

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)  
RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

*DRAFT Minutes of November 3, 2008*

Meeting held at

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

|   | JAN<br>08 | FEB<br>08 | MAR<br>08 | APR<br>08 | MAY<br>08 | JUN<br>08 | JUL<br>08 | AUG<br>08 | SEP<br>08 | OCT<br>08 | NOV<br>08 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| F. Armenta, Dist. 1<br>(A. Chavez)                                      | P         | P         | <b>C</b>  | P         | <b>C</b>  | P         | <b>N</b>  | P(A)      | P         | <b>C</b>  | P         |
| L. Calcagno, Dist. 2<br>(H. Gowin)                                      | P(A)      | P(A)      | <b>A</b>  | P(A)      | <b>A</b>  | P(A)      | <b>O</b>  | P(A)      | P         | <b>A</b>  | P(A)      |
| I. Mettee-McCutchon,<br>Dist. 4 (C. Link)                               | P(A)      | P(A)      | <b>N</b>  | P(A)      | <b>N</b>  | P         |           | P(A)      | P(A)      | <b>N</b>  | P(A)      |
| D. Potter, Dist. 5, Chair<br>(K. Lee)                                   | P         | P         | <b>C</b>  | P         | <b>C</b>  | P         | <b>M</b>  | P(A)      | P         | <b>C</b>  | E         |
| G. Wilmot, Marina<br>(J. Ford)  | -         | P         | <b>E</b>  | P         | <b>E</b>  | P         | <b>E</b>  | P         | P         | <b>E</b>  | P         |
| F. Sollecito, Monterey<br>( <del>C. Della Sala</del> ,<br>W. Reichmuth) | P(A)      | P         | <b>L</b>  | P         | <b>L</b>  | P         | <b>E</b>  | P         | P         | <b>L</b>  | P         |
| S. Villegas, Salinas<br>(R. Russell, <del>J. Serrano</del> )            | P(A)      | P(A)      | <b>L</b>  | P(A)      | <b>L</b>  | P         | <b>T</b>  | P         | P         | <b>L</b>  | P         |
| S. Matarazzo, Sand City<br>(R. Simonitch)                               | -         | P(A)      | <b>E</b>  | -         | <b>E</b>  | P         | <b>I</b>  | P         | P         | <b>E</b>  | P         |
| R. Rubio, Seaside, Vice<br>Chair (D. Ingersoll, S.<br>Bloomer)          | P         | E         | <b>D</b>  | P         | <b>D</b>  | P         | <b>N</b>  | P         | P         | <b>D</b>  | P         |
| R. Ortiz, Soledad<br>(G. Gerbrandt)                                     | P         | P         |           | -         |           | P         | <b>G</b>  | -         | P(A)      |           | P (A)     |
| R. Rubio, AMBAG<br>(M. Griffin)   | P         | E         |           | P         |           | P         |           | P         | P         |           | P         |
| M. McCumsey, Caltrans<br>District 5                                     | P<br>(TC) | P<br>(TC) |           | E         |           | P<br>(TC) |           | P<br>(TC) | E         |           | E         |
| C. Sedoryk, MST<br>(H. Harvath)   | -         | -         |           | P(A)      |           | -         |           | P(A)      | -         |           | -         |
| <b>STAFF</b>  |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| D. Hale, Exec. Director   | P         | P         |           | E         |           | P         |           | P         | P         |           | P         |
| D. Bachman, Dep. Exec.<br>Director                                      | P         | P         |           | P         |           | E         |           | E         | P         |           | P         |
| K. Hoschouer, Trans.<br>Planner   | P         | P         |           | P         |           | P         |           | P         | P         |           | P         |
| C. Watson, Sr. Trans.<br>Planner  | P         | P         |           | P         |           | E         |           | P         | P         |           | P         |
| A. Cook, Assoc. Trans.<br>Planner                                       | P         | P         |           | P         |           | P         |           | P         | P         |           | P         |

E – Excused                      VC – Video Conference  
A – Alternate                    TC – Teleconference

**1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Rubio called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

|               |                              |               |                            |
|---------------|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Richard Ortiz | Mayor, City of Soledad       | William Sabo  | Monterey Peninsula Airport |
| Mike Gallant  | Monterey-Salinas Transit     | Carole Dawson | City of Seaside            |
| Marlys Maher  | Salinas resident             | Debbie Platt  | City of Marina             |
| A.J. Farrar   | Monterey resident            | Tom Treanor   | Carmel Valley Resident     |
| Steve Collins | Growers-Shippers Association | Bob Scales    | Parsons                    |

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were provided.

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**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

**M/S/C** Armenta/ Gerbrandt/ unanimous

**3.1** Approved minutes of September 8, 2008 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

**3.2** Received 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.

**3.3** Approved 2009 schedule of Rail Policy Committee meetings.

**3.4** Received information on positive train control technology and new federal law.

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**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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**4. AGRICULTURAL FREIGHT RAIL ECONOMIC STUDY**

The Committee received a report on the economic analysis portion of the agricultural freight rail feasibility study. The study has investigated the feasibility of transporting agricultural commodities cross-country using intermodal refrigerated flatbed rail cars, including construction of an intermodal freight loading facility in the Salinas Valley. A report on the study will be provided to the Board of Directors at an upcoming meeting.

**5. 2009 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

The Committee reviewed and commented on the draft 2009 legislative program. Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner, reported 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. The 2009 legislative program continues a focus on maintaining and augmenting transportation funding. The federal program includes the Agency's requests for federal appropriations earmarks for high priority projects.

Gary Gerbandt commented on the outcome of discussions with Caltrans regarding the proposed Highway 146 realignment in Soledad. Staff agreed to meet with Soledad and Caltrans to discuss this issue.

**6. MONTEREY BRANCH LINE OPERATIONS UPDATE**

The Committee received an update on bus rapid transit and light rail operations, ridership estimates, noise and vibration impacts, and traffic impacts on the Monterey Branch Line.

Kristen Hoschouer, Transportation Planner, reported on the operations and maintenance estimates, ridership estimates, noise and vibration impact report and traffic impact report prepared by Parsons. Ms. Hoschouer noted that the Monterey Branch Line project is currently undergoing an alternatives analysis to assist the Agency with its selection of a preferred transit mode and limits of operation along the branch line corridor. Alternatives include bus rapid transit or light rail transit. An enhanced bus alternative has also been included, as required by the Federal Transit Administration.

Staff agreed to provide point-to-point travel time comparisons between modes for the committee to review at a future meeting.

**7. CALTRAIN EXTENSION PROJECT UPDATE**

The Committee received update on Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project.

Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner, reported on the finalized consultant 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. RAIL~VOLUTION CONFERENCE AND MOBILE WORKSHOP**

The Committee received a report from Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner, on the Rail~Volution conference, which took place in San Francisco on October 26-30, 2008, and a mobile workshop to Monterey on Thursday, October 30, 2008.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS**

None.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chairman Rubio adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:15 p.m.