



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA MEETING MINUTES\*  
APRIL 26, 2019 – 9:00 AM  
SCOTTS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
ONE CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, SCOTTS VALLEY, CA**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) was convened on Friday, April 26, 2019 at the Scotts Valley City Chambers, One Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley, CA.

The Board Meeting Agenda Packet can be found online at [www.SCMTD.com](http://www.SCMTD.com) and is available for inspection at Santa Cruz METRO's Administrative offices at 110 Vernon Street, Santa Cruz, California. \*Minutes are "summary" minutes, not verbatim minutes. Audio recordings of Board meeting open sessions are available to the public upon request.

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**SECTION I: OPEN SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER** at 9:04 AM by Chair Bottorff.

General Counsel, Julie Sherman, swore in new Director: Larry Pageler, County Representative

**ROLL CALL:** The following Directors were **present**, representing a quorum:

<b>Director Ed Bottorff</b>	<b>City of Capitola</b>
<b>Director Trina Coffman-Gomez</b>	<b>City of Watsonville LV 10:25A</b>
<b>Director Aurelio Gonzalez</b>	<b>City of Watsonville LV 10:25A</b>
Director John Leopold	County of Santa Cruz
<b>Director Donna Lind</b>	<b>City of Scotts Valley</b>
<b>Director Cynthia Mathews</b>	<b>City of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Donna Meyers</b>	<b>City of Santa Cruz AR 9:25A</b>
<b>Director Bruce McPherson</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Larry Pageler</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Dan Rothwell</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Mike Rotkin</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
Ex-Officio Director Alta Northcutt	Cabrillo College
<b>Ex-Officio Director Stephen Preston</b>	<b>UCSC AR 9:15A</b>

Director Leopold was absent.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Alex Clifford	METRO CEO/General Manager
Julie Sherman	METRO General Counsel

**METRO EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO VOLUNTARILY INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) WERE:**

Allison Adair, SMART Local 23	Eddie Benson, SCMTD
Heather Adamson, AMBAG	Elise Casby, Bus Riders of METRO
Nate Abrego, SMART Local 23	Joshua Chelise, SMART Local 23

Regina Chelise, SMART Local 23  
Bonnie Morr, SMART Local 23  
Joanna Edmonds, RTC  
Brandon Freeman, SMART Local 23  
Juan Gallegos, METRO ParaCruz  
John Gose, SMART Local 23  
Joan Jeffries, SEIU

Johnny Lopez, SMART Local 23  
John Otto, SMART Local 23  
Josefina Pulio, METRO  
James Sandoval, SMART Local 23  
Rachel Spaulding  
Lenore Young, SMART Local 23  
Daniel Zaragoza, METRO

#### **4 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

4-1. Today's meeting is being broadcast by Community Television of Santa Cruz County.

#### **5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

Vice Chair Rotkin invited the assembly to attend Saturday's 10:00AM public transportation event at Loudon Nelson where CEO Clifford and SCCRTC Executive Director, Guy Preston, will speak about transportation in Santa Cruz County.

Director Mathews noted that CEO Clifford's State of METRO presentation to the City of Santa Cruz had been very informative.

#### **6 ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Vice Chair Rotkin requested METRO staff respond to the April 17, 2019 letter from Joint Venture of Silican Valley and provide the Board with copies of that response.

Public Comment:

Brian Peoples, representing TrailNow, spoke about the unified corridor study and the need for the coastal corridor.

Marilyn Garrett, a METRO bus rider and public transportation supporter, expressed concerns about exposure to microwave radiation on the buses and in the environment. (See attached documentation provided at the meeting.)

Elise Casby, bus rider, expressed concern with CEO Clifford's April 22, 2019 letter regarding service disruptions.

Rachel Spaulding, echoed Ms. Garrett's concerns and asked that residents resist cell tower rollout and provided the attached public health warning document to the assembly.

Vice Chair Rotkin responded to Mr. People's comments and clarified the events of the SCCRTC meeting and coastal corridor plans. He recommended the public address the federal government regarding their EMF concerns and cell tower concerns.

#### **7 WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAC (if applicable)**

Having none, Chair Bottorff moved to the next agenda item.

#### **8 LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS**

James Sandoval, SMART Local 23 representative, said METRO is currently recruiting for another 12 Operators; however the payscale is a concern. (See attached In-n-Out Burger flyer.) Referring to CEO Clifford's April 22<sup>nd</sup> letter regarding service disruptions, he recommended METRO take into account the "burnout factor" and commend Operators for keeping the public moving and recognizing that some operators work seven days per week; i.e., to their legal limitations.

Bonnie Morr, SMART Local 23 representative, reiterated Mr. Sandoval's statements and believes a better process would be to work cooperatively. Issues need to be addressed as we are entering into negotiations in the near future.

