

AGENDA Item: 3.1

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
FINAL Minutes of August 1, 2011
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas**

| | AUG 10 | SEP 10 | OCT 10 | NOV 10 | JAN 11 | FEB 11 | MAR 11 | APR 11 | MAY 11 | JUN 11 | AUG 11 |
|---|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| F. Armenta, Dist. 1 (J. Martinez) | C | P | C | E | P | P | P(A) | C | P | C | E |
| L. Calcagno, Dist. 2 (H. Gowin) | A | P(A) | A | P(A) | P(A) | P(A) | P(A) | A | P(A) | A | - |
| J. Parker, Dist. 4 (K. Markey) | N | P | N | P | P | P | P | N | P | N | P |
| D. Potter, Dist. 5, Chair (K. Lee) | C | P | C | P | P | P | E | C | P | C | - |
| B. Delgado, Marina (F. O'Connell) | E | P | E | E | P | P | P | E | P | E | P |
| F. Sollecito, Monterey – Vice Chair (C. Della Sala) | L | P | L | P | P | E | P | L | E | L | P |
| K. Craig, Salinas (R. Russell, J. Serrano) | L | - | L | P | P | P | P(A) | L | P | L | P(A) |
| S. Matarazzo, Sand City (R. Simonitch) | E | P(A) | E | P(A) | P | P | P | E | P | E | P |
| F. Bachofner, Seaside (D. Ingersoll, S. Bloomer) | D | - | D | E | - | P | P | D | P | D | P |
| A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Ledesma) | | P | | P(A) | P | P | P | | P | | E |
| J. Doughty, AMBAG (R. Deshazo) | | - | | - | - | - | - | | - | | - |
| M. McCumsey, Caltrans District 5 | | - | | P (TC) | - | - | - | | - | | P (TC) |
| C. Sedoryk, MST (H. Harvath) | | - | | - | P(A) | - | - | | - | | - |
| B. Sabo, Airport | | P | | P | - | P | P | | P | | P |
| STAFF | | | | | | | | | | | |
| D. Hale, Exec. Director | | P | | E | P | P | P | | E | | P |
| D. Bachman, Dep. Exec. Director | | P | | P | P | P | P | | P | | P |
| C. Watson, Sr. Transp. Planner | | P | | P | E | P | P | | P | | E |
| K. Hoschouer, Assoc. Transp. Planner | | P | | P | P | P | P | | P | | P |
| A. Cook, Assoc. Transp. Planner | | P | | P | E | P | P | | P | | E |
| H. Myers, Assoc. Transp. Planning Engineer | | - | | P | - | E | - | | E | | - |
| M. Zeller, Assoc. Transp. Planner | | P | | P | P | E | E | | E | | P |
| E – Excused A – Alternate | VC – Video Conference TC – Teleconference | | | | | | | | | | |

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Sollecito called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. Introductions were made and a quorum was established.

OTHERS PRESENT

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Dave Mansen | Parsons | Bob Scales | Parsons |
| Charlie Hargood | Federal Rail Admin | Chris Flescher | Rail Pass. Assoc. of CA |
| Deanna Smith | MST | Tim O'Halloran | City of Seaside |
| Debby Platt | City of Marina | Sam Teel | Mo. Co. Hospitality Assn. |
| Eric Peterson | Salinas Resident | | |

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Committee Member Bachofner thanked Transportation Agency staff for including notes from a meeting with the City of Marina in the agenda packet.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Matarazzo/Parker/unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the May 2, 2011 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

3.2 Received list of questions and answers on the Monterey Branch Line to the Marina City Council.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT SAN JOSE TO MERCED STATION

The Committee received the Alternative Analysis Report findings for the San Jose to Merced section of the California High-Speed Rail project.

Dave Mansen, consultant to the California High-Speed Rail Authority, reported that the California High-Speed Rail project is a statewide project to connect Los Angeles and San Diego to San Francisco and Sacramento via the Central Valley.

Committee Member Bachofner asked why the project was starting in the central valley. Mr. Mansen explained that the central valley is the core of the system and allows the Authority to test the trains at their maximum speed of 220 mph on the straightest part of the rail line. Mr. Mansen also noted that ridership estimates show that 41% of riders will be located in the central valley.

Committee Member Delgado asked if there was opposition to using farmland. Mr. Mansen confirmed that there is opposition, and noted that the Authority is trying to keep the rail line as close to existing roadways as possible to minimize the impacts on farmland.

The two proposed locations for the Gilroy High-Speed Rail station were discussed: downtown Gilroy vs. Leavelsey Road. Committee Member Bachofner and Vice Chair Sollecito suggested that a letter or resolution supporting the downtown Gilroy station be brought for consideration by the full Board of Directors.

5. **MONTEREY BRANCH LINE UPDATE**

The Committee received an update on the Monterey Branch Line project schedule.

Kristen Hoschouer, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that the key milestones in the project are approaching, most significantly the Federal Transit Administration approval of the Alternatives Analysis and environmental documents. She noted that key dates for the project will be the public review of the environmental documents in February and March. Public outreach for the project will be very important during this time. TAMC Staff will be visiting community groups and city councils during this time.

6. **COMMUTER RAIL EXTENSION PROJECT VISUAL SIMULATIONS**

M/S/C Parker/Delgado/unanimous (Matarazzo recused)

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Commuter Rail Extension project visual simulations.

Don Bachman, Deputy Executive Director, reported that VBN Architects have created four draft visual simulations for the Salinas station and one for the Pajaro/Watsonville station for the Commuter Rail Extension to Monterey County project.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

None.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Sollecito adjourned the meeting at 3:54 p.m.