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Regional Transportation Planning Agency - Local Transportation Commission  
Monterey County Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways  
Monterey County Regional Development Impact Fee Joint Powers Agency  
Email: [info@tamcmonterey.org](mailto:info@tamcmonterey.org)

**Executive Committee**

*Members are: Chaps Poduri, Chair; Luis Alejo, 1st Vice Chair; Jose Rios, 2nd Vice Chair; Wendy Askew, Past Chair; Glenn Church, County Representative; Dennis Donohue, City Representative*

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

**\*\*9:00 AM\*\***

**MEETING LOCATION**

Voting members must attend a physical meeting location to count towards quorum

*55B Plaza Circle, Salinas, California 93901  
Transportation Agency Conference Room*

**Alternate Locations with Zoom Connection Open to the Public**

*2616 1st Avenue, Marina, California 93933  
Supervisor Askew's office*

*168 West Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas, California 93901  
Supervisor Alejo's office*

*147 Fourth Street, Gonzales, California 93926  
Mayor Jose Rios's office*

**Members of the public & non-voting members may join meeting online at:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83973622750?pwd=esaxn0K5Z4Rx2ppjC8D98QR6koK1Ae.1>

**OR**

**Via teleconference at +1 669 900 6833  
Meeting ID: 839 7362 2750 Passcode: 890011**

**If you join the meeting by phone and would like to make a public comment on an item, please dial \*9 to raise your hand.**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54952.7:  
Please find Chapter 9, also known as the Ralph M. Brown Act:  
[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?division=2.&chapter=9.&part=1.&lawCode=GOV&title=5.](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?division=2.&chapter=9.&part=1.&lawCode=GOV&title=5)

*Please note: If all committee members are present in person, public participation by Zoom is for convenience only and is not required by law. If the Zoom feed is lost for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted, but the meeting may continue at the discretion of the Chairperson.*

*Please see all the special meeting instructions at the end of this agenda*

*Alternative Agenda Format and Auxiliary Aids: If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may contact Transportation Agency staff at 831-775-0903. Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair-accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish language interpreters, and printed materials in large print, Braille or on disk. These requests may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting and should be made at least 72 hours before the meeting. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the request.*

*Formato alternativo de la agenda y recursos auxiliares: Si se solicita, la agenda se pondrá a disposición de las personas con discapacidad en formatos alternativos apropiados, según lo exige la Sección 202 de la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades de 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132) y las normas y reglamentos federales adoptados en su aplicación. Las personas que soliciten una modificación o adaptación por discapacidad, incluyendo ayudas o servicios auxiliares, pueden comunicarse con el personal de la Agencia de Transporte al 831-775-0903. Las ayudas o servicios auxiliares incluyen instalaciones accesibles para sillas de ruedas, intérpretes de lengua de señas, intérpretes de español y materiales impresos en letra grande, braille o en disco. Estas solicitudes pueden ser presentadas por una persona con discapacidad que requiera una modificación o adaptación para participar en la reunión pública y deben hacerse al menos 72 horas antes de la reunión. Se hará todo lo posible para atender la solicitud.*

Complete agenda packets are on display at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County office and at these public libraries: Carmel, Monterey, Salinas Steinbeck Branch, Seaside, Prunedale, and King City. Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call the Agency Secretary to make an inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Please recycle this agenda.

## **1. QUORUM CHECK - CALL TO ORDER**

**Call to order and self-introductions. If you are unable to attend, please contact Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant. Your courtesy to the other members to assure a quorum is appreciated.**

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any member of the public may address the Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Under this item, each member of the public is allowed two minutes to address concerns. Comments in items on this agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed. Persons who wish to address the Committee for public comment or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to Maria at [maria@tamcmonterey.org](mailto:maria@tamcmonterey.org) by 5:00 pm the Monday before the meeting, and such comments will be distributed to the Board before the meeting.

### **COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO:**

Cualquier miembro del público podrá dirigirse a la Comité sobre cualquier punto no incluido en la agenda, pero que sea de su competencia. En este punto, cada miembro del público tendrá dos minutos para plantear sus inquietudes. Se podrán formular comentarios sobre los puntos de este agenda cuando se discuta dicho punto. Se anima a quienes deseen dirigirse a la Comité para recibir comentarios del público o sobre un punto de la agenda que envíen sus comentarios por escrito a Maria en [maria@tamcmonterey.org](mailto:maria@tamcmonterey.org) antes de las 5:00 pm del lunes

anterior a la reunión. Dichos comentarios se distribuirán a la Comité antes de la reunión.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

Approve the staff recommendations for items listed below by majority vote with one motion. Any member may pull an item off the Consent Agenda to be moved to the end of the **CONSENT AGENDA** for discussion and action.

