

Gautho, Julia

From: Eric Olsen <drericolsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:07 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommend recommendations for the Rail Trail

The staff of the City of Capitola, Santa Cruz County, and the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) have developed two options for the trail between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach. Both options place the trail on an elevated path between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks. I urge you to adopt either one of these options. The funds are available for the trail and I among many others in the community plan to use it for bike transportation in lieu of driving a car. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Eric Olsen
Aptos

Gautho, Julia

From: Brendan Quirk <brendanbquirk@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:03 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Thank you for proposing wide, safe trail options for our community!

I want a trail sooner not later (or never) and we have the grant money to build this so please choose option A or B.

I also want ocean views!

Thanks!

Brendan Quirk

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Gautho, Julia

From: Dee Roe <deeroe12@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:57 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor, I am so happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward. I live nearby and can't wait to have easy access to Capitola village from my home. The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks seem well planned. Plan A or B will work. I love it that your council is making the effort to protect our Monarchs and it sounds like the money is there. This is great for Capitola business as well. Can't wait to get on my bike!

Dee Roe

Gautho, Julia

From: Sandra Baron <sandybar3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:56 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Destruction of an incredible local asset of world class beauty

The county voted for a train before any plans or budgets were created. Everyday, "promises" are switched to less desirable options.

We could have been riding and walking on a beautiful rail trail for the last 10 (or more) years while the train idea was studied. We could have had tourists coming here and spending money at restaurants along the way. This would have been the logical way to go, protect what you have and research what you want.

Don't think a bike lane through Park Ave and through Capitola Village is going to be accepted by our community now after all the promises. Don't think that cutting down the trees along the route is helpful for a low carbon future. See the nonsense and money wasted on plan after plan trying to fit something into a space where it just doesn't fit. Give us a true accounting for infrastructure changes, all the bridges that need to be replaced. How can you go ahead with any of it before knowing the estimated cost and configuration of the whole project?

Sandra Baron
Santa Cruz County

Gautho, Julia

From: John Caletti <john@caletticycles.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:54 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Many thanks,

John Caletti

Caletti Cycles
Custom bicycles handcrafted in Santa Cruz, CA
caletticycles.com 831-426-0575
Instagram: @caletticycles

Member: 1% For The Planet - *We give 1% of sales to nonprofits working to protect and restore the environment.*

Gautho, Julia

From: Scott Farmer <s.farmer82@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:53 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Let's act together! I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I am so happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward! The new plans for the trail are great! I'm glad that the staff has developed options for the trail that can realistically be built with the existing funding.

As a local small business owner, I am excited to see the influx of locals and tourists coming out to enjoy, what will surely be, this beautiful attraction! Let's act to create multi-modal transportation options across our County and reap the benefits to our small business community and local tourism industry.

Please avoid any unnecessary delay and approve one of the options your staff developed. To me, either is fine, I am writing to simply request you take action, as opposed to reassessing or further considering additional options that could result in delays. Let's work together across jurisdictions to make this project real! Let's take a step forward! I can't wait!

Thank you for your consideration,

Scott Farmer

Gautho, Julia

From: Paula Bradley <pbradley2004@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:47 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Item #9C Park Ave Traffic calming and Coastal Trail Options – support Option B

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I ride this area frequently and I support Option B provided that the trail is separated from traffic and protected, a Class 1 bike path. It makes sense to divert the trail from the rail right of way in this area (0.7 miles) to achieve a more cost effective, that will preserve trees and will be more scenic. There is no point having a trail on the inland side (Option A).

The trail only people are misleading the public, you cannot take the funds awarded for one project (Coastal Rail Trail) & use them for another (trail only). For trail only, the approved coastal trail project under construction would halt, awarded grants returned (black mark on county), and attempt to get a legal right to rail ROW. It would be ten plus years before any trail would be constructed. There are funds for multi-modal transportation, few funds for a recreational trails only. The fastest way to get a trail is to build the trail, keep the rail. Preserve the rail for public transit for the future of our county.

Sincerely,

Paula Bradley, resident and cycling advocate

Paula Bradley (she/her)
P. O. Box 1146 Capitola CA 95010

Gautho, Julia

From: geri lieby <glikeby@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:47 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,
Please choose option A or B. The grant money is there. A project for now and the future.
Geri Lieby

Gautho, Julia

From: Wyatt, Rosie
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:44 AM
To: Gautho, Julia
Subject: Additional material

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Additional material for City Council below.

