

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

Final Minutes of September 28, 2011 TAMC Board Meeting

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

TAMC BOARD MEMBERS	SEP 10	OCT 10	DEC 10	JAN 11	FEB 11	MAR 11	APR 11	MAY 11	JUN 11	AUG 11	SEP 11
F. Armenta, Supr. Dist. 1 (J. Martinez)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P
L. Calcagno, Supr. Dist. 2- Past Chair (H. Gowin)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P
S. Salinas, Supr. Dist. 3- 1st Vice Chair (C. Lopez)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
J. Parker, Supr. Dist. 4 (K. Markey)	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P
D. Potter, Supr. Dist 5 (K. Lee; J. Mohammadi)	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P
J. Burnett, Carmel-by-the-Sea (K. Sharp)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P
J. Edelen, Del Rey Oaks - 2nd Vice Chair (K. Clark)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P
M. Orozco, Gonzales- Chair (J. Lopez)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P
J. Huerta, Greenfield (Y. Teneyuque)	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
S. Kleber, King City (J. Pereira)	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P
B. Delgado, Marina (F. O'Connell)	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
F. Sollecito, Monterey (C. Della Sala, R. Deal)	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P
R. Huitt, Pacific Grove (D. Miller)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	E	P	P
K. Craig, Salinas (R. Russell, J. Serrano)	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P
S. Matarazzo, Sand City (R. Simonitch)	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P(A)	P
F. Bachofner, Seaside (S. Bloomer , D. Ingersoll)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Ledesma)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
AMBAG (R. DeShazo)	P	-	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	P
R. Krumholz, Caltrans, Dist. 5 (A. Loe, B. Rider , M. McCumsey)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)
B. Nunes, MBUAPCD (Vacant)	P	-	-	-	P(A)	E	-	-	-	-	-
W. Sabo, Monterey Regional. Airport (R. Searle)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E
C. Sedoryk, MST (H. Harvath, M. Hernandez)	P	P(A)	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P
E. Montesino, Watsonville (M. Bersamin)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P

TAMC STAFF	SEP 10	OCT 10	DEC 10	JAN 11	FEB 11	MAR 11	APR 11	MAY 11	JUN 11	AUG 11	SEP 11
D. Hale, Executive Director	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P
L. Blankenship, Legal Counsel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
D. Bachman, Deputy Executive Director	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
K. Cheung, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E
A. Cook, Associate Trans. Planner	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P
D. Delfino, Finance Officer/Analyst	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
S. Gavin, Community Outreach Coord.					P	P	P	P	P	P	P
R. Goel, Dir. Finance & Administration	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	E	P
K. Hoschouer, Associate Trans. Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P
M. Montiel, Administrative Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
T. Muck, Principal Trans. Planner	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	P
H. Myers, Associate Engineer	E	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P
E. Rodriguez, Senior Admin. Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P
L. Terry, Accountant Assistant	P	P	P	P	E	E	E	P	E	P	E
C. Watson, Senior Trans. Planner	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
M. Zeller, Associate Trans. Planner	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

OTHERS PRESENT

Rob Russell	City of Salinas	Alex Vasquez	Access Monterey Peninsula
Norm Groot	Farm Bureau	Lindsey Bishop	Access Monterey Peninsula
John Arriaga	JEA & Associates	Mario Romo	Access Monterey Peninsula
Dell Matt	101 Bypass Committee	Jim Cullem	Harris & Associates
Henry Gowin	Aide to District 2 Supervisor	Mark McCumsey	Caltrans District 5
Eric Petersen	TAMC Bike/Ped Committee	Diana Jimenez	Monterey County
Chris Orman	No. County Fire Protection	Jesus Esparza	Aromas resident
Sam Teel	Monterey County Hospitality Association	Hans Jongens	Salinas resident
Lupe Galaviz	Soledad resident		

1. CALL TO ORDER

Staff confirmed that a quorum was present and Chair Orozco called the meeting to order. Counsel Blankenship led the pledge of allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hans Jongens, Salinas resident, reported the Federal Drug Administration has mounted an onerous and illegal offensive against nutritional supplements, and noted unless we stop it by October 1, 2011, we stand to lose our nutritional supplements that millions of Americans depend on to improve their health.

