

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
 SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS
 MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE
 JOINT POWERS AGENCY

Final Minutes of February 25, 2009 TAMC Board Meeting

Held at the
 Agricultural Center –Conference Room
 1428 Abbott Street, Salinas

	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09
F. Armenta, Supr. Dist. 1 (A. Chavez)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P	P(A)	N	P(A)	P	P
L. Calcagno, Supr. Dist. 2 2nd Vice Chairman (H. Gowin)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	O	P	P	P
S. Salinas, Supr. Dist. 3 (D. Dunham)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P		P(A)	P	P
J. Parker Supr. Dist. 4 (K. Markey)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	M	P(A)	P	P
D. Potter, Supr. Dist 5 Chairman (K. Lee)	P	P(A)	P	E	P(A)	P	P	E	P	P	P
K. Sharp, Carmel-by-the-Sea	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P
J. Edelen, Del Rey Oaks (J. Russell)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	T	P	P	P
M. Orozco, Gonzales (M. Gourley)	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	I	P	P	-
J. Huerta, Greenfield – Past Chair (A. Moreno)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N	P	P	E
S. Kleber, King City (J. Pereira)	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	G	P	P	P
B. Delgado, Marina (K. Gray)	-	P	P	P	P	P	P		E	E	P
F. Sollecito, Monterey - 1 st Vice Chair (C. Della Sala, W. Reichmuth)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P
D. Lindsay, Pacific Grove (C. Garcia)	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P		P	P	P
S. Villegas, Salinas (R. Russell , J. Serrano)	P(A)	P	P	P	P(A)	P	-		P	P	P(A)
S. Matarazzo, Sand City (R. Simonitch)	P(A)	P	-	-	P	-	P		P	P	P
R. Rubio, Seaside (S. Bloomer, D. Ingersoll)	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P		P	P	P
R.Ortiz, Soledad (G. Gerbrandt)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)
J. Doughty, AMBAG (R. Deshazo)	P	P	P	-	P	P	P		P	P	P
M. Bersamin, Watsonville (M. Rodriguez)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
R. Krumholz, Caltrans, Dist. 5 (A. Loe, D. Murray, M. McCumsey)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P	P(A)		P	P(A)	P(A)
J. Getchell, MBUAPCD (B. Nunes, D. Fairchild)	-	-	P	E	P	P	P		E	P	P
W. Sabo, Mtry Pen. Airport Dist. (R. Searle)	P(A)	P	E	P	P	E	P		P	P	-
C. Sedoryk, MST (H. Harvath, M. Hernandez)	P(A)	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P		P	P(A)	P

TAMC STAFF	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09	FEB 09
D. Hale, Executive Director	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N	P	P	P
L. Blankenship, TAMC Counsel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	O	P	P	P
D. Bachman, Deputy Executive Director	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P
K. Chen, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	E	P	E	P	M	P	P	P
A. Cook, Associate Trans. Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	P	P
D. Delfino, Finance Officer/Analyst	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P
R. Goel, Administrative Services Mgr.	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	T	P	P	P
K. Hoschouer, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	I	P	P	P
M. Montiel, Administrative Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	N	P	P	P
T. Muck, Principal Trans. Planner	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	G	P	P	E
H. Myers, Associate Engineer	E	E	E	E	P	E	P		P	P	P
E. Rodriguez, Senior Admin. Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P
L. Terry, Accountant Assistant						P			P	P	E
C. Watson, Senior Trans. Planner	P	P	P	P	P	E	P		P	P	E
M. Zeller, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P

OTHERS PRESENT

Trish Lopez	Monterey County Public Works	Tim O'Halloran	City of Seaside
Paul Greenway	Monterey County Public Works	Rob Russell	City of Salinas
Bill Reichmuth	City of Monterey	Richard Ortiz	City of Soledad
Christy Hopper	City of Monterey	Mario Romo	Access Monterey Peninsula
Jim Cullem	Harris & Associates	Alex Vasquez	Access Monterey Peninsula
Mark McCumsey	Caltrans District 5	Michael Martins	Access Monterey Peninsula
Derrick Mills	Sound consultant		

1. CALL TO ORDER

Staff confirmed that a quorum was present. Chairman Sollecito called the meeting to order. Transportation Agency staff pulled item 10 (to approve the proposed methodology for addressing restaurants in the regional fee program) to a future date.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

3. CONSENT AGENDA
M/S/C Calcagno/Gerbrandt/unanimous

Executive Director Debbie Hale pulled item 3.1.5 from the consent agenda at the request of the City of Soledad.