Rosie Wyatt
Acting Deputy City Clerk
831.475.7300 x 206



From: Capitola CA via Capitola CA <capitola-ca@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:41 AM
To: Wyatt, Rosie <rwyatt@ci.capitola.ca.us>
Subject: Form submission from: Contact Us

Submitted on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 - 9:41am

Submitted by anonymous user: 35.151.55.124

Submitted values are:

CONTACT INFORMATION

Full Name Frank Rimicci

Email frankeej@msn.com

Phone Number 8317246710

Question/Comment

Greetings council members, Today I wish to comment on the proposal to divert part of sections 10 and 11 of the Coastal Rail trail project. I feel the alignment constraints and high costs, among other issues are reasons the proposal to place the trail on the coastal side of the roadway in the area between Monterey Ave. and Coronado are a true remedy and will help to bring the reality of a connecting trail to other segments sooner and more affordable. The plan to use the already cycled roadways in the areas in question, including the village, will bring safer transit for recreational and commuting cyclists. This option also means less cars needed to bring more folks into the village itself. It also makes no sense to build the trail along the unsafe trestle until such time that the needed replacement is built. The proposal also preserves the corridor for all transportation options on the branch rail line which includes zero emission rail transit in the future. Thanks for Your considerations, Frank

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.cityofcapitola.org/node/7/submission/34281>

Gautho, Julia

From: Jessica Guild <jessguild@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:43 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail trail options between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach

Dear Capitola City Council Members,

My name is Jessica Guild, and I am a homeowner in Live Oak. I have been following the rail trail development closely and learned that you plan to hear comments this week about the Capitola Village to New Brighton State Beach section of the rail trail.

I am writing to express my support of the two options that the City of Capitola, Santa Cruz County, and RTC staff have developed. From my understanding, either of the two options (a 12 foot elevated path on a raised curb that protects monarch habitat and allows for a 5 foot buffer zone between the trail and the street) sound like they would work well for the area.

I also hear that these options are fully funded and ready to build. Please do not delay in moving forward with this important infrastructure project in our community.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration of my comments.

Best,

Jessica Guild
2001 Halterman Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Gautho, Julia

From: Lowel Hurst <lhurst@baymoon.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:31 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

Congratulations, 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! Keep leading the way to a better and more accessible future !

Lowell Hurst

Sent from my iPhone

Gautho, Julia

From: Maria Hastings <mariahast@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:25 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Take care,
Maria Hastings

Gautho, Julia

From: Steve Lustgarden <slustgarden@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:21 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Many thanks for your support of this project!

Steve Lustgarden

Santa Cruz

Gautho, Julia

From: Daijaku <daijaku@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:18 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Trail decision - Do NOT route through streets

Dear Capitola City Council,
Thank you for all your work and dedication to our city. This train business is ill conceived and way way too expensive with money better spend elsewhere.
So on to the trail.

Safety is foremost. **Do not shift trail to streets.** There are already too many tricky situations and this will make it much worse. I see them all the time - in and out of my car. In my opinion if you route the trail on streets, you can count on injuries, likely serious ones with an increase in people negotiating the trail

Just do the trail, it will be a benefit to all of us who live here - and a major draw to people who visit.
I hope you listen to us and just do this thing.

Yours, Judith Kinst
Jade St. Capitola

Gautho, Julia

From: Donna Thomas <donna0sue@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:17 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Donna Thomas, Live Oak



Gautho, Julia

From: Joyce Nicholson <Sundaygarnet@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:13 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Option A or B both look good to me, providing a safe and wide trail for all.

Thanks,

Joyce Nicholson

800 Brommer St. Spc 9
95062

Gautho, Julia

From: Ann Whitlock <whitlock.as@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:10 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail/trail

Please keep the bike trail on the rail corridor, not on Park Ave. I have waited too long already in order to bike safely from my home in Aptos. Please find a good solution.
Ann Whitlock

Gautho, Julia

From: David Lieby <dlieby@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:08 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Trail, item number 9c on the agenda

Whenever my wife and I ride our tandem bicycle around town we see many bicycles piloted by parents and carrying children about. People are also hauling groceries and the like. All of the people doing this are reducing vehicle traffic at some risk due to lack of good bike lanes. Creation of the trail will reduce risk and increase the use of bicycles for all sorts of reasons. It will help keep our population of non-polluters safe.

Thanks,
David Lieby
310 Everson Dr, Santa Cruz, Ca 95060

PS:
Yes, we ride to Capitola to eat at our favorite restaurant quite often and it would be great to be out of traffic.

