Gautho, Julia

From: Kevin Maguire <kmaguire831@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 4:41 PM
To: City Clerk; City Council
Subject: Item 7C – Stockton Avenue Bridge: Preserve the Alternatives Before Spending $474,912

Mayor Morgan and Councilmembers,

I am writing regarding Item 7C and the proposed $474,912 professional services agreement for the Stockton Avenue Bridge.

I support obtaining the engineering information necessary to understand the bridge. My concern is that nearly half a million dollars could be committed before Council and the public receive the actual side-by-side analysis Council previously requested: rehabilitation/retrofit, deck replacement, comparable replacement, and the costs and remaining service life associated with each.

Before approving this agreement, please require staff to answer clearly:

1. How much project funding will remain after this $474,912 agreement?
2. What is the estimated cost of the next phase needed to actually develop and compare the alternatives?
3. Where will that Phase 2 funding come from?
4. Does the proposed "Purpose and Need" presume replacement, widening, additional bicycle/pedestrian capacity, or any off-corridor Coastal Rail Trail function?
5. At what point will Council receive comparable rehabilitation, retrofit/deck replacement, and replacement alternatives with alternative-specific costs and service-life estimates?

I also ask Council to expressly direct that the Purpose and Need remain neutral and that no alternative be prejudged. Rehabilitation, retrofit, deck replacement, and replacement should be evaluated on equal footing.

This is particularly important given Measure L/CMC Chapter 8.72. The bridge study should evaluate the bridge's legitimate local transportation and infrastructure needs without quietly embedding an off-corridor regional Trail function into the project assumptions.

Please study the bridge thoroughly—but preserve the alternatives and Council's policy-making authority before the City spends the majority of the available project-development money.

Thank you,

Kevin Maguire
Capitola Resident
Founder, C.O.A.S.T. — Community Oversight for Accountable, Sustainable Transportation