ADMINISTRATION and BUDGET

- 3.1.1** Approved minutes of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County and the Joint Powers Agency for Monterey County meetings of January 28, 2009.
- 3.1.2** Accepted the list of checks written for January 2009 and credit card statements for the month of December 2008.
- 3.1.3** Received report on conferences attended by Agency staff.
- 3.1.4** Regarding Apex Strategies contract amendment:
 - 1. Approved contract amendment #8 with Apex Strategies to provide strategic project delivery assistance services for a not-to-exceed amount of \$76,000;
 - 2. Authorized the Executive Director to execute the contract amendment and changes to the contract if such changes do not increase the Agency's net cost, subject to approval by Agency Counsel; and
 - 3. Authorized the use of \$76,000 from Regional Surface Transportation Improvement Interest funds for the contract amendment.
- 3.1.5** Received information on facilitation services for the agency goal-setting program.

Executive Director Hale noted that the City of Soledad has requested staff to include in the goals that the Transportation Agency provide assistance to understaffed local jurisdictions with deadlines and project milestones, noting this subject would be discussed in March at the Agency goal-setting session.

- 3.1.6** Authorized the Executive Committee to negotiate an agreement with Debra L. Hale to continue to perform services of Transportation Agency for Monterey County Executive Director, effective June 10, 2009.

BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, TRANSIT and SOCIAL SERVICES

- 3.2.1** Approved appointment of Dominick Askew to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee representing the City of Marina.
- 3.2.2** Approved appointment of Marcie Castro to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council representing the Area Agency on Aging and potential transit users ages 60 and over.

PLANNING

3.3.1 *No items this month*

PROJECT DELIVERY and PROGRAMMING

3.4.1 *No items this month*

RAIL PROGRAM

3.5.1 Approved release of Request for Proposals for a consultant to complete state and federal environmental documents for the Monterey Branch Line.

3.5.2 Received ridership report on the Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project

3.5.3 Regarding Initial Environmental Survey of Monterey Branch Line:

1. Authorized the Executive Director to execute a contract for an initial environmental survey of the Monterey Branch Line right of way and to make changes to the contract if such changes do not increase the Agency's net cost, subject to approval by Agency Counsel; and
2. Authorized the use of STIP funds in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 for the contract.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE

3.6.1 *No items this month*

COMMITTEE MINUTES

3.7.1 **Accepted minutes from Transportation Agency committees:**

- Executive Committee – Draft February 4, 2009
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee – Draft February 4, 2009
(online at www.tamcmonterey.org)
- Rail Policy Committee – See item 13
- Social Services Transportation Advisory Council –No meeting
(online at www.tamcmonterey.org)
- Technical Advisory Committee – Draft February 5, 2009

END OF CONSENT

4. **BOARD PHOTO**

The Board took a group photo.

5. **EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

The Board recognized Dave Delfino, Finance Officer/Analyst, as the Transportation Agency Employee of the Quarter for October 1st, through December 31, 2008.

The Agency employees recognized Dave for his dependability, helpfulness, invaluable support to staff, excellent job keeping finances in order even coming to work on his days off, and most notably for his efforts and dedication loading the van for the TAMC Board meetings.

6. **OVERALL WORK PROGRAM FY 2009/10 AND THREE-YEAR BUDGET (FY 2009/10 – 2011/12)**

M/S/C Potter/Delgado/unanimous

1. Authorized the Executive Director to submit the draft fiscal year 2009/10 budget and work program to federal and state funding agencies for initial review;
2. Provided direction and guidance to staff on the three-year budget for fiscal years 2009/10 through 2011/12, and the work program for fiscal year 2009/10; and
3. Directed the Executive Director to bring the final three-year budget and one-year work program back to the Board on May 27, 2009 for approval.
4. Approved the alternative transportation benefit effective January 1, 2009 as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Deputy Executive Director Don Bachman reported that the annual Agency Work Program describes the activities to be accomplished during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010. The plan is the basis for the annual budget. He noted that the Work Program and Annual budget plan are submitted through the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), to state and federal funding agencies for review. The final Work Program and Budget are adopted in May.

