

CAPITOLA TOWN HALL RAIL TRAIL

Purpose: Introduce Plan for Rail Trail Project Town Hall

Recommended Action: Approve the proposed town hall meeting plan and outreach strategy.

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Background:

February 13: City Council reviewed options for Coastal Rail Trail improvements in the Park Avenue right-of-way

Council postponed decision and directed staff to host Town Hall Meeting to cover:

- Updates on the use of the Trestle
- Long-term impacts of the project
- Impacts of potential litigation from Measure L
- Overview of Rail Trail Project impacts in Capitola

March 4: RTC hosted Independent Town Hall

Late April: County expected to consider authorizing engineering contract for Park Avenue design.

PROPOSED CAPITOLA TOWN HALL: RAIL TRAIL

Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Time: 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Location: New Brighton Middle School Performing Arts Center

CAPITOLA TOWN HALL

Noticed City Council meeting: Allows for Council Member attendance (no formal action/decision).

Informational Materials: Available on City website on March 21.

Notice/Promotions: Press release, social media, City website, digital newsletter, and mailed postcard to residents and project stakeholders.

Pre-Submitted Questions: Public can submit questions from March 19 – March 31 on City website

Accessibility: Town Hall recording available on City website & YouTube Channel after the meeting.

CAPITOLA TOWN HALL AGENDA:

- 1. Mayor Welcome**
- 2. Facilitator Introduction**
- 3. Presentation:** Capitola, RTC, and County staff to present project overview and key topics. (35 minutes)
- 4. Pre-Submitted Questions:** Staff to answer summarized questions (15 minutes)
- 5. Public Comment and Question:** Audience can submit speaker cards to speak up to 2 minutes (45 minutes)
- 6. Staff Response:** Staff to address questions/themes raised by the public (20 minutes)
- 7. End Time:** For accessibility, Town Hall will have a noticed end time.

CAPITOLA TOWN HALL TOPICS:

- Current Project: Rail Trail Segment 10 and 11
- Use of Capitola Trestle
- Park Avenue Trail Realignment
- Funding
- Ongoing Maintenance Costs
- Mobile Home Encroachments
- Measure L
- Timeline: EIR, Permits, Construction
- Future Zero Emissions Passenger Rail and Trail (ZEPRT)

In addition, Council discussed the possibility of a topic around potential litigation. Staff recommends not discussing potential litigation in open session.

CAPITOLA TOWN HALL NEXT STEPS:

Special City Council meeting on **April 17** for final decision on Park Avenue alignment of the rail trail.

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