

**Gautho, Julia**

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**From:** Rita <ritalaw75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:32 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear City Council and Mayor, I am so happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward. The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are great. I'm glad that the staff has developed options for the trail that protect Monarch habitat, that are realistic, and can be built with the existing funding. I can't wait to get on the trail!

## Gautho, Julia

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**From:** Diego Graglia <diego@diegograglia.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:23 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear City Council and Mayor,

Like many Santa Cruz County residents, I am so happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward. The new plans for an elevated and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are great. They protect Monarch habitat, are realistic, and can be built with the existing funding. I can't wait to get on the trail and stop to take in the views of the Cement Ship, La Selva, Moss Landing and beyond!

I often travel between Live Oak and Soquel/Seacliff and I would highly prefer to be able to do it on a safe bikeway rather than by traffic-creating, air-polluting personal transportation.

Please let's move sooner rather than later towards a new vision for the county, where Santa Cruz shows California and the whole country that we can get off of our fossil-fuel habits and take advantage of healthier, sustainable modes of transport. Please choose option A or B.

### **Diego Graglia**

Live Oak homeowner and resident  
[diego.graglia@gmail.com](mailto:diego.graglia@gmail.com)

## Gautho, Julia

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**From:** Jim Weller <jweller@cruzio.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:22 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear City Council and Mayor, I am so happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward. The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are great.

I prefer Option A, as it would include an enhanced bike/pedestrian lane along the north side of Park Avenue in addition to the rail trail along the south side of the street. Either option would be a win-win-win compared with the option to locate the rail trail below Park Avenue within the railroad corridor. The general public and the neighborhood would benefit from traffic calming and greater pedestrian/cycling safety on Park Avenue; the City of Capitola would benefit fiscally because the street improvements would be paid for with non-municipal funds; and the RTC would benefit from greatly reduced construction costs compared with the rail corridor option.

Jim Weller  
1970 46th Avenue  
Capitola

Sent from my iPad

**Gautho, Julia**

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**From:** Dave Evans <djevans4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:19 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Rail Trail in Capitola - YES!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Dear City Council and Mayor,**

I'm a 20 year fulltime local resident. My church is in Capitola and I have many dear friends in Capitola, Aptos and Watsonville. I am also advisor to the CEO of Digital NEST, and supporter of MBEP - non-profits dedicated to supporting a sustainable quality of life for ALL local residents.

The plans for the Rail Trail segment in Capitola along Park Ave are brilliantly conceived and worthy of your support. Either Plan A or B provide safe setbacks from the road, stable wide footing for users of all ages and types, ocean views, monarch habitat sustainability, and much needed through access for the overall trail system.

**Please support either Plan A or B.**

Opposition has made false claims about roadway incursion and other impacts which are untrue and misleading and will no doubt animate many residents - but unfortunately animate them inaccurately and without real basis. Please lead with forward thinking and fair objectivity - both of which will take you to approval of Plan A or B.

Thank you - respectfully,

Dave Evans  
600 Pelton Av, SC 95060

## Gautho, Julia

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**From:** Mary Kay Zaineab <raiderradgal@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:16 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Park Ave section of Rail Trail

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of the proposed options for the trail running between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach.

Please move forward with either of the two options for this important part of the long awaited Rail Trail. This is a great opportunity, as grant money is in place.

I feel the trail would be used a great deal for recreation and travel from Capitola Village to New Brighton State Beach by residents of Capitola as well as residents from surrounding areas and tourists. Although I live in Watsonville, I would love to make use of the trail.

Mary Kay Zaineab  
Watsonville, Ca.

## Gautho, Julia

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**From:** Rex Page <drrexp@ gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:52 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Rail Trail, item 9c, Feb 13 mtg agenda

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I want to see the Rail Trail project, which was favored by a two-to-one margin by voters, move forward, without delay. To ensure this, the Council must choose one of the two plans (A or B) produced after due consideration by the RTC, Santa Cruz County, and Capitola. The proposed projects a can be completed with funding already approved.

You should, under no circumstances, follow the advice of those who were overwhelmingly defeated by the voters and are now spreading inaccurate (to put it mildly) information about both of rail/trail plans developed and proposed by RTC and other elected representatives of the voters.

People need and deserve to have the trail they voted for available for their use without further delay, especially bureaucratic delays caused by nefarious operatives trying to throw sand in the gears. Facilities delayed are facilities denied.

