



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 – 9:00 AM  
SANTA CRUZ CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
809 CENTER STREET  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) was convened on Friday, September 22, 2017 at the Santa Cruz City Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, 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.

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**SECTION I: OPEN SESSION**

**1 CALL TO ORDER at 9:01 AM by Chair Dutra.**

**2** New UCSC ex-officio director, Larry Pageler, was sworn in by General Counsel Sherman.

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

<b>Director Ed Bottorff</b>	<b>City of Capitola</b>	
<b>Director Cynthia Chase</b>	<b>City of Santa Cruz</b>	
<b>Director Jimmy Dutra, Board Chair</b>	<b>City of Watsonville</b>	
<b>Director Norm Hagen</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>	
<b>Director John Leopold</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>	
<b>Director Donna Lind</b>	<b>City of Scotts Valley</b>	
<b>Director Cynthia Mathews</b>	<b>City of Santa Cruz</b>	<b>AR 9:05AM</b>
<b>Director Bruce McPherson, Board Vice Chair</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>	
<b>Director Oscar Rios</b>	<b>City of Watsonville</b>	
<b>Director Dan Rothwell</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>	
<b>Director Mike Rotkin</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>	
<b>Ex-Officio Director Larry Pageler</b>	<b>UC Santa Cruz</b>	
<b>Ex Officio Director Liber McKee</b>	<b>Cabrillo College</b>	

**STAFF PRESENT:**

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

Julie Sherman, General Counsel, swore in new UCSC ex-officio director, Larry Pageler.

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

Angela Aitken, METRO	Rachel Morconi, RTC
Sylvia Caras, Self	Becky Steinbruner, Citizen
Debbie Kinslow, METRO	Thomas Stumbaugh, Citizen
G.L. Lindstrum, Self/Citizens	Daniel Zaragoza, METRO

**4 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Dutra introduced Carlos Landaverry and his Spanish Language interpretation services. He then announced that the meeting is being televised by Community Television of Santa Cruz County with technician, Mr. Lynn Dunton.

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

Julie Sherman, General Counsel, announced the item to be discussed as noted below.

There was no public comment.

**6 RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION AT 9:06AM**

**SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION**

**7 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6)**

Agency Negotiators:	Alex Clifford, CEO/General Manager Julie Sherman, General Counsel
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Employee Organization:	UTU, Local 23
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**SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION AT 9:49AM**

**8 REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

Julie Sherman, General Counsel, announced there were no reportable actions from the closed session.

There was no public comment.

**9 BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

As a result of discussion regarding potentially cancelling the December 2017 meeting. Chair Dutra directed staff to return to the October 2017 board meeting with a revised Board Meeting schedule cancelling the December meeting.

Hearing no further comments, Chair Dutra moved to the next agenda item.

**10 COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mr. Brian Peoples, TrailNow representative, asked that the Board continue to work to ensure the SCCRTC allocates money to METRO.

Mr. John Daugherty and Ms. Becky Taylor, Commission on Disabilities representatives, invited the assembly to attend the upcoming Kudos Awards event on October 21, 2017 and provided a flyer with details. (See attached)

The following members of the public expressed their concerns regarding a proposed change to an Aptos Village bus stop:

- Ms. Sylvia Caras (See attached document provided to Gina Pye at the meeting)

- Mr. Tom Stumbaugh
- Ms. Becky Steinbruner
- Ms. Marilyn Gehrig
- Mr. Gary Lindstrom

In response to questions from the public and the Board, Mr. Ciro Aguirre, COO, responded: During the past several years, while METRO was in contact with Mr. Jack Sohriakoff, Public Works Director, there were some plans that were submitted which were not compliant with the ADA requirements. As a result, a lot of research and information that was exchanged, including FTA specifications and all of the guidelines that were associated with the bus stop in order to make it compliant. The construction designers, Bowman and Williams, went in and actually designed something that is going to be compliant. There will also be a special-designed shelter and a cutout. Our County is not known for wide streets and, as a result, our training has included the mitigation of being able to pull out into traffic under safe conditions, even though there is congestion and some inordinate amount of traffic. Neither the Union nor the safety coordinator who reviewed the stop saw a problem with the line of sight or their abilities to maneuver the vehicle out of or into that bus stop. Consequently, this stop will be modified and improved in order to allow sidewalks, a path of travel and an ADA-compliant bus stop. Additionally, there will be a controlling light and bulb-out for a turn to mitigate movements around the bus.

