

AGENDA

TAMC RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting of Monday
February 2, 2009

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 - 3.2** 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 November 3, 2008 Rail Policy Committee meeting.
– Cook

Pages 5 - 7

- 3.2 **APPROVE** the timeline for the selection of a consultant for the Monterey Branch Line environmental documents. – Hoschouer

Pages 8 - 9

The Transportation Agency is scheduled to adopt a preferred alternative for the Monterey Branch Line project in April 2009. The next step in the process to secure funding and implement the project is completion of environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. **RECEIVE** and **DISCUSS** Monterey Branch Line Draft Alternatives Analysis. – Hoschouer

Pages 10 - 12

Parsons Transportation Group has completed the Alternatives Analysis for the Monterey Branch Line. Staff and Parsons will report on the latest information in preparation for recommendation of locally preferred alternative at the April 2009 Rail Policy meeting.

5. **RECEIVE** verbal report on field trip to the Orange Line and Sprinter. – Hoschouer/Scales

No Enclosures

In January, Agency Board, Staff, and Parsons took a field trip to the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit in North Hollywood and the Sprinter Light Rail Line in Oceanside. Staff will verbally report on the field trip.

6. **RECEIVE** ridership report on the Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project, and **RECEIVE** report from the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting and meetings with the Federal Transit Administration in Washington, D.C. – Hale/Watson/Scales

Pages 13 - 16

In December, Parsons completed the “Caltrain Commuter Rail Extension to Monterey County Ridership Validation Report”, and Agency staff forwarded the document to Dwayne Weeks, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) staff, for review. In January, Agency staff attended the annual Transportation Research Board meeting, and staff and Bob Scales of Parsons met with FTA to review the ridership analysis. Staff will verbally report on the meetings.

7. **RECEIVE** verbal report on field trip on the New Jersey Light Rail line. – Watson/Scales

No Enclosures

In January, Agency staff and Parsons took a field trip to the River Line Light Rail Service in New Jersey. Staff will verbally report on the field trip.

8. **RECEIVE** information about the High Speed Rail bond (Proposition 1A).
– Watson **Pages 17 - 18**

Proposition 1A, the “Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century”, includes funding for intercity and passenger rail projects with direct connections to the High-Speed Rail network. The nearest connection to Monterey County would be the station in Gilroy.

8. **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, March 2, 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 Tuesday, February 17, 2009
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.

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

The next Rail Policy Committee agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon Tuesday, February 17, 2009 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

- C-1 November 11, 2008 article in *Progressive Railroading*, "Caltrain notes ridership, revenue gains in FY 2008".