

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS
MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE JOINT POWERS AGENCY
FINAL MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2025, TAMC BOARD MEETING

TAMC BOARD MEMBERS	FEB 24	MAR 24	APR 24	MAY 24	JUN 24	AUG 24	SEP 24	OCT 24	DEC 24	JAN 25
Luis Alejo, Supervisor District 1, 2nd Vice Chair (Linda Gonzales, Javier Gomez)	P	P(A) (V)	P	P	P(A) (V)	P	P(A) (V)	P	P(A) (V)	P
Glenn Church, Supervisor District 2, County Representative (Marilyn Vierra, Leonie Gray)	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P
Chris Lopez, Supervisor District 3, Past Chair (Priscilla Barba)	P	P	P(A)	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P
Wendy Root Askew, Supervisor District 4, Chair (Yuri Anderson , Eric Mora)	P	P	P(A)	P(A)	P	P	P(A) (V)	P(A)	P(A)	P
Kate Daniels, Supervisor District 5 (Kimbly Craig)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P*
Robert Delves, Carmel-by-the-Sea (Jeff Baron)	P	P(V)	P(A)	P	P	P(V)	P	P	P	P(A)*
Scott Donaldson, Del Rey Oaks (John Uy)	AB2	P(V)	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
Jose Rios, Gonzales, City Representative (Lorraine Worthy)	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Rachel Ortiz, Greenfield (Robert White)	P	A	P	P	E	P	AB2	P	P	P
Michael LeBarre, King City (Carlos DeLeon)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bruce Delgado, Marina (Jenny McAdams, Liesbeth Visscher)	P	E	P	AB2	P	P	A	P(V)	P	P
Edwin Smith, Monterey (Kim Barber, Marissa Garcia, Andrea Renny)	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	PA)	P	P	P
Chaps Poduri, Pacific Grove, 1st Vice Chair (Joe Amelio)	P	P	A	E	P(V)	P	P	P	P	P
Andrew Sandoval, Salinas (Margaret D'Arrigo)	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P
Mary Ann Carbone, Sand City (Jerry Blackwelder)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ian Oglesby, Seaside, (David Pacheco)	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	A	P
Anna Velasquez, Soledad (Fernando Ansaldo-Sanchez)	P	E	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	E

OTHERS PRESENT

Jasmine Mejia Cortez	County Supervisor District 1	Ingrid McRoberts	Caltrans District 5
Linda Gonzales	County Supervisor District 1	Dwight Stump	Public
Javier Gomez	County Supervisor District 1	Bryan Rosen	Public
Priscilla Barba	County Supervisor District 3	Barry Jones	Public
Randy Ishii	Monterey County Public Works	Eric Petersen	Public
Debbie Hale	Capitola resident	Tony Harris	Point C
Nick Belli	Toro Park	Amanda Belli	Toro Park
Suzanne De Verrier	Toro Park	Terry Russell	Toro Park
Christine Brigantino	Toro Park	Harry Dixon	Toro Park

1. QUORUM CHECK – CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lopez called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Elouise Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board, called the roll and confirmed a quorum was established. Chair Lopez led the pledge of allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bryan Rosen, resident, commented on the Monterey Branch Line bus and rail projects.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Smith/Carbone /unanimous

Board Member Ortiz did not vote on this item.

The Board approved the consent agenda as follows:

ADMINISTRATION and BUDGET

- 3.1.1** Approved the minutes of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways, and the Monterey County Regional Development Impact Fee Joint Powers Agency for Monterey County meeting of December 4, 2024.
- 3.1.2** Accepted the list of payments and deposits for November and December 2024 and the credit card statements for November and December 2024.
- 3.1.3** Received list of contracts awarded under \$50,000.
- 3.1.4** Received report on conferences or trainings attended by agency staff.
- 3.1.5** Approved changes to the Employment Agreement with Todd Muck.
- 3.1.6** Appointed Board Member Chaps Poduri to the California Association of Councils of Governments (CalCOG) Board of Directors and Mike LeBarre as the alternate.

BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, TRANSIT and SOCIAL SERVICES

- 3.2.1** No report this month.

PLANNING

- 3.3.1** Regarding Point C, Inc - Corridor Advisor Contract Amendment #1:
 - 1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to execute contract amendment #1 with Point C, Inc., subject to approval by Agency Counsel, to increase the budget by \$200,000 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$700,000, to provide corridor advisory services for the agency's priority regional projects for the period ending June 30, 2027;
 - 2. Approved the use of Measure X funds budgeted for regional projects;
 - 3. Found that this amendment is justified as a sole source due to the efficiencies that support award to the existing consultant as a logical follow-on to work already in progress under a competitively awarded contract; and
 - 4. Authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to take such other further actions as may be necessary to fulfill the intent of the Point C, Inc. contract amendment, including approvals of future modifications or amendments that do not significantly alter the scope of work, or change the approved contract term or amount.

