



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA MEETING MINUTES\*  
JUNE 22, 2018 – 9:00 AM  
SANTA CRUZ CITY CHAMBERS  
809 CENTER STREET  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) was convened on Friday, June 22, 2018 at the Santa Cruz City Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

The Board Meeting Agenda Packet can be found online at [www.SCMTD.com](http://www.SCMTD.com) and is available for inspection at Santa Cruz METRO's Administrative offices at 110 Vernon Street, Santa Cruz, California. \*Minutes are "summary" minutes, not verbatim minutes. Audio recordings of Board meeting open sessions are available to the public upon request.

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**SECTION I: OPEN SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER at 9:06 AM by Chair McPherson.**

**ROLL CALL:** The following Directors were **present**, representing a quorum:

|                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Director Ed Bottorff</b>         | <b>City of Capitola</b>      |
| <b>Director Cynthia Chase</b>       | <b>City of Santa Cruz</b>    |
| <b>Director Trina Coffman-Gomez</b> | <b>City of Watsonville</b>   |
| <b>Director Jimmy Dutra</b>         | <b>City of Watsonville</b>   |
| <b>Director Norm Hagen</b>          | <b>County of Santa Cruz</b>  |
| <b>Director John Leopold</b>        | <b>County of Santa Cruz</b>  |
| <b>Director Donna Lind</b>          | <b>City of Scotts Valley</b> |
| <b>Director Cynthia Mathews</b>     | <b>City of Santa Cruz</b>    |
| <b>Director Bruce McPherson</b>     | <b>County of Santa Cruz</b>  |
| <b>Director Dan Rothwell</b>        | <b>County of Santa Cruz</b>  |
| Vacant Ex-Officio Director          | Cabrillo College             |

Director Rotkin and Ex-Officio Director Thomas were absent.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

|               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Alex Clifford | METRO CEO/General Manager |
| Julie Sherman | METRO General Counsel     |

**METRO EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO VOLUNTARILY INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) WERE:**

|                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Carol Childers, Meals on Wheels | Debbie Kinslow, SCMTD     |
| Geoffrey Ellis                  | Kristina Mihaylova, SCTMD |
| Paul Hierling, AMBAG            | Daniel Zaragoza, SCMTD    |
| Joan Jeffries, SEIU             |                           |

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair McPherson introduced Carlos Landaverry for his Spanish Language interpretation services. He announced that the meeting is being televised by Community Television of Santa Cruz County with technician, Mr. Lynn Dunton.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

Hearing none, Chair McPherson moved to the next agenda item.

### **COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Hearing none, Chair McPherson moved to the next item.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAC**

See agenda item 18.

### **LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS**

Olivia Martinez, SEIU representative for METRO, expressed her disappointment with a variety of Customer Service department related issues. She noted SEIU members are concerned about the class and comp study, which was scheduled to be completed by the end of the calendar year. Additionally, in the interest of transparency, she requested METRO post management salaries to the website, similar to that provided for SEIU positions.

Michael Rios, PSA-SEIU, added to Ms. Martinez' comments, noting members are concerned and hopeful the class and comp can be accomplished according to the original schedule. He also reminded the assembly the members gave up \$213K in cost savings in 2013.

Joan Jeffries, PSA, indicated there may be issues with the class and comp consultant.

Eduardo Montesino, UTU, expressed his opinion that METRO needs to come back to the negotiating table regarding the articulated bus project.

Felipa de Leon, speaking as a member of the Commission on Disabilities (COD), presented a letter regarding the Watsonville Transit Center (WTC) Customer Service hours of operation. (See attached.) As a resident of Independent Square, she expressed appreciation for the service to the Crestview area and asked that the service to Pajaro be reinstated at a frequency of every other hour (minimally).

John Daugherty, as COD Co-Chair and METRO employee, provided background to Ms. De Leon's comments and expressed his own concerns in terms of WTC Customer Service availability.

Hearing no further comments, Chair McPherson moved to the next item.

