



MOORE IACOFANO GOLTSMAN, INC.

MEMORANDUM

To: Route 156 West PDT **Date:** 9/19/2007

From: Route 156 West Community
Advisory Group

Re: Community Advisory Group Interim Report

The following is the Route West 156 Community Advisory Group's (CAG) interim report to the PDT. This report has been prepared on behalf of the CAG by the project's public outreach and facilitation consultant, Moore Iacofano Goltsman (MIG).

PURPOSE AND CHARGE

The purpose of the CAG is to provide input into the environmental review process from a range of local perspectives.

The charge to this group is to:

- Advise the PDT of issues to be studied in the environmental analysis.
- Articulate key community design principles to be considered in the project.
- Review information provided in the technical studies.
- Identify recommended strategies for addressing community concerns regarding the project.
- Serve as a communication conduit from the project team back to the community.

COMPOSITION

The CAG has 20 members and is comprised of representatives from community and environmental groups, homeowner associations and businesses in Castroville, Prunedale, Salinas and Monterey. The CAG is advised and guided by a project team from Caltrans, TAMC, Parsons (growth inducement consultant) and MIG.

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800 Hearst Avenue • Berkeley, CA 94710 • 510.845.7549 phone • 510.845.8750 fax

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MEETINGS

The CAG has held four meetings thus far between February and June of 2006, at approximately six week intervals. Each of these CAG meetings have focused on specific topic areas, as listed below:

February 28th: Project Overview

April 18th: Project Alternatives and Design

May 23rd: Project Alternatives and Design

June 27th: Noise and Growth Inducement

The meeting minutes and presentations from these first four meetings are available on the project website:

http://tamcmonterey.org/programs/hwyproj/hwy156_CAG.html

A series of four CAG meetings are planned for the fall of 2007.

KEY THEMES

The following is a listing of key themes that have emerged from the CAG process to date:

Circulation and Traffic

- Use this project to address congestion for residents and visitors to the Monterey Peninsula.
- Ensure circulation and access for commercial facilities and residential properties along the new facility and during the construction process.

Growth

- Mitigate growth impacts from new or expanded transportation facilities; ensure an equitable approach to growth.
- Consider how the proposed Castroville Rail project will impact growth in the area.

Safety

- Improve safety along the corridor.
- Reduce the number of fatalities.

Other

- Minimize project footprint and impacts on farmland, local plants and animals.
- Coordinate planning efforts with the California Coastal Commission.
- Address concern regarding sediment flow from culverts and its effect on farmland.
- Explore bike access and lanes along the facility.
- Develop a cost-benefit analysis of investment in this project.
- Conduct a noise study that includes readings over a continuous seven-day period.

PROCESS EVALUATION

At the June meeting, CAG members were given an opportunity to provide feedback on the CAG process, including suggestions regarding process improvement and future meeting topics. The survey results provided valuable information to the project team and indicated that the CAG was pleased with the process to date.