CRTP
Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities

2026 Annual Update



Message from the Executive Director

In 2026, CRTP focused much of our energy on grassroots organizing. We continue to do the important work of educating local residents and decision-makers about the issues, and advocating for technical but important improvements to transportation plans and projects. But we know that there is no substitute for a strong grassroots movement. Now, thanks to the generous support of our members, and with the help of a handful of grants, we have some resources to devote to this crucial work.



Colin Fiske presenting at the Eureka Regional Transit and Housing Center (EaRTH Center) 2026 Groundreaking Ceremony

In the first half of the year, we engaged residents of Eureka and surrounding areas to demand comprehensive safety upgrades to 4th and 5th Streets (US 101). The result was a petition delivered to Caltrans in May and signed by 738 people, asking Caltrans to implement the recommendations from our "Dangerous Downtown Streets" report. Caltrans has now agreed to conduct a "feasibility study" of potential safety improvements on these streets.

Over the summer, we also began ramping up our grassroots organizing for greater investment in our local public transit system. This is a long-planned effort to help secure sustainable transit funding at the local, state and federal levels. But our first months of organizing coincided with the discovery that Cal Poly Humboldt planned to cut longstanding transit funding, including support for Arcata evening bus service.

We were able to quickly publicize the planned cuts and mobilize hundreds of community members to ask President Richard Carvajal to reverse the decision. As a result, the university walked back its decision, committing to funding evening buses at least for the 2026-27 school year. We are continuing to rally community members and support a student-led campaign to secure a long-term commitment to funding this crucial service.

This report contains many other highlights of CRTP's work over the past year. I hope you'll read on to learn more about what we've been up to, and how you can support our work!

Colin Fiske
Executive Director



Our Mission

CRTP's mission is to promote transportation solutions that protect and support a healthy environment, healthy people, healthy communities and a healthy economy on the North Coast.

Our Vision

CRTP envisions a North Coast region with vibrant local communities where walking, biking, public transit, and other socially and environmentally positive modes of transportation are the norm. We are passionate about creating a world where these modes are equitable, safe and comfortable for people of all races, ethnicities, cultures, income levels, genders, ages and abilities. We believe that we urgently need mode shift to effectively address climate change, equity and safety in our community.



We advocate to local governments—for investments and policies that support safe transit, pedestrian and bicycling networks for everybody.



We speak out about the climate crisis and the urgent need to design our transportation systems for the public good.



We recognize power disparities drawn along the lines of income-level, ability, race, ethnicity, culture, age and gender, and are dedicated to a vision of social justice and human rights for all people using all modes of transportation.



We provide resources in the form of planning, capacity-building, technical support and best practices for reducing harm on our public roadways.



We partner with respected local organizations, agencies, public leaders and advocates to pursue equitable access to our public spaces, our places of business, our homes and our natural beauty.



We mobilize the public to advocate in their own communities to make accessible, sociable public spaces.



We connect our community—as the only local non-profit organization on the North Coast solely committed to researching, planning and advocating transportation solutions, we strive to build a more equitable, connected place for all.

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Issues We Worked on This Year



Safer Streets

"I don't feel safe crossing the street. Even with the crosswalk signal on and wearing bright clothing, I've still nearly been hit by distracted or callous drivers too many times to count."

– 2026 Week Without Driving participant

Safer Streets



In May, we delivered a petition to Caltrans for safer 4th and 5th Streets in Eureka, signed by 738 local residents and endorsed by many local organizations and elected officials. In response, Caltrans has announced a corridor-wide "feasibility study" of potential safety improvements. We're now working to ensure that the most important upgrades–including converting a lane of traffic on each street to a protected bike lane–are included in the study and in future plans.



Construction wrapped up on the South Broadway Complete Streets project this year, providing protected bike lanes, improved sidewalks, and pedestrian crossing upgrades on part of the region's most dangerous corridor. The local Caltrans district has now secured funding for similar improvements on the next segment, extending north to Wabash Avenue. These life-saving projects are the direct result of years of advocacy from CRTP and our allies.



Following CRTP's advocacy over the last several years for safety improvements on Arcata's 11th Street and K Street, the city installed quick-build speed bumps on both streets this summer.

Safer Streets

As part of a collaborative visioning effort for downtown Eureka's streetscapes, we helped organize and lead a series of public walks this fall with partners at Ink People, Eureka Cultural Arts District, Eureka Main Street, City of Eureka, Humboldt County Association of Governments, and Humboldt Transit Authority.



The Annie and Mary Trail segment connecting Arcata's Sunset neighborhood to Baduwa't (Mad River) officially opened this fall. Among other important roles, this trail is the first safe, low-stress bike and pedestrian connection between the Valley West neighborhood and the rest of the region.



Our input on the California Transportation Commission's Vehicle Weight Safety Study resulted in changes that emphasize the research showing heavier vehicles are more dangerous to pedestrians, and acknowledge the importance of mitigating those impacts.





Transit Justice

"For students, working families, and low-income riders like me, transit is not a luxury. It's what makes opportunity possible."