Gautho, Julia

From: Cynthia Sharpe <cssharpe063@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:07 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Thank you for proposing wide safe trail options for our Community.
We have the grant money and I want the trail sooner rather than never, so please choose option A or B.

I want easy access and ocean views and the ability to get to this place so PLEASE choose option A or B, thank you.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Sharpe

Gautho, Julia

From: Tim Miller <ti_miller@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:05 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Trail Staff Recommendation Support

Dear City Council and Mayor,

As a family homeowner on Prospect Ave for 75yrs, we are happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward. The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue including the railroad tracks are great. I'm glad that the staff has developed options for the trail that are realistic, and can be built with the existing funding. I can't wait to get on this section of the trail! We encourage you all to come to an agreement on either of the 2 Staff recommendations, and to come up with a long term solution using the Trestle to bypass additional congestion in downtown Capitola.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tim Miller

Gautho, Julia

From: Limit Info <pretzel05@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 9:02 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

I live near a segment of the Rail trail and have walked it many times. There is a great deal of bicycle and walking on this current trail and it is of high quality for both activities with safe zones for crossing that have saved many lives.

Please pick one of the two choices for beginning the next segment through Capitola. This will be fully funded and many many people have worked on it to supply the best plans possible. Do not let the naysayers make you doubt your decision. Just come and visit the finished segments of the Rail Trail, take a walk and enjoy the safety off the streets for all involved to get across town.

Many thanks for considering the Rail Trail options and make a wise choice.

Linda Koval
128 Nevada St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Gautho, Julia

From: Peter Whitford <lightningfeetpete@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:59 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Let's Move the Rail Trail Forward!

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I can't wait for the new fully funded trail to start construction between Capitola and New Brighton State Beach! I'm also thrilled that both options maintain the critical rail component which is an incredible asset for the ever growing county to move people around. As an avid bike commuter, I can envision our family becoming a 1 car family if we were able to move up and down the corridor with our bikes, creating access to all of the many businesses, schools, and events that we visit throughout the year.

Thanks!
Peter Whitford

Gautho, Julia

From: Denise Ryan <denisearyan8@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:58 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Christopher O'Connell
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

My name is Denise Ryan and I have been a homeowner, full time resident of Capitola for 35 years. I have raised a family here and understand the personality of our beautiful community. We are ready for a rail and trail. I am so excited to know that my family and grandchildren will enjoy the rail and trail.

I will try to make the meeting on Thursday, weather permitting.

I thank you for your service to our community.

Warmly,
Denise

Gautho, Julia

From: Ros Munro <ramunro55@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:58 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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 ditch my car, and use the commuter train. Strolling along the trail will be such a bonus too!

Thanks

Ros Munro

Gautho, Julia

From: Mary Alsip <santacruz88@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:57 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Alsip Braxton; Chibisova Olga
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

I own a home in Capitola, which is located in the Brookvale Terrace mobile home park. My son lives there with his two children and his wife and they bicycle everywhere. Please make sure that there are safe paths available for them as they mature!

Sincerely Yours, Mary Alsip

Gautho, Julia

From: Alexis Konevich <alexiskonevich@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:55 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Trail options

Dear Capitola City Council,

Thank you so much for engaging with experts to come up with alternate options for the rail trail. Speaking for myself and many of my friends, our desire is to have a trail as soon as possible. I think options A and B seem suitable, given that they still provide adequate separation from vehicular traffic and space for people to walk and bike safely. I urge you to move forward with either of these options so our families can enjoy the rail trail as soon as possible.

Thanks!
Alexis

Gautho, Julia

From: Geoffrey Flavell <gflavell1@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:54 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Trail - LET'S GO!

Dear City Council and Mayor,

The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are fantastic!

The people voted and they want a Rail and Trail, which now seems like ages ago.

Our local government experts have come forward with viable options with easy public access and ocean views for the City Council to choose from.

The nay sayers should have voice as always, but not allowed to stall the project on topics already vetted.

Kindly be laser focused in moving this project forward.

I would like to see this project realized before I'm dead.

Thank you,
Geoffrey Flavell
2970 Pleasure Point Dr.

Gautho, Julia

From: Pete Kennedy <pjkkennedy@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:54 AM
To: City Council; info@railandtrail.org
Subject: Rail Trail

Please vote in support of the Rail Trail. We need to keep those rails for future use.

I'm a City of Santa Cruz Planning Commissioner, and we are building thousands of apartments up here to provide housing for folks. This relieves the pressure on YOU to build housing in Capitola. We are happy to shoulder the burden of housing.

What I need your help with is providing the infrastructure so that our welcome newcomers can travel through our County both now and in generations to come. We have to do this together to reach a better future.