Rex Page, 650-533-3663, [drrexp@ gmail.com](mailto:drrexp@ gmail.com)  
1505 42nd Ave #22  
Calitola CA 95010

## Gautho, Julia

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**From:** Kevin Maguire <kmaguire831@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:51 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** 2.13.25 Agenda 9 C. - Mayor Clarke support of Measure L, Judge rules for Greenway Capitola, Village Business Support of Measure L

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Lets not forget what was campaigned on, vision, heart, promises, and what connected with the People, the Citizens of Capitola.

- Prior to becoming Mayor, Joe Clarke endorses Measure L
- Many Capitola Village Business owners included Daniel Castagnola, Matt Artur endorse Measure L
- The Coastal Commission
- RTC Director Guy Preston
- Former Mayor Gayle Ortiz
- Former Mayor Sam Story
- Traffic & Parking Commissioner Nels Westman and President of Capitola Village Resident Association
- Former City manager and Planning Commissioner Susan Westman
- The Santa Cruz Count Business Council
- And the 1000s of residents that voted for Measure L,

While the best use of the Rail Corridor would be the Interim Trail, Mayor Brown at the time advocate for the Ultimate Trail, Trail next to Rail.

So now we will get No Trail on the Rail Corridor? I mean very limited, from 38th to 47th? Coronado to Kennedy? Really!! That is not what is suppose to happen!

RTC can spend the 600k to update the Trestle, and have a World Class Trail now..



Greenway Capitola

October 8, 2018 · 🌐

MAYOR CLARKE

Thank you to retired Sergeant and Santa Cruz County Sheriff for endorsing YES on L—SAVE OUR TRESTLE!







Seal

# City of Capitola City Council Councilmember Joe Clarke

Overview City Council Commissions ▾ Departments ▾ News Articles & Digest Announcements & Events

Address: 420 Capitola Ave, Capitola, CA 95010

Official Links: WEBSITE CALENDAR BUDGET FACEBOOK NEWSLETTER SIGNUP

Santa Cruz County Government Listings > City of Capitola > City Council > Vice Mayor Joe Clarke

## City Council



### Vice Mayor Joe Clarke

JClarke@ci.capitola.ca.us

[VICE MAYOR'S WEBSITE](#)

The third-place vote-getter in an extremely tight race for Capitola City Council, Joe Clarke was sworn in as an at-large councilmember. The longtime local gathered endorsements from outgoing Capitola Mayor Sam Storey as well as former mayors Gayle Ortiz, Bruce Ar Termini.

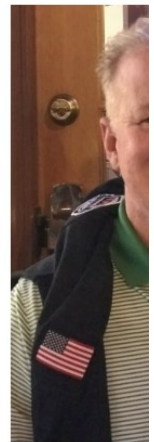
A retired sergeant with the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office, Clarke has extensive experience in public safety. He's been a K-9 deputy, managed the search and rescue unit, and was a SWAT team member and hostage negotiator. He also was director of police services at Cabrillo College.

During the election, Clarke spoke about his dream for Capitola in Santa Cruz Local's Election Guide. A recreational surfer, Clarke said



### Meet Joe Clarke

- **Residence:** Near 41st Avenue
- **Age:** 61
- **Occupation:** Retired Santa Cruz County Sheriff's sergeant
- **Work and local government experience:** Clarke said his roles in the Sheriff's Office gave him an understanding of how cities and counties work. Clarke has been a K-9 deputy, he has managed the search and rescue unit, he was a SWAT team member and hostage negotiator, he supervised deputies at Santa Cruz County Superior Court and he was director of police services at Cabrillo College.
- **What local issues affect you that make you want to run for this office?** "Historically, Capitola has been well managed. The people before us in the city council have done a great job of keeping Capitola a quaint seaside town. And that's the biggest reason I want to get involved in our local politics is because I don't want to see it lose any of that. You know, we have all these state mandates about how we're supposed to grow as a city and do these other things. We



Joe Clarke

# Judge rules for Greenway Capitola

[https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2018/08/22/judge-rules-for-greenway-capitola/?fbclid=IwY2xjawlZyP1leHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHaScLcBg0SEE6W5le3caH2cL3jaX6vO01Ybihz2es5PjNkSjnwnZkCGVhw\\_aem\\_yvmsb9RHEisOclRY5YHhzQ](https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2018/08/22/judge-rules-for-greenway-capitola/?fbclid=IwY2xjawlZyP1leHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHaScLcBg0SEE6W5le3caH2cL3jaX6vO01Ybihz2es5PjNkSjnwnZkCGVhw_aem_yvmsb9RHEisOclRY5YHhzQ)

CAPITOLA >> City voters will get their say on a [citizen initiative](#) that could direct city officials to preserve the aging Capitola Village rail trestle for use as a trail and bar city investment in detouring the trail onto city streets or sidewalks.

