

AGENDA

TAMC RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting of Monday
August 1, 2011

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), Sollecito (Vice-Chair), Armenta, Bachofner, Calcagno, Parker, Delgado, Craig, Matarazzo, and Chavez.
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 May 2, 2011 Rail Policy Committee meeting.
– Cook

Pages 6 - 9

- 3.2 RECEIVE** list of questions and answers on the Monterey Branch Line to the Marina City Council. – Hoschouer **Pages 10 - 18**

Attached is a list of questions and their answers asked by Marina City Council members and residents on the Monterey Branch Line Project at the Marina City Council Meeting on February 1, 2011.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. RECEIVE** the Alternatives Analysis Report findings for the San Jose to Merced section of the California High-Speed Rail project. – Hoschouer **Pages 19 - 30**

The California High-Speed Rail project is a statewide project administered by the California High-Speed Rail Authority to connect Los Angeles and San Diego to San Francisco and Sacramento via the Central Valley. The nearest station to Monterey County would be in Gilroy. The Alternatives Analysis Report for the San Jose to Merced section of the project was released for public review in May. A draft Environmental Impact Report will be available for public review in early 2012. A representative from the High Speed Rail Authority will attend the meeting to present the update.

- 5. RECEIVE** update on Monterey Branch Line project schedule – Hoschouer **Page 31**

Key milestones in the project are approaching, most significantly the Federal Transit Administration approval of the Alternatives Analysis and environmental documents.

- 6. REVIEW** and **ACCEPT** Commuter Rail Extension project visual simulations. – Bachman **Pages 32 - 38**

VBN Architects has created four draft visual simulations for the Salinas and Pajaro/ Watsonville stations for the Commuter Rail Extension to Monterey County project.

- 7. TAKE COMMITTEE PHOTO**

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

- 9. ADJOURN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Rail Policy Committee meeting:

Monday, September 12, 2011

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 Monday, August 29, 2011

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 Monday, August 29, 2011 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

CORRESPONDENCE

None this agenda

REPORTS

- C-1** April 2011 Capitol Corridor and California Intercity Passenger Rail Performance Results
- C-2** May 2011 Capitol Corridor and California Intercity Passenger Rail Performance Results
- C-3** June 2011 Capitol Corridor and California Intercity Passenger Rail Performance Results

MEDIA CLIPPINGS

- C-4** February - April 2011 *California Rail News*, including item on March 3, 2011 Coast Rail Tour (page 3, "Coast Observations")
- C-5** April 15, 2011 news release from the United Transportation Union, "Harsh cuts by Congress to transport funding"
- C-6** April 20, 2011 article in *Metro Magazine*, "Monterey, Calif. Transit system honored by U.S. Army"
- C-7** April 21, 2011 article in *The Almanac*, "Caltrain eyes providing 'initial' high-speed rail service: Agency to study ways it can modernize its train system, accommodate high-speed trains"
- C-8** April 21, 2011 article in *San Jose Mercury News*, "Caltrain board Oks budget that keeps all trains running, all stations open"
- C-9** April 21, 2011 article in *Streetsblog San Francisco*, "Caltrain Board Approves Controversial Full Service Budget Plan"

- C-10** April 22, 2011 article in *San Jose Mercury News*, “In remarkable turnaround, VTA pulls back from the brink”
- C-11** April 26, 2011 article in *San Jose Mercury News*, “With Caltrain back on track, long-term funding puzzle still plagues commuter line”
- C-12** April 29, 2011 article in *Merced Sun-Star*, “Galgiani attacks Bay Area state senator’s ‘Great Train Robbery’”
- C-13** May 11, 2011 article in *Progressive Railroading*, “Capitol Corridor registers record April ridership, receives \$68 million from feds for rolling stock”
- C-14** May 12, 2011 article in *The Skyline View*, “The future of the Bay Area could be intertwined with the future of Caltrain”
- C-15** May 12, 2011 article in *SFGate*, “Study ranks Bay Area public-transit commute high”
- C-16** May 12, 2011 article in *Burlingame Patch*, “Caltrain Funding Reconfigured: Samtrans board approved a funds swap Wednesday that will subsidize Caltrain’s operating budget – one that carries a projected \$30.3 million deficit in 2012”
- C-17** May 14, 2011 article in *The SF Examiner*, “Caltrain’s weekend express program deemed a success”
- C-18** May 18, 2011 article in *Palo Alto Online News*, “Caltrain rethinks relationship with high-speed rail: Agency considers other ways to electrify trains, close structural budget deficit:
- C-19** May 19, 2011 article in *Monterey County Weekly*, “All gassed up: MST ridership is up, but not enough to cover spiking diesel costs”
- C-20** May 20, 2011 blog post in *San Jose Inside*, “BART and Caltrain Need to Merge”
- C-21** May 22, 2011 article in *The SF Examiner*, “Caltrain’s high-speed rail tab raises red flag”
- C-22** June 3, 2011 article in *All Headline News*, “Caltrain board approves budget with no closures and service cuts”
- C-23** June 9, 2011 article in *San Jose Inside*, “Funding CalTrain”
- C-24** June 9, 2011 article in *SFGate*, “AC Transit, Caltrain financial plan gets boost”
- C-25** July 13, 2011 article in the *San Jose Mercury News*, “Central Valley express train could be zooming to San Jose”
- C-26** July 13, 2011 article in the *San Francisco Examiner*, “Peninsula speed restrictions could push high-speed rail to San Francisco off fast pace”