

Gautho, Julia

From: JRE <jessevansfiddler@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:42 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Excited for the Rail Trail in Capitola

Dear City Council and Mayor,

In summer, we love to ride our bikes to visit Capitola Village from our house in Santa Cruz. It's such a great outing. We bring the kids and get ice cream, or go out to lunch. The only thing holding us back from doing this more often is the stress of dealing with traffic on the bike ride. The rail trail is going to make visiting Capitola more appealing, because the bike ride will be safer and nicer.

It's also going to be so amazing to be able to ride a bike easily to and from Capitola Village and Cabrillo College. When I was a student at Cabrillo I lived in the Park Avenue apartments. It would have been so great to have the Rail Trail to be able to safely go to and from home to school and to the Village on my bike.

The new plan to build the Rail Trail from the Village to New Brighton in the space between the tracks and Park Avenue, on a safe, elevated, buffered 12-foot wide path, has lower cost, less tree removal, and lower environmental impact than the first idea of building the path down in the ditch next to the tracks. The new plan makes the trail realistic and affordable. And it's going to be beautiful! Please give my congratulations to the staff members who made the new plan. Please give the plan your support.

Warm regards, Jessica Evans.

Gautho, Julia

From: Kevin Kinkor <kevin@kinkorconsulting.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:28 PM
To: City Council
Subject: [SPF Softfail] Rail/Trail

Hey City Council,

I was excited to hear we have money and plans in place for the trail. With that said, I hear there is a challenge on having the rail. The rail part is critical to transportation in Santa Cruz County. In the absence of the rail, our county will remain in gridlock every day (like it is now). From widening the freeway, to trail, to key bus routes and rail, we will have transportation options to support our community for decades to come. Please approve both trail and rail.

Thank you,

[Kevin Kinkor](#)

CEO



[RPO](#) | [HR Consulting](#) | [Outplacement](#) | [Calendly](#)

Gautho, Julia

From: Russell Weisz <russweisz1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:21 PM
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!

thanks,

Russell Weisz
319 Laguna St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
8312461770

Gautho, Julia

From: Katherine McCamant <katherine.mccamant@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:17 PM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor, this is going to be a wonderful place for my family to use all the time! 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.

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 easy access from the neighborhood so choose option A or B.
I want ocean views so please choose option A or B.
Sincerely, Katherine McCamant
I can't wait to get on the trail!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Gautho, Julia

From: Terre Thomas <terra12@cruzio.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:13 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Park Avenue on 2/13/25 Agenda

Dear Council and the RTC,

Having received notification Saturday, your offices being closed Monday (so being unable to talk to anyone til yesterday) and being unable to access this agenda item on my computer today, I am writing you now to voice my serious concerns regarding the RTCs plans for Park Avenue, not knowing how long I might have to voice them at the meeting tomorrow. First, as a fifty plus year resident on Park Avenue, I believe it is much more important NOT to put in another sidewalk along the ocean side of the street, resulting in the removal of 25 parking spaces (for residents, visitors, Wharf to Wharf and the Art and Wine Festival), plus many trees. The only pedestrian traffic coming from Capitola Village Eastward would be local residents and those going to New Brighton Beach. Any other walking destination would be too far, so one sidewalk, which already exists, would be more than sufficient.

If you cleaned up the existing bike paths and narrowed the driving lanes it would accommodate all needs. As far as safety is concerned, we have asked that four speed tables be put in front of the two residential driveway areas, as much needed ticketing along this corridor is very rare. So please put them on your "budget wish list", as they are sorely needed.

As for the pedestrian and bike trail from Prospect to Park being "abandoned" by the RTC, so it can go through the Village, there is no reason why it can't be put on the Trestle, since people don't weigh very much, the Trestle isn't subject to Rail Banking, and the tracks will need to be removed anyway. And it would be in keeping with City Ordinances, as well as avoiding losing more parking in the Village.

Please don't ram Option A or B down our throats that we the public had little to say about until now, at a poorly notified meeting, that will cost more money than is available.

Please postpone any decision regarding the Capitola segment of the Rail/Trail until such a time as there is more input provided, including that of the RTCs fiscal report.

Thank you,

Terre Thomas

Former Planning Commissioner

Sent from my iPhone

Gautho, Julia

From: Ann Baier <annhbaier@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:13 PM
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 visit this area often. Thank you for proposing wide, safe trail options for our community. I want a trail soon, so please choose option A or B!