Joan Jeffries, speaking as a member of the public and METRO employee, provided Gina Pye with a copy of comments from 8/25 board meeting. (See attached.)

**11 COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAC**

Having none, Chair Dutra moved to the next item.

**12 LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS**

Michael Rios, PSA representative, congratulated and welcomed Larry Pageler to the Board.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

14-01 RECOMMENDED ACTION ON TORT CLAIMS

14-02 ACCEPT AND FILE: PRELIMINARY CHECK JOURNAL DETAIL FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2017

14-03 ACCEPT AND FILE: MINUTES OF THE SANTA CRUZ METRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF AUGUST 25, 2017

14-04 ACCEPT AN FILE: QUARTERLY PROCUREMENT REPORT FOR 2ND QUARTER OF FY18

14-05 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF DECLARING VEHICLES AND/OR EQUIPMENT AS EXCESS FOR PURPOSE OF DISPOSAL OR AUCTION

14-06 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT TO ALEXANDER ELECTRIC DBA STATE ELECTRIC GENERATOR FOR ANNUAL EMERGENCY GENERATOR LOAD BANK TESTING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000

14-07 CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS TO RECEIVE FUNDS FROM THE SANTA CRUZ REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

14-08 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING CEO TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH COMPLETE COACH WORKS TO LEASE ARTICULATED BUSES FOR UCSC SERVICES

14-09 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A 2ND CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH HOWIE AND SMITH LLP TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT TOTAL BY \$25,000

14-10 APPROVAL OF WAGE SURVEY RESULTS FOR ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN

Public comment:

Referencing Agenda Item 14-03, Mr. Michael Rios, questioned the accuracy of several statements within the minutes.

Chair Dutra directed staff to review the audio of the meeting and bring any corrections to the October board meeting for review and approval.

**ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED, EXCLUDING AGENDA ITEM 14-03, DELAYING THE APPROVAL AND DIRECTING STAFF TO DOUBLE-CHECK THE ACCURACY OF THE 8/25/17 BOARD MINUTES.**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR BOTTORFF**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 11 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin).**

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **15 PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS TO LEONARD PENA AND GREGORY WILLIS**

Chair Dutra presented Mr. Greg Willis with the plaque and pin and thanked him for his service.

Mr. Willis thanked the Board and his coworkers, past and present.

Mr. Pena was not present.

### **16 FUTURE OF UCSC EX-OFFICIO BOARD SEAT ORAL PRESENTATION**

UCSC students, Ms. Alice Malmberg and Mr. Noah Thoron, spoke to the written proposal they provided to support a student ex-officio (or voting) board member through their on-campus organization, SCOC. (See attached.)

Ex-Officio Director Pageler, voicing his support for student representation, noted the appointment process has changed over the years and said he would work with UCSC to review the process.

Director Rotkin noted any change in ex-officio voting status would require legislation.

General Counsel Sherman noted that any changes of this nature could be addressed in the Bylaw review that the Personnel/HR Standing Committee is currently undertaking.

Director Leopold encouraged staff to provide an advance summary of future oral presentations within the board packet.

There was no public comment:

**ACTION: MOTION SUPPORTING THE PROCESS TO TRANSITION TO AN EX-OFFICIO BOARD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE FROM UCSC AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 11 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin).**

**17 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT OF CASSITY MEGA TO THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) FOR A TERM OF OFFICE ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019**

CEO Clifford provided background to the staff report.

Director Rotkin added the Ad Hoc Committee based their recommendation on a range of diversity and qualifications. Director Mathews voiced her support, saying she's worked with Ms. Mega in the past.

There was no public comment:

**ACTION: MOTION TO APPOINT CASSITY MEGA TO THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) FOR A TERM OF OFFICE ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR RIOS**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 11 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin).**

*Director McPherson departed at 10:55AM*

**18 FISCAL YEAR END MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORTS FOR JUNE 30, 2017; AND, ADOPTION OF THE PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCES**

Angela Aitken, Finance Manager, provided commentary to the presentation, noting that these are un-audited financials.

There were no public comments.