Director of Finance and Administration Rita Goel presented the three-year budget for fiscal years 09/10 through 11/12. Ms. Goel noted the Agency continues to control expenditures to stay within its current year budget, and maintains a prudent cash reserve. The Transportation Agency continues to subsidize the activities of the Regional Impact Fee Agency with its planning money. The budget revises projected fee revenue down from \$150,000 to \$0 for FY 09-10 and \$25,000 per year thereafter even though the annual cost to the Transportation Agency for this activity is considerably higher. In FY 2007-08, the agency spent approximately \$190,000 and in FY 2008-09 no revenue was budgeted. All expenditures on regional fee activities are being tracked with the expectation that this money will be repaid to the Transportation Agency as fees are collected. The Agency budget separates expenditures into two types: operating and direct program. Operating expenditures include staff salaries and benefits, materials and supplies, and equipment purchases. Direct program expenditures include outside consultants, contracts, expenditures that apply to specific work program tasks such as rail program, highway projects, bicycle and pedestrian program etc. She noted that there may be risks to revenues due to the state budget crisis. In conclusion Ms. Goel reported the next steps in the budget process are additional review by the Executive Committee and final approval of budget and work program by the Board of Directors in May.

Board member Edelen questioned the value of the Freeway Service Patrol. Deputy Director Bachman replied that the Freeway Service Patrol program is funded by a special state allocation and matched with the extra charge on vehicle registration, noting that there is no recovery charge from the people that are assisted. He noted that the benefit of the program is to get stalled vehicles off the roadway for congestion and safety reasons. Staff agreed to come back with the cost-benefit information on the program.

Board member Salinas noted that most jurisdictions are suspending step increases for 1-2 years. He asked staff to take a closer look at the future impact of potential CalPERS retirement premium increases, noting the County has discussed a possible 40% increase. Ms. Goel, Director of Finance and Administration, replied that the impact of current market losses are not expected to affect CalPERS retirement charges until the third year of the budget and would depend on the overall market losses. She further noted that any CalPERS losses will be spread out over a 15 year period.

Executive Director Hale reported that discretionary merit increases for management and employees had been frozen at the request of the Executive Committee. She noted that budget proposes to retain merit increases for more junior staff that had not yet reached the top step.

Board member Rubio commented that the City of Seaside had frozen all contracts for employees and had also implemented 10% cuts and furloughs. Board member Armenta noted that not all agencies have the same financial issues and may have different levels of cuts.

Board alternate Gerbrandt asked for explanation on other post employment benefits actuarial. Ms. Goel replied that this was needed to comply with new accounting requirements to evaluate the future financial impact to the agency of any benefits provided to retired employees. In TAMC's case, only a small portion of the health premium is paid to former/retired employees.

7. LOCAL FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS PROJECTS

M/S/C Potter/Rubio/unanimous

Approved list of projects to program federal infrastructure stimulus funds, and authorized the Executive Director to redirect funds from projects that don't meet project readiness milestones, based on approved priorities.

Hank Myers, Associate Transportation Planning Engineer, reported at the January 28th meeting, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Board of Directors authorized a call for projects to be implemented with federal economic stimulus funds. A special Executive Committee meeting was held to review the ranking of proposed projects. Mr. Myers noted that the ranking was considered in a two-tier approach, Tier 1 projects within population fund targets and Tier 2 projects for competitive funding. He reported that there is considerable urgency to be ready to proceed when the federal infrastructure stimulus funding level to the region is finalized.