Nate Abrego, union rep, said METRO is understaffed in every department. Operators have worked 10-15 hours per day to ensure the community gets where they need to be.

Johnny Lopez, METRO employee for five years, said while he is offended, he continues to be professional in his job.

**9 ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS**

Having none, Chair Bottorff moved to the next agenda item.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 10-01 ACCEPT AND FILE: PRELIMINARY APPROVED CHECK JOURNAL DETAIL FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2019
- 10-02 ACCEPT AND FILE: MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2019 METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) MEETING, THE MARCH 22, 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AND THE APRIL 19, 2019 CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING
- 10-03 ACCEPT AND FILE: THE YEAR TO DATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF JANUARY 31, 2019
- 10-04 ACCEPT AND FILE: THE YEAR TO DATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019
- 10-05 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FY19 REVISED CAPITAL BUDGET
- 10-06 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT TO ENVIRONMENTAL LOGISTICS, INC. FOR INDUSTRIAL WASTE REMOVAL AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES NOT TO EXCEED \$108,000
- 10-07 APPROVE: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH APOLLO VIDEO
- 10-08 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF ENDORSING PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO) ENABLING LEGISLATION
- 10-09 APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR REVISION TO FY19 CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRAM

Item 10-09 was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion and Chair Bottorff renumbered it as item 12A to be considered following approval of the remainder of the Consent Agenda.

Director Mathews commented on Item 10-02, saying the MAC minutes were interesting and clear about engagement.

Public Comment:

Ms. Garrett, referring to Item 10-07, expressed her opposition to cameras on the buses.

Ms. Casby, referring to Item 10-07, echoed Ms. Garrett's concerns and questioned spending money for a service that, in her opinion, may be potentially unnecessary.

Chair Bottorff and Vice Chair Rotkin stressed the use of cameras on the buses is a safety/security measure for the public, METRO and the bus operators and, in fact, has saved METRO significant money by demonstrating METRO's lack of fault in accidents.

**ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE PULLING OF ITEM 10-09**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR McPHERSON**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Rotkin and Rothwell). Director Leopold was absent.**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**11 PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS FOR JUAN GALLEGOS BELMARES (15 years)**

Ed Bottorff, Board Chair, presented the plaque, while Vice Chair Rotkin spoke to Mr. Gallegos' background with METRO.

Mr. Gallegos thanked everyone for their support through the years and said he's proud to be working for METRO.

**12 CEO ORAL REPORT**

Alex Clifford, CEO/General Manager, spoke on a variety of issues.

New Hires and Promotions:

Provisional Hires:

- Matt Marquez – Intern promoted from Intern to Provisional Planning Aide
- Jason Burns – Hired as Provisional Administrative Specialist.

New Hires:

- Jamie Jones – Administrative Specialist

Promotion by Qualification:

- Daniel Zenteno – promoted from Mechanic I to Mechanic II

HR Director: Congratulated Dawn Crummié on her promotion and provided a brief summary of her background.

METRO will have an articulated bus on display at this Sunday's Touch-a-Truck event in Scotts Valley

The Marketing, Communications and Customer Service Director recruitment has been successful. CEO Clifford will introduce the new employee at the May 17 board meeting.

METRO has been notified of Cabrillo College's decreased contribution (approximately \$200K) due to decreased enrollment. As a result, we anticipate a decrease of two runs.

METRO was found to be in compliance with the federally mandated testing during the latest FTA drug and alcohol audit.

The FTA triennial review will be conducted this year.

In response to Director Meyers' request, Barrow Emerson, Planning and Development Director, and Isaac Holly, IT and ITS Director, provided an update on the eco-pass program for downtown Santa Cruz.

There was no public comment.

**12A. (FORMER 10-09) APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR REVISION TO FY19 CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRAM**

Mr. Emerson addressed the differences in Attachments A and B of the 10-09 staff report.

There was no public comment.

**ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR REVISION TO FY19 CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRAM.**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR McPHERSON**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Rotkin and Rothwell). Director Leopold was absent.**

**13 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO THE EXTEND THE DATE OF CLOSURE FOR THE SOQUEL PARK AND RIDE LOT TO MAY 31, 2019**

Alex Clifford, CEO/General Manager, provided background to the staff report and reminded the Board of illegal activity on the lot; saying closing it down will eliminate this. We want to give priority to possibly relocating ParaCruz to this location.

Various Directors voiced their support, but requested METRO return to Dominican Hospital to explore a short-term agreement where Dominican might provide funding for security in exchange for using the space.

There was no public comment.