3.3.2 Regarding GHD, Inc. - Traffic Engineering Services Contract Amendment #3:

1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to execute contract amendment #3 with GHD, Inc., subject to approval by Agency Counsel, to increase the budget by \$60,000 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$660,000, to provide on-call Traffic Engineering services needed to complete the Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Study for the period ending June 30, 2026;
2. Approved the use of Measure X funds budgeted for the Scenic Highway 68 Corridor Improvement project;
3. Found that this amendment is justified as a sole source due to the efficiencies that support award to the existing consultant as a logical follow-on to work already in progress under a competitively awarded contract; and
4. Authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to take such other further actions as may be necessary to fulfill the intent of the GHD, Inc. contract amendment, including approvals of future modifications or amendments that do not significantly alter the scope of work, or change the approved contract term or amount.

3.3.3 Regarding 2026 Regional Transportation Plan Project List and Financial Assumptions:

1. Approved the Project List to be studied as part of the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan and 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy; and
2. Approved the financial assumptions for use in the financial forecast for the Regional Transportation Plan and 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy.

3.3.4 Received an update on state and federal legislative issues and adopted the final 2025 legislative program.

3.3.5 Received summary of environmental document review work conducted by TAMC in 2024.

3.3.6 Regarding Highway 1 Elkhorn Slough Corridor Climate Resiliency Project Agreements

1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to execute separate agreements with The Nature Conservancy and the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, subject to approval by Agency Counsel, for amounts not to exceed \$280,413 and \$49,136 respectively, to provide planning and community engagement services for the period ending June 30, 2027;
2. Approved the use of State Designated funds budgeted to this purpose;
3. Approved sole source findings as the work with these partner organizations was included in the State of California grant award; and

4. Authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to take such other further actions as may be necessary to fulfill the intent of the agreement, including approval of future modifications or amendments that do not significantly alter the scope of work, or change the approved agreement term or amount.

PROJECT DELIVERY and PROGRAMMING

3.4.1 Regarding Alisal Greening, Beautification & Safety Agreement Amendment #1:

1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to execute Amendment #1 with the City of Salinas and Ecology Action, subject to approval by Agency Counsel, to renew and extend the existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$2,454,809 to deliver the Alisal Greening, Beautification & Safety project for the period ending June 30, 2025;
2. Approved the use of Measure X funds budgeted to this purpose;
3. Approved a sole source finding that this is a logical extension of the work already underway by these parties; and
4. Authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to take such other further actions as may be necessary to fulfill the intent of the contract, including approvals of future modifications or amendments that do not significantly alter the scope of work, or change the approved contract term or amount.

3.4.2 Approved the appointment of Martin Canning to serve as the alternate construction representative on the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee, upon the resignation of committee member Keith Severson, who currently serves in that position.

RAIL PROGRAM

3.5.1 Regarding Coast Corridor Rail Project:

1. Received update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles; and
2. Appointed representatives to the Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE

3.6.1 No report this month.

COMMITTEE MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

3.7.1 Accepted draft minutes from Transportation Agency committees:

- Executive Committee – draft minutes of January 13, 2025
- Rail Policy Committee – draft minutes of January 13, 2025
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee – draft minutes of January 8, 2025
- Technical Advisory Committee – Meeting cancelled
- Excellent Transportation Oversight Committee – No meeting

3.7.2 Received Transportation Agency for Monterey County correspondence for January 2025.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

M/S/C Sandoval/Oglesby/unanimous

The Board approved the election of the following members to serve as Board officers and to serve as Executive Committee officers:

- Chair, Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, District 4
- 1st Vice Chair, Councilmember Chaps Poduri, City of Pacific Grove
- 2nd Vice Chair, Supervisor Luis Alejo, District 1
- Past Chair, Supervisor Chris Lopez, District 3
- County Representative, Supervisor Glenn Church, District 2
- City Representative, Mayor Jose Rios, City of Gonzales

The term beginning upon their election through the next election of officers at the beginning of the January 28, 2026, Board meeting.

5. **THE 2024 TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

The Transportation Agency presented their 23rd Annual Transportation Excellence Awards to honor community members, programs, and projects that make a significant contribution to improving transportation networks in Monterey County. This year's awards honorees are:

- **Individual:** Dwight Stump, for his leadership behind the public campaign to install Adaptive Signal Controls along an eight-mile stretch of the Highway 68 corridor.
- **Group:** Toro Park Cut-through Traffic Pilot Project Community Group: Residents who acted to address their safety concerns regarding traffic that used their neighborhoods to bypass traffic on Highway 68.
- **Program:** "Safe Routes to School Participatory Budgeting Steering Committees" in the cities of Greenfield, Gonzales, Soledad, and King City to identify projects that would cost under \$250,000 and could be constructed within a three-year timeline and would serve as a safe route to school.
- **Program:** Monterey-Salinas Transit's "Commute with Enterprise Vanpool Program," to increase transportation options for commuters in Monterey County.