Executive Director Debbie Hale reported that the Agency is working on assuring that safeguards are in place, noting that staff would be asking the cities to sign a contract with the Agency to receive funds. She thanked Caltrans for their assistance on making sure that the projects put on the Tier 1 list adequately meet federal requirements. In conclusion, Ms. Hale noted that there is a "use it or lose it" requirement, noting the money has to be obligated within the 120 days.

Board member Potter thanked staff for coming up with criteria that put projects forward in a responsible manner in regards to deliverability. Board Chairman Sollecito concurred.

Board member Delgado asked if road resurfacing and striping projects were eligible. Executive Director Hale replied that projects have to meet federal 10-years useful life requirement, which means that some types of resurfacing qualify and striping qualifies if it is part of a larger project. She noted that staff has worked closely with Caltrans to make sure the recommended projects qualify.

Board alternate Gerbrandt asked for clarification and an adjustment to the Agency score for the Soledad Traffic Signal project at Hector de la Rosa Way. He noted that there is a zero in the regional benefits, noting that the project provides regional benefits since it is located at the North-bound 101 off ramp. Hank Myers replied that points were awarded based on regional benefits and traffic volume, noting that the combined score is seven for the Hector de la Rosa signal project.

8. MONTEREY BRANCH LINE DRAFT ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

M/S/C Potter/Armenta/unanimous

Received and discussed Monterey Branch Line Draft Alternatives Analysis.

Kristen Hoschouer, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that rapid bus or rail service between Marina and Monterey is one step closer to becoming a reality with the completion of the Monterey Branch Line Alternatives Analysis, a document required for a project to qualify for federal capital funding. The Monterey Branch Line Alternatives Analysis study compares two alternatives to address the mobility needs in the Highway 1 corridor between Monterey and Marina. The alternatives include Bus Rapid Transit service between Monterey and Castroville and Light Rail Transit service between Monterey and Castroville. She noted that the Monterey Branch Line project capital cost is estimated at \$162 million-\$211 million in year-of-expenditure dollars, depending on the alternative selected. Staff anticipates requesting \$75 million through the federal New Starts program.

Ms. Hoschouer reported that the next steps for the project include the selection of a locally preferred alternative. The Transportation Agency will also be distributing a request for proposals for the completion of the environmental analysis for the project in early March. Proposals are due to Kristen Hoschouer at the Transportation Agency by noon, March 30, 2009. The Transportation Agency Board expects to award a contract for the environmental analysis at its May meeting.

Board member Delgado noted that part of the budget is from FORA fees and inquired whether or not the delay in development would affect this project. Ms. Hoschouer indicated that the fees likely would not be needed until a few years from now. Board member Rubio reported that staff has been discussing the Monterey Branch Line for 8-9 years. He noted that whichever alternative is decided, it would probably not be financially self-sufficient. Mr. Rubio noted that a line from Castroville to Monterey would be attractive to international visitors and would benefit local commuters by taking cars off the roads, noting we need to maximize the benefit of the line and go to Castroville.

9. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009-10

M/S/C Rubio/Armenta/unanimous

Approved Resolution 2009-02 apportioning Local Transportation Funds for Fiscal Year 2009-10 in the amount of \$12,320,000.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that state statutes require the to Agency estimate and inform the eligible jurisdictions of the Local Transportation Funding that can be programmed in Fiscal Year 2009-10 for public transit and various eligible transportation improvements. These apportionments are not guarantees of actual amounts that agencies would receive. He noted that actual allocations to agencies are determined only after the mandated Unmet Transit Needs process is completed, and may be substantially less than the apportionments shown in the resolution.

Carl Sedoryk, Monterey-Salinas Transit, commented that Local Transportation Funding is intended to be used for public transit. He noted that the State Transportation Assistance has been eliminated from the state budget taking funding from the MST-Rides paratransit programs. Mr. Sedoryk also noted that MST would be working with TAMC staff and the South County cities to assure that the local transportation funds are allocated consistent with the intent of the state law adopted many years ago. Ms. Hale reported that the Agency is required by the state to make this estimate under our current allocation method, but staff will be recommending that a substantial portion of the funding go towards meeting an unmet need for more service on MST's Line 23.

10. **METHODOLOGY FOR ADDRESSING RESTAURANTS IN THE REGIONAL FEE PROGRAM**

This item was postponed to a future date.