– Humboldt County bus rider

Transit Justice



CRTP responded to the urgent threat of losing all evening bus service in Arcata by publicizing the impending cuts and rallying the community to pressure Cal Poly Humboldt to preserve their funding. As a result, the university has agreed to fund evening service at least through the 2026-27 school year.



We are building a grassroots movement of engaged bus riders and transit supporters to impact transit decision-making and demand sufficient long-term investment from local, state, and federal governments.



The Eureka Regional Transit and Housing Center (a.k.a the EaRTH Center) finally broke ground this fall. CRTP has been advocating for this project for years. Its construction will bring a long-needed regional transit hub to Eureka along with 45 affordable homes!

Transit Justice

The construction of the EaRTH Center will also come with Eureka's first public bike lockers and bike share station. These improvements will both improve the city's bikeability and expand the reach and effectiveness of public transit.



CRTP organized an open letter in support of local transit funding to California Governor Gavin Newsom and gubernatorial candidates Xavier Becerra and Steve Hilton, signed by 20 Humboldt County business organizations, educators, labor unions, social service and health care providers, and environmental organizations.



September 1, 2026

Governor Gavin Newsom
State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

We joined a statewide convening of California transit advocates early this year, which led to the launch of the California Funds Transit campaign. The multi-year campaign will fight for a stable and secure source of transit funding sufficient to provide high-quality service in communities throughout the state. As part of this effort, CRTP Outreach Specialist Kelsey Boyd was accepted to participate in a small statewide cohort of advocates developing effective public outreach strategies to grow support for transit. CRTP is the only North Coast organization participating in the California Funds Transit campaign, and one of the only groups from a rural region.





Climate Action

"According to the results of the 2022 GHG inventory, the largest source of GHG emissions in Humboldt was from on-road transportation, which accounted for 73 percent of the inventoried emissions."

– Humboldt County Regional Climate Action Plan

Climate Action



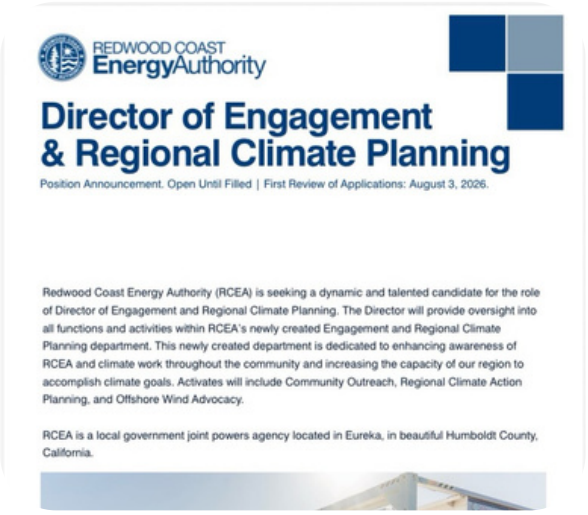
Despite a tough budget environment, CRTP and our allies advocated successfully for the Redwood Coast Energy Authority to keep funding its e-bike voucher and other climate programs this year.



Eureka, Arcata, Fortuna, Ferndale, Rio Dell and Trinidad all officially followed Humboldt County in adopting the Regional Climate Action Plan this year, capping a nearly decade-long campaign by CRTP and our allies.

Climate Action

We also worked hard to ensure local governments lived up to their commitments to implement the adopted Regional Climate Action Plan. This included the Redwood Coast Energy Authority hiring a Director of Engagement and Regional Climate Planning, and local governments agreeing to form a Regional Climate Committee and contribute funding to support the hiring of a Climate Program Manager.



We ensured that the new Regional Transportation Plan continues to acknowledge that climate change is a crisis, and even more importantly that it contains a policy calling for funding decisions to be consistent with the region's climate and safety goals.





Walkable Development

"Eureka and Arcata are very walkable, and I have found the buses to be reliable and on time."

– 2026 Week Without Driving participant

Walkable Development



The Wiyot Tribe's downtown Eureka housing projects broke ground this year, and Linc Housing's projects completed construction, marking a huge step forward for responsible infill development in our region.



We ensured that the new Regional Transportation Plan includes an ambitious target for building more walkable housing, and designates new major transit stops that will allow nearby homes to be built with less stringent and expensive parking mandates.



CRTP's advocacy resulted in improvements to Eureka's zoning code this year, including a requirement for more long-term bike parking, and accommodation for cargo bikes and e-bikes in new development. At our urging, the Eureka City Council also directed city staff to develop a proposal to remove costly and unscientific vehicular parking mandates citywide.

Walkable Development

We won reductions to parking mandates in a Housing Opportunity Zone ordinance adopted by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors earlier this year.



Thanks to our efforts, the county's Humboldt Bay Area Plan now includes new policies supporting bike, pedestrian, and transit access to the coast, as well as the potential to increase housing density in areas outside of coastal hazard zones.



