

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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HIGHLIGHTS

August 22, 2007 Meeting

SEPTEMBER CONSTRUCTION SET FOR STATE ROUTE 68—COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF MONTEREY PENINSULA

It won't be long before the entrance to Community Hospital on State Route 68 will be safer and less congested. Construction will begin September 2007 to add a left turn lane out of the hospital and additional through lanes at the intersection on SR 68. The Agency Board awarded the construction contract to Granite Construction for \$817,817, which is under the engineering estimate and within budget. The \$1.2 million construction phase is fully funded through Transportation Agency Regional Surface Transportation Program funds, City of Monterey funds, Hospital mitigation funds that were collected by the City and from County of Monterey Development impact fees. This phase is the first phase of a larger project to widen Highway 68 from Highway 1 to Skyline Forest Drive. Construction will be completed early 2008 and all traffic lanes will remain open during construction. For more information please contact Jeff Morgan, Transportation Agency Staff at: 831-775-0903 or jeff@tamcmonterey.org.

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION FUNDING WORKSHOP

Transportation Agency Board Members received an informative presentation on:

- How money is spent on Transportation statewide.
- Key state fund sources such as the state fuel excise tax, and the fuel sales tax.
- Money spent on Transportation in Monterey County.
- Which funds are distributed by the Transportation Agency, the state, and the federal government.
- The \$75 million annual shortfall in funds needed to pay for highway projects alone in Monterey County.

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY AWARDS FUNDS TO MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT AND MONTEREY COUNTY

Over \$450,000 new allocated Local and State Transportation Funds were awarded to Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) bus services and dial a ride transit services for South

Monterey County cities. Over \$3 million was also awarded to South Monterey County cities for street and road construction, bicycle and pedestrian projects and general planning.

COUNTY AND SALINAS AWARDED FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDS

The City of Salinas will receive \$1,292,954 in federal funding for North Sanborn Road Improvements and the County of Monterey will receive \$105,000 for the Blackie Road Safety Improvement Project after the Transportation Agency approved their request for Regional Surface Transportation Program fair share funds this Wednesday.

Regional Surface Transportation Program fair share funding is distributed by population to the local jurisdictions for a wide range of eligible transportation projects and is available at the discretion of the local jurisdiction for their chosen projects. Eligible projects include: local street and roadway rehabilitation, local match for federal transportation funds, bike lanes, pedestrian facilities, public transit capital, and signal coordination.

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL

Plans are moving forward for the development of High-speed Rail from Los Angeles to San Francisco. One of the primary alternatives being studied is for trains to run through the Pacheco Pass in Southern Santa Clara County. The Transportation Agency Board has taken a formal position to support this alignment over other alternatives, which would route the line further north and would deter Monterey County residents from using the system. The Pacheco Pass alignment would have the train stopping at Gilroy and San Jose. With the future extension of the Caltrain service from Gilroy to Salinas, Monterey County residents could board Caltrain and transfer in Gilroy to the High-Speed service.