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Subject: Selective Encroachment Enforcement by RTC?
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Dear Commissioners, RTC Staff, and Capitola City Council,

Sending to express concerns regarding recent enforcement actions taken by the RTC, related to alleged encroachments along the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line Corridor — in particular, the timing, transparency, and equitable treatment of residents along different corridor segments.

Based on both the Draft Concept Report of June 6, 2025, and rail-with-trail project design documents, the rail-with-trail configuration is planned only for Segments 13-20. Why is the RTC currently taking enforcement action on alleged encroachments in segments where no trail construction is actively planned or approved?

What urgency justifies initiating such enforcement action now, considering detailed engineering plans have not yet been publicly reviewed nor finalized for many areas?

In addition, the corridor width at 41st and 47th avenues in Capitola is roughly equivalent to the width behind Castle Mobile Estates, assuming no encroachments are present. Why require removal of encroachments behind Castle Mobile Estates, but not impose the same requirement at 41st and 47th avenues?

This inconsistency raises serious concerns about unequal treatment of property owners and potentially discriminatory decision-making. Clarification from the RTC about objective standards being used to determine when and where encroachment enforcement is deemed necessary certainly seems warranted.

Respectfully request the City Council and Commission ensure enforcement is applied fairly, transparently, and only when directly tied to active, approved, and funded segments of the trail project.

Your time and commitment to public accountability is appreciated.

Sincerely,

-Kathleen King, Resident Castle Mobile Estates