Jesus Esparza, Aromas resident, reported that there is a traffic problem at 1280 El Camino Real in Aromas (US 101). He stated that the side of the road is narrow and dangerous for the residents trying to enter and exit the driveway to their homes. Board member Calcagno commented that he was aware of this problem, noting this is a serious issue located near the Red Barn but that it is a Caltrans issue. Chair Orozco noted that this issue would be referred to the appropriate person at Caltrans.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Delgado/Armenta/unanimous

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 August 24, 2011.
- 3.1.2 Accepted the list of checks written for August 2011 and credit card statements for the month of July 2011.
- 3.1.3 Received report on conferences or trainings attended by Agency staff.

BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, TRANSIT and SOCIAL SERVICES

- 3.2.1 Adopted Resolution 2011-17 allocating State Transit Assistance funds for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

PLANNING

- 3.3.1 Received update on the Transportation for Livable Communities Transit-Oriented Development incentive grant program, and approved grant extension for the City of Salinas Gateway Apartments project.
- 3.3.2 Approved June, 2014 adoption date for the Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan.
- 3.3.3 Received Final State Route 1 & 83 Corridor System Management Plan (CSMP), and authorized the Executive Director to sign the acceptance of the final State Route 1 & 83 Corridor System Management Plan.

PROJECT DELIVERY and PROGRAMMING

- 3.4.1 Approved amendment No.1 to Memorandum of Understanding concerning the planning and development of the Monterey Bay Area 511 Traveler Information System Feasibility and Implementation Plan, and authorized the Executive Director to sign the amendment.
- 3.4.2 Approved issuance of Request for Qualifications for on-call consultant(s) to assist the Transportation Agency and the member agencies with projects that require marketing and graphic design assistance.
- 3.4.3 Approved the request by the City of Greenfield to allocate \$3,265.00 of their Regional Surface Transportation Program fair share funds from the Fiscal Years 07/08/09 cycle to complete the City's Speed Study Project.
- 3.4.4 Regarding Project Study Report update for South County Frontage Roads Project:
 - 1. Authorized the Executive Director to execute a contract with on-call engineering consultant Wood Rodgers to conduct an update to the project Study Report for improvements to US 101 south of Salinas in an amount not exceeding \$25,000.
 - 2. Approved the use of up to \$25,000 in Regional Development Impact Fees for the contract.

RAIL PROGRAM

- 3.5.1 No items this month.

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 September 14, 2011
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee – Draft September 7, 2011
(Online at www.tamcmonterey.org)
- Rail Policy Committee – No meeting
- Technical Advisory Committee – Draft September 1, 2011 (Online at www.tamcmonterey.org)

END OF CONSENT

EMERGENCY ADD-ON ITEM

M/S/C Calcagno/Burnett/unanimous

Approved adding an emergency item to the agenda under Closed Session, regarding the discussion of a potential lawsuit by Kenneth Martinez and family. Agency Board Counsel Blankenship reported that a claim was filed in May and that the TAMC Board denied the claim.

4. CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session on the following matters:

Pursuant to Government Code section §54957, the Board of Directors provided a performance evaluation for the Executive Director, and Pursuant to Government Code section §54957.9, the Board of Directors discussed the claim and potential lawsuit by Kenneth Martinez and family.

The Committee reconvened in open session:

Agency Board Counsel Blankenship reported that the Board met in closed session pursuant to Government Code sections §54957 and §54957.9, and no action was taken.

5. STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Board received an update on state legislative activities.

Mike Zeller, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that the TAMC-sponsored measure to enable non-profits to perform the management of habitat mitigation for transportation projects, Assembly Bill (AB) 484 (Alejo), "Land use: natural resources: transfer of long-term management funds", was merged with its Senate companion bill on this issue, Senate Bill (SB) 436 (Kehoe), "Land use: mitigation lands: nonprofit organizations". This bill clarifies that funds set aside for the long-term management of mitigation lands conveyed to a nonprofit organization may also be conveyed to the nonprofit, and authorizes the nonprofit to hold, manage, invest and disburse the funds for management and stewardship of the lands or easement for which the funds were set aside. The measure is intended to expedite and improve the cost-effectiveness of the habitat mitigation process required for state highway projects, including US 101 – San Juan Road interchange and the US 101 Prunedale Improvement Project. SB 436 passed the Senate and Assembly floors on unanimous votes, and was sent to the Governor on September 12, 2011.

John Arriaga, JEA & Associates, gave an update on the state legislative and budgetary activities. Mr. Arriaga reported that the budget continues to be the big item this year, noting that revenues are short of projections and that there is a December deadline that will trigger cuts to education and social services, and that transportation is not safe from cuts.

6. FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Board received a report on 2011 federal legislative activities.

Christina Watson, Senior Transportation Planner, reported that the Federal Surface Transportation Authorization bill and the federal gas tax were extended to March 2012, keeping transportation programs funded for another six months. She noted that the funding source for transportation projects, the 18.4 cents per gallon federal gas tax, was also extended.

Ms. Watson reported that both the Senate and the House have drafted reauthorization bills: Senator Boxer's Environment and Public Works Committee crafted a two-year, \$109 billion reauthorization that would keep spending at current levels. Senator Boxer has also begun discussions on how to raise additional transportation revenues to continue to fund transportation beyond the bill's two-year limit. In July, Congressman Mica's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee proposed a six-year, \$235 billion bill that assumes no new transportation revenues, resulting in a one-third cut to transportation funding compared to the current transportation law. House Republicans appear to have signed off on adopting the Senate's approach of finding just enough revenue to keep funding at current levels. House Speaker John Boehner discussed the possibility of linking expanded American energy production with increased transportation funding, but has not determined how expanded oil and gas leasing could be tied to infrastructure spending.

Ms. Watson also reported that on September 8, the House passed a transportation appropriations bill, which contains no earmarks, and reflects a 35% cut to highway funding. The Senate version keeps spending at current year levels. The appropriations bill governs transportation spending for federal fiscal year 2012 (October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012), and must be passed by September 30, 2011 to take effect. All spending bills are in limbo pending resolution of the federal budget deal, and may end up being Continuing Resolutions, which would continue funding at current levels.

Board member Armenta requested that TAMC's federal lobbyist report in person to the Board at least once each year and provide written updates.

Board member Huerta supported the staff effort to secure TIGER grant funds for the US 101-San Juan Road interchange project.

Board member Burnett reported that he had met with Senator Boxer's staff regarding federal transportation funding. He noted gas tax dollars are not keeping up with needs for a variety of reasons.

Board member Delgado inquired whether or not federal New Starts funding would be cut as is mentioned in some transportation measures, since that funding is critical for the Agency's rail projects. Ms. Watson replied that it was uncertain but unlikely that the entire program would be cut, and that staff would continue to monitor the program.

Public comment:

Dell Matt, 101 Bypass Committee, expressed concerns regarding the imposition of a vehicle miles traveled tax.

7. **FUTURE OF AMBAG AND SINGLE-COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES**

The Board received a presentation on the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments' (AMBAG) report on the *Future of AMBAG*; reviewed the TAMC staff matrix evaluating the costs and benefits of the single-county metropolitan planning organization (MPO) scenario; and, provided direction to staff on next steps in this evaluation process. The Transportation Agency Board discussed AMBAG's response to the idea of the Transportation Agency taking on the federal MPO responsibilities that are currently handled by the multi-county AMBAG. AMBAG contemplates keeping the current separate agency structure; however, performance improvements and streamlining are anticipated. The AMBAG report further suggests that \$250,000 per year in federal funding be taken back from TAMC and Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.

Executive Director Debbie Hale reported that, per Board direction, Agency staff has been researching since June 2011 the scenario of taking on the federal MPO responsibilities that are currently handled by the tri-county AMBAG. The purpose of such a shift to a "single-county MPO" would be to improve cost effectiveness and increase operational efficiencies by removing duplication of efforts across the agencies and freeing up resources to increase investment in the regional transportation model. In September, AMBAG staff released the Future of AMBAG report evaluating this scenario as well as other two other scenarios. Ms. Hale presented a matrix outlining the issues including benefits and costs. She asked for the Board's input on ways to streamline. In conclusion, Director Hale reported that the next steps are a joint agency Executive Committee meeting on October 6, 2011 and presentations to the Salinas City Council on October 11, 2011.

Randy DeShazo, AMBAG, reported that he appreciates the matrix provided by TAMC staff. He noted that this is a serious issue and stressed the need to look at cost savings, the regional housing needs, duplication and to consider staffing for the sustainable communities strategy and regional housing needs assessment. He also noted that if TAMC were to become a single county MPO, the region could lose \$300,000 in state funds and we need to look at how we can become more cost effective.

