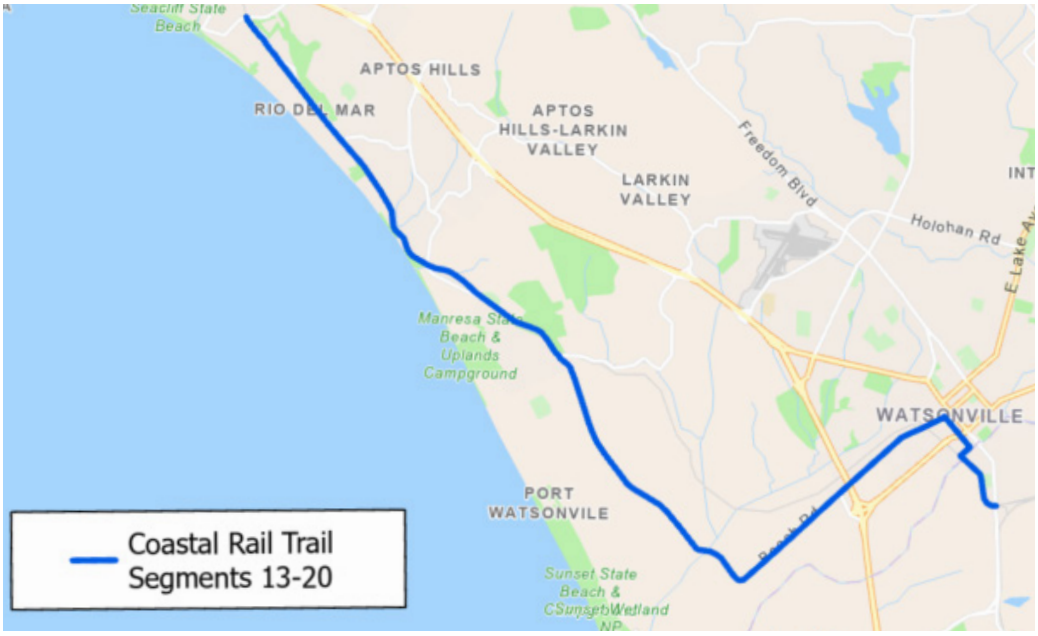
Updated July 2026

Active Transportation: Coastal Rail Trail Segments 13-20

Project Description

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) is advancing the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (MBSST) Coastal Rail Trail Southern Segments Project. This project will implement a multi-use paved bicycle and pedestrian trail within Segments 13-20 (as defined in the MBSST Network Master Plan) of the Coastal Rail Trail, adding approximately 12 new miles of trail in and around the City of Watsonville. The project will provide key connections to the northern portions of the Coastal Rail Trail.

The goals of this project are to increase the number of people biking and walking, improve safety and mobility of non- motorized users, and provide high-quality connections to schools, parks, and community facilities. When constructed, this project will be part of the planned 32-mile rail trail network that parallels the entire coastline of the Santa Cruz County along the publicly-owned railroad right-of-way.



Project Highlights

- Provides 12 miles of dedicated bicycle and pedestrian trail, enhancing safety and connectivity to schools, residential areas, and employment centers
- Connects south county to existing trail networks including the California Coastal Trail, Pacific Coast Bike Route and Watsonville Trail Network
- Provides access to key destinations including downtown Watsonville, state parks and beaches, Ellicott Slough National Wildlife Refuge, Watsonville Wetlands, and the Pajaro River
- Located within 1 mile of approximately 21 schools, 13 parks, and 8 beaches
- Expands access to low-cost transportation options and supports inclusive mobility by providing a safe and reliable travel corridor for residents of all income levels and abilities, including those who rely on walking, biking, and transit

Project Delivery Strategy

The RTC is leading project delivery for the Coastal Rail Trail Southern Segments Project (Segments 13-20). The Project Approval and Environmental Clearance (PA\ED) is fully funded by the Measure D- Active Transportation funds. Segment 18, Phase I was completed and opened in summer 2021.

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Total Programming

Estimated Total Cost	$15,074,605
Funding Sources	
Measure D (Active Transportation)	$15,074,605



Project Status/Schedule

The Project Approval and Environmental Clearance (PA/ED) phase will begin in approximately fall 2026. During this phase, the RTC will complete essential planning and environmental review, informed by the MBSST Master Plan, the Zero Emission Passenger Rail and Trail Project (ZEPRT) Project Concept Report, and the community needs and priorities. The project team will conduct a project-level environmental review in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for Segments 13-20.



Segment 18, Phase 1