



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

[www.tamcmonterey.org](http://www.tamcmonterey.org)

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

**January 25, 2023**

### **TAMC Board Elects New Officers & Executive Committee Members**

The Board of Directors of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County elected the following members to serve as their officers and members of the Executive Committee:

- Michael LeBarre, Chair
- Chris Lopez, 1st Vice Chair
- Dave Potter, 2nd Vice Chair
- Mary Adams, Past Chair
- Wendy Root Askew, County Representative
- Chaps Poduri, City Representative

Their terms begin upon their election through the next election of officers at the beginning of the January 24, 2024, Board meeting.

### **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Transportation Excellence Awards**

The Transportation Agency presented their 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Transportation Excellence Awards to honor community members, programs and projects that make a significant contribution to improve transportation in Monterey County. This year's awards honorees are:

**Andrew Easterling, Traffic Engineer, City of Salinas**, for his development and implementation of the Vision Zero Integrated into Maintenance program and dedication to safe routes to schools planning and projects. Andrew worked closely with safe routes to school program partners to develop the Salinas Safe Routes to School Plan from 2019 - 2022 and through the Vision Zero program has already been able to start to implement projects that make it safer for children and people of all ages to get around Salinas.

"Vision Zero" is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. "Safe Routes to School" is a TAMC program which offers tools, programming, and resources to schools, guardians, and communities aimed at improving safety

and traffic around schools. The “Salinas Safe Routes to School Plan” was adopted, covering safety recommendations and educational programming for 45 schools throughout Salinas.

**The City of Pacific Grove Public Works, Point Pinos Coastal Recreational Trail**, completed in 2022 addressed nearly a one-mile stretch of coastline on Ocean View Boulevard generally known as Point Pinos. Prior to this project, Point Pinos lacked formalized, safe, and accessible coastal amenities for its various users, including trails, parking, and coastal access points. This stretch also represented the only gap of the California Coastal Trail between the City of Monterey and the three of four miles of PG Coastline.

The Point Pinos Trail project significantly improved safety, access parking, and stormwater capture with the construction of an ADA-compliant, 5-foot-wide trail, a boardwalk, formalized coastal parking, the installation of 10 beach access points, native plant restoration, and various stormwater improvements. All users can now more safely enjoy the Pacific Grove coastline; and have better connections to the larger trail network along the Central Coast.

### **Caltrans Presents their Draft US 101 Business Plan**

The TAMC Board of Directors received a presentation on the Draft US 101 Business Plan from Caltrans District 5. The Plan created in collaboration with the Central Coast Coalition and regional partners throughout the district raises awareness of the US 101 Corridor within the boundaries of Caltrans District 5 as a major economic asset to the state and nation and encourages investment in the corridor. The Plan’s purpose is to provide data, strategy, and community support needed to help secure financial investment in the US 101 corridor (including \$260 million in project costs in Monterey County) with summarized potential avenues for funding the projects.

During the discussion after the presentation, Council Member Smith stated that he was excited about the plan because, “it gives us opportunities to identify emerging problems before the problems are staring us in the face.” Executive Director Muck further emphasized that the Business Plan provides TAMC and its partners in the Central Coast Corridor with the supporting document for future grant applications.

The draft Business plan will be available for public review and Caltrans staff will be collecting questions and comments until March 10, 2023. Comments can be submitted via email at [matthew.welker@dot.ca.gov](mailto:matthew.welker@dot.ca.gov).

- 📄 [US 101 Business Plan Fact Sheet](#)
- 📄 [Monterey County Project Tables](#)
- 📄 [Draft US 101 Business Plan](#)