
ITEM 9.A Stockton Ave Bridge

From Leslie Nielsen <lpbeach21@gmail.com>

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To City Council <citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us>

Hello City Council and Staff,

I look forward to hearing more about the Stockton Ave. Bridge findings and options tomorrow night. Please do NOT consider advancing funds for an engineering study to replace the bridge at the meeting tomorrow night.

It's too early.

Our public works department can do anything but not everything in 2026 and 2027.

They have a lot on their plate - the Mall, the Bay Avenue intersection, the Depot Hill Bluff, the 41st ave. pavement project, community center, jade street etc. etc. and of course the day job of keeping our city clean.

The CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) list will be reviewed with the public at the second budget hearing in late May.

We need visibility to the whole before we can add another piece. **The Bridge must be considered in an integrated way with adjacent projects.**

We just approved to go forward with the use of the \$450K ATP grant to **study multi modal traffic improvements in the City** with clarity provided to the consultants on MC 8.72, which will provide insight to inform this project.

We have been and continue to spend significant funds on the engineering and design of the **Cliff Drive Resiliency Project** - 2 invoices totalling \$23K in March for CSW, yet we have no updated information on project funding, coastal commission approval or total cost. What will that project really look like? Is the last update saying "full build out not currently feasible" still the case?, and if so, how do we sequence things to manage completion and get people through town safely?

The RTC made a significant decision to allow an interim trail in Segment 11 of the corridor in December. Three of the five city council members said a **Trestle Study** was their #1 budget priority for the 26/27 budget year at the last budget goals meeting. Can we get an RFP out soon to get that done? This could be a fantastic way to manage an eventual bridge closure in a less painful way.

These projects need to be well understood in coordination with decisions regarding the bridge.

The staff reports indicate we have time on our side. Let's focus on project transparency and an adopted budget.

Let's not throw another project in to the design phase that can be very costly and time consuming until we get all the other things we've started moving along a timeline to understand costs, likely funding and completion estimates, and most importantly the vision for a grand plan of moving multi-modal traffic through our City in the safest way possible while giving consideration to the Village Business Community as we move forward.

Best regards,
Leslie Nielsen