### **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION**

Having none, Chair McPherson moved to the next item.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 9-01 APPROVE: RECOMMENDED ACTION ON TORT CLAIMS
- 9-02 ACCEPT AND FILE: PRELIMINARY APPROVED CHECK JOURNAL DETAIL FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2018
- 9-03 ACCEPT AND FILE: MINUTES OF THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2018

- 9-04 ACCEPT AND FILE: MINUTES OF THE MAY 18, 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
- 9-05 ACCEPT: A SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATUS OF METRO'S DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM
- 9-06 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FY18 REVISED CAPITAL BUDGET
- 9-07 APPROVE: RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ FOR PAYROLL SERVICES
- 9-08 APPROVE: RENEWAL OF LIABILITY AND VEHICLE PHYSICAL DAMAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM COVERAGE WITH CALTIP FOR FY19
- 9-09 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION TO PURCHASE GENFARE (GFI) TICKET VENDING MACHINE (TVM) CREDIT CARD READERS
- 9-10 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A LOAN APPLICATION & CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR AN ENERGY EFFICIENT LED LIGHTING RETROFIT & CALL FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ENERGY SERVICE CONTRACT
- 9-11 ACCEPT AND FILE: QUARTERLY PROCUREMENT REPORT FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER OF FY19
- 9-12 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT TO T. BOYD CONSTRUCTION FOR INSTALLATION OF BOLLARDS AND PIPE PROTECTION AT THE JUDY K. SOUZA OPERATIONS FACILITY
- 9-13 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A 6<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT EXTENDING THE CONTRACT FOR ONE YEAR WITH ALLIANT INSURANCE SERVICES, INC. FOR EXCESS WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE
- 9-14 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT TO MARK THOMAS & COMPANY, INC. FOR CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT DRAWINGS FOR DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CENTER NOT TO EXCEED \$31,440
- 9-15 APPROVE: CONSIDER ADOPTING A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CEO TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS TO RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS FROM THE LOW AND NO EMISSION BUS PROGRAM (LOW NO) AND FROM THE BETTER UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (BUILD); AND, TO USE CALIFORNIA TOLL CREDITS AS THE LOCAL MATCH FOR ANY GRANT AWARD
- 9-16 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF ISSUING A FORMAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR AN ON-BOARD SURVEY AND RIDECHECK
- 9-17 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR TRANSIT SERVICES WITH THE CABRILLO COLLEGE
- 9-18 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A ONE YEAR EXTENSION AMENDMENT (THIRD AMENDMENT) TO THE CONTRACT FOR TRANSIT SERVICES WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA CRUZ (UCSC)
- 9-19 ACCEPT: WATSONVILLE TRANSIT CENTER MURAL UPDATE

There was no public comment.

**ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD                      SECOND: DIRECTOR CHASE**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell). Director Rotkin was absent.**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**10. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARD FOR KAREN BLIGHT AND SERAFIN RUIZ**

Chair McPherson announced and congratulated both employees in absentia.

**11. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS FOR STEVEN MARCUS AND SHARON TOLINE**

Bruce McPherson, Board Chair, congratulated both employees in absentia.

**ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS FOR STEVEN MARCUS AND SHARON TOLINE AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD    SECOND: DIRECTOR BOTTORFF**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell). Director Rotkin was absent.**

**12. CEO ORAL REPORT**

Alex Clifford, CEO/General Manager, introduced Mr. Shonoa Ruddick, METRO's new Safety Security & Risk Manager. Mr. Ruddick thanked the board and said he was looking forward to serving in his new position.

CEO Clifford then provided an oral update of various subjects, including:

- Internal Promotions:
  - Lucas Iriguchi, promoted from Facilities Maintenance Worker I to Facilities Maintenance Worker II
  - Daniel Zaragoza, promoted from Paratransit Assistant Superintendent to Paratransit Superintendent
  - Leo Pena, promoted from Transit Supervisor to Safety and Training Coordinator
- New Hires (in addition to Mr. Ruddick above):
  - Mary Gallet, Customer Service Representative

Barrow Emerson, Planning and Development Manager, reminded the Board that APTA University Conference begins this Saturday with formal events on Sunday; the "local" focus is scheduled from 9:45A – 12:00Noon on Sunday.

In response to Director Mathews' inquiry regarding Pacific Station, Mr. Emerson referred her to today's agenda item number 9-14, adding that we anticipate results from both consultants in the September/October timeframe.

There was no public comment.

**13. PRESENTATION OF LEADERSHIP SANTA CRUZ CLASS 33 GRADUATES: LEO PENA AND PETE RASMUSSEN**

CEO Clifford provided a brief history of the program and introduced the most recent graduates from Class 33: Mr. Leo Pena and Mr. Pete Rasmussen.

Messrs. Pena and Rasmussen thanked METRO and the Board for the opportunity to participate in the program, praising the experience and knowledge they gained.

Class 34 participants will be: Jolene Church, Gina Pye and Freddy Rocha.

