

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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HIGHLIGHTS

April 27, 2022



TAMC Board Adopts Public Works Week Proclamation

The TAMC Board of Directors adopted a proclamation to declare the week of May 15 through May 21 as National Public Works Weeks to pay tribute to public work planners, engineers, managers, administrative staff, and operators in recognition of the substantial contributions they make to our community's health, safety, and quality of life.

In adopting the proclamation, the TAMC Board joins others from around California and other states across the nation paying tribute to the public works professionals who are always ready to serve their communities and resilient in their abilities to perform routine public works duties and be ready at a moment's notice to react as first responders during natural disasters to overcome trials seen in the field.

[Proclamation for 2022 National Public Works Week](#)

Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee Presents Independent Audit Results

Prior to her presentation of the Measure X Fourth Year Audit, Barbara Meister, Chair of the Citizens Oversight Committee took a moment to reflect upon the democratic process it took for community stakeholders to come together in consensus to approve and present a package of projects that could be placed before Monterey County voters for their approval. The result of was the approval of Measure X by a supermajority of voters, giving TAMC and local jurisdictions the ability to leverage Measure X funds for additional state dollars and be poised to receive new funding from the Federal Infrastructure and Jobs Act of 2021.

In keeping with their responsibilities, the Citizen Oversight Committee's audit-subcommittee conducted the independent audits of the revenues and expenditures in January 2022, to assure that Measure X funds are being spent in accordance with the requirements of the Transportation Safety & Investment Plan passed by Monterey County voters in 2016.

In the past fiscal year, 2021/22, Measure X generated \$32.4 million in revenue for transportation improvements in Monterey County. Of that amount, 60% was distributed to the cities and the County for local projects, while the remaining 40% was programmed to regional safety and mobility projects.

The report revealed that the cities of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Sand City and Greenfield were not in compliance with Measure X requirements. Carmel and Sand City failed to meet their maintenance of effort requirements, while Greenfield failed to submit all the required reports. This resulted in TAMC withholding Measure X funds for these three cities until the compliance issues are addressed. However, as of this week, the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea has rectified their maintenance of effort requirement and their disbursement of Measure X funds has resumed.

The results of the Measure X fourth year audit and the Measure X Annual Report are included in the Transportation's Agency's 2021 Annual Report, which will be sent to Monterey County residents and posted on the TAMC website in May.

[2021 Measure X Annual Audit](#)

Safe Routes to School Update Presentation

TAMC Principal Planner Ariana Green received praise from Board Members for a comprehensive update on the Agency's Measure X funded Safe Routes to School Program initiative.

Measure X provides \$20 million over the 30-year life of the measure for the Safe Routes to School Program to match state and federal grants to fund projects and programs that improve children's health by making walking and bicycling safer and easier. To date, \$569 thousand of Measure X money has leveraged \$5.6 million of state and federal grant dollars to plan for the initiative to build safe routes to school projects and fund education and encouragement programs.

Highlights of the presentation include:

- The Salinas Safe Routes to School Plan will be ready for review this spring and ready for adoption in December. <https://saferoutesmonterey.org/planning-salinas/>
- The Salinas Valley Safe Routes to School Plan is being developed for all K-12 public schools in the cities of Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield, and King City. Each city will have its own Safe Routes to School Steering Committee, which will be made up of community representatives, including students, parents, schools, advocacy groups, and residents.
- The Safe Routes to School Education Program will teach bicycle and pedestrian safety in all elementary schools in the Salinas Valley and in the cities of Marina and Seaside over the next year.
- The “Every Child” grant enables the team to provide in-person training to students who have now returned to school and to launch walking school buses at three schools in South County and five schools on the Monterey Peninsula. Family Fun Festivals were held in Gonzales and Greenfield, and TAMC worked with CSUMB graphic design students to develop concepts for traffic gardens to be installed at 11 schools across the county in 2022 and 2023.
- Partnership with CSUMB provides opportunities for CSUMB students to get involved with safe routes to school projects and programs through the university’s Sustainable City Year Program.
- Partnership with Greenfield Community Science Workshop established the Greenfield Bike Garage to provide weekly community bike/scooter/skateboard repair workshops in Greenfield and mobile repair workshops serving communities in south Monterey County.

The Safe Routes to School website provides program information, informational safety videos, resources for parents and schools and more at <https://saferoutesmonterey.org>