Board comments:

As a result of Board member's comments and a unified recommendation, CEO Clifford will author an op-ed publicizing METRO's balanced budget and a one page information sheet to be posted to the website.

**ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE THE FISCAL YEAR END MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORTS FOR JUNE 30, 2017; AND, ADOPT THE PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF RESERVE ACCOUNT BALANCES AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Director McPherson had departed.**

**19 ELECTRIC BUS PURCHASE STATUS REPORT**

Ciro Aguirre, COO, provided background to the agenda item in the absence of Purchasing Manager, Ms. Erron Alvey. Discussion ensued regarding the various buses and charging systems available throughout the industry.

There were no public comments.

*Ex-Officio Director McKee departed at 11:38AM*

*Chair Dutra left the room at 11:39AM*

**ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE THE ELECTRIC BUS PURCHASE STATUS REPORT AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR CHASE**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 9 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Directors Dutra and McPherson were not present.**

**20 RATIFICATION OF THE WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT PROCESS FOR BUS ENGINE REPLACEMENT AND INSTALLATION**

Ciro Aguirre, COO, spoke to the agenda item and noted that some buses actually have 749,000 miles; greater than the 400,000 stated in the staff report.

There were no public comments.

**ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE RATIFICATION OF THE WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT PROCESS FOR BUS ENGINE REPLACEMENT AND INSTALLATION AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR CHASE**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 9 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Directors Dutra and McPherson were not present.**

*Chair Dutra returned at 11:47AM*

**21 CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A 3<sup>RD</sup> LEASE AMENDMENT WITH WAVE CREST DEVELOPMENT FOR SOIL REMEDIATION, INCREASING THE CONTRACT TOTAL BY \$150,000**

Ciro Aguirre, COO, standing in for Purchasing Manager, Ms. Alvey, provided commentary to the agenda item.

There were no public comments.

**ACTION: MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CEO TO EXECUTE A 3<sup>RD</sup> LEASE AMENDMENT WITH WAVE CREST DEVELOPMENT FOR SOIL REMEDIATION, INCREASING THE CONTRACT TOTAL BY \$150,000 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR LIND**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Leopold, Lind, Mathews, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Director McPherson had departed.**

**22 STATUS OF STATE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE (STA) PROGRAM FUNDS ORAL REPORT**

Alex Clifford, CEO, provided a status update to the STA program funds. The SCCRTC will be meeting to discuss further and return to METRO with an update.

There were no public comments.

**23 CEO ORAL REPORT**

CEO Clifford reported that METRO remains committed to finding strategies to replace 61 buses. The SB1 challenge is gaining momentum. He invited the Board to attend METRO's annual picnic scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup> at Harvey West Park Evergreen area. An HR Manager has been hired and, subject to clearing the background check, will be onboard October 16<sup>th</sup>, such that he/she can be introduced at the October board meeting.

Mr. Emerson advised the Board that METRO had received an FTA 5339 grant today for \$460,000 to purchase a CNG bus. And, an additional Monterey Bay Air Resources District grant for \$200,000 to cover operating costs of the Watsonville circulator.

There were no public comments.

**24 ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2017 AT 9:00AM, CAPITOLA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 420 CAPITOLA AVENUE, CAPITOLA, CA**

Chair Dutra announced the next meeting as above.

**25 ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Dutra adjourned the meeting at 11:58AM.

Respectfully submitted,

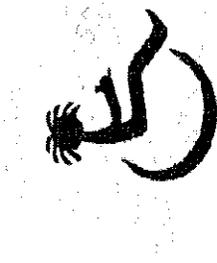
Gina Pye  
Executive Assistant

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# The Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities Formally Invites You

*To the KUDOS Award Ceremony and Reception  
honoring exceptional individuals within our  
community who have made substantial  
contributions promoting equal access for  
persons with disabilities.*

**with Master of Ceremonies  
Senator Bill Monning (D-Carmel),  
California Senate Majority Leader**



*Saturday, October 21, 2017  
1:00 – 3:30 pm  
Santa Cruz Police Community Room  
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz 95060*

*Please join us in recognizing:*

- ❖ **Day Worker Center Volunteers**
- ❖ **Mario Garcia**  
*Cabrillo College*
- ❖ **Extended Opportunity Programs  
and Services (EOPS)**  
*Cabrillo College*
- ❖ **Lyn Glick**  
*Adaptive PE Teacher*
- ❖ **Santa Cruz Metro**  
*Bus Drivers*
- ❖ **Steve Miller**  
*Shared Adventures*
- ❖ **Margaret Keith**  
**Lifetime Achievement Award**

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Metro Board Public Comment  
September 22, 2017

I decided to test not using my car. My take-away is I'm liking the extra walking and using the Metro.

