



2026 Competitive Grants Program

Transportation Agency for Monterey County

Board of Directors

March 25, 2026



Agenda

1. Program Overview
2. Fund Estimate
3. Program Changes
4. Timeline
5. Next Steps

Competitive Grants Program



Program Overview

Fund Source:

- Regional Surface Transportation Program
- Transportation Development Act 2%

Eligible Uses:

- Highways
- Local streets
- Bike and pedestrian
- Limited transit

Fund Cycle:

- FY 26/27 – 28/29

Program Goals

Project Readiness

Ability to Leverage
Matching Funds

Fair Geographic
Distribution of
Funds

Project Need:
Congestion Relief
and Safety
Benefits

Cost Effectiveness
& System
Connectivity

[TAMC 2017 Goals and Objectives](#)

Competitive Grants Program



Location of funded projects:

2020 Fund Cycle (\$10,547,000)

- (3) Salinas
- (1) King City
- (1) Monterey
- (1) Pacific Grove
- (1) Greenfield
- (1) Seaside

2023 Fund Cycle (\$10,538,000)

- (2) King City
- (1) Marina
- (1) MST
- (1) Soledad
- (1) Monterey
- (2) Salinas

2025 Mid-Cycle Grant (\$11,407,698)

- (1) County
- (1) Carmel
- (1) Gonzales
- (2) Greenfield
- (1) King City
- (1) Marina
- (1) Monterey
- (1) Salinas
- (1) Sand City
- (1) Seaside
- (1) Soledad
- (1) MST

[Regional Surface Transportation Program - Transportation Agency for Monterey County](#)

Competitive Grants Program



Estimate of Available Funds

Regional Surface Transportation Program Fiscal Years 2026/27/28	\$19,200,000
Transportation Development Act 2% Fiscal Years 2026/27/28	\$1,050,000
Deprogrammed projects and competitive program balance	\$693,954
Total	\$20,943,954

Competitive Grants Program



Recommended Distribution

Reserve (10%)	\$1,920,000
Fair Share	\$3,600,000
Competitive Grants	\$13,423,954
Quick-Build / Pilot Project Grants	\$2,000,000
Total	\$20,943,954

Competitive Grants Program



2026 Guidelines Development

RSTP Guidelines
Review Subcommittee
formed in October
2025

Subcommittee
comprised of BPC and
TAC members

Met on November 4,
2025, to review
proposed changes

Comments
incorporated into the
draft proposed today

Screening Criteria

Plan Consistency

- Safe Routes to Schools Plan
- Active Transportation Plan
- Regional Transportation Plan
- Vision Zero Action Plan
- Local Roadway Safety Plan
- Monterey Bay Area Complete Streets Guidebook
- NACTO Design Guides

Competitive Grants Program

Timely Use of Funds

- Competitive projects must be implemented within 3 years
- Quick-build and Pilot projects must be implemented within 2 years

Program Changes

Quick-Build / Pilot Projects

- Competitive application
- Quickly address safety needs and improve comfort
- Two types of projects:
 - Quick-Build
 - Non-controversial
 - Can be implemented during regular pavement maintenance
 - Pilot
 - Potentially controversial, testing new concept
 - Before and after study, ongoing outreach



Program Changes

Before-and-After Study Requirement

- Support future development of innovative treatments
- All projects EXCEPT Quick-Build
- Aligned with stated project benefits
- Before study prior to construction
- After study completed 12 months after construction
- TAMC staff can support with Pilot Project studies



Program Changes

Pedestrian Level of Traffic Stress Analysis

- Competitive application
- Analysis tool provided by the Center for Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety
- Points given to projects that anticipate improved level of traffic stress



Program Changes

Vision Zero Implementation

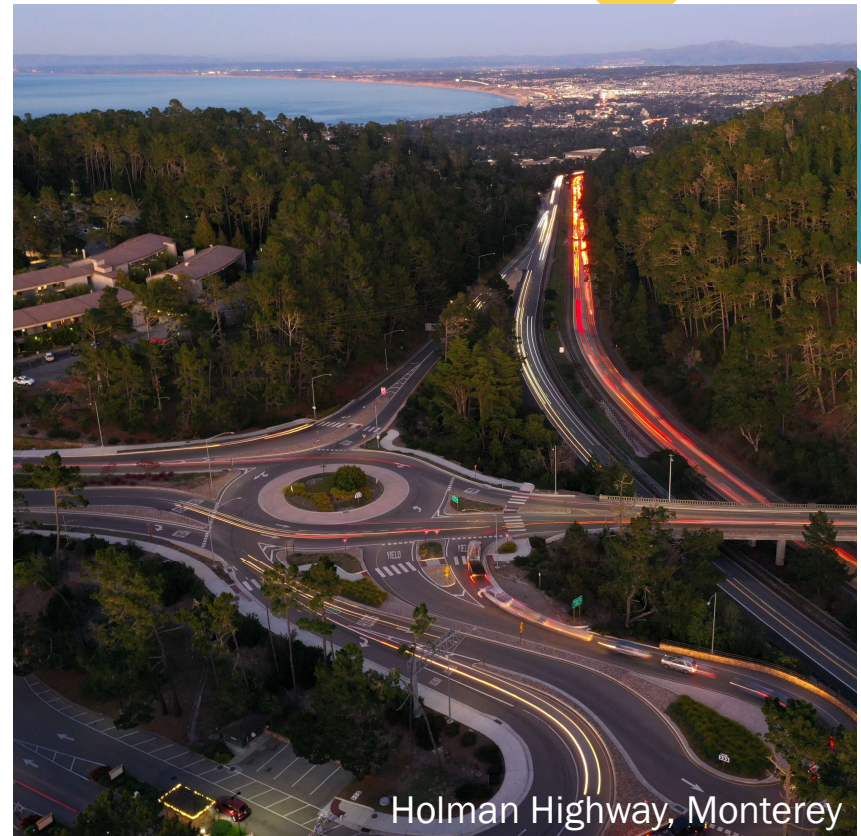
- Projects are scored on whether they are on the High-Injury Network