Director Mathews spoke highly of the program and the enrichment provided by connecting METRO to the community through the leadership cohort.

There was no public comment.

**14. INTRODUCTION OF NEW OPERATORS**

Ciro Aguirre, COO, and Leo Pena, Safety and Training Coordinator, introduced the newest Operator class participants, each of which made brief statements:

- Miguel Jose Cabrera
- Jerry Chavez
- Jorge Gallegos
- Adrian Jimenez
- Michael Richards

There was no public comment.

**15. STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM JOSH SHAW OF SHAW/YODER/ANTWIH, INC.**

Josh Shaw provided a brief explanation of the legislative bill cycle and those bills pending approval; e.g., SB1119, SB1434, AB2134, etc. He noted the state budget doesn't contain any new transportation news. Discussion ensued regarding Zero Emission Buses (ZEB) as a result of CARB's anticipated mandate and its effect on transit agencies. The California PUC recently approved a PG&E rate proposal to benefit public transit agencies.

SB1 funds each of the above programs; e.g., nearly half of the Cap and Trade Program funding originates from SB1. California voters need to understand the potential effects if SB1 is repealed. The measure would repeal the revenues that have been generated and will be generated going forward. A committee to combat the repeal has been formed.

Chair McPherson noted that 50% of the SB1 revenue goes to local governments, the other half to the State. Until we know the outcome in November, we cannot commit any additional financial resources to projects/expenditures that rely SB1 funds.

Director Leopold requested METRO staff provide a fact sheet to be used by the board members in their respective jurisdictions, noting messaging is very important to meet our infrastructure financial needs.

CEO Clifford added that METRO is coordinating a meeting with local City Managers, Public Works Directors and Chief Information Officers to discuss how we can best educate the public on the importance of SB1.

There was no public comment.

**16. FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM CHRIS GIGLIO OF CAPITAL EDGE**

Mr. Giglio provided commentary to the attached presentation, noting a 2% increase is anticipated in 2019 Federal programs. He and various Directors spoke of their trips to DC, meeting with various legislators and agencies, and the resultant positive impact to METRO. The recent Supreme Court decision regarding online sales tax may positively impact local governments' revenue.

The assembly and Mr. Giglio discussed the political atmosphere on "the Hill", potential funding vetoes and November electoral concerns.

Mr. Giglio will be presenting a session at the upcoming APTA University Conference.

There was no public comment.

**17. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FINAL ADOPTION OF SANTA CRUZ METRO'S FINAL FY19 AND FY20 OPERATING BUDGETS, FINAL FY19 CAPITAL BUDGET COMMENCED AT 10:45AM**

Chair McPherson opened the public hearing at 10:45AM. Angela Aitken, Finance Manager, provided commentary to the presentation, noting changes include an additional \$400K for management compensation and an increase of 7% in medical coverage. Additional 5307 and STIC funds are anticipated in FY19. Six positions and the additional placement of FTEs have been delayed until results of SB1 repeal measure are known in November.

CEO Clifford will ask Jarrett Walker to provide a presentation regarding Innovation in Transportation at the August 24, 2018 METRO Board meeting, which addresses transportation in terms of geographic coverage versus frequency.

In response to Director Coffman-Gomez's questions, CEO Clifford responded that a meeting will be planned for August/September to address her concerns regarding CalPERS obligations.

There was no public comment. The public hearing closed at 11:01AM.

**MOTION TO ADOPT SANTA CRUZ METRO'S FINAL FY19 AND FY20 OPERATING BUDGETS, FINAL FY19 CAPITAL BUDGET AS PRESENTED WITH A REPORT IN JANUARY TO DISCUSS MID-COUNTY NEEDS**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell). Director Rotkin was absent.**

**18. ORAL METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

Mike Pisano, MAC Chair, spoke of his experiences as a METRO rider and suggested improvements through technology, frequency, etc. See attached document for specifics.

Director Leopold thanked Mr. Pisano for his contributions and his work in transit.

There was no public comment.

**19. APPROVE: OPENING A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF ROUTES 33 AND 34 DUE TO LOW RIDERSHIP**

Barrow Emerson, Planning and Development Manager, provided background to the routes proposed for elimination and associated ridership. He verified that current service would continue through the Fall Semester.

Chair McPherson added METRO has been in discussion with the San Lorenzo Valley School District regarding this difficult decision to ensure they and their students have adequate time to respond to this proposed service reduction.