**3.1. APPROVE** Executive Committee draft minutes of February 4, 2026.

- Elouise Rodriguez

**3.2. RECEIVE** update on changes to Brown Act as per Senate Bill (SB) 707 and **VOTE** to enable the Committee to use the provisions for Eligible Subsidiary Bodies.

- Christina Watson

*Senate Bill (SB) 707, signed into law on October 3, 2025, makes significant changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act, which governs open meetings for local government agencies in California.*

**4. RECEIVE** update on state and federal legislative issues, and **RECOMMEND** the Board adopt positions on legislation.

- Christina Watson

*Staff and consultants will provide an update on state and federal legislative issues.*

**5. RECEIVE** report on draft agenda for March 25, 2026, TAMC Board meeting.

- Todd Muck

**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS and/or COMMENTS**

**7. CLOSED SESSION:**

- Jefferson Kise

*PUBLIC COMMENT on the Closed Session;*

*REAL ESTATE NEGOTIATIONS. Pursuant to Government Code section §54956.8, confer with real property negotiators concerning*

*Property: 150 S Main Street, Salinas, and Assessor Parcel Numbers 031-221-014 and 031-282-057*

*Agency negotiators: Todd Muck, Jeff Kise*

*Negotiating parties: TAMC and Taylor Farms*

***Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment***

**8. ADJOURN**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Executive Committee meeting:  
**Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Transportation Agency for Monterey County**  
**Conference Room**  
**55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas CA 93901**

A quorum of voting members is required to be present to hold this meeting.

There will be a zoom link for hybrid participation by members of the public.

If you have any items for the next agenda, please submit them to:  
Elouise Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board & Senior Administrative Assistant  
[Elouise@tamcmonterey.org](mailto:Elouise@tamcmonterey.org)

Important Meeting Information

Agenda Packet and Documents: Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call or email the Agency office to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Complete agenda packets are on display online at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County website. Documents relating to an item on the open session that are distributed to the Committee less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public review at the Agency website. Agency contact information is as follows:

Transportation Agency for Monterey County  
[www.tamcmonterey.org](http://www.tamcmonterey.org)  
55B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901  
TEL: 831-775-0903  
EMAIL: [info@tamcmonterey.org](mailto:info@tamcmonterey.org)

Agenda Items: The agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon five (5) working days before the regular meeting. Any member of the Board may request in writing an item to appear on the agenda. The request shall be made by the agenda deadline and any support papers must be furnished by that time or be readily available.

## Memorandum

**To:** Executive Committee  
**From:** Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant & Clerk of the Board  
**Meeting Date:** March 4, 2026  
**Subject:** Executive Committee Draft Minutes

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### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**APPROVE** Executive Committee draft minutes of February 4, 2026.

### **SUMMARY:**

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

### **DISCUSSION:**

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Exec draft minutes February 4 2026.

### **WEB ATTACHMENTS:**

**DRAFT 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: Chaps Poduri (Chair), Luis Alejo (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair), Jose Rios (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair), Wendy Root Askew (Past Chair), Glenn Church (County representative), Dennis Donohue (City representative)*

**Wednesday, February 4, 2026**

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

Transportation Agency Conference Room, 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas CA

Alternate locations:

*2616 1st Avenue, Marina, California 93933*

*168 West Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas, California 93901*

*147 Fourth Street, Gonzales, California 93926*

<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>MAR 25</b>	<b>APR 25</b>	<b>MAY 25</b>	<b>JUN 25</b>	<b>AUG 25</b>	<b>SEP 25</b>	<b>OCT 25</b>	<b>NOV 25</b>	<b>JAN 26</b>	<b>FEB 26</b>
Chaps Poduri, <b>Chair</b> , Pacific Grove (Joe Amelio)	P	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Luis Alejo, <b>1st Vice Chair</b> , Supervisor District 1, (Linda Gonzales; <del>Javier Gomez</del> )	P	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P	P	P(A) (VC)	P	P
Jose Rios, <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair</b> , Gonzales (Lorraine Worthy)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Wendy Root Askew, <b>Past Chair</b> , Supervisor District 4, (Yuri Anderson)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Glenn Church, <b>County Representative</b> , Supervisor District 2, ( <del>Marilyn Vierra</del> , Leonie Gray)	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P (VC)	P(A)	P(A)
Dennis Donohue, <b>City Representative</b> , City of Salinas (Margaret D'Arrigo)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	E	P (VC)	*P

