

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY**

TAMC Executive Director: Debbie Hale

2015/16 Goals and Accomplishments

*Overall Goal:* *Position TAMC as the collaborative forum for planning, funding and delivering regional transportation improvements.*

*Objectives:*

1. Highway 156: Advance the delivery of the Highway 156 safety and congestion relief improvements by evaluating the viability of toll funding strategies, in a manner that involves the public and addresses community concerns.

*Accomplishments:*

* + Initiated the Level 2 Traffic and Revenue Study to further evaluate possible diversion, revenue generation, toll rates and discounts.
	+ Worked with Caltrans on initiating the Supplemental EIR to allow tolling as a project alternative.
	+ Pursued options for addressing the Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander listing, including design changes that reduce habitat impacts.
	+ Continued to coordinate with the California Coastal Commission, the County of Monterey and Caltrans on how to work within Coastal permit and Local Coastal Plan requirements.
1. Transportation Sales Tax: Develop a 2016 transportation sales tax expenditure plan that supports regional priorities and receives countywide support from the cities, County and community stakeholders.

*Accomplishments:*

* + Prepared the draft Transportation Safety and Investment Plan in coordination with a diverse group of community leaders, the city managers and the Board of Directors.
	+ Secured adoption of the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan by all 12 cities and the county of Monterey.
	+ Conducted a December survey of resident opinions to help support development of the investment plan; conducted a final tracking survey before finalizing the measure to be placed on the ballot.
1. Audit Follow Up: Complete the Caltrans Incurred Cost Audit action plan and begin to prepare for the follow up Caltrans audit.

*Accomplishments:*

* + Finalized the submittal of all documents pursuant to the Audit Action Plan, including:
		- Procurement Policies and Procedures and Contract Management Manual
		- Accounting and Financial Policies and Procedures Manual
		- Construction Contract Management policies
	+ Updated existing manuals to improve documentation of agency policies:
		- Transportation Development Act policies
		- Human Resources Rules and Regulations
		- Equal Employment Opportunity Plan
		- Real Property Management Manual
1. Sustainable Community Strategies Projects: Support the creation of projects that maximize the value of our current road network and encourage taking the train, walking, bicycling, and riding the bus.

*Accomplishments:*

**Multimodal**

* + Worked with partner agencies to create a ridesharing/transit services program and public awareness campaign to minimize traveler disruptions during the construction of the Holman Highway 68 roundabout.
	+ Initiated the SR 68 Scenic Corridor Study to improve safety for drivers and bicyclists, reduce congestion, and protect wildlife.
	+ Continued to assist the five Salinas Valley cities in complying with Active Transportation Program grant project delivery requirements for the Via Salinas Valley safe routes to school projects.
	+ Finalized the study of 24 intersections throughout the county and recommended roundabout installation at 19 locations to improve safety and traffic flow.
	+ Participated in City of Salinas’ Downtown Vibrancy planning effort, in support of the Marina to Salinas Multimodal Corridor, and provided $310,000 for preliminary engineering, which the city leveraged into a $2.7 million federal construction grant.

**Bus and Rail**

* + Continued acquisition of property at the Salinas Intermodal Transit Center to support new passenger rail service to Salinas.
	+ Provided a grant to support an MST planning study to run buses along the Highway 1 corridor via shoulders or the Monterey Branch Line.
	+ Initiated federal NEPA environmental review of San Jose to Salinas rail service related to the Coast Daylight service to allow receipt of future federal funding.

**Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety**

* + Worked with the City of Pacific Grove to develop a pedestrian and bicycle safety corridor plan along Highway 68 through town.
	+ Conducted Bicycle Safety Training and supported May Bike Week activities.
	+ Allocated $30,000 for secure bicycle and skateboard storage facilities.
	+ Finalized a countywide Wayfinding Plan to support more bicycle and pedestrian travel.
	+ Allocated Complete Streets funding to the City of Marina and the County of Monterey to install bike lanes on Imjin Road and Rio Road—lanes are now in place.
1. Grants [and other Financial] Resources: Continue to be a resource for securing local, state and federal grants to plan and pay for priority regional transportation improvements.
	* Introduced legislation, AB 2730 (Alejo) to direct the proceeds from the sale of the former Prunedale Bypass right-of-way to improvements on the US 101 corridor; estimated at a value of $5 million to $12 million.
	* Conducted oversight activities required for acceptance of nearly $20 million in transit funds: Local Transportation Fund, Section 5311/5311(f), State Transit Assistance, and cap and trade.
	* Submitted Active Transportation Program grants for implementation of the countywide Wayfinding Plan and the Fort Ord Recreational Trail and Greenway.
	* Updated certain Monterey Branch Line leases to increase revenues for corridor projects.
	* Wrote support letters and assisted member agencies in applying for grants.
	* Paid off the Agency’s unfunded pension liability, which will save thousands of dollars in operating expenses over time.