

AGENDA

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES
AND
MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE
JOINT POWERS AGENCY**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Members are: Maria Orozco (Chair),
Simon Salinas (1st Vice Chair), Jerry Edelen (2nd Vice Chair),
Lou Calcagno (Past Chair),
Jane Parker (County representative), Kimbley Craig (City representative)*

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

TAMC Conference Room

55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

*****9:00 a.m.*****

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- 1. ROLL CALL:** *Call to order and self-introductions. If you are unable to attend, please contact Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant. Your courtesy to the other members to assure a quorum is appreciated.*
 - 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Any member of the public may address the Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of Transportation Agency and Executive Committee. Comments on items on today's agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed.
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BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA: Approve the staff recommendations for items **3.1 - 3.3** below by majority vote with one motion. Any member may pull an item off the Consent Agenda to be moved to the end of the **CONSENT AGENDA** for discussion and action.

- 3.1 APPROVE** enclosed minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of November 2, 2011. – Rodriguez **Pages 4 - 7**
- 3.2 APPROVE** recommendations for the tenth annual Transportation Excellence Awards. – Hoschouer **Pages 8 - 10**
- 3.3 RECOMMEND** that the Transportation Agency Board of Directors approve previously-deferred salary range adjustment, in the amount of 5%, for the position of Director of Finance and Administration, effective January 1, 2012. – Hale **Pages 11 - 15**

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. REVIEW and COMMENT** on the draft 2012 Legislative Program and **RECOMMEND** Board adoption of the program. – Watson **Pages 16 -18**
- 5. DISCUSS** the basic concept of the 2011 Transportation Agency for Monterey County Annual Report. – Hoschouer **Page 19**
- 6. REVIEW and RECOMMEND** approval of the State Route 156 Public Outreach Plan. – Muck **Pages 20 - 24**
- 7. CLOSED SESSION**
Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section §54957 – Position: Executive Director.
Enclosure sent separately

RECONVENE in open session and report any actions taken.

8. **RECEIVE** report on draft agenda for TAMC Board meeting of January 25, 2012. – Hale **(Handout)**
9. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Next Executive Committee meeting is:
Wednesday, February 1, 2012
Please mark your calendars.**

Documents relating to an item on the open session that are distributed to the Committee less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA. Documents distributed to the Committee at the meeting by staff will be available at the meeting; documents distributed to the Committee by members of the public shall be made available after the meeting.

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901-2902
Monday thru Friday
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DRAFT MINUTES

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES AND MONTEREY
COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE
JOINT POWERS AGENCY**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

*Members are: Maria Orozco (Chair),
Simón Salinas (1st Vice Chair), Jerry Edelen (2nd Vice Chair),
Lou Calcagno (Past Chair), Jane Parker (County representative),
Kimbley Craig (City representative)*

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

***** 9:00 a.m. *****

Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Orozco called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Board members present: Calcagno, Craig, Edelen, Orozco, Parker, and Salinas. Staff present: Bachman, Goel, Hale, Rodriguez, Watson and Zeller. Others present: Rob Russell, City of Salinas; Tony Harris, Consultant; Kome Ajise, Caltrans; Sam Teel, Monterey County Hospitality Association (MCHA); and Agency Counsel Blankenship via Skype.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Board member Salinas and seconded by Board member Edelen, the committee voted 6 – 0 to approve consent item 3.1 – 3.4 as follows:

3.1 **APPROVED** minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of October 5, 2011.

3.2 **RECOMMENDED** that the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Board approve calendar year 2012 schedule of meetings for Agency Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

3.3 **RECEIVED** draft 2012 Legislative program.

3.4 **APPROVED** “sustained superior performance” step increase from Step 6 to Step 7 for Hank Myers, effective January 1, 2012.

END OF CONSENT

4. **RECIEVED** draft memorandum analyzing the potential for implementing tolling on SR 156; and **PROVIDED** direction on programming strategies for the 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program.

On a motion by Board member Salinas and seconded by Board member Edelen, the committee voted 6 – 0 to receive the report.

