

## **TAMC Staff: Christina Watson Biography**

Christina Watson is a Senior Transportation Planner at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County. Her current responsibilities at the Agency include managing the Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project, administering the Transportation for Livable Communities Transit-Oriented Development incentive grant program, and acting as the staff legislative liaison for the Agency's state and federal legislative advisors.

In the past, she also directed the Agency's Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities program, including facilitating monthly community advisory committee meetings and implementing the 2002 and 2003 Bike Week events. In 2004, she supervised the environmental review of the proposed 14-year expenditure plan for a half-cent local transportation sales tax and regional development impact fee. Ms. Watson is pursuing a Master of Science in Transportation Management degree at the Mineta Transportation Institute to further develop her understanding of transportation planning principles and methods.

Originally from Minnesota, Ms. Watson earned an undergraduate degree in German Studies at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, and has spent much time studying, living and traveling in Germany and Russia. Ms. Watson has a Master of Arts in International Environmental Policy from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. After graduating, she was awarded a Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship, which allowed her to work on global climate change policy issues with the German Federal Environmental Agency and the non-profit German Ring for Nature Protection.

In her free time, Ms. Watson is a volunteer guide at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Ms. Watson is the president of the Monterey Bay Area Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals. She is married to Iouri Tchernouosko, and together they enjoy traveling, kayaking in the bay, photographing around Big Sur, and sharing the beauty of Monterey County with their many visitors.