

Candidate Positions on Transportation Matters

Scotts Valley City Council Candidates

Click on the question links below to see the answers:

[Question 1: What type of high capacity public transit do you support on our rail corridor?](#)

[Question 2: How would you strengthen METRO services for our county?](#)

[Question 3: How would you support adding transportation funding?](#)

Question 1): The Watsonville City Council recently voted unanimously in favor of implementing passenger rail service connecting Watsonville with the City of Santa Cruz. What type of high capacity public transit do you support on our rail corridor?

Candidate Name	Supports ... on Rail Corridor	Please explain your choice:
Donna Lind	Combination	My concern is the expense of bringing rail to standards needed for passenger rail service. Support continuing rail for freight as currently used and the possibility of combined use of rail, trail, and other.
Jack Dilles	Bus	High capacity public transit on the rail corridor is a wonderful vision. In concept, I support Bus Rapid Transit because the capital costs are projected to be less than other options, because Bus Rapid Transit integrates easily with the overall transportation system, because there is a greater ability to adapt to ever-changing technologies and because Bus Rapid Transit could support transit oriented development. However, I am concerned about where the dollars will come from to finance capital and operating costs. Any new tax should be approached in a cautious manner with a lot of County-wide community input and discussion.
John Lewis	No response	
Randy Johnson	Bus	I think that a bus is the most cost effective and reliable and can be transformed if it does not work.

Question 2): The pandemic has adversely impacted METRO. How would you strengthen METRO services for our county?

Candidate Name	How would you strengthen METRO services for our county?
Donna Lind	METRO has implemented many safety upgrades to protect drivers and passengers and support increasing ridership with the safety measures taken to strengthen service. I support continued work to increase ridership with safety barriers, cleaning, with no contact including the App developed to purchase tickets.
Jack Dilles	I would suggest that the potential use of vanpools to supplement traditional buses be explored because vanpools increase the percentage of costs recovered through fares. The farebox recovery for METRO according to their budget is approximately 20% of operational costs. According to U. S. Department of Transportation 2018 National Transit Summaries and Trends, vanpool transit operates by scheduling passengers ahead of time, with one passenger driving to and from a specified destination. Vanpools traditionally have been funded by rider fees with limited government subsidies. The combination of efficient scheduling, unpaid drivers and limited government support results in a high farebox recovery ratio that can be more than 70%.
John Lewis	No response
Randy Johnson	We are finding that a new paradigm is trending in many industries, including transportation. UCSC, Cabrillo and 17 Express are all profitable for Metro, but are now dormant. Their challenge is a big one, because without passengers, transportation becomes even more subsidized.

Question 3): FORT has launched the Coast Connect vision to transform transportation in our county.

Would you support funding a more robust public transportation system, including safe streets for pedestrians, cyclists and other active transportation users? How would you support adding transportation funding?

Candidate Name	Supports Funding	How would you support adding transportation funding?
Donna Lind	Other	I do not support adding more taxes for this program at this time. The County has a long road toward recovery from the Pandemic and CZU Lightning fires. Would not support asking voters to pay more taxes for this program at this time.
Jack Dilles	Yes	I would support allocating more of the existing transportation funding to safe streets for pedestrians, cyclists and other active transportation users. I would also support bringing back redevelopment funding, financed by reallocating existing property taxes, and allocating a portion of these funds to transportation system improvements.
John Lewis	No response	
Randy Johnson	Yes	All of those options are visionary and deserve consideration. As one who consistently rides his bike, I know the value of cycling. Funding options, now more than ever, have to be presented on viable projects that work. Thank you.