Todd Muck, Principal Transportation Planner, reported the Transportation Agency's target for 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding is \$46.86 million. The draft 2012 STIP project list includes \$32.5 million for the plans, specifications and engineering and right-of-way phases of the SR 156 widening project. Mr. Muck noted tolling has been proposed as a potential option to expedite constructing the SR 156 widening project. He reported the feasibility of using tolling to fund construction of the SR 156 widening project could change the list of recommended projects for the Agency's STIP funding.

Kome Ajise, Caltrans Public/Private Partnership ("P-3") Program Manager, noted that state law allows Caltrans to establish tolls, noting this law expires on January 1, 2017. He reported that state finances are not adequate to fund the SR 156 widening project and that Caltrans is working to create an environment where the private sector can invest in infrastructure projects. Mr. Ajise noted that if tolls are set on SR 156, the preliminary study shows that the project could recoup the investment in 10 to 20 years with a \$1 to \$2 peak period toll. He confirmed that Caltrans would retain the responsibility for getting the required permits for the project and maintenance of the highway. Director Hale asked what the next steps would be, if the Agency decided to move forward with tolls. Tony Harris, Agency consultant, replied that the Agency would need to perform due diligence on the potential for tolling and other financing options, partner with Caltrans for public outreach, and program funding for design and right-of-way acquisition for the project.

Chair Orozco noted that a lot of work needs to be done, but feels it is an important issue on which to move forward. Committee member Calcagno noted that staff should consider how to set up the tolling facility so that it minimizes the charges and impacts to local residents and emphasize this point in public outreach efforts. Mr. Ajise noted that the placement of toll booths would be considered during the facility design phase, but that there would probably need to be toll gates for some cash customers. Mr. Ajise further noted that TAMC would be a co-sponsor of the project with Caltrans. Committee member Salinas commented that the agricultural community should be included in the outreach process.

Sam Teel, MCHA, commented that tolls are perceived as negative, but the construction of SR 156 is a positive for the region. He asked if the toll can be sunseted; Mr. Ajise responded that the toll can be sunseted and the facility would revert to Caltrans ownership and maintenance.

Board member Calcagno noted the importance of improving the connection with US 101 in the long-term. Board member Edelen asked that the idea of variable right-of-way be considered. Executive Director Hale agreed to bring the recommendation back to the full Board of Directors in December to “partner with Caltrans to conduct more due diligence prior to conducting public outreach on the tolling proposal.”

5. **RECEIVED** an update on state legislative activities.

Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner, gave an update on state legislative activities. She noted that the passage of SB 436 is a very exciting milestone for the Agency. The passage of the Transportation Agency-sponsored bill allows Caltrans to allocate state funding to non-profits to perform habitat mitigation for projects such as the US 101 Prunedale Improvement Program and the SR 1 Salinas Road Interchange project. Ms. Watson reported that SB 293 prohibits public works contract retentions from exceeding 5% of the contract budget. She noted that TAMC has previously used 10% retention to ensure timely completion of projects, and will now have to reduce such retentions in future contracts, unless the Director makes a finding in the bid documents that the project is “substantially complex” and therefore requires a higher retention.

6. **PROVIDED** direction and guidance to staff on the assumptions for the three-year operating budget for fiscal years 12/13, 13/14, and 14/15.

Rita Goel, Director of Finance and Administration, presented the assumptions for revenues and expenditures for the Agency’s three-year budget for fiscal years 12/13, 13/14, and 14/15. She noted that the Agency budget separates expenditures into two types: operating and direct programs. Operating expenditures include staff salaries and benefits, materials, supplies, and equipment purchases. Direct program expenditures include consultants, contracts, expenditures that apply to specific project delivery tasks such as the rail program, highway projects, and the bicycle and pedestrian program. Ms. Goel also reported that the Agency continues to have a ten-month reserve, but that may need to be accessed in the coming year and that is why the agency has been building it for the past several years. Board member Calcagno commented that the reserve account should be used strictly for emergencies. Director Hale commented that it would be a good idea to have a “contingency fund” separate from the reserve to cover short-term changes in Agency revenues or expenses. Committee Chair Orozco concurred with Director Hale that a “contingency fund” is a good idea. Board member Edelen recommended the agency consider developing scenarios for addressing the situation in which revenues decline over a longer period of time.