(BTW, I'll also be so happy to see a reduction in non-native invasive ivy and eucalyptus trees, as these present an extreme fire hazard to the community, and take the place of native species and habitat.)

Ann Baier

Gautho, Julia

From: Tera Ebert <teraebert01@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:07 PM
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. It is so beautiful to see the ocean view from that area. What a treasure to think that all ages can enjoy it. 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!

Tera Ebert
Santa Cruz native of 68 years

2670 17th Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA. 95065

Gautho, Julia

From: Madeline Horn <madelinehorn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:05 PM
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 worked for years at Capitola Museum, was born and raised in Santa Cruz, my son attends Main St School and will be at New Brighton next year. I fully support the creation of more rail options in our city and county.

Sincerely,

Madeline Horn

Gautho, Julia

From: Cory Ray <coryray@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:57 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Support for 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!

As an owner of three rental properties in Capitola and a former resident of Capitola and an avid E-Bike rider, I want to express support for Option A or B.

There is grant money for one of these options, they provide easy access and are altogether better choices. I also believe that your staff did an excellent job and deserve your support in their recommendations.

I look forward to riding Option A or B!

With Regards,

Cory Ray

Gautho, Julia

From: B Jordan <bkjtennis@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:56 PM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Date: February 12, 2025

Item 9c – February 13 - Park Avenue Traffic Calming Improvements with Coastal Rail Trail Options
Recommended Action: Review options for Coastal Rail Trail improvements in the Park Avenue right-of-way and identify Option A (as described in the staff report) as the preferred alternative for further analysis.

Subject: I support the Staff memo on Alternatives for the Rail Trail in Capitola

Dear Capitola City Council:

Thank you for taking the time to read my message. I am writing related to your consideration of Item 9c, related to the Coastal Rail Trail improvements in Capitola.

A great deal of misinformation is being spread. Many well intentioned residents will be in the audience, in response to this misleading information. An anti train group active for years in SC County, claims that the new bike and pedestrian trail in Capitola is to be moved onto Park Avenue. This misinformation is intended to create alarming visions of cars, bikes and walkers all jockeying for space on the existing pavement of Park Avenue.

That is not what the proposals under consideration will do! In either option before City Council, the new trail will be next to the street and bikes and walkers and will **be physically separated from traffic on Park Avenue.** **Please make that clear to the public!**

Here is part of the relevant language from the staff Memo on this item – which is being ignored.

“Moreover, Option A and/or Option B are consistent with Measure L because they **do not propose the construction of the Trail on Capitola’s streets or sidewalks.** As explained above, RTC proposes to construct a new Class I bike path within a portion of the right-of-way that is **adjacent to and physically separated from Park Avenue.**” **(emphasis added).**

Again, in each proposal, the new trail will keep bikes and pedestrians **SEPARATED** from the existing roadway!

Let’s not fall for this game.

Sincerely, B Jordan

PS. I am sorry that this entire process is so easily misinterpreted by the public, in part by so many long and technical memos at each step of the rail trail process. I hope that someone can encourage the RTC to insert executive summaries in the front part of public memos, which are simple, clear and easily understood by the average lay person. That at least gives concerned citizens a fighting chance to get accurate information on projects and to squash the rumor mill.

Gautho, Julia

From: Kevin Norton <kwnorton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:55 PM
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.

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 easy access from the neighborhood so choose option A or B.
I want ocean views so please choose option A or B.
I would use this segment of trail in this way, or to get to this place, so choose option A or B.
I support option A or B and have additional design suggestions.

I can't wait to get on the trail!

Best regards,

Kevin

Gautho, Julia

From: Ann Carr <skyeranch@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:52 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Coastal Rail Trail Options

Please keep the trail along the rail corridor. That is the safest place for it ! It has been too long ! There is no place safe for bicycles. Trail now !

Please 🙏. On old train tracks.

If you have to have a train put it down the middle of the freeway.

Ann Carr
Aptos Hills

Sent from my iPhone

Gautho, Julia

From: Judith Rohrbaugh <judithrohrbaugh@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:35 PM
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 be cautious of negative and untruthful complaints to the contrary.

The completeness of this project has been years in the making and was voted on by the residents of Santa Cruz County. Please stay the course.

Sincerely,
J.A. Rohrbaugh

Gautho, Julia

From: Tory Delfavero <tory.delfavero@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:30 PM
To: City Council
Subject: February 13th Agenda Item 9

Dear Council,

I kindly request that the City postpone action on the rail trail until a community meeting can be held and the public has the opportunity to review the RTC fiscal report due in March.

