

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee (X-TOC)
Final minutes of August 16, 2022, Meeting
Held via a Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 pandemic

Voting Members	OCT 20	NOV 20	FEB 21	APR 21	AUG 21	OCT 21	FEB 22	APR 22	AUG 22
Kevin Dayton Salinas Valley Taxpayers Association <i>(Rick Giffin)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jesus Valenzuela Transit Users <i>(Andrea Manzo)</i>	E	P	P	E	A	E	E	E	E
Janet Brennan League of Women Voters <i>(Howard Fosler)</i>	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Tom Rowley Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association <i>(Rick Heuer)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Kalah Bumba Senior or disabled services agency <i>(Teresa Sullivan)</i>	P	P	P	A	A	A	P	E	E
Victoria Beach, Chair Bicycling Advocate <i>(Claire Rygg)</i>	A	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P
Rod Smalley Labor Organization <i>(Glen Schaller)</i>	P	P	A	A	P	P	P	P	P
Cliff Fasnacht Central Coast Builders Association <i>(Kristine O'Dell)</i>	A	A	A	A	A	-	E	E	-
John Haupt Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce <i>(John Bailey)</i>	E	A	A	P	A	-	E	E	-
Jonathan Geisler Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce <i>(Monica Lal)</i>	P	A	A	P	A	P	P	P	P
Scott Waltz Habitat Preservation <i>(Rachel Saunders, Big Sur Land Trust)</i>	P	P	P	P	E	P	E	E	P

Ariana Green, Principal Transportation Planner	P	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	P
Aaron Hernandez, Assistant Transportation Planner									P
Doug Bilse, Principal Engineer									P
Janneke Strause, Transportation Planner									-
P = present P(A)= present (alternate) E = excused absence A = unnoticed absence - = alternate absent V = vacant position									
OTHERS PRESENT									
Edrie De Los Santos	City of Marina			Michelle Overmeyer			Monterey-Salinas Transit		

1. WELCOME

Barbara Meister, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. A quorum was established, and Maria Montiel took roll call.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Committee member Robin Lee asked on the status of a graphic table illustrating the leverage of Measure X funds. Theresa Wright replied that Agency staff is working on the document and will bring it back at a future meeting.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Committee member Kevin Dayton pulled an item for clarification on the adjournment by Chair Meister.

M/S/C Dayton/Radar/unanimous

3.1 Approved draft minutes of the February 15, 2022, committee meeting.

M/S/C Brennan/ Getzelman/unanimous

3.2 RECEIVE the Measure X Compliance Summary Chart for fiscal years 2016/17 through 2020/21.

4 MEASURE X SENIOR & DISABLED PROGRAM UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the Measure X Senior & Disabled Transportation Program.

Aaron Hernandez, TAMC Assistant Transportation Planner, reported that the purpose of the Measure X Senior & Disabled Transportation Services Program is to increase transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities to support their ability to live independently in their homes and communities. Mr. Hernandez mentioned that the Transportation Agency is conducting a needs assessment to address questions about services provided to communities by the organizations awarded funding in past cycles. In conclusion Mr. Hernandez noted the Transportation Agency is updating the needs assessment and conducting an evaluation of the second grant cycle to incorporate any changes to the application selection process for the third grant cycle. He reported that the public comment period for the needs assessment and program guidelines closes August 31, 2022.

Committee member Kevin Dayton noted that the sub-committee and Agency staff should be working together with Monterey-Salinas Transit to make sure services are not being duplicated. Mr. Dayton stated that the liaison on the Measure X Senior & Disabled review committee should be the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee member representing Senior and Disabled residents. Mr. Hernandez replied that the needs assessment looks at any duplication of services with Monterey-Salinas Transit.

Executive Director Muck noted that this item goes to the Mobility Advisory Committee for their review, and we work closely with Monterey-Salinas Transit.

