



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)
CAPITAL PROJECTS STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES*
JANUARY 8, 2021 – 10:30AM
MEETING HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE**

A regular meeting of the Capital Projects Standing Committee of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) was convened on Friday, January 8, 2021, via teleconference.

The Committee Meeting Agenda Packet can be found online at www.SCMTD.com. *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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- 1 **CALL TO ORDER** at 10:32AM by Director McPherson.
- 2 Kristen Petersen, City of Capitola, was sworn in by CEO Clifford as METRO’s board member.
- 3 **ROLL CALL:** The following Directors were **present** via teleconference, representing a quorum:

Director Cynthia Mathews	City of Santa Cruz
Director Bruce McPherson	County of Santa Cruz
Director Larry Pageler	County of Santa Cruz
Director Kristen Petersen	City of Capitola

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:

John Urgo	METRO Planning & Development Director
Sandi Woods	METRO Project Manager
Daniel Zaragoza	METRO Operations Mgr, Paratransit Div.

- 3 **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS FROM AGENDA/ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS**

Having none, Director McPherson moved to the next agenda item.

- 4 **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS STANDING COMMITTEE**

The attached email was received from Tina Andretta at 11:59PM January 7, 2021.

There was no public comment:

- 5 **ORAL PACIFIC STATION UPDATE**

John Urgo, Planning & Development Director, provided a brief oral update regarding the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (ASIC) grant proposal status and several meetings with the City of Santa Cruz regarding the development of a new multi-use Pacific Station facility. We are on pace to completing the \$20M grant application which is due late April 2021.

There was some discussion among the assembly regarding the chosen architecture firm, Mithun, the financial consultant, Community Development Resource Group (CPRG), and their respective past projects.

For the benefit of our newest Committee member, Director Petersen, CEO Clifford provided a brief history of METRO's efforts towards the construction of a new Pacific Station. METRO had been looking at our downtown facility for a number of years when approached by the City of Santa Cruz to work on a joint-coordinated project. The result was a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) wherein METRO committed a total of \$4M over a period of four years for a turnkey bus tarmac to face Front Street.

Director Mathews provided a brief oral listing of the current City of Santa Cruz affordable, mixed use housing projects with offsite parking projects. Due to the critical parking aspects in the downtown area, she asked that METRO go on record in support of the library project.

Director McPherson thanked METRO and the City of Santa Cruz for their persistence in pursuing this project. It will meet a tremendous need.

There was no public comment.

6 ORAL PARACRUZ UPDATE

Daniel Zaragoza, Operations Manager, Paratransit Division, and Sandi Woods, Project Manager, provided a brief verbal update to the project to be located at the Soquel Park and Ride lot.

METRO suggested a few revisions to the architect's initial rendering. The building size is now envisioned at 4,815 square feet divided into three sections: Customer Service, ParaCruz and the public area. Boundary survey, environmental and traffic studies have been completed. Soils and noise reports are anticipated at the end of January. We are compiling all the information required for the grant application.

In response to Director Pageler's question, Ms. Woods noted that although we don't yet know the grant application due date, based on historical grant timelines, we are anticipating submittal at the end of February 2021. Margo Ross, COO, added that Wondimu Mengistu, METRO Grants/Legislative Analyst, will be reaching out to our partners in the community in the near future requesting support letters to accompany the grant application.

Director McPherson thanked everyone for their efforts and contributions in keeping this project moving forward.

There was no public comment.

7 ADJOURNMENT

Director McPherson adjourned the meeting at 10:55AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Pye

Executive Assistant

From: [Tina Andreatta](#)
To: boardinquiries@scmtcd.com
Subject: Santa Cruz Metro Capital Projects Standing Committee Meeting 10:30AM - January 8, 2021 - Agenda Item 5
Date: Thursday, January 07, 2021 11:59:17 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I wanted to encourage Committee members to include the results of the Regional Transportation Commission's (RTC) Transportation Corridor Alternatives Analysis (TCAA) in Santa Cruz Metro's capital program planning efforts. As passenger rail has been selected as the local preferred alternative, focusing on integration between bus and passenger rail at future stops and stations provides a real opportunity to optimize customer convenience and travel time through our region. Starting early on these planning efforts allows full community engagement, the most effective use of transit and rail planning and project dollars. It will also make sure that Santa Cruz County doesn't miss any opportunities to build a 21st century transit system that not only serves our county, but which connects us to the region.

Sincerely,

Tina Andreatta
[Aptos, CA 95003](#)

Sent from my iPhone