Thank you for supporting our efforts. I am the third generation of Kennedys to support the rail trail up here in SC. My kids are the fourth. I dearly hope they'll be able to afford to live here, as I've been lucky enough to.

Don't be afraid, the vast majority of people in this community are all in for housing, rail & trail.

Best

Pete Kennedy

Gautho, Julia

From: Baymoon <maku@baymoon.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:47 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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 currently ride several times weekly on the Westside portion of the rail-trail, and am eager to ride further south as it expands.

I'm glad that the staff has developed options (A or B) 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 Capitola portion of the trail!

Thanks!
Mary Anne (she/her)
Kramer-Urner

Gautho, Julia

From: Curt Coleman <curtcoleman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:51 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I am so happy to see the Rail Trail moving forward in Capitola. The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are the answer we have needed. I look forward to using this segment of trail!

Curt Coleman

Gautho, Julia

From: A. Marm Kilpatrick <marmkilpatrick@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:46 AM
To: City Council
Subject: support for Rail trail between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach

Dear City Council,

I'm writing in support of the rail trail options being proposed by the City of Capitola, Santa Cruz County, and the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC). Either of the two options would be great for our community and would provide both a safe way to commute and a great option for recreation which will bring people to support the local businesses. I urge you to support these plans and keep the project moving forward!

thank you,

Auston Marm Kilpatrick

Gautho, Julia

From: dieter@mac.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:44 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Dieter Siegmund
Subject: Capitola section of the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I'm writing to voice my support for both rail trail options between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach.

It's exciting to see the well-designed trail plans, and I'm looking forward to being able bike the trail from Santa Cruz to Capitola and beyond.

With funding available, let's keep making progress on this section of the rail trail.

Best regards,
Dieter Siegmund
Santa Cruz

Gautho, Julia

From: Ryan Tamm <cheese4nachos@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:39 AM
To: City Council
Subject: In support of the Rail Trail

Hello City Council members,

I'm so excited about the progress on bringing the rail trail down to our house in Aptos! The sooner we can get the trail built, the better. It will help relieve traffic, support our local businesses, and improve the health and wellbeing of our community members while providing a beautiful ocean view.

I encourage you to please choose option A or B - let's get this project built ASAP!

Thank you,
Ryan Tamm

Gautho, Julia

From: Brad Wiles <brad@wilesinjurylaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:36 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

I support options A and B and would love to see the rail trail move forward as quickly as possible. Don't be swayed by the small handful that are opposed to the entire rail trail that will benefit the entire county. Thank you. Brad Wiles.

Sent from my iPad

Gautho, Julia

From: Linda White <squigett@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:36 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Coastal Rail Trail Options

We do NOT want the trail to divert through Capitola Village and Park Ave. !! Leave the plans as original. We are long time residents and voters. Leave the Stockton bridge intact also.

Respectfully,
Mike and Linda White
2235 Wharf Road
Capitola

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Gautho, Julia

From: Phil Kaplan <noattitudes@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:34 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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

From: Kate Clark <kclark@cruzio.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:33 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Thank you for proposing wide, safe trail options for our community
I want a trail sooner not later (or never) so please choose option A or B.
We have the grant money to build this so please choose option A or B.
I want ocean views so please choose option A or B.

I would use this segment of trail to get to my volunteer job at the Capitola History Museum, so choose option A or B.

Thank you.

-Kate Clark

Gautho, Julia

From: Ernesto Anguiano <ernestoanguiano2222@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:30 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Trail -Item 9C

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for proposing wide, safe trail options for our community.

I want a trail sooner rather than later (or never), so please choose Option A or B. Both options protect monarch butterfly habitat, provide users with ocean views, and offer easy access between neighborhoods and the trail. Both are raised on a curb, similar to a sidewalk, and include a 12-foot-wide trail with a 5-foot buffer zone between the trail and the street. Most importantly, with the latest construction grant, either of these options will be fully funded and ready to build. I would use this section of the trail to get to and from my home, visit the village, and spend my hard-earned money at local businesses.

Thank you,

Ernesto Anguiano

Gautho, Julia

From: neil@blondeguy.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:29 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the Rail Trail proposal

As I understand it, the proposal is to put the trail on a new elevated path between the Park Avenue roadway and the railroad tracks. That would work for me.

