

## Annie Murphy

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**From:** Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 10:01 PM  
**To:** Yesenia Parra; Yesenia Parra  
**Cc:** Guy Preston; Annie Murphy; Barry Pearlman  
**Subject:** Public Comment re: RTC Item #9 on January 12, 2023 Regular Agenda (Purchase of 7992 Soquel Drive Property in Aptos)

\*\*\*\***CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.\*\*\*\*

Dear Regional Transportation Commissioners,  
RE: Regular Agenda Item #9

*Approval of Purchase and Sale Agreement for acquisition of 7992 Soquel Drive for Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus on Shoulder from State Park Drive to Freedom Boulevard and Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 Project*

I am concerned about how the RTC will preserve the historic structures and their context upon assuming ownership of the property at 7992 Soquel Drive in Aptos, and request your response. I am not able to participate in the January 12, 2023 Commission meeting.

The structures, built in 1916 and 1950, are on the Santa Cruz County Historic Register.

The Staff Report states that upon completion of the Project, it is expected that the residence remaining can be either repurposed or sold. This implies that the 1950's-era garage / shop structure will be demolished. This will potentially alter the historic context of both the property and remaining 1916 historic structure.

This also begs the question of what exactly does the RTC mean by "repurposing" the historic 1916 structure?

Will the RTC seek review of the planned Project impacts on the property by the Santa Cruz County Historic Resources Commission as part of the CEQA and NEPA review prior to beginning Project construction?

Please preserve the historic qualities and significance of the 7992 Soquel Drive property as the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus on Shoulder from State Park Drive to Freedom Boulevard and Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 Project proceeds.

Please respond. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Becky Steinbruner

## Annie Murphy

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**From:** Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 9, 2023 6:47 PM  
**To:** Annie Murphy; Barry Pearlman  
**Cc:** Carolyn Swift; Becky Steinbruner  
**Subject:** Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission to Purchase 7992 Soquel Drive Historic Property (January 12, 2023 Agenda Item 9)

\*\*\*\*CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.\*\*\*\*

Dear County Historic Resources Commission,

I want to follow up on an earlier message I sent to your Commission on December 4, 2022 regarding a potential purchase of historic property at 7992 and 7996 Soquel Drive in Aptos by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC).

The RTC will consider approving the purchase of the property at 7992 Soquel Drive in Aptos during the Thursday, January 12, 2023 remote meeting as Regular Agenda Item #9). <https://sccrtc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-01-12-RTC-agenda-packet.pdf>

The Staff Report states the \$1,200,000 purchase will enable the RTC to control the right-of-way necessary for the addition of lanes for Highway One Bus on Shoulder uses, as well as construction of a 16'-wide bicycle / pedestrian path in the Segment 12 area on the inland side of the railroad tracks adjacent to the 7992 property.

*"The right of way needs for the Project include a portion of the property at 7992 Soquel Drive to construct the 16- foot wide Coastal Rail Trail, as planned on the inland side of the tracks. The parcel is 0.16 acres zoned neighborhood commercial with a 1,205 square foot office/residential building and a 2,167 square foot garage/shop."*  
(page 9-3)

***"The parcel would be maintained "as is" until CEQA and NEPA review for the project has been completed. Upon completion of construction of the Project, remaining property, which is expected to include the residual land with one commercial/ residential building, can be repurposed or sold."***  
(page 9-4)

The house was built in 1916 and is on the Santa Cruz Historic Registry (page 9-42)

*"The property or structure has been designated a historic landmark and is subject to the Historic Resources Ordinance."*

I am concerned that the historic context of this property will be significantly altered or that the historic structure will be removed altogether in order to accommodate the transportation project needs, and that the residential building may be "repurposed". What does "repurposing" an historic structure mean?

The description and information about the property begins on page 9-40 of the RTC Agenda packet. For reference, an aerial image of the property is provided on page 9-44 of the Agenda packet.

Will the RTC be required to obtain review and approval / mitigations from the County Historic Resources Commission before proceeding with the project as part of the CEQA and NEPA review or will the RTC simply invite your Commission to comment on any environmental review conducted?

I respectfully request that the Historic Resources Commission place this matter on the next meeting agenda for public discussion and potential recommendations to the RTC as the project moves forward.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Becky Steinbruner