P = Present	A = Absent
P(A) = Alternate present	E = Excused
* = New Representative	(VC) Video Conference
TC = Teleconference	

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Poduri called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

Staff present: Bigelow, Kise, Muck, Park, Rodriguez, Sheehan, Strause, Watson, Wright, and Zeller.

Others present: Shane Strong, TAMC Counsel; Linda Gonzales and Javier Gomez, Monterey County District 1.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Committee Member Donohue and seconded by Committee Member Poduri, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Approved the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of January 7, 2026.

**4. DRAFT OVERALL WORK PROGRAM, BUDGET, AND INTERGRATED FUNDING STRATEGY**

On a motion by Committee Member Alejo and seconded by Committee Member Rios, the Committee voted 6-0 to recommend that the Board authorize the Executive Director to submit the draft fiscal year 26/27 Overall Work Program to Caltrans for initial review; recommended that the Board provide direction and guidance to staff on the three-year budget for fiscal years 26/27 through 28/29, the Overall Work Program for fiscal year 26/27, and the 2026 Integrated Funding Strategy; and recommended that the Board direct the Executive Director to bring the final three-year budget, one-year Overall Work Program, and the 2026 Integrated Funding Strategy back to the Board on May 27, 2026, for approval.

Mike Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery, highlighted the Overall Work Program and Integrated Funding Strategy which include the Vision Zero Program, Safe Routes to Schools Projects, rail projects, and Measure X-funded regional projects.

Jeff Kise, Director of Finance & Administration, reported the Agency's budget separates expenditures into two types: operating and direct programs. Operating expenditures include salaries and benefits, materials and supplies, and equipment. Direct program expenditures include outside consultants, construction contracts, and ongoing project and program delivery.

Committee Member Askew commented that the Board should get a detailed budget summary, noting that this shows transparency and helps new board members understand.

## **5. 2025 TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

On a motion by Committee Member Church and seconded by Committee Member Askew, the Committee voted 5-0 to receive nominations for the 2025 Transportation Agency Excellence Awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups, or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation network in Monterey County and selected the following award recipients for the 24<sup>th</sup> awards ceremony to be held during the February 2026 Transportation Agency Board Meeting:

- Individual: James Herrera, Monterey County Herald
- Program: "SRTS North County Participatory Budgeting Steering Committees," Ecology Action, Center for Community Advocacy, Monterey County Health Department, Monterey County Public Works.
- Project: Bardin Road Safe Routes to School Improvements Project, City of Salinas, Kimley-Horn Associates

Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator, reported that the Transportation Agency released a call for nominations for the "24<sup>th</sup> Annual Transportation Excellence Awards" in October 2025 to encourage and appreciate the efforts made by Monterey County residents, businesses, and employees to improve the transportation network in Monterey County.

Committee Member Donohue left before the vote was voted.

## **6. TAMC BOARD DRAFT AGENDA**

Todd Muck, Executive Director, reviewed the draft regular and consent agenda for the TAMC Board meeting of February 25, 2026. After the Executive Committee discussion, directions were provided to staff to place the following items for consideration on the regular agenda:

- Safe Routes to School Program and Safety Campaign Update
- King City Multimodal Transportation Center
- 2025 Transportation Excellence Awards
- Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing
- Draft Overall Work Program, Budget, and Integrated Funding Strategy
- Expand agency Transportation Planner headcount

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Poduri adjourned the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

**Memorandum**

**To:** Executive Committee  
**From:** Christina Watson, Director of Planning  
**Meeting Date:** March 4, 2026  
**Subject:** **Brown Act Update**

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**RECEIVE** update on changes to Brown Act as per Senate Bill (SB) 707 and **VOTE** to enable the Committee to use the provisions for Eligible Subsidiary Bodies.