7. **RECOMMENDED** that the Board of Directors appoint Board members Frank Sollecito, City Representative and either Board member Potter or Armenta, County Representative, as the nominating committee to be determined after Board member Calcagno talks to Armenta on his status, to meet and return to Board of Directors on January 25, 2012 with recommendations for Board Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, and Executive Committee to serve one-year terms beginning upon their election through the next election of officers at the January 23, 2013 Board meeting.

Committee member Calcagno requested that we use the same process as in the past, noting it runs smoothly.

8. **CLOSED SESSION:** Pursuant to Government Code section §54957, performance evaluation for the Executive Director and Legal Counsel.

RECONVENE: Committee Chair Orozco reported that the Committee met in closed session pursuant to Government Code section §54957 and received information and will forward the information to the Board.

9. **RECEIVED** report on draft agenda for TAMC Board meeting of December 7, 2011.

Executive Director Hale reviewed the December 7, 2011 draft agenda. She reported that a closed session would be held regarding the evaluation the Executive Director and Legal Counsel. She also noted that an Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing would be held. The Board will receive information from Consultant Tony Harris regarding potential congestion pricing/tolling options on the SR 156 widening project. Director Hale noted that the Board would be asked to approve the Regional Transportation Improvement Program list of projects and to accept the draft Monterey Bay area 511 Traveler Information System Feasibility Plan and the State of California Transportation Development Act Compliance and Audit Report for the City of Gonzales and City of Greenfield for fiscal year ending June 30, 2010.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Orozco adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Kristen Hoschouer, Associate Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 11, 2012
Subject: **Transportation Excellence Awards Selection**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE recommendations for the tenth annual Transportation Excellence Awards.

SUMMARY:

The Transportation Agency received six nominations for the Transportation Excellence Awards. The awards ceremony will be held during the January 25, 2012 Board meeting.

DISCUSSION:

The Transportation Agency would like to show its appreciation to the local community for its outstanding efforts to improve transportation in Monterey County. Staff received a total of eleven nominations in the Project, Program and Individuals/Group categories.

Staff recommends that the individuals/groups and projects, programs listed in the **attachment** be awarded Transportation Excellence Awards.

Any back up information such as pictures and supporting documentation is available upon request.

Approved by: _____
Debra Hale, Executive Director

Consent Agenda

Counsel Review N/A

Attachment: Award Nominations

Transportation Excellence Awards

Programs Receiving Excellence Awards

Programs	Nominee	Reason
Military Bus Service	Monterey Salinas Transit	Monterey-Salinas Transit has created new public private partnerships with the Naval Postgraduate School, Presidio of Monterey, and Fort Hunter Liggett. These new partnerships resulted in the creation of an extensive commuter bus operation which is enjoyed by the military and general public. Sixteen military commuter bus routes operate around the Monterey Peninsula and points beyond. Combined monthly ridership for all sixteen military commuter bus routes has grown to over 42,000. The three commuter bus programs have contributed to the substantial reduction of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on area roadways by carrying over 1000 military and DOD employees each weekday. Using MST commuter buses when traveling to work/class help reduce traffic congestion on the Monterey Peninsula during peak commuting periods. As ridership continues to grow each month, this will have a greater impact on VMT reduction, thus helping the Monterey Peninsula achieve its goal to reduce green house gasses, which decreases its carbon footprint in the region.
“Do You Really Need A Car?” Campaign	CHISPA, Inc.	CHISPA’s largest development is Sherwood Village Senior Apartments in Salinas. To encourage the low-income tenants in this 124-unit development to consider parting with their automobiles, they produced a video called “Do You Really Need a Car?” The video recommends that residents take the bus, walk, bicycle, carpool, use rental cars, and use taxi services. The video describes the MST bus lines that serve Sherwood Village. As new tenants sign leases in the property they are shown the video and are given a brochure on alternative forms of transportation.