I am one of the group of jugglers that entertain people on the esplanade some afternoons. I would use this segment of trail in this way, so choose option A or B.

best regards,
Neil

Gautho, Julia

From: Cynthia Dzendzel <cyndzen@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:26 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Thank you for supporting Option A or B, which will allow the trail to be built sooner rather than later. I am hoping it will be built before I am unable to use it! I am not getting any younger. :)

Cynthia Dzendzel

Gautho, Julia

From: Lizann Keyes <lwestkeyes@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:22 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Thank you! I want the Rail Trail to move forward so that I will be able to use it as soon as possible. I support the environmental vision of the Rail Trail.

Thank you for your support,

Lizann Keyes

1511 Hidden Terrace Court
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Gautho, Julia

From: Deborah Christie <mountainhigh58@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:22 AM
To: City Council
Subject: staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

Thank you for helping the Rail Trail move forward. The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are a great plan.

I see that the protection of the Monarch habitat has been taken into consideration. I support staff recommendations. We have the existing funding to do so. I am an avid hiker and walker and look forward to using the trail as much as possible.

Sincerely,

Deborah Christie
136 S Park Way, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Gautho, Julia

From: Allison Cruz <alli@cruzkidz.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:20 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Please do your best to listen openly to both sides this Thursday, while carefully extinguishing disinformation.

Thank you,
Allison Cruz
420-1991

Gautho, Julia

From: Peter Matthew Reed <petermreed@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:15 AM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

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!

Thank you,

Peter Reed

Gautho, Julia

From: ANDREA RATTO <andrearatto@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 7:27 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Coastal Rail Trail Options

As a bike rider I am not comfortable riding on Park Avenue. There will be even more cars on the road once the housing for Cabrillo and UCSC students is built in the area and traffic during the summer and most weekends through the village and Park Avenue is so congested. Maybe it's time to scrap this I'll thought out plan to run a tourist train from the Boardwalk to Seascape. It will not serve the community members who are taxed with financially burdened with this costly and inefficient project. We will never vote for any tax increase to support this project Sent from my iPad

Gautho, Julia

From: Gary Sultana <g5948sultana@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:44 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Service

Rail service in Santa Cruz County would be wonderful if the population were four times what it is now. Residents would have to use it, and we could afford an efficient connection to San Jose.

This is not reality. We cannot afford a train now. We need to complete a trail system now and railbank for the future.

Gary Sultana

Gautho, Julia

From: Bud Colligan <bud@colligans.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:42 PM
To: City Council
Subject: OBJECTION TO PLAN TO PUT TRAIL ON PARK AVE

Dear Capitola City Council,

I am completely against the current plan to put the bike and pedestrian trail on Park Avenue and also to detour the trail into Capitola Village.

For many years, the RTC has told us and you that the corridor was wide enough for both a train and trail. It appears that years of lies have now caught up with the actual plans, and the hope is that the citizens of Capitola will not notice this underhanded sleight of hand. **WE HAVE NOTICED!**

For starters, the plan to detour the trail through Capitola Village is **DIRECTLY** in conflict with the will of Capitola voters expressed in Measure L, the 2018 ballot initiative to preserve the trestle for bikes and pedestrians. It is much less costly and supports public safety to keep kids going to school, cyclists, senior citizens, families and all pedestrians on a continuous safe pathway. You will be guaranteeing serious injuries and deaths to take hundreds of cyclists and pedestrians per day up/down steep Cliff Drive and Monterey Ave and through a Village impacted by an enormous amount of traffic. Anyone with common sense can see that this is a dangerous plan which will lead to serious injuries and deaths. Public safety should override all considerations in this decision. We elected you to follow the laws in our city and support the safety of our citizens.

Secondly, the Park Ave plan is another bait and switch. The RTC has said *for years* that the corridor is wide enough for a train and trail. Now, it's not wide enough anymore! According to the new information from the RTC, it's not wide enough for the ENTIRE LENGTH OF CAPITOLA. Shouldn't this major flaw in the plan have been pointed out years ago? A trail on the corridor can be built for \$3M to \$4M per mile. Now with retaining walls and expensive infrastructure, the RTC trail is approaching \$25M per mile. It will be the most costly trail ever constructed in the United States. All to preserve a train that will never be built because its cost will be shown to be in excess of \$1.5 BILLION. There is no funding for a train. This madness must stop. The voters will take matters into their own hands if you continue to ignore common sense and support this egregious malpractice of transportation policy. You have the power to stop this insanity or the voters will do so.

I sincerely hope that all the new data that you are receiving will result in the "a-ha" moment that you have been consistently misled by the Board majority on the RTC . It's time to get real answers to the tough questions. Let's not prolong this fantasy any longer.