**SUMMARY:**

Senate Bill (SB) 707, signed into law on October 3, 2025, makes significant changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act, which governs open meetings for local government agencies in California.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

No financial impact.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Attached** is a memo describing the impacts of the Brown Act revisions in SB 707 on TAMC and its Committees. Please note that this memo is specific to TAMC, and if you sit on another body, you should refer to your legal counsel.

Key new provisions include:

- One aspect of the law took immediate effect, and TAMC is now providing a link to the Brown Act on all agendas.
- New video and teleconferencing provisions took effect on January 1, 2026, changing how the agendas and minutes for the TAMC Board and its Committees are prepared, and expanding the options for Board and Committee members to use videoconferencing.
- The Board must adopt a resolution to enable the Board and its Committees to use these provisions.

The TAMC Board of Directors is scheduled to consider approval of a resolution authorizing Eligible Subsidiary Bodies to use the new provisions at their February 2026 meeting. If approved by the Board, the Committee must then proactively vote to enact the provisions of the revised Brown Act to enable the Committee to utilize certain teleconferencing provisions. Other provisions, such as the ADA accommodations, are in effect regardless of whether the Committee takes action. The Committee can also choose not to take action, thus reverting to the usual way of doing business and posting the locations of all remotely participating Committee members on the agenda and keeping those locations open to the public.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. SB 707 Memo

**WEB ATTACHMENTS:**

## **Brown Act Update**

### **How SB 707 Impacts the Transportation Agency for Monterey County**

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Senate Bill (SB) 707, signed into law on October 3, 2025, makes significant changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act, which governs open meetings for local government agencies in California. SB 707 can generally be broken down into three parts:

1. The “Eligible Legislative Body” requirements, which do not apply to TAMC.
2. The new teleconferencing rules under Section 54953.8 (there are now nine teleconferencing options, but not all apply to TAMC).
3. The remaining changes to the Brown Act.

One aspect of the law took immediate effect, and TAMC is now providing a link to the Brown Act on all agendas.

#### **Teleconferencing Rules under Section 54953.8**

As amended by SB 707, the Brown Act has new sections relating to teleconferencing, Government Code sections 54953.8.1 through 54953.8.7. All these requirements are effective January 1, 2026. Below is a section-by-section description of the key changes:

#### **Section 54953.8.2 – State of Emergency (AB 361)**

The teleconferencing requirements under this Section reflect COVID-19 pandemic era Assembly Bill (AB) 361, except with one new twist, that local agencies may now declare local emergencies. State-of-Emergency teleconferencing requires a body to find that an emergency exists that creates a risk or danger if meeting in person. This finding must be revisited at least every 45 days.

#### **Section 54953.8.3 – Just Cause (AB 2449)**

SB 707 maintains the “Just Cause” reason for using teleconferencing to attend meetings as established under AB 2449. (SB 707 omitted the very similar “Emergency Circumstances” teleconferencing rules.) The rules for “Just Cause” require:

- A) A quorum of the body must attend from one physical location.

- B) The Member requesting the “Just Cause” exemption must report the general need for teleconferencing by the start of the meeting, citing one of seven definitions of Just Cause:
- 1) Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely.
  - 2) A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person.
  - 3) A need related to a physical or mental condition.
  - 4) Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.
  - 5) An immune-compromised child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner of the member that requires the member to participate remotely.
  - 6) A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.
  - 7) Military service obligations that result in a member being unable to attend in person because they are serving under official written orders for active duty, drill, annual training, or any other duty required as a member of the California National Guard or a United States Military Reserve organization that requires the member to be at least 50 miles outside the boundaries of the local agency.
- C) The Member must use both audio and visual technology during the meeting.
- D) Limited uses per calendar year – for TAMC, Members are limited to using this clause no more than twice per year.
- E) TAMC must note the usage of Just Cause in the meeting minutes, citing which definition of Just Cause the Member claimed. For example, the minutes could cite “JC4”.

### **Section 54953.8.6 – Eligible Subsidiary Bodies**

Eligible Subsidiary Body (“ESB”) teleconferencing is the headliner of SB 707. Generally, the ESB has been billed as a way for committees to meet remotely, but the application of this option is more complex than what may have been initially assessed. This section expires on January 1, 2030.

An ESB is defined as a Brown Act Legislative Body which serves exclusively in an advisory capacity, lacks authority to take final action, and lacks primary subject matter jurisdiction on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, public library material access, or taxes or related spending proposals. Legal counsel has determined that all of TAMC’s Committees, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee (BPC), the Executive Committee, the Rail Policy Committee (RPC), and the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee, known as the eXcellent Transportation Oversight Committee (XTOC), qualify as ESBs.