11. **REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY BOARD MEMBERS AT TRANSPORTATION AGENCY EXPENSE, AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW**

Board members Delgado and Potter thanked TAMC staff for the rail field trip to Southern California, noting they experienced many different forms of transportation. He also noted that the bus rapid transit was much more like the light rail than a street bus. Chairman Sollecito reported that he, Executive Director Debbie Hale and Supervisor Potter attended the CalCOG meeting in Sacramento on February 25, 2009 visiting our local Assembly members and Senators. Supervisor Potter reported that the trip was productive, noting during their visit the budget had not yet been resolved and suggested that they re-visit our delegation now that the budget has been approved.

12. **REPORTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES**

- **Caltrans** –Aileen Loe, Chief Deputy for District 5 Planning, reported that the Caltrans construction project report in the agenda was current. She announced that Caltrans is closed the first and third Friday of the month due to the furlough program. Ms. Loe noted that there are still some cash flow concerns with the bond project issues. The Caltrans Director would like to obligate the state share of federal stimulus funds within 60-days, he wants not only to meet the deadlines but beat them.

Board member Armenta asked when the Highway 198 San Lucas realignment project was to be completed. Ms. Loe replied that the project should be completed in mid March 2009, and noted that she would confirm the completion date and report back at a future date.

- **Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments** – John Doughty, Executive Director, announced that AMBAG is working with the Transportation Agency for the April 1st Caltrans federal planning grant deadline. AMBAG will be holding its strategic planning session on April 25th. He announced that AMBAG would be issuing a request for proposals for the regional transportation plan CEQA document as well as the commercial flow study looking at freight and rail.
- **Fort Ord Reuse Authority** – No report this month.
- **Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District** – Jean Getchell announced Richard Stedman as the new Air Pollution Control Officer. She announced their Board approved the revised AB 2766 Grant guidelines, and noted for more information to contact Dave Fairchild. Ms. Getchell reported that Air District and the City of Monterey held the Air Quality Project Analysis and Strategies for addressing climate change conference on February 20, 2009 in the Steinbeck Forum at the Monterey Conference Center, noting it was a great success.
- **Monterey Peninsula Airport District** – Chairman Sollecito reported that Allegiant Airlines has expanded, offering more flights out of Monterey to Los Angeles and San Diego.

- **Monterey-Salinas Transit** – Carl Sedoryk, General Manager/CEO, reported that MST would be receiving \$7.5 million of stimulus funds for capital purposes, noting that MST would use these funds to pay off \$5.6 million in debt, saving MST around \$500,000 in local funds that can be used to support service during this difficult budget time. He also reported that \$1.8 million would be used to upgrade fareboxes onboard busses, allowing riders to use credit cards and pay as they board the bus.

13. RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Draft minutes of February 2, 2009 meeting were enclosed.

14. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Hale reported that staff is coordinating part two of the rail field trip and would invite any TAMC rail policy committee members to participate. She announced that the League of Cities will be holding a Monterey Bay Division Meeting to discuss ARRA Federal Stimulus funds on Monday, March 9, 6:00 p.m., at Hullabaloo's, 228 Main Street, Salinas. She reminded the Board members that it is time to renew ethics training and Statement of Economic Interest 700 Forms and asked that they send a copy to TAMC. Ms. Hale reported that she would be attending the American Public Works Association Transportation Committee annual meeting in Kansas City March 11th through 14th fully paid for by APWA. She reported that the Agency study session hosted by Brigid McGrath Massie to discuss the Agency's goals and objectives is scheduled for the regular TAMC March 25th meeting and will be held at the Salinas Community Center. The Executive Committee meeting scheduled March 4th has been moved to March 18th, 9 a.m., due to a conflict with the Board of Supervisors budget meeting. In conclusion, Ms. Hale thanked the Board members for meeting individually with her to give their input on TAMC goals and objectives.

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM TRANSPORTATION AGENCY MEMBERS ON MATTERS THAT THEY WISH TO PUT ON FUTURE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY AGENDAS

None.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sollecito adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.