The rail trail is a significant community change and should be treated like other important topics such as the Draft Zoning Code Updates or ADA transition plan. It's concerning that information about the Rail Trail isn't easily found in Community News, while other proposals like the Stockton Bridge replacement are highlighted.

The trail's impact on Capitola residents requires community discussion, just as other initiatives do. The current process is not accessible for working parents, which contradicts your new strategic plan's pillar of an accessible government. It's difficult for people with multiple responsibilities to engage and be informed.

For example, I received the agenda packet on Tuesday February 11th. Balancing work, family commitments (PTA Meeting Tuesday evening & kids soccer game Wednesday evening) make it incredibly hard in 48 hours to properly review such a significant proposal. Try searching "rail trail" on the City's website. This is not just about Park Avenue. The community deserves the opportunity to hear about the entire "rail trail" package through Capitola.

This rushed process isn't necessary. Please postpone the item, hold a community meeting, and wait for the RTC fiscal report to ensure our community has the information they need on this project.

Tory Del Favero
Capitola Resident

Gautho, Julia

From: Kaki Rusmore <krusmore@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:19 PM
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!

Warm regards,
Kaki Rusmore

PS. I'm from Aptos, but just across the city limits, so this really matters to me!

Gautho, Julia

From: Andrew Dyer <ampdyer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:19 PM
To: City Council
Cc: info@railandtrail.org
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear Capitola City Council and Mayor,

With the Rail Trail moving forward, the dream of a safe bike and pedestrian pathway through our community becomes closer to reality. The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are a great solution. The skilled staff has developed options for the trail that will protect Monarch habitat, that are realistic, and can be built with the existing funding.

Please support this vital community asset that will improve the lives of so many people, from children to the elderly, from rollers to walkers, locals and visitors, in many many ways.

I would like to see the momentum of this project maintained so please choose option A or B as you see best fitting from your perspective as leaders and locals.

Thank you,
Andrew Dyer
Santa Cruz, CA

Gautho, Julia

From: lynora lwine <lynorarose@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:12 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Park ave.

Please leave the area by the train tracks as is. I don't want my property taxes spent on this expensive project that will only create an unnecessary mess. People voted against it so please listen to what the people want. Thank you. Lynora Lwine

Gautho, Julia

From: Don Lauritson <donlauritson49@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:02 PM
To: City Council
Subject: SUPPORT OPTION A OR B TRAIL BETWEEN CAPITOLA VILLAGE AND NEW BRIGHTON STATE BEACH

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS,

PLEASE SUPPORT ONE OR BOTH OF THESE TRAIL OPTIONS. I OFTEN WALK IN THE VILLAGE AND AT NEW BRIGHTON STATE BEACH. THESE TRAIL OPTIONS WILL ALLOW A SAFE TRAIL BETWEEN THE TWO. I UNDERSTAND THAT GRANT MONEY IS AVAILABLE TO CONSTRUCT THIS TRAIL SEGMENT. LET'S GET GOING AND BUILD THIS SEGMENT WHICH WILL PROVIDE A SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT TO THE WALKING AND BIKING PUBLIC.

THANKS,

DON LAURITSON

Gautho, Julia

From: Susan D <sgd@baymoon.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:50 PM
To: City Council
Subject: I support 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 appreciate the work you are doing to ensure we have a safe, wide, beautiful trail for our entire community to use. I would like to see a trail sooner, not later, so please choose option A or B. Option A and B also offer ocean views so please choose either. I would use this segment to get around Capitola and the nearby areas and feel A or B offer the best options.

Thank you for your dedication to our community.

Kind regards,
Susan Dahlgren

Gautho, Julia

From: Clostergren <clostergren@protonmail.ch>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:52 PM
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 overwhelming voters in Santa Cruz county have supported the rail trail for years now.

The new plans for an elevated buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks are great. I support this idea and urge you to approve either of the options for the elevated trail; this is brilliant thinking. 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.

Please support what the majority of citizens of Capitola and Santa Cruz county want and need!

Carol Ostergren
706 Gilroy drive
Capitola CA

Gautho, Julia

From: Brad Burkhart <bradburkhart13@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:53 PM
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: Diane Cowen <cowend@santacruzpl.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:57 PM
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 work in Capitola, and am very much looking forward to the completion of this project.

Since this section is fully funded, I hope you will continue forward and not be swayed by misinformation disseminated by the anti-rail folks.