Board member Salinas, who also is a member of the AMBAG Board, noted that at this time there is a hesitation to move forward until all of the Executive Committees meet on October 6. Board member Parker concurred with Mr. Salinas, noting it is a good opportunity to examine what we are doing, where are the overlaps, how can we streamline and what we can do better. Board member Craig noted that she is trying to get this issue on the Salinas City Council meeting agenda for October 11. Board member Potter indicated that he is concerned about dissolving AMBAG and that issue should be decided by that agency; but, he supports becoming more cost-effective and efficient.

Ex officio representative Monterey-Salinas Transit CEO and General Manager Carl Sedoryk commented that the public transit operators are interested in this process and that the MST Board of Directors will weigh in on the issue on October 10. His agency believes that there are more efficient ways to operate.

Board member Burnett also concurred with Salinas and Parker, noting a lot of work needs to be done. This Board needs to be careful not to inherit some of AMBAG's non-transportation duties. He also noted that we have a well working Transportation Agency. Board member Huerta noted that he wanted to prioritize the Sustainable Communities Strategy activities. Board member Sollecito stated that the goal is to see if we can provide better service to the public.

M/S/C Sollecito/Armenta/unanimous

Board member Sollecito motioned that we continue discussion on the AMBAG issue after the Joint Executive Committee and City of Salinas meetings.

Board Chair Orozco thanked staff for the matrix, and noted there are a lot of questions and concerns that still need to be addressed.

Public comment:

Dell Matt, 101 Bypass Committee, expressed concern that if all of the agencies operate under one umbrella, they may not be able to secure sufficient funding, and noted that the Transportation Agency staff is very knowledgeable.

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

None this month.

9. REPORTS FROM TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

- Caltrans – Aileen Loe, Deputy District Director, announced that Caltrans is in the height of construction season; noting there are currently \$470 million in projects under construction in District 5. She reminded everyone to travel carefully through the construction cone zones. She announced that the California Transportation Commission Town Hall meeting would be held in Santa Barbara on October 13. In conclusion, Ms. Loe reported that we should all expect delays and detours around the construction projects.

Board member Salinas thanked Caltrans for constructing sidewalks and curb ramps on the bridge crossings in Greenfield, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- Monterey Regional Airport District – No report this month.
- Monterey-Salinas Transit – Carl Sedoryk, CEO and General Manager of MST, reported that the transit district has implemented major service changes, including providing new service on the east side campus of Hartnell College and the Otter trolley at CSUMB. He noted that the trolley service in downtown Salinas is on the last year of funding.

Board member Frank Sollecito noted the need for extended transit service hours at Cannery Row and the Monterey Wharf until 11:30 p.m. He noted that there are a lot of employees who rely on alternate modes of transportation which include walking, biking, and public transportation. Some of the workers that walk or bicycle on the recreation trails have been robbed and mugged. Mr. Sedoryk noted that MST is aware of the need for late night service for the employees in those areas and has been working with the Hospitality Association to secure funding to extend service hours.

Board member Armenta commented about the status of Whispering Oaks, a proposed 58-acre business park and Monterey-Salinas Transit consolidated operations facility on the former Fort Ord. He noted that he is getting pressure for the MST Board to consider other options. Mr. Armenta also asked for an update on the Regional Taxi Authority at a future Transportation Agency Board meeting.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Hale announced the Greenfield Sidewalk Project ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, October 5, at the Oak Street Highway 101 overcrossing in Greenfield [later postponed to October 19 due to rain]. She noted that staff met with Rancho Cielo and MST in response to public comments made to the Board about the transportation needs of the Rancho Cielo youth programs, and will continue to work with Rancho Cielo staff and MST to identify long term solutions to their transportation needs as that successful program expands. Ms. Hale noted that the agency had applied for a grant from the Air District for the bicycle map and an electric vehicle car sharing program, but it was not awarded the grants and as a result is continuing to look at other sources of funding. She announced that the City of Salinas is installing a roundabout at the Skyway/Alisal Intersection. She noted that roundabouts are safer, more sustainable and should be looked at before installing a traffic signal, and that staff will be preparing a policy regarding local agency consideration of roundabouts in new projects. Director Hale also reported that the Agency is eligible for approximately \$47 million in State Transportation Improvement Program funds for the 2012/13 to 2016/14 period. Based on Board action, staff is prioritizing the US 101-San Juan Road interchange, US 101 South County frontage roads, Commuter Rail Extension, Monterey Branch Line rail project and local streets and roads for this new funding.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM TRANSPORTATION AGENCY MEMBERS

Board member Armenta thanked Caltrans for the safety improvements on Highway 198.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Orozco adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.