**ACTION: MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CEO TO EXTEND THE DATE OF CLOSURE FOR THE SOQUEL PARK AND RIDE LOT TO MAY 31, 2019 AS PRESENTED WITH AN ADDENDUM TO PLAN FOR SECURITY OF THE LOT AND REMAIN OPEN TO FUTURE SHORT TERM ARRANGEMENTS**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR LIND**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Rotkin and Rothwell). Director Leopold was absent.**

**14 ACCEPT: ORAL REPORT OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND CURRENT LEGISLATIVE ISSUES AS LEARNED DURING BOARD WASHINGTON, DC VISIT APRIL 8-10, 2019**

Board Directors Bottorff, McPherson and Rotkin spoke about their outreach, experiences and meetings with the administration, House and Senate representatives in Washington, DC.

*Directors Coffman-Gomez and Gonzalez departed at 10:25AM*

**15 10-YEAR (FISCAL YEAR 2020-29) STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE**

Barrow Emerson, Planning and Development Director, spoke to the agenda item noting that Attachment C is not a commitment to funding; but an indicator of funding requirements.

Due to a number of requested corrections, additions, etc. by Board Directors, CEO Clifford and Chair Bottorff requested this item be returned to Committee for revision before submission to the Board at a future date.

There was no public comment.

**ACTION: MOTION TO REDIRECT THE 10-YEAR (FISCAL YEAR 2020-29) STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE TO COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER WORK**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR LIND**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 8 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Rotkin and Rothwell). Directors Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, and Leopold were absent.**

**16 LONG-RANGE BUS REPLACEMENT PLAN**

Barrow Emerson, Planning and Development Director, noted the number of buses required is now 53, down from 62. It is important to note that this Plan accounts for the newest CARB requirements.

There was no public comment.

**17 UPDATE AND ACTION RELATIVE TO PACIFIC STATION AND RELATED STUDIES**

CEO Clifford spoke to the staff report and provided a brief history of the long process METRO has undertaken to determine the future of Pacific Station. Based on the latest estimates, we anticipate a cost of \$5.6M to totally refurbish the facility versus a total teardown and rebuild estimate which would cost approximately \$12.5M.

Chair Bottorff spoke on behalf of the Capital Projects Committee and its direction to the CEO to engage in conversation and negotiations with the City of Santa Cruz.

Director Mathews suggested additional fiscal resources might be available from potential partners, such as Dientes and the Santa Cruz Health Centers.

In response to Ex-Officio Director Preston's concern about service during the anticipated two-year construction phase, CEO Clifford advised we have yet to figure this out as there are not existing nearby lots available on a temporary basis.

Public Comment:

Elise Casby, asked the Board to consider the station as a public commons area; e.g., Portland and San Francisco.

Bonnie Lipscomb, City of Santa Cruz Director of Economic Development, is excited to collaborate with METRO on this project and said timing is critical for downtown development and financing.

**ACTION: MOTION TO DIRECT THE CEO TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE CITY AND MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR McPHERSON**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 8 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Rotkin and Rothwell). Directors Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, and Leopold were absent.**

**18 CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACT FOR LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES WITH SWIFT CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. FOR A POTENTIAL PARACRUZ OPERATIONS FACILITY**

Daniel Zaragoza, Operations Manager, Paratransit Division, and Erron Alvey, Purchasing & Special Projects Director, spoke to the agenda item noting METRO is initially looking at the biological, archeological and geological land use feasibility with the hopes of beginning the project as soon as possible.

Chair Bottorff added the Capital Projects Committee has reviewed and supports this.

Public Comment:

Nate Abrego, Paratransit Operator, expressed his support for the project and echoed the sense of urgency.

Elyse Campos said each single land development project is an opportunity for creativity and referred the Board to a City of Portland landscape architect.

**ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES WITH SWIFT CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. FOR A POTENTIAL PARACRUZ OPERATIONS FACILITY AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 8 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Rotkin and Rothwell). Directors Coffman-Gomez, Gonzalez, and Leopold were absent.**

**19 REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

Julie Sherman, General Counsel, announced the items to be discussed in today's closed session, noting the Board will not be taking any reportable action today.

**20 ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2019 AT 9:00 AM, AT WATSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 275 MAIN STREET, WATSONVILLE, CA**

Ed Bottorff, Board Chair

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION AT 11:50A**

Chair Bottorff adjourned the meeting at 11:51A

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# PUBLIC HEALTH WARNING

VERIZON has proposed to erect over 80 new cell facilities in Santa Cruz County. Local officials have admitted that the telecom industry plans to install more than 40 small cell antennas *per square mile* in our community, in front of our homes, in all of our neighborhoods. With the collusion of federal, state, and local government, telecom corporations are permitted to violate our health and safety with ever-increasing levels of microwave radiation (EMF). Thousands of existing US cell towers violate federal emission limits, some by as much as 600%. Once installed, these towers are not monitored - the industry may broadcast at any level. Thousands of peer-reviewed studies by scientists independent of the industry conclusively prove serious long-term health effects from current exposures to wireless technologies, **ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN**. These include: Cancer, Neurological Disorders including ADHD and ADD, Heart Disease, Sterility including permanent DNA damage, Diabetes, Tinnitus, Headaches and Insomnia. New generation technology (4G and 5G) is **EXPONENTIALLY MORE HARMFUL** as it uses shorter microwaves and differently pulsed frequencies. We are being subjected to a dangerous experiment **WITHOUT OUR INFORMED CONSENT!** Please join your neighbors in resisting this cell tower roll-out. It is up to us to protect ourselves, our children, and our environment. As a community we can turn the tide on this dangerous wave of EMF deployment!

