

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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HIGHLIGHTS

August 24, 2021



TAMC-CSUMB Agreement for Safe Routes to School Program Authorized by TAMC Board of Directors

The TAMC Board of Directors authorized the execution of a contract with California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) for work to enhance the agency's Safe Routes to School projects, programming and events through the University's Sustainable City Year program.

This ground-breaking partnership provides CSUMB students from a variety of disciplines opportunities to gain real world experiences assisting public agencies. Under this five-year agreement funded by \$390,000 in Measure X Safe Routes to School program funds, students will assist with the development and execution of the program's plans, grant applications, bicycle and pedestrian counts, traffic garden design, educational and promotional videos and materials, cognitive psychology research and more across Monterey County.

2021 Regional Telework Survey Results

The results of the 2021 Regional Telework Survey were presented to the TAMC Board of Directors. The survey developed by TAMC's Go831 program staff with transportation agencies in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties, the City of Santa Cruz, and Monterey Bay Economic Partnership was distributed to employers in the Tri-County region in April 2021.

220 employers from the private and public sector responded, with the results revealing an overwhelming support for teleworking. Key findings of the survey are:

- 76% of employers have adopted a telework policy.
- 81% of employers plan to continue to support teleworking while 17% are undecided.
- Almost half of respondents (42%) prefer that employees telework no more than 3 days per week.
- The top issues that employers and employees faced while teleworking are technical issues, video conference fatigue and inadequate access to Wi-Fi/broadband.
- The top benefits that employers and employees experience by teleworking are saving money by not driving as much, saving time by not traveling to in-person meetings and having more time with family/loved ones at home.

- Most employers manage teleworking employees by online meeting or phone calls (33%); or email activity (27%).
- More than half of employers (52%) reimburse employees for telework equipment, technology, or other expenses.
- 64% of respondents answered that use of office resources (water, waste, energy, etc.) has declined due to an increase in teleworking.

The survey results will be used to create a telework toolkit, including resources, templates and tips tailored to the needs identified in the survey. The toolkit will be accessible online and shared across the partners' networks and communication channels.

TAMC Board Adopts Racial Equity Program

The TAMC Board of Directors adopted a racial equity program which integrates specific racial equity-based activities into three agency areas: funding, public outreach and hiring with a developed a set of issues, potential solutions, action items and a racial equity goal for each area. They are:

- **Funding:** Provide an equitable share of transportation investments to underserved, racially diverse communities to improve their health, safety, and quality of life.
- **Hiring:** Hire to reflect the diversity of the Monterey County community in order to increase TAMC's success as an agency.
- **Public Outreach:** Design and implement public outreach and engagement that is broadly accessible and provides means for all to participate.

Board Authorizes Measure X Funding & Cooperative Agreements



The TAMC Board of Directors authorized funding and cooperative agreements for two Measure X projects that will significantly improve travel and congestion through North County and the Monterey Peninsula.

The \$500,000 funding agreement between the County of Monterey and TAMC is for the Preliminary Engineering phase of the Blackie Road Extension project. This agreement allows the County's project costs to be funded and reimbursed through Regional Development Impact Fees and Senate Bill 1 Local Partnership Program formula funds. The Blackie Road Extension project will construct a new road from the interchange at Castroville Boulevard & State Route 156 to the existing segment of Blackie Road in north Monterey County; and connect to two other projects that are planned: the State Route 156 / Castroville Boulevard Interchange Improvements; and the State Route 156 West Corridor Improvements.

The Cooperative Agreement between TAMC and Caltrans in the amount of \$312,000 of federal DEMO funds is to complete the right-of-way process for the State Route 156 / Castroville Boulevard Interchange project. The Interchange will replace the existing signalized intersection on State Route 156 West at Castroville Boulevard and install roundabouts and frontage roads to improve the flow of traffic and enhance safety. Additionally, the project will fill a gap in the regional bicycle and pedestrian network with added bicycle lanes and sidewalks.