

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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HIGHLIGHTS

April 22, 2015

A New Pathway to Health Initiative in the Salinas Valley

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County and the Monterey County Health Department have forged a new partnership with cities in the Salinas Valley in a regional effort to improve health, access and safety. Known as the “Via Salinas Valley: Pathway to Health” this health initiative funded through an Active Transportation Program State grant, is designed to provide more “active transportation” options for residents of the cities of Salinas, Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City.

The construction of new infrastructure in these communities will make safety improvements that will result in safe places to walk and bike, reduce automobile speeds & traffic volumes, and improve access to schools, parks and other key destinations. The benefit of providing the means to support a more active lifestyle, can lead to healthier families and healthier communities in the Salinas Valley.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Wayfinding Signage & Bicycle Map Update

Finding your way around Monterey County biking, hiking and walking trails is going to get a lot easier in the new future with new bicycling and pedestrian Wayfinding signage. At the TAMC Board Meeting on Wednesday, April 22nd, Alta Planning + Design was selected to design regional bicycle and pedestrian Wayfinding signage and to update the Monterey County Bicycle Map.

Elements of the new Wayfinding signage will include gateway signs, directional signs, confirmation signs and turn signs that can be mounted to existing signs, as well as pavement markings. All of these elements, included the exploration of orientation maps, decorative sign toppers and mile markers are designed to make it easier to use the region’s active transportation network. The public is welcome to participate in identifying preferred regional bicycling routes and develop the wayfinding signage

that will help users find the easiest routes to popular destinations and activity centers. An online forum has been set up at: <http://tamc.mindmixer.com/>.

An update version of TAMC's popular printed bicycle map will be one product of this effort. The update bicycle map will include the latest bicycle routes and an updated legend explaining with color coded bicycle routes and icons.

Bicycle Secure Program Applications Approved

Help is on the way to provide parking space and security for bicycle and skateboarders! On Wednesday, the TAMC Board of Directors approved \$30,000 in funding for ten Bicycle Secure Program applications and the partial funding of an application for an artistic bicycle rack design.

The Agency received applications from across the county, ranging from Monterey to King City. The requests include the funding of 40 bicycle parking racks, 5 bicycle shelters, 1 bicycle repair station and 8 skateboard racks. Combined, the bicycle racks can accommodate approximately 150 bicycles and the skateboard racks can accommodate approximately 90 skateboards.

Now that the funding has been approved, it's just a matter of time of ordering the racks, shelter and repair station and having them installed. The end-result offers security and a safety net to those who bike or skate to get around in Monterey County.