Diane Cowen

Gautho, Julia

From: Ed Spurr <edspurr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:58 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Agenda Item 9C - Trail on Right of Way

Dear Council Members,

In reading the draft Strategic Plan 2.0, it is apparent that the study favors the idea of a commuter train and it is feasible in the next 5, 10, 20 years even though our most recent study is not due until next month. The right of way is not wide enough for tracks and a reasonable trail, especially as our concept of transportation is evolving (ie electric bikes that were not a thing just a few years ago).

I implore you to support the idea of Measure L and not take the trail through the village with a loss and gain of elevation and the vehicle and pedestrian congestion, especially on weekends and rush hour. The proposal to remove the forest along Park Avenue and build a narrow trail system with 16 foot concrete wall to support it, is not looking to the future. As our town becomes a small city, the need for safe recreational opportunities will increase exponentially. An expensive and narrow trail will not meet those needs.

When I look at the disrepair of Monterey Avenue on the East side of the village, I cannot imagine a worse place for a trail and I shudder at the number of accidents and fatalities that will ensue.

As a Point of observation, Measure D (2016) raised our taxes to help maintain our roads and I would think it a very hard sell to get voters to approve another increase to pay for the building and managing of a new railroad. So let's rail bank the tracks until we have a better understanding of the transportation possibilities to come and build a world class trail system that meets the needs of our citizens now and is in harmony with the Strategic Plan 2.0..

Thank you for your service...

Ed Spurr

831.479.1139

There is only one Earth....

Gautho, Julia

From: Barbara Roettger <bqnbarbara@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:25 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Honor the will of your constituents

Dear members of the Capitola City Council,

It has come to my attention that some City Council members want to divert the trail down onto Park Avenue and into Capitola Village. This is the most ridiculous choice anyone could make. Already the Village is super congested with cars and pedestrians and it would be very dangerous for everyone if people commuting on bikes had to pedal down into the Village. There is no way I would send a child on a bicycle down into the Village. Please respect the will of the voters and keep the trail running along the rail! Capitola voters mandated in Measure L that the trail stay on the trestle. This proposal is ignoring the will of the people.

Keeping the trail on the trestle is safer, cheaper and faster and easier with just a 2-3% change in gradient.

We all know that a railway, used over a century ago to bring one train in to transport lumber and the same train exits on the same single track, is antiquated and obsolete for today's needs. With the advent of e-bikes and popularity of cycling in general, a genuine rail rail trail (like the popular rails to trails model) would be a major asset to to the citizens of Santa Cruz county and for tourists alike.

Sincerely,

Barbara Roettger
Santa Cruz
831-421-2830

Gautho, Julia

From: Peter Julber <peterjulber@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:33 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Regarding the trail between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach.

This email is in support of the Regional Transportation Commission's current two great options for the trail between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach.

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

I live in Soquel (N Rodeo Gulch Rd), and work in Aptos (Estates Dr / Aptos Warehouse Complex).

Having a safe way to commute via bicycle between these two locations is a high priority for me.

We have the grant money to build this so please choose one of the existing two options.

I will not be able to attend the city council meeting this Thursday, so please consider this as my voice of support for one of the two options already on the table.

Please do not let those who oppose these two great options sway the meeting this Thursday with dis-information.

Thank you,

Peter Julber
831 824 4176

Gautho, Julia

From: Dianne <blueiris@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:36 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Please approve the trail proposal along Park Avenue

Mayor and Council Members,

As a daily walker I am looking forward to the proposed improvements for pedestrians along Park Avenue. I read the staff report and was very pleased to see plans for an elevated, buffered and protected trail between Park Avenue and the rail tracks. Both walkers and bicyclists will have a safer and more enjoyable experience on this proposed path.

Funding is available for this project as part of the rail transit plan, which our county will definitely need in the future. I urge you to approve the staff's proposal and move forward quickly with construction.

Thanks for your consideration,
Dianne Dryer

Gautho, Julia

From: Katharine P. Minott <kpminott@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:03 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Agenda Item 9c: Support Rail Trail Options A&B: Rail Trail

Dear Members of the Capitola City Council,
I have been very pleased to read and learn about not just one, but TWO thoughtful, buildable options for the trail between Capitola Village and New Brighton State Beach.