Since mid-May I have made four car trips totaling 92 miles, used Lyft six times, and taken 22 Metro trips.

The stops to my home along Mission are .4 and .6 miles away and I would then need to transfer. Or I can walk to River St, .5 miles. So far I walked .9 miles to Pacific Station.

I appreciate the accommodations for people using wheelchairs and the seats where seniors and people with disabilities have priority.

But: For many, side facing seats are contraindicated because of the horizontal push and pull; my bones and muscles are not very resilient. And I have arthritis in my left shoulder so I almost always use a wheeled cart. The two front facing seats with room for my cart are folded up for wheelchair users. I can walk half way back, up a stair, and lift the cart onto a seat beside me. Or I can sit in the last row at the back of the bus. But then the exit doors in the middle of the bus are heavy for me and the step steep for rolling the cart off. So, ...

Most of the trips I've taken have included people using wheelchairs and others with shopping carts. I'm noting all this to suggest an interior redesign with the needs of both seniors and carts in mind.

Sylvia Caras  
146 Chrystal Terrace  
Santa Cruz 95060

Mission and Highland .3 and Green .4  
Mission and Laurel .6  
River St . .5  
Pacific Station .9

**INFORMATION RECEIVED AT 9/22/17 METRO BOARD MEETING**

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August 25, 2017

Dear District Board Members:

We are here to urge the Board to rescind the raise approved on June 23, 2017 for the CEO. Our members are shocked and upset over the decision to approve a 10% salary increase, and to do so in closed session without giving the public an opportunity to review the details of the Agreement and respond prior to reaching a consensus. The CEO, in negotiating this Agreement, has put himself first before all other members of this agency.

As you are aware, the District has a contract with a consultant for a full Class & Comp study for the management team. The CEO has repeatedly told management they will have to wait for the results of this study before any increases will be entertained. Why would the Board agree to a new salary scale for only the CEO before the results of this study are known?

Historically, General Manager/CEO raises have always been included in the published Board Agenda. Why not this time? Adding 4 additional steps to an existing 6-step salary scale, which you have effectively done for the CEO, is another first for this agency. Is this something that the rest of us can look forward to when the Class & Comp is completed, or is it just for one person? We also wish to point out that when Mr. White was the General Manager of this agency his salary scale was 55% higher than that of his core group of managers. When Mr. Clifford arrived his salary scale was increased to 83% higher than the scale of this same group. With the approval of a new salary schedule, in which step 5 becomes the new step 1, the CEO's salary scale is now 118% higher than that of these managers.

Just last year we were all working together to prevent a 30% cut in services. Unions were asked to help, which UTU and SEIU both did, and our members were asked to also make sacrifices. The monetary concessions all Union members – SEIU, UTU & ParaCruz – have made extend throughout FY19, and are part of the reason you now have a balanced budget.

**If this increase was a regular step increase it wouldn't have been such a concern, but to**

- 1) **keep the Agreement completely out of the public eye,**
- 2) **give the CEO two step increases at once, and**
- 3) **give the CEO a whole new 22% higher salary schedule ahead of the results from the Class & Comp study**

**sends a strong message to our members and the public that the budget crisis METRO has had only applies to workers and transit riders, and that Mr. Clifford is exempt.**

We look to this Board for leadership, fairness and responsibility. It is the District's employees, our members and residents who provide valuable services to our community. We are all in this together, but we can't do it without appropriate leadership from this Board.

