



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)  
FINANCE, BUDGET, AND AUDIT STANDING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES\*  
MAY 10, 2024 – 8:00 AM**

A regular meeting of the Finance, Budget, and Audit Standing Committee of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) was convened on Friday, May 10, 2024.

The Committee Meeting Agenda Packet can be found online at [www.SCMTD.com](http://www.SCMTD.com). \*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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- 1 CALLED TO ORDER** by Director Kalantari-Johnson at 8:03 AM.
- 2 SAFETY DEBRIEF**  
Gregory Strecker, Safety, Security and Risk Management Director, was unable to provide a safety debriefing due to traffic delays.
- 3 ROLL CALL:** The following Directors were **present**, representing a quorum:

<b>Director Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson</b>	<b>City of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Manu Koenig</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Donna Lind</b>	<b>City of Scotts Valley</b>
<b>Director Mike Rotkin</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
Corey Aldridge	METRO CEO/General Manager
Julie Sherman	METRO General Counsel
- 4 ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE FINANCE, BUDGET AND AUDIT STANDING COMMITTEE**  
Hearing none, Director Kalantari-Johnson moved to the next agenda item.
- 5 ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS FROM AGENDA/ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS**  
Donna Bauer, Executive Assistant, mentioned Slide 19 in the budget presentation was revised and will update the online packet.  
  
Hearing nothing further, Director Kalantari-Johnson moved to the next agenda item.
- 6 REVIEW AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE SANTA CRUZ METRO'S DRAFT FY25 & FY26 OPERATING BUDGETS AND FY25 CAPITAL BUDGET**  
Chuck Farmer, CFO, spoke to the presentation, focusing on changes to the operating and non-operating revenue and expenses, operating budget risks, a summary of the Reimagine Phase 1 and 2 impacts, as well as reviewing the FY25 capital budget in detail. He also provided assumptions related to the projected cash deficit along with scenarios with and without the sales tax ballot measure.

Discussion followed on:

- Overtime for Bus Operators
- Impacts on staff with loss of fares
- Fleet maintenance training on hydrogen buses
- Sales tax ballot measure
- Transit Supervisor hires
- TIRCP funding
- Youth fares
- Farebox recovery

Staff responded to all concerns.

There were no public comments.

**MOTION: RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF SANTA CRUZ METRO'S DRAFT FY25 AND FY26 OPERATING BUDGETS AND FY25 CAPITAL BUDGET PORTFOLIO TO THE FULL BOARD AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR LIND**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**7 YEAR TO DATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF APRIL 30, 2024**

Chuck Farmer, CFO, spoke to the presentation. He reviewed the April year-to-date operating revenues and expenses, as well as the capital budget spends.

There were no public comments.

Hearing nothing further, Director Kalantari-Johnson moved to the next agenda item.

**8 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI) REPORT FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER THROUGH MARCH 31, 2024**

Kristina Mihaylova, Finance Deputy Director, spoke to the presentation and provided updates on farebox recovery, fixed route and paratransit costs per revenue service hours. John Urgo, Planning and Development Director, reported on the ridership trends for UCSC, Cabrillo, youth fares and Hwy. 17. Productivity continues to increase due to changes implemented with Reimagine METRO. Gregory Strecker, METRO's Safety, Security and Risk Management Director, reviewed traffic and passenger accidents. Ms. Mihaylova covered reliability (chargeable road calls for fixed route, Hwy. 17 and ParaCruz). Daniel Zaragoza, Operations Deputy Director, reported on dependability (cancelled trips and pass-ups).

There were no public comments.

*Director Kalantari-Johnson left the meeting at 8:50 AM.*

Hearing nothing further, Director Koenig moved to the next agenda item.

**9 ADJOURNMENT**

Director Koenig adjourned the meeting at 8:59 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bauer  
Executive Assistant