Sincerely,

Bud Colligan
1840 41st Ave
Capitola, CA 95010

Gautho, Julia

From: Leslie Nielsen <lpbeach21@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:39 PM
To: City Council
Subject: ITEM 9C Public Comment

Dear Capitola City Council,

The staff report for Item 9C is flawed, misleading and not neutral. One could interpret it to be a marketing piece for the RTC Pro Train initiative;

- “Finally, the Park Avenue Coastal Rail Trail alignment is designed to avoid possible conflicts with potential future transportation uses in the rail corridor”
- “Space constraints in the existing rail corridor may limit the ability to accommodate both the Rail Trail and other future transportation uses”
- "Shifting the trail out of the rail corridor minimizes the risk of future modifications or removals that could arise if other transportation projects, such as those studied in the ZEPRT project are pursued in the corridor."

Why not just say, we need to set everything up to make sure the future of the train is secure and nothing is constructed to get in the way. It is disappointing to see this be more important than safety. You are proposing to give away City land (right of way) and lose valuable parking for the RTC to save money by promoting a project that flies in the face of Measure L.

Measure L – Codified in MC 8.72.040 (B) says, “No city of Capitola department, agency, or employee shall expend any funds or resources related to the construction, reconstruction, operation, maintenance, financing, MARKETING, or signage for a detour of the Trail onto Capitola City Streets or sidewalks”.

This staff report clearly took some time to put together, a violation of Measure L.

To suggest the definition of the word detour concludes that the City is “not proposing the construction of the Trail on Capitola’s streets or sidewalks” is insulting.

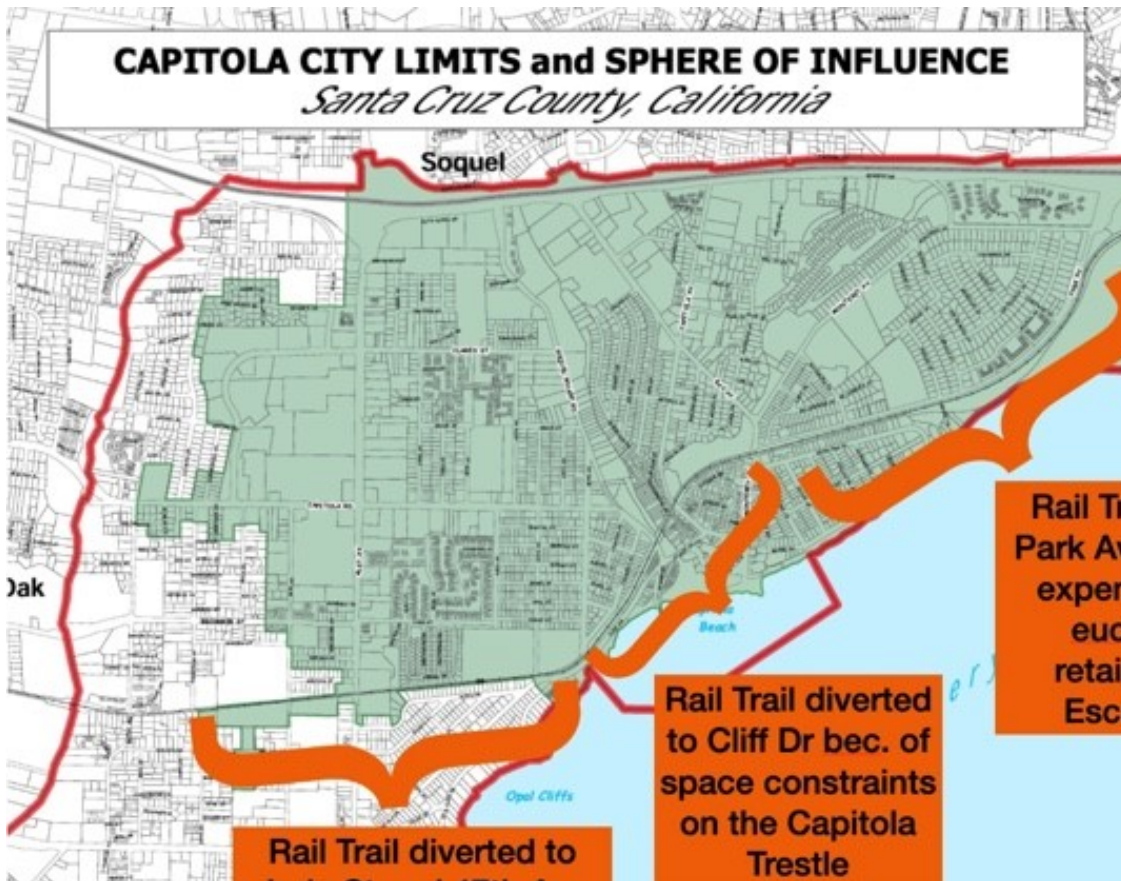
The shifting of a TRAIL out of the corridor and on to Park Ave. is absolutely NOT “taking all steps necessary to preserve and utilize the corridor and Trestle for active transportation and recreation” as required my Measure L MC 8.72.024 (A)

The RTC has identified significant cost estimate overruns for this segment. Capitola should not be lawless in implementation of Measure L nor promote unsafe infrastructure developments to help the County and the RTC with their project cost challenge.