SEIU Local 521

**INFORMATION RECEIVED AT 9/22/17 METRO BOARD MEETING**

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A Proposal for a UC Santa Cruz Student Director on the Santa Cruz County Metro Board of Directors

Alice Malmberg, 2017-18 Vice President of Internal Affairs

Noah Thoron, 2016-17 Chair of Rachel Carson College Council

*UC Santa Cruz Student Union Assembly*

September 22, 2017

**INFORMATION RECEIVED AT 9/22/17 METRO BOARD MEETING  
FROM ALICE MALMBERG & NOAH THORON. 15**

## Background

According to Article V, §1.2.501 of the Santa Cruz METRO Board of Directors Bylaws, “METRO shall be governed by a Board of Directors of eleven members because such membership is necessary to ensure adequate representation to all the areas in the County of Santa Cruz”.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, Article V, §1.2.502 states that “the membership of the Board of Directors shall be composed of one member appointed by each City Council of Santa Cruz, Capitola, Scotts Valley, Watsonville and any other incorporated area of the District to represent the incorporated area and one member appointed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz to represent the unincorporated area. *Other appointments [on the Board] shall be made in accordance with the proportionate population within the District.*” The University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) comprises a significant proportion of the county population, with 18,783 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled during the 2016-17 year,<sup>2</sup> as well as between approximately 3,500 and 3,700 faculty and staff members working within Santa Cruz County.<sup>3</sup>

While UCSC’s total population of 26,613 (including all students, faculty, and staff) is smaller than the populations of two cities with voting membership on the Board (Santa Cruz, population: 64,465<sup>4</sup> and Watsonville, population: 53,796<sup>5</sup>), it is significantly larger than the other two cities with voting membership on the Board (Capitola, population: 10,180<sup>6</sup> and Scotts Valley, population: 11,928<sup>7</sup>). UCSC also has the largest population of METRO riders out of any city in the county, with riders taking 2,373,745 trips to and from the university during the 2016-17 year.<sup>8</sup> UCSC is served by some of

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa\\_Cruz\\_METRO\\_Bylaws\\_adopted\\_02-13-2015.pdf](https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa_Cruz_METRO_Bylaws_adopted_02-13-2015.pdf)

<sup>2</sup><https://admissions.ucsc.edu/apply/parents-and-guardians/prospective-students/facts.html>

<sup>3</sup><http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/july16/f4.pdf>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/santacruzcitycalifornia/PST045216>

<sup>5</sup><https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/watsonvillecitycalifornia/PST045216>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/capitolacitycalifornia/PST045216>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/scottsvalleycitycalifornia/PST045216>

<sup>8</sup> SCMTD Billable Ridership, Jul 2017

METRO's most popular bus routes, including Routes 10, 15, 16, 19, 20, 20D, 20S, and the new Route 22. This is due to the fact that many students rely on METRO buses to commute to and from campus, as well as the student-funded initiative to provide students unlimited access to all METRO bus routes (excluding the Highway 17 bus) with their valid student ID cards. This also means UCSC is METRO's largest single source of income. During the 2016-17 year, the University paid METRO \$3,607,494.19 for ridership.<sup>9</sup>

*Therefore, considering the significant number of student METRO riders, we recommend that a qualified UCSC student (hereafter referred to as the Student Director) hold the UCSC seat on the Santa Cruz County METRO Board of Directors, unless the University is unable to select such a candidate.*

*Furthermore, we recommend the Student Director position become a regular, voting seat on the METRO Board as soon as possible so UCSC students can directly influence decisions that affect their abilities to get to and from campus and around Santa Cruz County.<sup>10</sup>*

## **Membership**

We recommend the Student Director be selected and appointed by UCSC's Student Committee on Committees (SCOC), which is charged with coordinating undergraduate student participation on university committees. Under the leadership of the SUA Vice President of Internal Affairs, SCOC reviews student applications and appoints qualified undergraduates to over 20 academic and administrative committees every year. Students appointed to committees through SCOC advise campus faculty and administrators on a variety of issues, from undergraduate education to student fees to the future of UCSC's Long Range Development Plan. To this end, it would be well-suited for the Student Director to be

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<sup>9</sup> SCMTD Billable Ridership, Jul 2017

<sup>10</sup> See "Future Plans for the Student Director Position"

appointed by SCOC, as this committee has a proven history and experience of appointing qualified undergraduate students to university committees.