ESB teleconferencing entails a two-entity approval process. First, the Parent Legislative Body (i.e., the TAMC Board of Directors) must approve the ESB using teleconferencing every six months. Second, after the Parent Legislative Body approves the use, but before the ESB can use teleconferencing, the ESB must approve teleconferencing. TAMC staff will prepare agenda items for all relevant meetings to that effect.

The requirements are generally:

- The Committee must designate one physical location where the public can attend, and
- Teleconferencing Members should appear using audio and visual technology during the meeting. If the Committee Member turns off their camera, they must announce the reason (e.g., internet connectivity issues).

There are two additional elements of this section of import. First, elected officials who sit on a Committee by virtue of their elected office cannot teleconference under this Code section (unless they can claim “Just Cause”). Second, a Committee may request to present recommendations to the Board, which then must appear on the regular agenda of the next Board meeting for discussion, with action on the issue on the following Board meeting agenda.

### **Section 54953.8.7 – Multijurisdictional Body**

A “Multijurisdictional Body” is defined as either a legislative body which includes representatives from more than one county, city, city/county, or special district, or a legislative body formed as a Joint Powers Entity. This definition applies to the TAMC Board and the Coast Rail Coordinating Council, among others. The rules for “Multijurisdictional Body” require:

- The body must adopt a resolution in open session to allow teleconferencing.
- At least a quorum of the members of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from one or more locations within the jurisdiction open to the public.
- Compensated Members cannot use teleconference (“compensation” excludes reimbursement of expenses).
- Teleconferencing Members must be named in agenda.
- Teleconferencing Members must use audio and visual technology.
- Teleconferencing location is more than 20 miles away from in-person locations.
- Limited to using twice per year if the body meets once per month or less.

### **Section 54953.8 – General Requirements**

For each of the above teleconference rules, the legislative body must comply with the following rules:

- Use two-way video or teleconference technology.
- Place the link on the agenda.
- No action if there is an internet disruption.
- Allow public comment.
- Allow the public time to unmute themselves and raise hands during public comment.
- In the minutes, include the name of any teleconferencing Member and the code section they used to appear remotely.
- Implement a procedure for receiving and resolving reasonable accommodation requests and adhere to civil rights and non-discrimination laws.
- Announce anyone over 18 and relationship at remote location.

### **Other Brown Act Changes**

Below is a quick summary of some other Brown Act changes, though three items deserve some additional comments. First, the Traditional Brown Act Teleconferencing Rules are unchanged. Second, there is a new teleconferencing statute for use with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and this statute allows teleconferencing as a reasonable accommodation – the only requirements are that the member use audio and visual technology if possible (very loose requirement) and that the teleconferencing member report if anyone over the age of 18 is appearing at the location and their relationship. Finally, there is a complex statute which allows a Brown Act body not to take public comment, but use of this statute is not advisable. Below are other changes to the Brown Act:

- TAMC is required to give members a copy of Brown Act.
- Social Media is only considered a meeting if members interact with each other.
- Emergency situations notice requirements include an email option.
- Special meetings notice and waivers include a telephone option.
- Reporting out for department head closed sessions.
- No special meetings for salary extended to legislative body.
- “Zoom-bombing” called out as disruptive.

**Memorandum**

**To:** Executive Committee  
**From:** Christina Watson, Director of Planning  
**Meeting Date:** March 4, 2026  
**Subject:** **Legislative Update**

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**RECEIVE** update on state and federal legislative issues, and **RECOMMEND** the Board adopt positions on legislation.

**SUMMARY:**

Staff and consultants will provide an update on state and federal legislative issues.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Proposed legislation could impact transportation funding availability.

**DISCUSSION:**

Agency state legislative analyst Mitch Weiss will present an update on state legislative activities (**attachment 1**). Staff recommends the following positions on bills:

- AB 1740 (Zbur): Coastal resources: coastal development permits: urban multimodal communities: bicycle facilities: This bill would authorize a city to designate itself as an urban multimodal community if the city has (1) at least one high-quality transit corridor or transit priority area in the city, (2) adopted plans that include targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fatal and severe injury crashes, and (3) Class I, Class II, or Class IV bicycle facilities. TAMC staff recommends supporting this bill, pending confirmation from MST on whether this bill applies to Monterey County.
- AB 1745 (Jeff Gonzalez): Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law: suspension of tax: This bill would suspend the imposition of the tax on motor vehicle fuels for one year. TAMC staff recommends opposing this bill since transportation funding relies heavily on gas tax revenue to fund local streets and roads, state highway maintenance, and multi-modal investments in each county.

