Thank you for committing to speak up in support of 24/7 access to the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge multiuse path. You are one of hundreds of people who have told us you plan to make your voice heard. By working together, we can keep access on the bridge for everyone.

Although we originally thought the decision would take place way back in April, a series of delays pushed that meeting back. Now, the fate of the RSR Bridge Pathway will be decided at the **August 7th** meeting of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). The meeting will begin at 10 AM. You can find the meeting's agenda here.

Email

To provide your public comment via email, you should submit it by 5 PM on Tuesday, August 5th. Emails sent after that may not be included in the commissioner packet.

Email Address: publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov

Subject Line: 8/7/2025 BCDC Board Meeting - Item 9 - RSR Bridge Path

What to say:

The exact contents don't matter as much as making it clear that you support 24/7 access to the multiuse path. If you do use the bridge on a regular basis, mention it. Beyond that, here are a few talking points you can use:

- Studies have shown that the pathway has not increased average delay on the bridge.
- Although a shuttle is proposed, the previous shuttle was shut down due to low ridership.
- Removing the pathway would roll back 4 miles of Bay Trail and run contrary to state and regional policy.
- Congestion on the bridge is a result of Marin's housing policy, which has led to a doubling of 50+ mile super commuters in the past twenty years.

Zoom/Phone

To provide a comment via Zoom, <u>you can click on this link</u> anytime after 10 AM on Thursday, August 7th. We do not know exactly when public comment will open for the discussion on the RSR Bridge, but if you gave us your phone number via <u>our sign-up form</u>, we will send you a text message to tell you when public comment is about to begin, so keep an eye on your phone.

How to comment:

Click the "raise hand" button to join the comment queue. <u>Note</u>, you should only do this after Item 9 on the agenda has begun. There will be an opportunity for people to give comment on other non-agendized matters earlier in the meeting (Item 3 on the agenda), but that is *not* the time to give your comment about the bridge.

What to say:

Comment will likely be limited to one minute, but we strongly encourage you to keep your remarks as short as possible. It is probably that public comment will be closed with people still in the queue, so giving a quick comment ensures as many people get to speak as possible.

Here's what an ideal comment would look like, "Hi my name is [name], I live in [city/town] and I am urging you to support 24/7 access to the bridge path. Thank you."

If you are able to give your comment on behalf of a group or organization, make sure to mention that. But otherwise, giving a quick comment and letting others speak will be the best thing you can do.

In-Person

We appreciate your willingness to attend this meeting in person, despite the inconvenient timing. There are actually two ways to give an in-person comment, either at the MTC headquarters or at one of the alternative locations (see below).

Meeting address:

Bay Area Metro Center

375 Beale Street, 1st Floor Yerba Buena Room San Francisco, CA

BCDC broadcasts its meetings to a number of remote locations, where you can watch the meeting and also give a comment. The list of remote locations can be found here.

Giving a comment:

To get in the comment queue, you must fill out a speaker card, which you can return to the secretary. When public comment opens and she reads your name, you may approach the lectern.

Given the number of potential commenters, you should be prepared to limit your remarks to one minute. If you are speaking on behalf of an organization or group, mention that at the outset. Keep your remarks brief and to the point, and above all demonstrate decorum. You can speak passionately, but do not berate the commission. If you do use the bridge on a regular basis, mention it. Beyond that, here are a few talking points you can use:

- Studies have shown that the pathway has not increased average delay on the bridge.
- Although a shuttle is proposed, the previous shuttle was shut down due to low ridership.
- Removing the pathway would roll back 4 miles of Bay Trail and run contrary to state and regional policy.
- Congestion on the bridge is a result of Marin's housing policy, which has led to a doubling of 50+ mile super commuters in the past twenty years.

What to wear:

We are not planning to coordinate outfits, so wear something comfortable but professional. Please avoid wearing cycling kit, as this will reinforce the stereotype that only high-income recreational riders use the pathway. If you have to ride to get there, bring something to change into ahead of the meeting.

Thank you again for your commitment to speak up in support of the bridge path. Let us know if you have any questions. In the meantime, <u>please share the comment sign-up form</u> with anyone you think would be willing to make their voice heard, even if it's just sending an email.

Whatever happens on August 7th, we appreciate your time and effort. We will send an update to everyone who commented shortly after the vote, and you can always check the Instagram of <u>Bike East Bay</u>, <u>Rich City Rides</u>, or <u>Marin County Bicycle Coalition</u> for updates.

In solidarity, East Bay and Marin Trail Advocates