Because SCOC appointments operate on a school-year calendar and Board terms last full calendar years, SCOC would appoint the Student Director for the following calendar year during Fall Quarter (September - December). The incoming Student Director-Designate would enter a training period for the remainder of that calendar year and attend Board meetings and events as a guest of the current Student Director to become knowledgeable about Board activities and practices. They would then begin their term as a full Director starting January 1 of the following year. This system is modeled after the UC Student Regent position, where students are appointed for two year terms, and must complete a year in training as the non-voting Student Regent-Designate before they become a full, voting member of the UC Board of Regents.<sup>11</sup>

### **Logistics**

Student Directors face several unique logistical challenges, the most notable of which is transportation to various board meeting locations throughout the county. While some students have access to personal vehicles, others do not, which would make it a hassle for them to get to some meetings, especially those held in Watsonville and other areas in the southern part of the county. To alleviate this issue, Student Directors could take a ridesharing service, such as Lyft or Uber, to the meeting and be reimbursed for these travel expenses by the Board under Article V §1.2.506 Subsection D, which states that “each Director shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official METRO duties”,<sup>12</sup> including attending Board meetings. Just as other Directors might be reimbursed for gas or other travel expenses they incur while carrying out their term, the

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<sup>11</sup> <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/about/members-and-advisors/student-regent.html>

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa\\_Cruz\\_METRO\\_Bylaws\\_adopted\\_02-13-2015.pdf](https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa_Cruz_METRO_Bylaws_adopted_02-13-2015.pdf)

Student Director can be reimbursed for using a ridesharing service to attend meetings held in otherwise inaccessible locations. Obviously, Student Directors would not always need to use these services; some might have their own cars and all students should be able to get to meetings held in more accessible locations, such as Downtown Santa Cruz, on their own without a problem. The Student Committee on Committees also has a substantial operating budget that it can use to finance additional expenses Student Directors might incur while serving in this capacity.

While Article V §1.2.504 states that a standard term for directors is four years,<sup>13</sup> it would be difficult for the same Student Director to carry out a term of this length. Therefore, we propose that Student Directors' terms be of flexible length, but not exceed a total of four years as full members, in addition to the fall training period as a Student Director-Designate. Due to the complex nature of this committee, we also recommend that UCSC make every effort to appoint second or third year students who are willing to commit to this position for multiple years. Returning Student Directors would not need to be reappointed by the Student Committee on Committees or the University on a yearly basis unless there was a significant break in their participation on the Board. Having multiple year-long Student Director terms would facilitate stable board membership by ensuring Student Directors can carry out the entirety of their terms with minimal disruption or change in membership.

We think it is important to offer the UCSC Student Director a stipend for their commitment to sitting on the Board. Article V §1.2.506 A provides each Director with monthly compensation of \$50.<sup>14</sup> Additionally, the Student Committee on Committees offers all undergraduate committee representatives quarterly stipends for their work, at a rate of approximately \$11.50 per hour. We propose an agreement between the Board of Directors and the Student Committee on Committees to offer the Student Director

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<sup>13</sup>[https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa\\_Cruz\\_METRO\\_Bylaws\\_adopted\\_02-13-2015.pdf](https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa_Cruz_METRO_Bylaws_adopted_02-13-2015.pdf)

<sup>14</sup>[https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa\\_Cruz\\_METRO\\_Bylaws\\_adopted\\_02-13-2015.pdf](https://www.scmttd.com/images/department/board/reports/Santa_Cruz_METRO_Bylaws_adopted_02-13-2015.pdf)

adequate compensation that aligns with the standard pay rate for student representatives on other university committees.

### **Future Plans for the Student Director Position**

Due to the University's large population of METRO riders and significant contribution to METRO's budget, we are seeking a path for the UCSC Ex-Officio position to become a full voting member of the Santa Cruz County METRO Board of Directors as quickly as possible. We believe the large student population of UCSC students have just as much right to representation in the allocation of their transit fees as any other demographic of the county population. As many students are not registered to vote in Santa Cruz County, and thus cannot vote in city councillor or county supervisor elections, we have little say about who is placed on the Board of Directors as a voting member. Having a voting student seat on the Board of Directors that is appointed by students through the Student Committee on Committees would give students opportunities to voice their feedback and concerns as equitably and directly as any other resident of Santa Cruz County. This is especially important because UCSC students are often not consulted about major transportation decisions that affect our abilities to attend classes, utilize campus resources, interact with peers, and become more involved with the greater Santa Cruz community. Therefore, we suggest that creating a voting Student Director position on the Board of Directors as soon as possible would be the best solution to this issue, and mark a new, mutually advantageous chapter in the long-standing partnership between METRO and UC Santa Cruz.