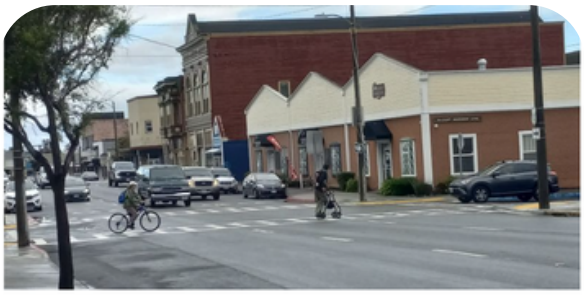


Education and Engagement

"It helped me understand the challenges for people without a car."

– 2026 Week Without Driving participant

Education and Engagement



We Can Eliminate Traffic Deaths If We Want To

It's been a bad year on Humboldt County streets and roads. The tragic death of 35-year-old James Christopher Lee after being hit by a driver last week marks at least the third pedestrian fatality this year on Broadway alone.

The urgent need for action to make our streets safer could not be more clear. And as the international Vision Zero movement point out, all traffic deaths and serious injuries are preventable. So the rollout of Humboldt County's new Vision

Our newsletter The Collector goes out to more than 1,100 people every Friday - with over a 38% increase in subscribers compared to last year - keeping local residents informed about local transportation issues and opportunities to get involved.



Our social media platforms have grown significantly over 2026, including a 71% increase in followers on Instagram and 26% increase on Facebook, with a total of 174.4k views across both platforms.



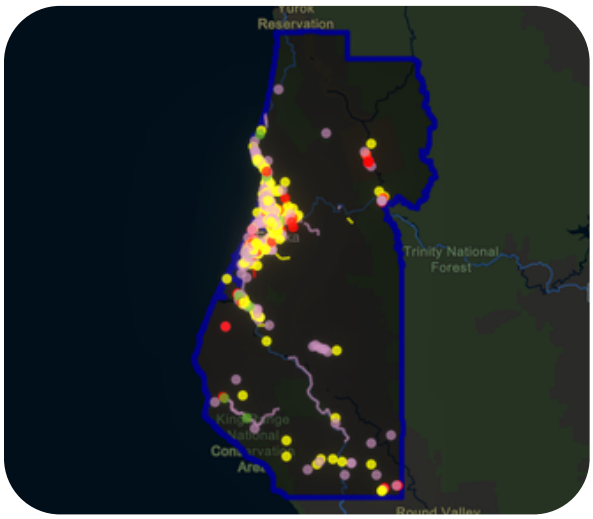
We provided free bike valet services at 23 community events, providing more than 800 bicyclists with a safe, worry-free place to park.

Education and Engagement

Fifty local community members participated in the 2026 Week Without Driving, including many elected officials and other community leaders.



We continue to promote safety reporting on Street Story. More than 1,600 reports have been made in Humboldt County, providing invaluable data to inform local planning and CRTP's advocacy.



CRTP engages directly with local and state agencies through membership on numerous committees, including the California Walk Bike Technical Advisory Committee, Caltrans District 1 Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, and the Humboldt County Association of Governments' Social Services Transportation Advisory Council.



Land Acknowledgement

CRTP is located in Goudi'ni (Arcata) on Wiyot land. Ancestral Wiyot lands range from Plhut Gasamuli'm (Little River) in the north to Tsakiyuwit (Bear River Ridge) in the south, from Shou'r (Pacific Ocean) in the west to the first set of qus (hills/mountains) to the east. Waterways in the ancestral lands of Wiyot people include Baduwa't (Mad River), Hikshari' (Elk River), Wiya't (Eel River), and Girrughurralilh (Van Duzen River).



Map of Wiyot villages and dialects

As an organization focused on transportation, CRTP acknowledges that many of today's roads and highways follow traditional Indigenous travelways, and also that the development and "improvement" of local transportation systems in the nineteenth century were inextricably tied up with the abuse and genocide of local Indigenous Peoples by White settlers. We also acknowledge that significant transportation inequities continue to impact Indigenous communities today, including a lack of adequate infrastructure and disproportionate rates of pedestrians and bicyclists killed by vehicles. We further acknowledge, as we strive to reduce the impacts of our transportation system on the local and global environment, that the environment itself is a legacy of the careful stewardship of Indigenous Peoples over the course of millennia.

We pledge to listen to Indigenous Peoples as we strive to improve our transportation systems and address historic and ongoing inequities. We pledge to work with Indigenous Peoples to ensure positive outcomes whenever our actions may impact culturally important resources. In all of our work, we pledge to respect the special relationship of Indigenous Peoples with the land in their historic territories, as well as the ongoing right of Indigenous Peoples to sovereignty and self-determination.

Supporting CRTP

This report only covers a fraction of what CRTP has been doing this year. We are a small organization with a big impact!

Become a Member

Our members empower us to keep doing this important work. If you are a member, thank you. If you're not a member yet, please join today!

Subscribe to Our Newsletter & Action Alerts

If you're not already getting our weekly newsletter, action alerts, and other emails, you can sign up on our website!

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