**Public Comment:**

John Daugherty shared his comments/questions and those of a fellow Commission Member, Carol Childers. How are we judging ridership with our resources and how might this affect those served by ParaCruz? Mr. Emerson responded data is currently collected by interns and temps. However, METRO has recently been awarded a grant to purchase an AVL system, which will improve our data collection.

CEO Clifford reminded the assembly that federal law requires us to have complementary paratransit service to our fixed route service and said METRO would do some information gathering regarding the potential impacts on paratransit service before the item returns to the board.

**MOTION TO APPROVE OPENING A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF ROUTES 33 AND 34 DUE TO LOW RIDERSHIP AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR CHASE**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell.) Director Rotkin was absent.**

**20. ACCEPT AND FILE: YEAR TO DATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF APRIL 30, 2018**

Angela Aitken, Finance Manager, provided commentary to the presentation.

Discussion among the Directors and staff followed regarding overtime, vacancies, leaves of absence and a modified duty program. The HR Department is investigating the implementation of a return to work transitional opportunity program. KPIs are being developed to reflect overall absenteeism.

There was no public comment.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE THE YEAR TO DATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF APRIL 30, 2018 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR DUTRA**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell). Director Rotkin was absent.**

**21. APPROVE: THE AMENDED DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY AND APPROVE THE RESOLUTION REGARDING THIS ACTION**

Jolene Church, HR Manager, provided commentary to the staff report. She also explained the process undertaken and approved by the Unions. She noted that the fact sheets that were previously attached to the policy are no longer attached to the revised policy, but are now part of the training program meeting DOT testing requirements.

There was no public comment.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY AND APPROVE THE RESOLUTION REGARDING THIS ACTION AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR COFFMAN-GOMEZ                      SECOND: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell). Director Rotkin was absent.**

**22. APPROVE: THE ADOPTION OF SANTA CRUZ METRO'S AMENDED CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND APPROVE THE RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THIS ACTION**

Julie Sherman, General Counsel, provided commentary to the staff report, noting the METRO Code has been updated to reflect the model FPPC code. Other changes included updates to job description titles, which were taken from the management class and comp study.

There was no public comment.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE SANTA CRUZ METRO'S AMENDED CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THIS ACTION AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD    SECOND: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell). Director Rotkin was absent.**

**23. APPROVE: AUTHORIZING THE PROCUREMENT OF AN INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (ITS)**

Isaac Holly, IT Manager, provided commentary to the staff report, adding this project was funded by a \$1.4M CTC grant (through SB1) combined with a local match. The public's tangible benefits will be achieved through the safety and efficiency components via real time data, etc. There will be desktop applications, text messaging notifications, etc. Procurement will begin in early August with implementation anticipated the first quarter of next calendar year.

Directors Rothwell and Mathews urged the development of a marketing plan to publicize the benefits of SB1 and educate the public in terms of personal benefit.

There was no public comment.

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PROCUREMENT OF AN INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (ITS) AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD      SECOND: DIRECTOR CHASE**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson and Rothwell). Director Rotkin was absent.**



Chair McPherson announced the next meeting: Friday, August 24, 2018 at 9:00AM at the Scotts Valley City Chambers, One Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley, CA. and adjourned the meeting at 1138AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Pye  
Executive Assistant

# Attachment A

County of  
Santa Cruz



Commission on Disabilities

[www.scccod.net](http://www.scccod.net)

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

701 Ocean Street, Room 510

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: 831-454-2600 / F: 831-454-2411 / TDD: 711

## MEMORANDUM

Date: June 15, 2018

To: Chair Bruce McPherson, Santa Cruz METRO Board of Directors

From: Vice-Chair Felipa de Leon, Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

Re: Watsonville Transit Center Hours of Operation

Chair McPherson and Members of the Board:

It has been brought to the Commission's attention from two different members of the Watsonville disability community that they recently visited METRO's Watsonville Transit Center during its advertised and posted business hours only to find it closed. One of these individuals took time off from work in order to visit the Transit Center, which made its unanticipated and unannounced closure that much more inconvenient for this patron. Office closure during advertised business hours is clearly unacceptable.

We respectfully request that you investigate this matter and rectify the problem as soon as possible. The Commission also requests to be apprised of your findings. We as a Commission and the local disability community have worked hard to secure a Customer Service Representative at the Watsonville Transit Center. My personal efforts to advocate for the extension of services at this location began in 2013. As you are aware, South County historically has been underserved in terms of resources invested toward public transportation and related services and infrastructure. Last year, we as a Commission applauded your recognition of this inequity of services and your efforts to address it with the commitment of customer service staff in Watsonville.

