

AGENDA

TAMC RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting of Monday
November 3, 2008

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

3:00 P.M.

Complete agenda packets are on display at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) office and at these public libraries: Carmel, Monterey, Salinas Steinbeck Branch, Seaside, Prunedale, and King City. Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call the TAMC office to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Please recycle this agenda.

- 1. Quorum Check, Call to Order and Introductions.** A quorum for the voting TAMC Rail Policy Committee members consists of a minimum of 6 of the following voting members: Potter (Chair), Rubio (Vice-Chair), Armenta, Calcagno, Mettee-McCutchon, Wilmot, Sollecito, Villegas, Matarazzo, Ortiz. *If you are unable to attend, please make sure that one of your two alternates attends the meeting. Your courtesy to the other members to assure a quorum is appreciated.*

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON TRANSPORTATION MATTERS NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA.**

Any member of the public may address the Rail Policy Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Rail Policy Committee. Comments on items on today's agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed.

BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA: Approve the staff recommendations for **items 3.1-3.4** 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** minutes of September 8, 2008 Rail Policy Committee meeting.
– Cook

Pages 5 - 7

- 3.2 RECEIVE** the call for nominations for the seventh annual Transportation Agency Excellence awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation system in Monterey County.
–Hoschouer **Pages 8 - 12**

Transportation Agency would like to encourage and appreciate efforts made by Monterey County residents, businesses and employees to improve transportation in Monterey County by awarding Transportation Excellence Awards. Staff encourages committee members to submit nominations, which are due by December 5, 2008. The awards ceremony will take place before the regular January 2009 Transportation Agency board meeting.

- 3.3 APPROVE** 2009 schedule of Rail Policy Committee meetings. – Watson
Page 13

The proposed schedule of Rail Policy Committee meetings for 2009 follows the existing pattern of meetings on the first Monday of the month at 3:00 p.m. except July and December, when all committee meetings are cancelled due to holidays, and September, when the meeting is on the second Monday of the month due to Labor Day holiday conflicts.

- 3.4 RECEIVE** information on positive train control technology and new federal law. – Watson **Pages 14 - 19**

Spurred by the Metrolink commuter train collision with a freight train on September 12, 2008, Congress passed and the President signed a comprehensive railroad act that included a section on collision avoidance systems known as positive train control. The National Transportation Safety Board advocates for the technology for high-risk corridors where freight and passenger trains operate on the same tracks.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. RECEIVE** report on economic analysis portion of the agricultural freight rail feasibility study. – Watson/Collins **Pages 20 - 45**

Steve Collins, consultant to the Grower-Shipper Association of Central California, will attend this meeting to present findings from the “Agricultural Transportation Intermodal Rail study: Market Feasibility and Economic Assessment”.

5. **REVIEW** and **COMMENT** on draft 2009 Legislative Program. – Watson
Pages 46 - 49

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.

6. **RECEIVE** update on bus rapid transit and light rail operations, ridership estimates, noise and vibration impacts, and traffic impacts on the Monterey Branch Line. – Hoschouer/Scales
Pages 50 - 62

Parsons Transportation Group has updated the operations, ridership estimates, noise and vibrations impacts and traffic impacts for the bus rapid transit and light rail alternatives and with Agency staff will present the results of these analyses.

7. **RECEIVE** update on Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project.
– Watson/Scales
Pages 63 - 64

Progress on the Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project since the last report to this committee includes the finalization of a contract for negotiations with Union Pacific and the Caltrain Joint Powers Board; meetings with Coastal Commission and California Public Utilities Commission staff; progress on getting a support letter from the Congressional Delegation; and funding arrangements with Monterey-Salinas Transit and the California Transportation Commission.

8. **RECEIVE** report on Rail~Volution conference and mobile workshop to Monterey. – Watson
Pages 65 - 68

The Rail~Volution conference took place in San Francisco from October 26-30, 2008. A mobile workshop to Monterey occurred on Thursday, October 30, 2008. Staff attended the conference and led the workshop, and staff will give an oral report on both at this meeting.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** and/or **COMMENTS** from Rail Policy Committee members on matters that they wish to put on future Committee agendas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Rail Policy Committee meeting:

Monday, January 5, 2009 3:00 p.m.

Transportation Agency for Monterey County Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, California 93901

Light refreshments will be provided

**If you have any items for the next agenda, please submit them to:
Christina Watson, Rail Program Coordinator
by Friday, December 19, 2008
Christina@tamcmonterey.org**

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.

<p>Transportation Agency for Monterey County 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901-2902 Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. TEL: 831-775-0903 FAX: 831-775-0897</p>
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The next Rail Policy Committee agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon Friday, December 19, 2008 nine (9) working days before the regular meeting. Any member may request in writing an item to appear on the agenda. The request shall be made by the agenda deadline and any supporting papers must be furnished by that time or be readily available.

If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may contact Transportation Agency at 831-775-0903. Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish Language interpreters and printed materials, and printed materials in large print, Braille or on disk. These requests may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting, and should be made at least 72 hours before the meeting. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the request.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, MEDIA CLIPPINGS
*Online at www.tamcmonterey.org
None this month.*