- Each Option, A & B, places the trail on a new elevated path between the Park Avenue roadway and the railroad tracks.
- Each Option, A & B is on a raised curb, similar to a sidewalk.
- Each Option, A & B includes a 12-foot wide trail with a 5-foot buffer zone between the trail and the street.
- Additionally, Option A or Option B will be fully funded by the recent construction grant and is, frankly, ready to build.
- Moreover, each Option, A & B, protects monarch butterfly habitat,
- Each Option, A & B, provides users with ocean views,
- Each Option, A & B provides easy access between the neighborhoods and the trail.

As a longtime resident in the west Seacliff neighborhood, I am looking forward to welcoming the Rail Trail that is closer to my house and my neighborhood!

Sincerely,
~ *Kate Minott*

*Katharine P. Minott
West Seacliff Neighborhood, Aptos
Master of Urban and Regional Planning
San José State University*

Gautho, Julia

From: Mary McKenna <maryzmckenna13@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:08 PM
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 vote for option A or B, since they support all of the good design ideas mentioned above.

Thank you, Mary McKenna

Sent from my iPhone

Gautho, Julia

From: Kitty Hansen <kittyhansen674@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:13 PM
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 choose option A or B, because:

1. I want a trail SOONER, not later
2. The grant money is there!
3. I live pretty close to that area, and I would use this trail for regular bike rides from my house to Aptos and Seacliff State Beach.
4. The ocean view would be an amazing bonus!

Thanks so much for all your hard work,

K Hansen
Hill Street, Capitola

Gautho, Julia

From: Eugene Tsuji <eugenetsuji@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:16 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail Trail options A or B please

Dear City Council and Mayor,

As a frequent shopper to Capitola from Aptos, I prefer to visit by bicycle and strongly support options A or B. Many of the negative comments often show a clear fear of any change and often talking points from a disinformation campaign. I trust in the council and mayor to support options A or B for a better future

thanks

Eugene Tsuji

370 Poppy Way, Aptos, CA 95003

Gautho, Julia

From: ross rossbryan.net <ross@rossbryan.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:20 PM
To: City Council
Subject: I strongly support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

It's GREAT 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 just right. This will be a practical and beautiful addition to our community and I can't wait to get on the trail! So exciting!

Please ignore the anti-progress, not-in-my-back-yard people who are afraid. Be bold!

Ross Bryan, MA MFT
Psychotherapist
CA MFT license # 51858

“The good life is a process, not a state of being. It is a direction, not a destination.”

- Carl Rogers

Important:

This e-mail message may contain confidential information and is intended solely for the individual or individuals to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy, or distribute it or any of the information it contains. Please notify me by return email and delete it immediately.

Gautho, Julia

From: PERRY MCCULLY <pmccully3@cox.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:26 PM
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!
Perry McCully

Gautho, Julia

From: Myles Corcoran <mylescor@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:26 PM
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!

We have the grant money to build this so please choose option A or B.

Sincerely,

Myles F. Corcoran

Gautho, Julia

From: Sally Arnold <sallya@cruzio.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:31 PM
To: City Council
Subject: I support Option B for the Rail Trail

Dear City Council and Mayor,

I am so pleased to see the Rail Trail moving forward. Though both options A & B are good, I support Option B because it seems to protect more of the monarch habitat. Though an inland bike lane (Option A) could be nice, it doesn't seem necessary when we'll have a 12 foot, 2 way, protected bike trail on the ocean side of the road.

I have a couple of design suggestions. First, it appears that the buffer zone varies in width depending on the available room. It seems to me that maximizing the trail width in those wider spots would have more value. I suggest keeping the buffer a steady 5 feet and making the trail even wider than 12 feet where you can.

My second suggestion has to do with protecting the pedestrians and cyclists using the trail. The curb and the buffer are great. Even better would be adding an attractive vertical element. This might be a low fence, a hedge of native plants, a trellis with a native vine growing on it.... Something like this would serve a few purposes. It would make the trail feel more safe and separated from the traffic. It would be a visual clue to cars to stay away. It would prevent impulsive pedestrians, cyclists and skateboarders from shooting out into traffic whenever they get the notion. I think an attractive 3-4 foot barrier would greatly improve safety for all users of Park Avenue whether in their cars or using active transportation.

Thank you for your work on this. I can't wait to get on the trail!