Santa Cruz County Superior Court Judge John Gallagher ruled Monday for a group called Greenway Capitola and against the city of Capitola.

**"It is the duty of the courts to 'jealously' guard the people's initiative power," his ruling said.**

The City Council, believing there were conflicts between the initiative and existing local planning documents, had [filed a lawsuit](#) against Santa Cruz County Clerk and Elections Manager Gail Pellerin to keep the measure off the Nov. 6 ballot and asked for an expedited review.

Capitola officials contended the initiative **would prohibit the council from budgeting or planning for improvements to facilitate bike and pedestrian through the village from the rail trestle.**

The trestle, which looms over the seaside village, was built circa 1875 and is not in use, as at least \$600,000 in repairs are needed.

Gallagher, who expedited his decision at the city's request, quoted a letter from Ryan Moroney, district supervisor for the California Coastal Commission, that the agency "would not interpret the initiative language to prevent the city from providing much needed safe bicycle and or pedestrian access from Cliff Drive, through the Village core, and up to Park Avenue or otherwise."

Moroney's letter continued, "Rather it appears that the initiative language solely limits the city's ability to fund redirection of the main MBSST (**Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail**) line specifically while still being able to fund bike and pedestrian improvements elsewhere in the city."

Greenway Capitola volunteers led by Tom Evans and Juan Escamilla had [collected 1,117 signatures](#) to reach 10 percent of the registered voters required to qualify the measure for the ballot; they met that goal when 618 signatures were certified.

**"The people of Capitola clearly want to vote on how they would like to see the trestle and corridor used,"** said Escamilla. "It was sad to see so many roadblocks in an attempt to prevent this vote. Luckily, the court protected our rights."

Evans added, **"Many Capitolans have been dreaming about a safe pathway across the trestle for years."**

Greenway Capitola is an offshoot of Greenway Santa Cruz County, which favors converting the rail into a trail for people on foot or on bikes.

“The City of Capitola took an extreme view in its reading of this proposed initiative, misreading its purpose and attempting to undermine the public’s role in making land use decisions in the process,” said attorney Sara Clark of Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, which represented Greenway Capitola.

**City Manager Jamie Goldstein** provided a response from the city.

“It is disappointing that the court did not help clarify for voters whether the proposed language in the petition is legally enforceable,” he said. “However the city looks forward to working with the Regional Transportation Commission regarding future uses on its rail corridor that benefit our community.”



**Greenway Capitola**

September 27, 2018 · 🌐

Thank you to Daniel Castagnola, owner of Castagnola Deli & endorsing Measure L!





## Greenway Capitola

September 25, 2018 · 🌐

Thank you to Gayle Ortiz, former Mayor of Capitola and owner of Bakery & Rosticceria, for endorsing Measure L! Like 2016's Visit Capitola which Gayle helped organize, Measure L will give our community members a voice in Capitola's future.



© Keana Parker



## Greenway Capitola

September 21, 2018 · 🌐

Thank you [SCCBC - Santa Cruz County Business Council](#) for your endorsement of Measure L! Your support demonstrates that this is the best solution for local business and our tax dollars.



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY  
**BUSINESS  
COUNCIL**



**Greenway Capitola**

September 20, 2018 · 🌐

Thank you Susan and Nels for your endorsement of Measure L. We appreciate your many years of service to our community.



**NELS WESTMAN**  
**TRAFFIC & PARKING COMMISSIONER**  
**PRESIDENT CAPITOLA VILLAGE ASSOCIATION**

**SUSAN WESTMAN**  
**FORMER CAPITOLA CITY MANAGER**



**Greenway Capitola**

September 18, 2018 · 🌐

Thank you [Sam Storey](#) for your endorsement! We're excited to have you the best in your city council campaign.



**SAM STOREY - FORMER MEMBER**  
**OF CAPITOLA 2010 & 2014**  
**COUNCIL CANDIDATE 2018**

"I believe that Capitola residents and visitors deserve to have a safe pedestrian and bicycle path that goes over the trestle. If you support my vision, I encourage you to vote 'Yes' on Measure L."

## Gautho, Julia

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**From:** Scotty Brookie <scotty@cruzio.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2025 11:00 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Scotty Brookie; Andrew Purchin  
**Subject:** I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I am a driver, cyclist and walker. I bike and walk a lot. I use existing parts of the rail/trail system often. So I am very happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward.

The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are great. I'm glad that the staff has developed options for the trail that protect Monarch habitat, that are realistic, and can be built with the existing funding. I can't wait to get on the trail!

Both options A and B look good to me. Pick either one, especially since the grant funding is already in place to build them. The sooner the better!

Thank you!

Scotty Brookie