Projects Receiving Excellence Awards

Project	Nominee	Reason
Big Sur – Highway 1 Slide Repair	Caltrans – District 5, Condon Johnson & Associates	After a very wet winter multiple mudslides occurred both North and South of Big Sur on Highway 1. These mudslides temporarily closed sections of Highway 1 for days at a time. Within a short amount of time Caltrans was able to reopen one lane at a time to allow traffic to pass between certain hours of the day. Caltrans’ quick action and efficient work allowed vehicles to resume traveling on Highway 1 in record time.
Airport Blvd Interchange East Project	Caltrans – District 5, Pavex Construction	This project facilitates the movement of 2,700 trucks per day transporting fresh vegetables to the rest of the nation, supporting a \$3 billion a year agricultural industry. The completed project vastly improves safety for cars and trucks traveling in the area and provides needed traffic congestion relief. It also improves local access to the Salinas Municipal Airport and the Industrial Park on Moffet. Overall it addresses almost 75% of the congestion in the area over the next 10-15 years.

Individuals/Groups Receiving Excellence Awards

Individual/Group	Title	Reason
Mari Lynch	Bicycle Advocate	Mari Lynch started the bicycling Monterey website, an information hub for bicycling in Monterey County. Ms. Lynch also created the “HER” Helmet Thursday program, an ecology economy partnership project, where bicyclists are given discounts when visiting local businesses on Thursdays. Ms. Lynch is a huge supporter of the annual bike week events. In addition to promoting the official events on her website and through twitter, she organized activities such as riding with traffic engineer and dress up challenge. Ms. Lynch continues to advocate for local and regional bicycling issues, and hopes to encourage more people to bicycle.
Assemblymember Luis Alejo and Teresa Acuña	State Assemblymember and Staff	Assemblymember Luis Alejo was instrumental in first sponsoring Assembly Bill 484, and then later principal co-authoring Senate Bill 436, to help streamline the habitat mitigation process. As part of the assemblymember’s staff, Teresa Acuña worked directly with TAMC and participated in meetings with other legislative aides and state departments to help coordinate moving the bill through the Assembly and Senate. The passage of SB 436 will help to save the state money by allowing state agencies to transfer both the land and endowments needed to protect habitat as mitigation for impacts from transportation projects to non-profit organizations, rather than other bureaucratic state agencies. The bill will also improve the safety of our roadways by allowing transportation projects to move more quickly to construction than before. SB436 will directly impact Monterey County projects such as Highway 1 / Salinas Road, the Prunedale Improvement Project, and Highway 101 / San Juan Road.



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee

From: Debra L. Hale

Meeting Date: January 11, 2012

Subject: **Salary Range Adjustment for
Director of Finance and Administration**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECOMMEND that the Transportation Agency Board of Directors approve previously-deferred salary range adjustment, in the amount of 5%, for the position of Director of Finance and Administration, effective January 1, 2012.

SUMMARY:

On January 28, 2009, the Transportation Agency Executive Committee approved a reclassification of the Administrative Services Manager to Director of Finance and Administration, based on the expanded range of duties of the position. Due to budgetary concerns, no salary adjustment occurred. The current Director of Finance and Administration has been performing her duties at the same salary range since October 2006. A brief survey of similar positions indicates that the current salary range falls well below those of comparable positions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The cost of this salary range increase for the 2011/12 fiscal year would be \$2,895 in salary plus \$1,158 in resulting benefit costs, for a total one-time agency cost of \$4,053. The ongoing fiscal year cost to the Agency, starting in July 2012, would be approximately \$8,106. Due to expected salary savings, there are sufficient funds in the adopted budget for fiscal year 11/12 to cover these costs. Due to increased billing to projects and ongoing cost reductions, there are sufficient revenues to cover the ongoing annual cost of this increase.

DISCUSSION:

Transportation Agency human resources policies require the Board of Directors to approve the salary plan for Agency staff positions (Section 4.1).

In 2009, the Agency approved a reclassification of the Director of Finance and Administration position from its former title of Administrative Services Manager, but deferred a salary range adjustment. The rationale for the reclassification was stated as follows:

The duties of the Agency's Administrative Services Manager extend beyond the typical personnel and administration duties that such a position entails at other agencies. The position requires an expert in not only personnel/administration but also in financial matters. A brief survey of similar positions indicates that a reclassification is appropriate. However, no salary range adjustment is proposed until an agency-wide salary survey is conducted in fiscal year 2009/10. (*Attachment 1: staff report*)

Due to uncertainties in state funding, the salary survey was not conducted. No salary range adjustment ever took place. Ms. Rita Goel, our Director of Finance and Administration has continued her excellent performance in both the financial and administrative sides of her duties. She has consistently returned a modest surplus to the agency budget each year by minimizing expenses and billing to new revenue sources. She has also continued to improve the Agency's financial procedures. As a result, the agency is on an even more stable financial footing than it was in 2009. Ms. Goel has also regularly updated the administrative and human resource policies to assure that the Agency is operating efficiently and meeting growing state requirements.