Sally Arnold

Gautho, Julia

From: John Martorella <martorella1115@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:45 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Bay Ave. & the trail

Hello Mayor and council,

Here's a few things to consider:

- Put back Bay ave. to its original configuration. This experiment is another failure and waste of money from a shoot from the hip reaction.
- Install raised crosswalks @ Bay ave. and Hill st. that is well illuminated.
- Eliminate street parking @ 750 Bay Ave. from Capitola ave to Hill. The tenants at the complex have plenty of parking in the rear of the complex. This will help with cyclists by having dedicated marked lanes in each direction.
- Roundabouts won't work at Bay and Cap ave as it sits now, you would have to purchase property from 4 differnt owners to maybe make it work. Please don't waste our money on another study!
- Don't agree to a "trail" through the city streets, who comes up with crap like that?

Lastly, get another council member to represent Capitola on the RTC, our current member is lost in high weeds.

Thank you,
John Martorella

Gautho, Julia

From: vivianfennerevans@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:46 PM
To: City Council
Subject: REJECT RTC's PROPOSAL

To whom it may concern:

Please do not overthrow the will of the voters by passing measure L which rejected the diversion of unusable train tracks for an unfunded train project. The loss of hundreds of trees would be devastating. I once took a tourist from Spain on this walk and she said it reminded her of the most beautiful area in Spain! This is not a cost saving measure because \$120 million dollars in grants still can't and wont pay for the project to preserve tracks that are unusable.

I urge you to reject the RTC proposal. This path is called the **spiritual cathedral** by locals. I urge each on of you to walk this trail and you will see both walkers and bicyclists getting along on one of the most beautiful trails in all of the county.

Vivian Fenner-Evans
Soquel Resident who spends every week walking on this trail

This is what we are looking at with the misinformation of "Rail and Trail: We can have both!" The loss of hundreds of mature trees and natural beauty that many have enjoyed as a tall for a 1500 foot long retaining wall cavern. What was a safe, separated wide corridor for bikes and pedestrians will become a narrow bike lane with no bollards or protection from speeding vehicles distracted by the coastal view. Voters in 2018 passed Measure L rejecting this diversion, yet the Capitola City Council will be attempting to overthrow the will of the voters at an extremely high expense masquerading as a "cost saving measure" as over \$120 million in grants still can't pay for the ridiculous project to preserve unusable train tracks for an unfunded train project. Demand the city council reject the RTC's proposal by writing to them today at citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us or by attending tomorrow evening's city council meeting and using the public comment session to speak out.

Gautho, Julia

From: Tina Andreatta <tina.marieotr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:46 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Build the trail adjacent to Park Avenue

Dear Capitola Mayor, Vice-Mayor and City Council Members,

I am grateful for the planning staff for their hard work, dedication and expertise. Follow the professional advice from Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission. Most importantly, with the latest construction grant, either alternative A or B options will be fully funded and ready to build.

Alternative A or B options are safer, protect monarch butterfly habitat, the trail will be built much quicker, and less expensive.

Alternative A or B options offer pedestrians; cyclists; wheelchairs with ocean views. Both options include a 12-foot wide trail with 5-foot buffer zone between the trail and Park Avenue.

Either alternative option is superior as the trail is free of the fence and level with Park Avenue. The trail will easily connect to numerous Capitola side street neighborhoods.

Best regards,

Tina Andreatta

Gautho, Julia

From: Betsy Kodad <betsybelton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:58 PM
To: City Council
Subject: I support the staff recommendations for the Rail Trail

I haveDear 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!

Sent from my iPhone. I have lived in santa cruz county since 1984. I love to go on trains. They are so much fun. I have voted for these train options an every ballot! Please know I am hoping to live long enough for these trains to be running.! They are fun for kids and Adults. Less cars on the roads too. Please know many of us want this! ASAP! I'm 74 now. Trying to stay positive! Sincerely , Elizabeth Belton

Gautho, Julia

From: Melinda Geisler <melindageisler@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:59 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Rail line

Please stop promoting this train. It will be a nightmare, barging through our village and neighborhoods! Train horns sounding at each crossing, the clang clang of the crossing gates, the trees removed! It's a terrifying thought. And the residents who will lose their homes, low income residents living in mobile homes. You can't justify this! A train will not be used and it is not necessary. A trail will attract tourists and be used by residents. It will improve Capitola and Santa Cruz. Just like the trail in Monterey, which is used to promote that city. Don't let us down, please stop spending money on crazy studies for a project no one wants but the politicians Thank you Melinda Geisler
300 Plum St.
Capitola, Ca
95010
Sent from my iPhone

Gautho, Julia

From: Julia M Dye <julia@jhulphers.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 4:03 PM
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.
Thank you.
Julia