Scope Change

- Minor scope changes require approval, major scope changes are not allowed

Coordination with stakeholders

- Screening criteria requires projects coordinate with relevant stakeholders such as MST, Caltrans, and schools



Equitable Jurisdiction Support

Disadvantaged Community Scoring Criteria

- Competitive application: Up to 10/100 points
- Quick-Build/Pilot application: Up to 15/100 points

Geographically Diverse Distribution of Funds

During review, TAMC staff ensure geographic diversity with funding recommendations.

Review Competitive Grant Applications

Support with submitting grant applications to the RSTP Program.

TAMC Traffic Engineering Services

Review striping plans to recommend quick-build projects.

Post Award Support

After a project is awarded, TAMC staff can provide support to review plans and write grant applications.

Timeline

Tasks	Deadline
<u>TAMC Board Action:</u> Approve Guidelines & Policies Call for Projects	March 25, 2026
Establish Review Committee	May 6, 2026 (BPC nominations) May 7, 2026 (TAC nominations)
Grant Applications Due	June 5, 2026
Committee Application Review Finalized	June 26, 2026
Review Committee Scores	August 5, 2026 (BPC) August 6, 2026 (TAC)
<u>TAMC Board Action:</u> Approve Project Nominations via resolution	August 26, 2026



Downtown Salinas Complete Streets Project



Thank you



Comments or questions?

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Total Funding Distribution since 2014

Salinas	\$ 12,284,909
Seaside	\$ 8,711,051
Monterey	\$ 7,002,605
King City	\$ 6,723,130
Soledad	\$ 4,157,280
County	\$ 2,592,391
Marina	\$ 2,367,500
Sand City	\$ 2,000,000
MST	\$ 875,000
Greenfield	\$ 790,000
Carmel	\$ 256,706
Pacific Grove	\$ 235,571
Gonzales	\$ 113,512
Del Rey Oaks	\$ -

Quick-Build / Pilot Projects

	Quick-Build	Pilot
Design Type	Formal design	Conceptual design
Timeframe	Semi-permanent, maintain as needed	Installed for a minimum of 2 years
Materials	Semi-permanent (bollards, striping, etc.)	Semi-permanent (bollards, striping, etc.)
Community Support Difficulty	Easy, can be implemented during pavement maintenance	Difficult, testing a new concept
Pavement Condition	New pavement preferred, but not required	New pavement preferred, but not required
Data Collection	Not required	Before and after study, ongoing outreach with TAMC support

Example Quick-Build / Pilot Projects

	Quick-Build	Pilot
Project Type	Bulb-outs, high-visibility crosswalks, and bike lane recommended in a Safe Routes to Schools Plan	Lane conversion / road diet with new protected bike lanes and some parking removal
Timeframe	Installed in perpetuity, maintained as part of regular pavement maintenance	Installed for a minimum of 2 years
Materials	Bollards, striping, painted bike lanes	Bollards, striping, painted bike lanes
Community Support Difficulty	Project already vetted by the community	Testing a new, potentially controversial concept
Data Collection	Not required	Before and after study and ongoing outreach

Scoring Criteria

Quick-Build (100 points)

- There is a clear safety need - 20 points
- The project will improve comfort for people biking, walking, and/or using transit - 20 points
- **The project will improve access to/for a disadvantaged community - 20 points**
- **The project will be implemented during pavement maintenance - 20 points**
- There is a maintenance strategy in place - 20 points

Pilot Project (100 points)

- There is a clear safety need - 15 points
- The project will improve comfort for people biking, walking, and/or using transit - 15 points
- **The project will improve access to/for a disadvantaged community - 15 points**
- **The community was engaged in the identification and initial planning of the project - 10 points**
- The pilot project provides a foundation for permanent infrastructure - 15 points
- There is a maintenance strategy in place - 10 points
- The project includes continuous community engagement - 10 points
- **The project's performance will be measured - 10 points**