Management proposed the reclassification based on her superior performance of duties. Since 2009, the Agency has built up a strong reserve and is planning to create a contingency fund. Agency staff conducted a brief survey of finance officer and human relations director positions at several member agencies. These positions represent the potential positions that our Director of Finance and Administration would be qualified to apply for. That survey indicates that the TAMC salary range is 23% below the salary range for those positions (See survey, Attachment 2). Management believes that a more modest salary range adjustment is more appropriate given current financial circumstances, and is recommending a 5% adjustment at this time. It would be a significant setback to the Agency to lose Ms. Goel to another organization with a more competitive salary.

The Executive Director therefore recommends adjusting the salary range for the Director of Finance and Administration position by 5%, and granting this salary increase effective January 1, 2012.

Approved by: _____
Debra L. Hale, Executive Director

Consent Agenda

Legal review: _____ n/a _____

Attachments:

1. January 28, 2009 Reclassification Staff Report
2. Salary Survey of Comparable Positions and Comparison with Other Agency Salaries



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee

From: Debra L. Hale, Executive Director

Meeting Date: January 28, 2009

Subject: **Reclassification of Administrative Services Manager Position**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE a reclassification of the Administrative Services Manager position to Director of Finance and Administration, with a salary range adjustment to be determined based on a survey to be conducted in the next fiscal year.

SUMMARY:

The duties of the Agency's Administrative Services Manager extend beyond the typical personnel and administration duties that such a position entails at other agencies. The position requires an expert in not only personnel/administration but also in financial matters. A brief survey of similar positions indicates that a reclassification is appropriate. However, no salary range adjustment is proposed until an agency-wide salary survey is conducted in fiscal year 2009/10.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Under this reclassification proposal, there would be no salary range impact in the current fiscal year. Future year financial impacts are the potential for increased salary based on performance balanced by the potential for reduced turnover costs.

DISCUSSION:

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County has an operating budget in excess of \$2 million per year. The direct budget plus pass-through revenue has ranged from approximately \$25 million to nearly \$75 million per year. The agency's Administrative Services Manager oversees both of these budgets and handles agency administrative, financial and personnel policies and procedures. The proposed title will better reflect the responsibilities of the position.

Director of Finance & Admin Salary data-December 2011

Agenda:3.3 Att:2

TAMC Positions Position	TAMC Annual Range	Current Salary
Executive Director	Contract	\$153,420
Deputy Exec Director	\$102,168-138,312	\$138,312
Director of Finance/Admin	\$89,844-121,596	\$115,812
Principal Planner	\$84,528-113,568	\$108,156
Finance Officer	\$72,480-98,100	\$93,442

SURVEY RESULTS

AGENCY	Annual Range Low	Annual Range High
City Of Monterey Finance Director	Not available	\$155,352
City Of Monterey HR Director	Not available	\$155,352
City of Salinas Finance Director	\$127,944	\$155,508
City of Marina-Finance Director	\$97,836	\$167,016
City of Soledad-Finance Director	\$109,338	\$130,387
	\$335,118	\$763,615
Average	\$111,706	\$152,723
TAMC Range	\$89,844	\$121,596
Proposed-5%-New TAMC range	\$94,336.20	\$127,675.80





Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 11, 2012
Subject: **Legislative Program**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

REVIEW and **COMMENT** on the draft 2012 Legislative Program and **RECOMMEND** Board adoption of the program.

SUMMARY

The purpose of the legislative program is to set general principles to guide staff and Board responses to proposed legislative or budgetary issues. The program also notifies state representatives of the Transportation Agency’s position on issues of key importance to the agency.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The 2011 TAMC Legislative Program focused on maintaining and augmenting transportation funding. The federal program included requests for federal funding for high priority projects. The draft 2012 legislative program continues this focus on transportation funding.