The office's closure during its posted "regular business hours" causes unnecessary inconvenience and is unfair to the community members who rely on your services and depend on the accuracy of the information you provide. For persons with disabilities, many of whom rely substantially on public transit as their primary means of transportation, inconsistent office hours are especially detrimental, as other options may be limited, less accessible, and less available. The volume of METRO ticket sales and ridership are inextricably tied to the consistency, accessibility, and dependability of the services offered. In light of these facts, we hope that you take our concerns seriously and provide equal access to services for all members of our community,

Thank you for your courtesy and consideration. We look forward to your response.

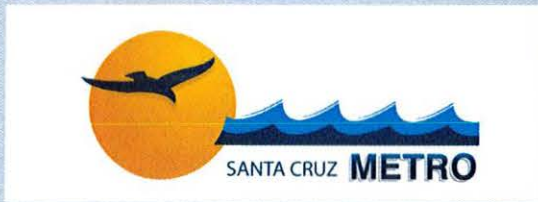
Felipa de Leon, Vice-Chair

On behalf of the Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

# FEDERAL UPDATE



JUNE 2018



# WASHINGTON, DC TRIP



- April trip was successful!
- Meetings with:
  - Congressional Delegation
  - Congressional Committees
  - California Members of the House Transportation Committee
  - Department of Transportation
- Discussed long-term funding needs
- Advocated for grant applications
- Outlined issues with electric buses
- Learned about TIFIA loan program



## FEDERAL BUDGET



- FY 2018 DOT Budget
  - Rejected White House proposed cuts
  - Included increases for transit programs
  - Formula programs at FAST Act levels (+2%)
  - Competitive programs received increases over FAST Act levels
  - Bus and Bus Facilities finally exceeds pre-2012 levels



## FEDERAL BUDGET



- FY 2019 DOT Budget
  - Again rejected White House proposals
  - Transit funding similar to FY18 levels
  - Bus and Bus Facilities issues to address
  - STIC Program to increase



## INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE



- White House principles short on transit detail
- \$200m federal investment to leverage \$800m
- Public Private Partnerships encouraged
- Congress not expected to act in 2018



## INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE



- More likely to be considered in pieces
- DOT using existing programs to implement
  - Smaller awards
  - Rural projects
  - Overmatch
- FAST Act Reauthorization in 2020
  - Possible vehicle for infusion of transit funds
  - Long-term funding source



# Attachment A

**METRO Board Meeting - 6/22/18**

Hello METRO Board - Thank you for your time today to talk on the METRO Advisory Committee (MAC).

I first would like to thank the METRO staff on an amazing job at keeping a fantastic system running efficiently; Alex, Gina, Barrow, Ciro, April, Anna Marie, Donna & of course the METRO drivers – my apologies if I left out anybody.

**Recent MAC Inquires from MAC Agenda items;**

I would like to note that the METRO text notifications are very timely.

I have noticed the bus drivers kneeling at every stop on the routes I use.

I have seen School Term Ending Text Notifications.

**My Personal Interests;**

I very much like the idea of FREE Bus passes for Downtown Santa Cruz workers, but we may need to look into earlier & later bus routes:

Maybe a Santa Cruz Allnighter??;

Possible routes:

Metro Pacific Station to Watsonville Station.

To: Watsonville (via Soque) to Freedom.

To: Santa Cruz via Freedom / Soquel / Bay or 41<sup>st</sup> / Captiola Rd, or Brommer or Portola / murray to Soquel to Pacific Metro.

San Francisco Allnighter Info Link: <http://511.org/transit/all-night-services/overview>

I am interested in learning more about the Unbundling of Parking, and the possible effects on our METRO system.

I would like to see more METRO Marketing...

I am disappointed with the UCSC student Measure 69 failure, but happy with Proposition 69 passing. I am hoping for a positive outcome with SB1.

I personally find sustainable transportation easily/difficult to achieve (sort of a laid-back intense vibe). The laid-back intense idea is that I can easily, in a laid-back way, get anywhere in the County, but with an intense concern of getting to my destination timely. Some transfer points are just missing each other by seconds (very frustrating to my bus buddies). It is very hard work to commute & travel sustainable in our community. If one is shy – maybe they have to take several shopping trips back & forth to home dropping off bags at home from each store, before heading out again. Of course, it is better to shop in one continuous trip catching a bus and carrying shopping bags into each store, and dropping off at customer service. What I am trying to say: Stores should be prepared for this type of sustainable shopping. Some stores do have & some don't have a customer service area to drop off bags and continue to shop (remember some stores email receipts & don't print a copy to store in the bag).