TAMC EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION: Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator, was recognized for 10 years of service to the Transportation Agency.

OUTGOING TAMC BOARD CHAIR: Board Member Chris Lopez was recognized for chairing the TAMC Board of Directors during 2024.

Summaries of each honoree and their achievements are available on the TAMC website:

<https://www.tamcmonterey.org/2024-transportation-excellence-awards>

6. **TORO PARK CUT-THROUGH TRAFFIC PILOT PROJECT STUDY**

The Board of Directors received an update and provided input on the recommendations for the Toro Park Cut-Through Traffic Pilot Project.

Doug Bilse, Principal Engineer, reported that TAMC has led a pilot project to address cut-through traffic using roads in Toro Park to bypass excessive congestion on State Route 68. Kimley-Horn is conducting a study on the pilot project that included partial road closures. The pilot project is scheduled to end in January when it will become the County of Monterey's responsibility to implement and maintain any interim and long-term solutions. The success and challenges of the project include that the pilot project reduced cut-through traffic, CHP monitored compliance and reported that emergency response times were unaffected, the school district reported improved traffic flow but noted challenges for rerouted school buses, and workshops gathered public input, showing strong support for the road closures. Concerns included increased commute times, business access issues, and neighborhood bifurcation. Future plans are to complete the Toro Park Cut-Through Traffic Study, incorporate findings into the Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Study, coordinate with County staff for interim and long-term projects, and apply for grants to fund improvements.

Randy Ishii, Director of Monterey County Public Works, commented that Monterey County will take responsibility going forward and will work with TAMC staff to implement improvements.

Nick Belli, Toro Park resident, thanked Doug for his time and effort.

7. **REPORTS FROM TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS**

Caltrans District 5 – Kelly McClendon announced the following:

- SR 68 Adaptive Signalization Pilot Program Update: District 5 Traffic Ops received approval from HQ for install of Adaptive Traffic Signal Control equipment at all nine signalized intersections on State Route 68 from San Benancio to Olmstead. Since then, the project team has finalized the preliminary design.
- Eucalyptus - Rocks Rd Tree Removal Project is Complete: Removal of trees is complete; a total of 265 trees were removed. Planting and plant establishment will begin and continue until March 2026. All are native plants to be used and are appropriate for the area.
- Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants applications due today, January 22

Monterey Salinas Transit District – Carl Sedoryk announced the following:

- New Routes went into effect on Monday, January 6, 2025: Line 40, Salinas – Rancho Cielo, weekdays only.
- Monterey-Salinas Transit was awarded a \$22.17M grant from FTA’s Capital Investment Grants Program to help fund construction of the SURF! Bus and Bus Rapid Transit project.

Monterey Regional Airport District- David Frisbey announced:

- The Monterey Bay Air Resources District's Electric Vehicle Incentive Program Fiscal Year 2024-2025 application is now open, for a new electric vehicle incentive of \$1500, and double for low-income residents.

Monterey Regional Airport District- Carl Miller announced the following:

- The Monterey Regional Airport is readying the site of its new terminal building as a ceremonial groundbreaking is slated for late spring or early summer, and while a plan for a key component of its interior takes shape. The construction drawings for the new terminal were completed in mid-November 2024 and the drawings and specifications went out to bid.

8. REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY BOARD MEMBERS AT AGENCY EXPENSE

No report this month.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director Todd Muck announced the following:

Salinas Sidewalk Art Celebration

Date: Saturday February 8, 2025, 10am - Noon

Location: Closter Park 401 Towt Street, Salinas CA

Celebrate the installation of sidewalk art by local artists marking safe routes to schools in East Salinas. Project done in partnership with the City of Salinas through a Clean CA grant and Measure X.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

Bruce Delgado requested a memo describing TAMC's transportation responsibilities, not just rail.

Andrew Sandoval requested that the Salinas Boronda Road issues be discussed in the future.

11. CLOSED SESSION

PUBLIC COMMENT on the Closed Session: None

The Board of Directors held a closed session regarding:

CLOSED SESSION #1:

Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 - Positions:
Executive Director & Agency Counsel

CLOSED SESSION #2:

Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding existing litigation:

1. TAMC v. City of Marina (Monterey County Superior Court Case No. 24CV005108)
2. Museum of Handcar Technology, LLC v. TAMC (Federal District Court for the Northern District of California Case No. 5:24CV08598)
3. Museum of Handcar Technology, LLC v. California Transportation Commission, Respondent; TAMC, Real Party in Interest (Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 25WM000004)

The Board of Directors reconvened in open session and Agency Counsel Strong reported no actions were taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Askew adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.