

Wyatt, Rosie

From: Clark Cochran <clark.e.cochran@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 3:39 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Runaway Train

Dear Mayor and Council Members -

The more I learn about the RTC and it's actual agenda the more alarmed and concerned I am for Capitola.

We want and voted for a trail and instead are getting a multi-billion dollar partially defined plan for a rail with trail. The RTC is not our friend and we must not bend our laws to help them achieve their evolving plan if it does not benefit Capitola as agreed in Measure L.

As a reminder, Measure L states we (a) agreed to preserve the RTC rail corridor and trestle over Soquel Creek for bicyclists, foot traffic, and other forms of non-motorized transportation, and (b) prohibit expenditures to reroute pedestrians and bicyclists from the corridor.

Don't let the RTC threats to go over our heads if we don't approve their plans that no longer adhere to Measure L and our city code.

BEFORE we agree on ANY path through our city we must have an agreed plan, especially over Soquel Creek. Otherwise the RTC will wait until everything else is decided and force their village trail plan. They claim a separate trail trestle doesn't have sufficient right of way. They also claim there can't be a rail with trail trestle because of required trestle inspections. Read the railroad inspection laws. It states ONE inspection each year. 364 days of trail use isn't sufficient so the village route is required? Then what about our two rail stations? Riders aren't going to walk to the train. Where will they park? How many spaces will be needed? The RTC has no plans.

We cannot incrementally bend and approve our way into a planned RTC box. Start now by voting NO on everything outside the corridor. Vote NO on both A and B. Don't try to bend to RTC's plans. Support your residents who voted for you to lead us. Tell the RTC to come back with plans that adhere to Measure L and our city law. Is this too much to ask?

The RTC is changing their own plans as they go. What changes will be next?
STOP this runaway train now before it is too late for us.

Sincerely,

Clark Cochran
4530 Garnet Street
Capitola