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission will hear updated cost estimates on passenger rail at its March 20th meeting. The last time a formal cost estimate was done for the rail project was 2015.

You do not need to put the wheels in motion this week on a matter this significant before understanding it in the greater context of the Rail Trail project and pending update on the cost estimates and related implications. If the City was neutral in this matter, the staff report would have included additional options including not moving forward with a consolidated Park Ave. Coastal Rail Trail alignment project designed by entities outside the City, notably the RTC, but rather stay the course on the Park Ave. traffic calming project.

The City has budgeted for and allocated funds to continue the Park Ave. calming initiatives and should be looking forward to a greatly reduced amount of multi modal traffic on the streets when the corridor trail is completed as promised when we voted for Measure D. We have heard you say, votes matter. It doesn't feel like they do when Capitola is experiencing an almost complete diversion of the trail off the corridor after voting for both Measure L and Measure D.



This is clearly being set up to be precedent setting and evidence of past practice for the next round of proposed actions to make improvements for multi modal bike and pedestrian traffic through the Capitola Village.

For the City to be suggesting that this proposed action is not illegal is misleading. After the City sued to try to keep Measure L off the ballot in 2018, Judge John Gallagher ruled on 8/20/2018 in favor of Greenway petitioners allowing the Measure L ballot initiative to proceed in the Nov. 2018 election.

Measure L passed. It's the law. The city had the language reviewed by an administrative law judge and codified it in the Municipal Code. If the City believes violating the code is not illegal, THEY need to do the necessary work to take this to the voters to have it amended or deleted. In the meantime, you must be lawful council members representing your community.

Is it illegal for a city council member to intentionally violate municipal code?

Yes, it is generally considered illegal for a city council member to intentionally violate municipal code, as doing so would constitute a violation of the law and could result in potential legal consequences, including fines, removal from office, or even criminal charges depending on the severity of the violation and the specific local

ordinances involved.

I would strongly encourage each of you on this council to take this to heart and postpone any action on agenda item 9C as the staff proposed options A and B are both clearly in violation of Measure L.

Best regards,

Leslie Nielsen

Gautho, Julia

From: Brett Graessle <graessles@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:05 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Trail Support

Dear Capitola City Council,

I am writing in STRONG support of the Trail Now initiative. Please vote Thursday to reject the RTC proposal to divert the coastal trail around Capitola.

As a Capitola resident for over 27 years, we have witnessed tremendous progress and enjoyed decades of unparalleled community spirit and camaraderie.

In 2018, the people of Capitola voted for Measure L, keeping the trail on the current path. We continue to support this. Having raised 5 children in this special village, we have seen firsthand the great importance of safe bike travel through our town. City streets are not a safe alternative. The trail would be a treasure for our citizens, visitors, children and families, students, commuters a benefit for all. Please vote to support this trail ON the trail - no detours.

Thank you,
Molly Graessle

Gautho, Julia

From: Nancy Becker <nnbecker@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:59 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Coastal Rail Trail Options

Hello,

We want the bike trail safely on the RAIL corridor, not the street. You should follow the voters' mandate to do that. We have bike lanes on streets already. Cancel the train before you scrap the bike trail on the rail.

Thank you,

Nancy Becker

Gautho, Julia

From: Tom Davis <snorkers@pacifedgeclimbinggym.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:57 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Coastal Rail Trail Options 13 February Meeting

Greetings,

I am writing to support keeping the Rail Trail on the the railbed/ trestle property. Diverting bicycle traffic off the rail line would be a disaster, in terms of public safety, and the quality of the final trail. Measure L made it clear. The trail must stay on the rail line.

If we can ever get his project completed, it will be the most amazing, positive, and the most utilized public works projects of the last 70 years.

The best solution is to build the trail NOW, on the trestle and railbed, If the train ever becomes a reality, then do the necessary upgrades at that time.