This is understandably a slow-moving process to address my concerns - in our current situation, but none the less it is still painful & worth mentioning.

# Attachment A

## **Downtown Santa Cruz Plan;**

I was very excited to hear about the downtown parking bus plan that the METRO put together for the 4000 downtown employee's, but after hearing there would be no changes to current routes. – And cheaper to buy individual bus passes for those interested. I would hope the METRO would revise the plan to allow for earlier & later times – Maybe an All-nighter route with the Counties involvement?

## **Bus Transfer Timings;**

I am wondering if we can now look at fine-tuning a few areas (a quick fix to say) to help with efficiencies. Personally the transfer points between 35A & 35 at the Scotts Valley METRO station, and the transfer between 91x/71 & and 35A at Water & Ocean.

Another quick fix would be to add a cheaper fare for inbound Hwy17 METRO at the Scotts Valley Station only.

I am with the opinion that all of the current bus routes times work, and we may not need to adjust back some routes to 15 minutes intervals; this is of course: If the METRO board could quickly add a "OneBusAway" type Smartphone App, add ITS, AVL, AVA, & APC to METRO operations, and again if transfer timings could be aligned together accordingly.

## **Common Acronyms:**

ITS=Intelligent Transportation Systems - AVL=Automated Vehicle Locator

AVA=Automated Vehicle Announcement - APC=Automatic Passenger Counters

## **Bond Measures:**

I am concerned that several potential bond measures relating to housing & transit may adversely affect our METRO. Some bond measures relying heavily on mass transit, but they do not allow for the cost of such actions.

## **Bike Share;**

I am very interested in *Bike Share* in our County as the last mile solution.

Not only bike share, but maybe shopping cart share – I mean for a walkable city – maybe a shopping cart share program can help get a large grocery purchase home. For example, My mom would take us three kid's grocery shopping with us hanging all over the two shopping carts with groceries all around us. We knew the grocery store owner - So my mom would take a shopping cart home & we would return it after Mom put away the groceries. Yes, a walkable city may mean shopping more frequently without the need for a shopping cart, but maybe not.

This is more of a Cautionary Statement: Maybe add electric Scooters to the bike share program – I have seen a bunch of electric scooters riding in Downtown Santa Cruz???

# Attachment A

## Other items;

1. We need to replace 60 buses in a hurry.
2. Passenger Code of Conduct: This is a positive step as long as it does not deter passengers from using the METRO.
3. I think we reach all Hospitals.
4. How can METRO serve areas of interest?;
  - a. Delaveaga Golf Course
    - i. Golf Course / Restaurant
    - ii. Disc Golf
    - iii. Shakespeare Santa Cruz
5. The METRO serves most all of the Counties Park & Rides;
  - a. Summit Road (has EVgo Charging Station)
  - b. SVTC
  - c. Pasatiempo
  - d. Quaker Meeting House
  - e. Soquel Drive/Paul Sweet Road
  - f. Resurrection Church, Aptos
6. Run a Bus Later/Earlier (for service workers) – All Nighter (like San Francisco to South Bay).
  - a. Some Businesses start at 6am and let out at 2:30pm
    - i. Threshold
    - ii. Potential UCSC dining hall workers; as the UCSC student population grows, and until more dining space is acquired.
  - b. Some Businesses work hours end at Midnight.
    - i. Restaurant workers.
  - c. Some Businesses end at 2am.
    - i. Bar workers.

## Add More Ticket Machines;

Locate at: 7/11's, Quick Stop, Safeway's, Capitola Mall, & Gas Stations.

## Wi-Fi Solution;

Have as a Revenue Stream – to bring people to METRO Station Shops (not for loiterers).

Also for those waiting for a transfer. Have a Code on the Cruz Card for Wi-Fi access (go to Website to verify \$ on the card??). **May not work - have an APP to pay as well (help with Wi-Fi)??**

## Top of my list:

**Add a Bus stop closer to the Enterprise Technology Center (~800 Employee's, or 800 Cars)???**

Just to end with a note:

I hope this does not sound rude;

Sustainable transportation is directly proportional to the cars that are bought. The easier sustainable transportation is - means fewer cars on the road, and the easier more local residence Think Local & Shop Local.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Michael Pisano

MAC Chair

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