Join our local group

Facebook: EMF Aware-Santa Cruz

**Action Strategies:** <https://5gcrisis.com>

**WATCH youtube: 5G APOCALYPSE-THE EXTINCTION EVENT**

- Educating neighbors, schools, and businesses
- Lobbying local government officials  
Go to [www.mystreetmychoice](http://www.mystreetmychoice) - Santa Cruz link for a contact list of your local government representatives and express your concern!
- Notice of Liability to corporate and government officials  
EMF Aware - Santa Cruz is working on submitting legal documents to those responsible for the violation of our human right to health and safety

Please use these resources to educate yourself and pass them on to friends and family

[www.mdsafetech.org](http://www.mdsafetech.org)

[www.scientists4wiredtechnology.com](http://www.scientists4wiredtechnology.com)

[www.americansforresponsibletech.org](http://www.americansforresponsibletech.org)

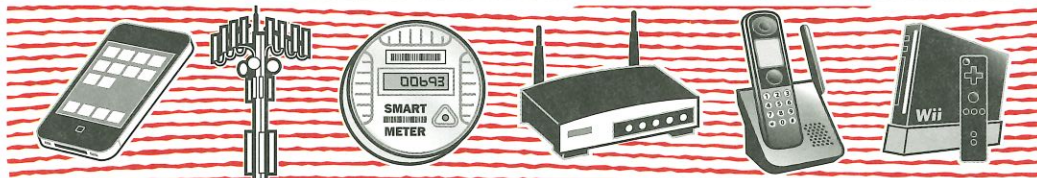
[www.telecompowergrab.org](http://www.telecompowergrab.org)

[www.ehtrust.org](http://www.ehtrust.org) - 5G Fact Sheet

[www.emfsafetynetwork.org](http://www.emfsafetynetwork.org)

# PUBLIC HEALTH WARNING

ALL WIRELESS DEVICES EMIT MICROWAVE RADIATION—a known biological hazard



**EVERY TIME YOU USE A WIRELESS DEVICE, YOU ARE EXPOSED TO MICROWAVE RADIATION.**

The World Health Organization (WHO) labels this radiation a Class 2B possible cancer-causing agent in the same category as lead, DDT, and chloroform. Cell phones, towers, cordless phones, tablets, laptops, “smart” meters, microwaves and wi-fi routers all add to the “electro-smog.”

**MICROWAVE RADIATION IS HARMFUL TO YOU.** Scientists link this radiation to diseases, both long-term and short-term: cancer, infertility, DNA damage, damage to fetuses, sleep problems, memory and behavior problems, heart problems and many others.

**MANY PEOPLE HAVE BECOME “ELECTRO-HYPER-SENSITIVE” (EHS)** and cannot tolerate common exposures, seriously impacting their health, job, housing, and social lives.

**GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS DO NOT PROTECT YOU.** FCC guidelines were written decades ago and ignore current science linking microwaves to human disease. The City of Berkeley, CA has passed a law requiring health warnings at all cell phone retailers, though the wireless industry is fighting these efforts in court under the guise of free speech.

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## Protect yourself and those you love:



- **GET WIRED!** Ethernet cables provide faster, safer, more secure internet connections.
- **USE A CORDED LANDLINE.** Cordless phones are as dangerous as cell phones.
- **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE. TURN IT OFF.** Manuals tell you to keep phones out of your pocket and away from your skull. Run notebook computers on battery, turn off wireless functions, and use a corded external keyboard and mouse.
- **DO NOT USE WIRELESS DEVICES INSIDE METAL ENCLOSURES,** like cars, elevators, buses, and trains. Here, radiation greatly increases, harming you and those around you.
- **WIRELESS RADIATION IS NOT FOR CHILDREN OR PREGNANT WOMEN.** Prenatal and childhood exposure is linked to hyperactivity, behavioral problems, brain changes, and autism.
- **DITCH THE “SMART” METER**—it pulses microwave radiation 24/7/365. Demand a non-electronic, electromechanical analog meter—no “dirty electricity” or microwaves.
- **TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.** Browse our website for sources, scientific studies, and solutions. Help those you love rethink their exposure and reduce their risk.