DISCUSSION

Attached is the draft 2012 legislative program. The draft program will go to all committees in January for comment, and the final program will return to the Board in January for adoption.

Approved by: _____ Date signed: _____
 Debra L. Hale, Executive Director Regular Agenda
 Agency Counsel Review: N/A

Attachment: Draft 2012 Legislative Program



DRAFT 2012 Legislative Program: State Issues

- 1S. Preserve funding and delivery schedule of priority transportation projects.**
- 2S. Seek state intercity rail funding for operations and vehicle acquisition for eligible passenger rail services:**
 1. Rail Extension to Monterey County
 2. New Coast Daylight train
- 3S. Encourage the state to stabilize and increase transportation and transit funding.**
- 4S. Support proposals to lower the voter threshold for local transportation sales tax ballot measures from the 2/3 supermajority to a simple majority or 55% majority vote.**
- 5S. Monitor climate change legislation** to ensure that proposals support local economies and do not adversely affect transportation projects.
- 6S. Support legislation that reduces the cost of litter removal** from transportation facilities, including the plastic bag ban, and seek funding for litter removal efforts.
- 7S. Support the California High-Speed Rail project** and seek funding for connections with Monterey County rail projects.
- 8S. Support legislation that promotes transit-oriented development**, transit villages and smart growth, and support eligibility for housing bond funds.
- 9S. Support “complete streets” and development guidelines that integrate alternative forms of transportation**, such as transit, bicycle and pedestrian commuting.
- 10S. Monitor pension reform proposals.**
- 11S. Support member agencies’ requests** for state funding of regionally significant transportation projects and **support partner agency legislative efforts** as they interface with regional transportation priorities, when they are consistent with Transportation Agency for Monterey County priorities.



DRAFT 2012 Legislative Program: Federal Issues

- 1F. Seek federal authorization, appropriations, stimulus or other funding** for the Agency's high priority projects, in priority order:
1. US 101 - San Juan Road interchange (Red Barn)
 2. Reauthorization of passenger rail and bus transit facilities and service:
Commuter Rail Extension to Monterey County and Monterey Peninsula light rail transit
 3. State Route 156 improvements
 4. South County Frontage Roads
 5. Route 68 Holman Highway (Access to Community Hospital), Phase II, construction
 6. Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail
- 2F. Support the following priorities for federal authorization legislation:**
1. **Stabilize and increase transportation funding sources** in order to avoid the bankruptcy of the federal highway and transit trust funds:
 - i. Index the gas tax to keep up with inflation to maintain current Highway Trust Fund levels or increase the gas tax to sufficiently meet the nation's transportation needs.
 - ii. Identify appropriate additional funding sources above and beyond the gas tax for maintenance and operations on the existing transportation network.
 - iii. Support maximum federal transportation spending and removal of any procedural obstacles that would impede expenditure of all authorized funding.
 - iv. Focus funding on projects that support safety, economic development and job creation.
 2. Streamline project delivery
 3. Allocate funding to support goods movement programs, especially for highway and rail projects that transport agricultural goods to market
 4. Support "complete streets" programs
 5. Support infrastructure bank programs
- 3F. Support federal jobs stimulus bills that invest in infrastructure and:**
- a. Relieve local agencies from funding match requirements; and
 - b. Prioritize shelf-ready local streets and roads maintenance projects and transit operations.
- 4F. Seek federal funding for Monterey County rail and busway projects** through the Federal Transit Administration New Starts/ Small Starts program, the railroad safety grant program, the high-speed rail program, or other sources.
- 5F. Ensure that climate change legislation proposals are coordinated with California's state requirements**, support local economies, and do not adversely affect transportation projects.
- 6F. Support an adequate level of funding for Amtrak** in the annual appropriations bill and the Amtrak reauthorization legislation, support a fair share allocation to California for capital improvements and vehicle acquisition, and support the appointment of a California representative to the Amtrak Board of Directors.
- 7F. Support member agencies' requests** for federal funding of regionally significant transportation projects and **support partner agency legislative efforts** as they interface with regional transportation priorities, when they are consistent with Transportation Agency for Monterey County priorities.