**Web attachment 1** is a draft bill list showing the recommended positions and relating to the adopted 2026 Legislative Program (**web attachment 2**).

Staff will present an update on federal legislative activities (**attachment 2**).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. State Legislative Update
2. Federal Legislative Update - March 2026

**WEB ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [State bill list](#)
2. [TAMC 2026 Legislative Program](#)



February 20, 2026

TO: Board Members, Transportation Agency for Monterey County

FROM: Gus Khouri, President, Khouri Consulting LLC  
Mitch Weiss, Legislative Advocate

RE: **STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – FEBRUARY**

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### **2026 Outlook**

The legislature is in the process of introducing bills by the February 20 deadline. Policy Committee hearings will commence shortly after, with bills that have been in print for 30 days being eligible for action. All bills, whether they are in the house of origin (Assembly bills in the Assembly, Senate bills in the Senate, or those in the other house), must be acted upon by July 2 to remain live. The legislature will hold budget subcommittee meetings and leave items open until the release of the Governor's May Revision, which must be published by May 14. Legislators will have until June 15 to submit a balanced budget to the Governor, who must sign it by June 30.

### **Gas Tax Successor Source Activity**

#### **[AB 1421 \(Wilson\)](#)**

Assemblymember Lori Wilson, Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, authored Assembly Bill (AB) 1421 to continue the conversation on the feasibility of a road user charge (RUC). The bill requires the California Transportation Commission to prepare recommendations on implementing an RUC. The bill is currently in the Senate and can be heard until July 2 to remain alive.

### Impact on TAMC

On average, each registered driver statewide pays approximately \$292 in gas tax annually, or \$272 per registered gas-powered vehicle. Using Caltrans data on vehicle miles traveled in Monterey County, applying a 2.5-cent road user charge in lieu of a gas tax to Monterey residents would result in an increase of approximately \$1 per registered vehicle, or \$61 per driver, over what Monterey residents currently pay in gas taxes.

Over 77% of car owners statewide could save money if the State fully converted to a Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) system, rather than the current gas tax and VRF system. A full conversion to a VRF could save gas-powered vehicles in Monterey County as much as \$96 in comparison to a 2.5-cent road user charge (RUC) per driver, or a savings of \$16 on vehicles if a RUC were applied to vehicles.



# Memorandum

**To:** TAMC Executive Committee

**From:** Christina Watson, Director of Planning

**Date:** March 4, 2026

**Subject:** Federal Legislative Update

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## **FY 2026 Transportation Appropriations Update**

The [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2026](#), which included the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2026 (THUD Act), was signed into law by the President on February 3, 2026, and funds highway, transit, and rail programs through September 30, 2026.

## **Surface Transportation Reauthorization Update**

Congress passes multi-year Surface Transportation Acts to fund America's public works, including roads, bridges, transit, and rail, providing states with long-term certainty for infrastructure planning and project delivery. The current version, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, expires on September 30, 2026. TAMC continues monitoring federal discussions on the upcoming Surface Transportation Reauthorization.

To stay informed and ensure regional needs are represented, TAMC staff participated in the [Caltrans' IJA Reauthorization Sub-Working Group webinars](#). Caltrans is accepting comments on the "Caltrans Consensus Principles for Reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Act", a list of shared priorities to guide California's position in the next federal transportation bill, until February 27. Staff will bring the final version to the Board once it is available.

## **Other News**

On February 10, 2026, the House Energy and Commerce (E&C) Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a markup of twelve pieces of legislation centering around motor vehicle safety. All bills were forwarded to the full E&C committee for consideration, with many receiving bipartisan support (see detailed report online [here](#)).

On February 10, 2026, the [Trump administration announced plans](#) to repeal the landmark 2009 legal finding that climate change poses a threat to the public. The legal finding, known as the endangerment finding, underpins the nation's climate rules. It could also include the repeal of federal regulations on planet-warming emissions from cars and trucks.