

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

Final Minutes of September 21, 2009

Special Meeting held at
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	JAN 09	FEB 09	MAR 09	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	AUG 09	SEP 09
F. Armenta, Dist. 1 (A. Chavez)	P	C	P	C	P	P	C	P	C	-	P
L. Calcagno, Dist. 2 (H. Gowin)	P	A	P(A)	A	P(A)	P(A)	A	P(A)	A	P(A)	P(A)
J. Parker, Dist. 4 (K. Markey)	P(A)	N	P(A)	N	P	P	N	P	N	P	P
D. Potter, Dist. 5, Chair (K. Lee)	P	C	E	C	P	P	C	P	C	P	P
B. Delgado, Marina (K. Gray)	P	E	P	E	P	P	E	P	E	P	P
F. Sollecito, Monterey (C. Della Sala)	P	L	P	L	P	P	L	P(A)	L	P	P
S. Villegas, Salinas (R. Russell , J. Serrano)	P	L	P	L	P(A)	-	L	-	L	-	P
S. Matarazzo, Sand City (R. Simonitch)	P	E	P	E	-	P	E	P	E	-	P
R. Rubio, Seaside, Vice Chair (D. Ingersoll, S. Bloomer)	P	D	P	D	P	P(A)	D	-	D	P	P
R. Ortiz, Soledad (G. Gerbrandt)	P(A)		P (A)		P	E		P(A)		P(A)	-
J. Doughty, AMBAG (R. Deshazo)	P		P		P	-		-		-	-
M. McCumsey, Caltrans District 5	E		E		E	E		-		E	E
C. Sedoryk, MST (H. Harvath)	-		-		P	P(A)		-		P	P
B. Sabo, Airport	P		P		-	-		-		-	P
STAFF											
D. Hale, Exec. Director	P		P		P	P		P		P	P
D. Bachman, Dep. Exec. Director	P		P		P	P		P		P	P
K. Hoschouer, Assoc. Trans. Planner	P		P		P	P		P		E	P
C. Watson, Sr. Trans. Planner	P		P		P	P		P		P	P
A. Cook, Assoc. Trans. Planner	P		P		P	P		P		P	E

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

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Potter called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. A quorum was established and introductions were made.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jim Ford	City of Marina City Councilmember	An McDonnell	27 th Assembly District, Monterey Office
Kristi Markey	District 4 Alternate	Hunter Harvath	Monterey-Salinas Transit
Sam Teel	Mo. Co. Hospitality Assoc.	J. Eric Tynan	Castroville Community Services District
Steve McHarris	City of Soledad	Carole Dawson	City of Seaside
Debby Platt	City of Marina	Jerome Landesman	Salinas Resident
Chris Flescher	Rail Pass. Assoc. of Cal.	Marlys Maher	Salinas Resident
A.J. Farrar	North Monterey County	Tom Treanor	Carmel Valley Resident
Bob Scales	Parsons	Patrick Dobbins	Mark Thomas & Co.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

Chair Potter noted that Item 5 would be moved to the October 5, 2009 meeting.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Parker/Villegas unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the August 17, 2009 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

3.2 Approved 2010 schedule of Rail Policy Committee Meetings.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. MONTEREY BRANCH LINE SELECTION OF A LOCALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

M/S/C Sollecito/Rubio

Noes: Parker, Gowin

The Committee recommended that the Board approve Resolution 2009-13, adopting the Light Rail alternative as the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Monterey Branch Line transit corridor.

Debbie Hale, Executive Director, and Kristen Hoschouer, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that adopting a locally preferred alternative among the two viable build alternatives, light rail or bus rapid transit, will allow the Agency to proceed with the federally required Environmental Assessment. Staff recommended the Light Rail Transit alternative as the preferred alternative for the Monterey Branch Line corridor.

Committee member Sollecito expressed support of both options but a preference for the Light Rail Transit alternative due to the potential for fulfilling a long-term vision for the region.

Committee member Rubio expressed support of the Light Rail Transit alternative due to its higher capacity for riders, ease of access for wheelchairs and bicycles, more convenient connection at Castroville and its potential for eventual intercity connection.

Committee alternate Gowin expressed support for the Bus Rapid Transit alternative due to its lower cost and better ability to serve existing needs.

Committee member Parker expressed support of both options but a preference for the Bus Rapid Transit alternative due to its flexibility to serve the Salinas-Monterey commute market.

Committee member Delgado expressed support of the Light Rail Transit alternative due to the potential to connect with intercity rail and its greater capacity for riders and bicycles.

Chair Potter expressed support of the Light Rail Transit alternative because it fulfills the original vision of the acquisition of the Monterey Branch Line of reinstating rail service on the Monterey Peninsula, and also because of its advantage over buses of having its own corridor and never needing to share right-of-way with car traffic.

5. CASTROVILLE STATION

This item was postponed to the October 5, 2009 meeting.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Potter adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.