Memorandum

To: Executive Committee

From: Kristen Hoschouer, Associate Transportation Planner

Meeting Date: January 11, 2012

Subject: **2011 Annual Report**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

DISCUSS the basic concept of the 2011 Transportation Agency for Monterey County Annual Report.

SUMMARY

The Transportation Agency 2011 Annual Report, which addresses Agency accomplishments for 2011 and goals for 2012, will be mailed to residents and businesses throughout the County during the month of April.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The 2011 Annual Report is in the Agency's approved FY 10/11 budget for a total cost of \$80,000, which includes design, printing, and postage.

DISCUSSION

The 2011 Transportation Agency Annual Report will focus on increasing awareness of the Transportation Agency's presence in Monterey County while building a reputation of trust and fiscal responsibility. It will highlight major projects under construction at this time and in the planning stages. It will focus on what the Transportation Agency has done for the residents of Monterey County lately as well as highlight important projects that are still in need of funding.

An outline of the Annual Report will be included in the January Board of Directors agenda.

Approved by: _____ Date signed: _____
Debra L. Hale Executive Director

Regular Agenda Reviewed by Counsel ___N/A___



Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Todd Muck, AICP, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 11, 2012
Subject: State Route 156 West Corridor Public Outreach Plan

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

REVIEW and **RECOMMEND** approval of the State Route 156 West Corridor Public Outreach Plan.

SUMMARY:

The Transportation Agency Board of Directors directed staff to work with Caltrans to conduct more due diligence analyzing the potential for using congestion pricing/tolling to fund the State Route 156 West Corridor project. The Board also directed staff to prepare a public outreach plan for disseminating information to the public and gaining public input on the tolling concept.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The specific cost of conducting additional public outreach for the State Route 156 West Corridor project has not yet been determined. It is estimated that the cost of outreach materials, consultant services and staff time would not exceed \$ \$125,000 during the next 12 months. Staff is working with Caltrans to determine if the cost of this effort could be funded out of the project's federal earmark, which is provided directly to the Transportation Agency. If so, an amendment to the Transportation Agency's cooperative funding agreement with Caltrans would need to be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The State Route 156 West Corridor project will provide important safety and congestion relief benefits between Prunedale and Castroville. Phase 1 of the project includes constructing a full interchange at Castroville Boulevard, constructing a 4-lane freeway segment to the south of the current highway, turning the existing highway into a frontage road, and making appropriate connections to transition into US 101. Phase 2 of the project involves a realignment and reconstruction of the 101/156 interchange to allow increased traffic flow, and improved connections to San Miguel Canyon Road.

Utilizing congestion pricing/tolling to fund the State Route 156 West Corridor project would allow construction to be completed decades in advance of when traditional funding could be accumulated to complete the project. While common in other parts of California and around the country, congestion pricing/tolling for public roads is a new concept in Monterey County. For this reason, the Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its December 7 meeting, directed staff to conduct a significant public outreach effort as part of the due diligence to take place prior to any decision to proceed with a toll financing plan.

The attached draft SR 156 West Corridor Public Outreach Plan outlines the general proposal to inform the community about benefits of the project, describe how the project will affect local and regional travel, explain how the project can be funded through a public-private partnership, and provide a timeline for the project. The outreach plan will also capture community and stakeholders' input, and help define how the project can be funded in a way that meets the needs of both the local communities and the region.

A twelve-month process is anticipated before a final decision on utilizing congestion pricing/tolling to fund the State Route 156 West Corridor project would be made. The first six months includes conducting due diligence with Caltrans, completing additional environmental and design technical analysis required for a toll facility, and conducting public outreach. The second six months would focus on obtaining approval from the California Transportation Commission, issuing a solicitation to proposers, finalizing the project funding plan, making a decision on whether or not to proceed with a public-private partnership, and approving the necessary agreements.

Staff asks for input on the draft public outreach plan and a recommendation for approval by the Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its January meeting.

Approved by: _____
Debra L. Hale, Executive Director

Date Signed: _____

Regular Agenda

Reviewed by Counsel: N/A

Attachment: Draft SR 156 West Corridor Public Outreach Plan