

FINAL MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES AND MONTEREY COUNTY
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE JOINT POWERS AGENCY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

*Members: Robert Huitt (Chair),
Luis Alejo (1st Vice Chair), Ed Smith (2nd Vice Chair),
John Phillips (Past Chair),
Mary Adams (County representative), Michael LeBarre (City representative)*

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

*** 9:00 a.m. ***

Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	FEB 19	MAR 19	APR 19	MAY 19	JUN 19	AUG 19	SEP 19	OCT 19	NOV 19	JAN 20
Luis Alejo, 1st Vice Chair Supr. Dist. 1 (L. Gonzales; J. Gomez)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)
Michael LeBarre, City Representative King City (C. DeLeon)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Robert Huitt, Chair Pacific Grove (D. Gho)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
John Phillips, Past Chair Supr. Dist. 2 (J. Stratton)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)
Mary Adams, County Representative Supr. Dist. 5 (Y. Anderson)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P
Ed Smith, 2nd Vice Chair Monterey (A. Renny)	E	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Huitt called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

Staff present: Goel, Hale, Jacobsen, Muck, Rodriguez, Watson and Wright
Others present: Agency Counsel Kay Reimann; Lisa Rheinheimer, MST; Gus Khouri, Legislative Analyst; Todd Clark, Museum of Handcar Technologies.

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

3.1 On a motion by Committee Member Smith seconded by Committee Member Adams, the committee voted 6-0 to approve the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of November 6, 2019.

END OF CONSENT

4. MONTEREY BRANCH LINE RECREATIONAL USE HANDCAR PROPOSAL

On a motion by Committee Alternate Stratton seconded by Committee Alternate Gonzales, the Committee voted 5 to 1 to direct staff to begin activities required to negotiate a lease agreement for a temporary 30-day trial, including approximately two months prior to the trial for set-up and some time for clean-up activities when the trial is finished. Committee Member LeBarre did not support the motion.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported the Museum of Handcar Technology proposes to host guided handcar tours on a three-mile stretch of the Monterey Branch Line for 30 days during summer 2020. The tours would begin at the former Fort Ord freight depot that is accessed off 8th Street in the City of Marina. The proposer would be responsible for getting any applicable permits or environmental reviews. Ms. Watson noted that MST has submitted a letter noting concerns which should be addressed before any recreational use of the branch line is considered.

Todd Clark, Museum of Handcar Technologies, responded to concerns raised in the MST letter and stated he has no intention of getting in the way of the busway project. He noted that the project would qualify for a mitigated negative declaration under state environmental law due to the very limited impacts of some minimal improvements to the tracks and the short duration of activities. He stated that he was waiting for the Committee's direction before engaging with State Parks or the Coastal Commission.

Lisa Rheinheimer, MST, expressed concerns that the handcar operations could impede progress on the planned busway in the corridor. She reported that MST's property (4.5 acres) is contaminated with asbestos and is dilapidated and cannot be used for any activities related to this proposal. She also raised the concern from the Coastal Commission regarding the endangered Smith's Blue Butterfly and the buckwheat plant upon which it is dependent.

Committee member comments:

Committee Member LeBarre expressed concerns related to the potential conflicts with the proposed MST busway using the branch line.

Committee Alternate Stratton commented that Board member Phillips thinks the proposal is a good, fun, and cool idea. He noted that this might raise interest in future rail service on the corridor.

Chair Huitt commented that he has mixed feelings, but concurs with Alternate Stratton, noting activity on the rail corridor is likely to get positive attention. He added that he loves the idea of a limited proof-of-concept demonstration project, noting the proposers are accepting majority of risks.

Committee Member Adams expressed concern that our partner MST is strongly objects and questioned the overall timeline for this proposal. Director Hale noted that the terms will need to be worked out.

Committee Member Smith commented that he fully supports MST's busway project and wants nothing to get in the way, noting that this is clearly a short-term proposal and MST's busway project is long-term.

Committee Member LeBarre expressed his appreciation for the clarifications about the temporary nature of this demonstration project and acknowledgments of MST's concerns, but noted he would vote against this proposal.

5. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE & 2020 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

On a motion by Committee Member LeBarre seconded by Committee Member Smith, the committee voted 6 -0 to recommend TAMC Board of Directors adopt the 2020 legislative program. The Committee agreed to a terminology update from "support measures" to "sponsor legislation" for state item 4S. The Committee received an update on state and federal legislative issues.

Gus Khouri, Agency's Legislative Consultant reported that the California Transportation Commission is holding SB1 funding workshops. He stated that two Commissioners are leaving and that the Central Coast Coalition is seeking a local representative to nominate for those seats. He noted that the Coalition was planning a legislative day in Sacramento on February 19. He reported that the Governor is releasing his budget on January 10 and Mr. Khouri would provide an update on that draft budget at the TAMC Board meeting.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, provided a federal legislative update and reported on changes to the 2020 Legislative Program as compared to the draft. She

noted that the program includes an item to seek legislation related to the State Route 156 project and the fully protected endangered species the Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander. The Committee agreed to a terminology update from “support measures” to “sponsor legislation” for that item. Mr. Khouri noted he was meeting with Senator Monning as a potential author.

6. TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS FOR 2019

On a motion by Committee Member Smith seconded by Chair Huitt, the committee voted 6 -0 to receive the nominations for the eighteenth annual Transportation Agency Excellence awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation system in Monterey County; and selected awards recipients for the eighteenth awards ceremony to be held during the January 2020 Transportation Agency Board meeting.

Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator, presented the nominations for the 2019 Excellence Awards. The Executive Committee approved the award recipients for the awards ceremony at the January 2020 TAMC Board meeting.

7. TAMC DRAFT AGENDA FOR JANUARY 22, 2019

Executive Director Hale reviewed the draft regular and consent agenda for the TAMC Board meeting of January 22, 2019. After Executive Committee discussion, the following items will be considered on the regular agenda:

- Election of Officers for 2020
- Employee of the Quarter presentation
- Transportation Excellence Awards 2019
- State and Federal Legislative Program update

On the consent agenda, the Board will consider actions related to:

- American with Disabilities Act: Best Practices
- Fiscal Year 2019/20 Measure X Sales Tax Receipts
- Summary of Environmental Document reviews conducted by TAMC in 2019
- Amendment to grant funds requested by the City of Marina for the Cardoza Avenue Corridor Improvement Project/Safe Streets Pilot Program
- Regional Development Impact Fee Joint Powers Agency’s Audit Report

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None this month.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Huitt adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.