Sincerely,
Tom Davis
CEO, Co-Owner
Pacific Edge Climbing Gym

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Tom Davis
(831) 464-9284 Santa Cruz
(760) 648-8036 Silver Meadow

Gautho, Julia

From: Mike Sargenti <mikesargenti@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:43 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Coastal Rail Trail Options

To whom it may concern,

As a Santa Cruz County resident and homeowner I am upset about moving the rail trail to Park Avenue. The reasons are listed below. We need to scrap the train and build the trail now!

- **Measure L was clear.** Capitola voters mandated the trail stay on the trestle. The Council is ignoring the will of the people.
- **A Park Avenue trail is LESS SAFE for cyclists.** Instead of a safe, direct route on the railbed, cyclists will be forced onto busy roads.
- **Bringing cyclists into Capitola Village is dangerous.** This isn't a hypothetical concern—serious injuries and fatalities will happen. Public safety must come first.
- **A train is an illusion.** The cost would be in the billions, and there is no real path to funding it. It's time to get real.

Sincerely,
Agostino Sargenti

Gautho, Julia

From: Buff McCharen <buffmccharen@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:34 PM
To: City Council
Subject: RAIL TRAIL

Dear Capitola Councilmen,

Please keep the bike trail on the rail corridor as planned. Park avenue is NOT a viable option!

Respectfully, Buff & Victoria McCharen, Aptos residents

Gautho, Julia

From: Jennie anderson <jahacove@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:34 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Corridor

City Council,

I'm surprised that the council would consider diverting the rail trail through the Capitola Village and along Park Avenue. In effect, the city would be obstructing active transportation in the Mid County area. A segmented trail would be a detriment to pedestrians, bicyclists and e-bike commuters and cause significant safety concerns within the city. Would you like your children to be confronted with more congestion in the village and along a dangerous Park Ave? The solution is to pressure the RTC to rail bank the corridor and build an affordable, wide trail down the center of the corridor, utilizing the Capitola Trestle. This would insure a trail that could be constructed soon and still allow for a future train if voted on by the residents. Rail banking has been in effect in hundreds of communities across the country with outstanding results. We should be able to enact it in our community. Don't let the train lobby dictate a flawed scenario for Capitola.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Harris-Anderson
831-566-3367

Gautho, Julia

From: Gary Lew <gary_lew@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:26 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Bike (Not Rail) Trail

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I live in Depot Hill and support a bike trail on the existing rail line with minimal disruption to the Trestle, roads, private property and the natural landscape. I have used the Iron Horse Trail in Danville and the Los Gatos to Campbell trail. Santa Cruz/Capitola/Aptos would benefit from a similar trail. Please approve the interim solution of a bike trail on the existing track bed with no expansion to the right-of-way which will benefit the most people at the lowest cost, fastest implementation time and lowest environmental impact.

I do not support a billion dollar plus boondoggle involving a train line (that will sit unutilized next to the proposed obtrusive bike trail), a train will never get used as dreamed, will certainly be over budget and environmentally destructive. Additionally, commuters or whoever the RTC fantasizes will ride this train should look at the empty buses that are currently running and see that trains will be 100x more expensive yet just as empty.

Gary Lew
925-209-0538

Gautho, Julia

From: E Chen <ifeachhen@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 6:54 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Please keep the Rail Trail on the rail corridor

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Capitola City Council,

A Rail Trail detour on Park Avenue is dangerous to many and would discourage people from riding their bicycles. With the crazy drivers who are texting/talking on their phones and speeding and weaving through traffic and with police who could care less about this behavior, many people hop on their bicycles. Please keep the Rail Trail on the rail corridor as proposed. It provides safety and a means for us to stay healthy while keeping our environment clean. It is the smart and kind thing to do.

Eefei

Gautho, Julia

From: grinell smith <grinell@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:29 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Keep the Rail Trail on the rail corridor

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am an avid cyclist who rides through and around Capitola on a regular basis. A Rail Trail detour on Park Avenue would be very dangerous both for cyclists and cars, and would diminish everyone's experience overall. Please keep the Rail Trail on the rail corridor as proposed.

Thanks,
Grinell Smith

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Sent from my HAL 9000

Gautho, Julia

From: Matthew O. Sloan <mosloan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:27 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Trail, yes please, and thank you!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Dear Capitola City Council,

I ride my bike through Capitola regularly - commuting, riding for fun, and dining/shopping in Capitola Village. A Rail Trail detour on Park Avenue would be very dangerous to myself and many others.

Please keep the Rail Trail on the rail corridor as proposed.

Many Thanks,

Matthew Sloan