Committee member Paula Getzelman expressed that further South County assessment needs are needed in San Ardo, San Lucas and Lockwood. Mr. Hernandez replied that only one grant recipient is currently able to provide assistance in the further South County unincorporated areas. He noted that the big issue is the significant high costs to bring services further South.

Committee member Chris Barrera asked what happens to cycle 2 funding that is not used? Mr. Hernandez replied that the unused funds are rolled over into cycle 3 funds.

Executive Director Muck noted that the TAMC Board approved to carry over funds from cycle 1 to cycle 2 for Kernes Memorial Pool due to the pool's shutdown during the pandemic. He stated that all Cycle 2 grantees have until June 30, 2023, to spend all the funds that they have been granted.

Chair Meister stated that having a grant workshop sounds like a good idea for the grant recipients.

Theresa Sullivan said that she is not able to serve on the grant review committee; and suggested that Kalah Bumba would be a good candidate if she was interested. Ms. Sullivan also addressed Mr. Dayton's concern about duplicative services. She stated that they are coordinating with MST and developed their model so that there were not duplication of services. She noted that there is an overall good partnership with all providers.

5. SURF! BUSWAY AND BRT PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit project in the Monterey Branch Line corridor.

Doug Bilsé, TAMC Principal Engineer, and MST Director of Planning and Innovation Michelle Overmeyer presented on the SURF! Project. The project will construct a busway and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line within the Monterey Branch Line right-of-way, parallel to State Route 1, making it faster and easier to travel between Marina and Seaside. The proposed BRT line will facilitate travel throughout the County, including links from the Salinas Valley and northern Monterey County all the way to downtown Monterey. Michelle Overmeyer presented on the project reviewing the current schedule, project costs, funding opportunities, and upcoming public outreach. It was also reported that the SURF! project received a \$25M grant award from a joint application submitted by MST and TAMC through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).

Committee member Robin Lee asked if securing the funding on this segment gives Monterey-Salinas Transit a better idea on the funding needing to secure for the South County King City segment. Michelle Overmeyer replied that MST has not developed a concept funding plan for the other BRT lines. But funding the SURF! project should increase interest for future federal government funds.

Ms. Lee asked for clarification about the project alignment. Executive Director Muck stated that the project alignment is essentially adjacent to the existing railroad tracks. He noted that a few locations cross from one side of the railroad tracks to the other, and the proposed transit station is east of the 5th Street undercrossing on the former Fort Ord.

Committee member Norm Groot asked if all the rights-of-way have been secured. Michelle Overmeyer noted that all public right-of-way is secured, and no private property takings were required. Mr. Groot asked for a ridership projection. Ms. Overmeyer replied that information is available on the MST website for the SURF! project. Mr. Groot asked if sufficient parking will be available for those who want to use the SURF! from the cities of Monterey or Sand City. Ms. Overmeyer replied that access to the SURF! Lines will be provided from many Monterey Salinas Transit bus routes including the proposed transit station with adequate parking provided at the proposed street station east of the 5th undercrossing and at the existing Marina station.

Committee member Tom Rowley expressed concerns on the length of time to finalize the project. Ms. Overmeyer replied that she appreciates the comments and noted we are estimating two years for construction time and currently working on final design and engineering.

6. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the Safe Routes to School program.

Ariana Green, TAMC Principal Transportation Planner, presented on the Measure X Safe Routes to School program, which funds projects and programs that improve children's health by making walking and bicycling safer and easier. The program will result in projects that provide the following benefits: improved safety for children walking and biking to school; better connections between schools, residential areas and vocational training programs; enhanced air quality; reduced traffic congestion around schools, and healthier transportation choices for school children and parents. She noted that staff continues to update and add content to the Safe Routes to School Program website <https://saferoutesmonterey.org> which includes program information, informational safety videos, resources for parents and schools and more.

Committee member Norm Groot asked what is a traffic garden? Ms. Green replied that a traffic garden are spaces installed on blacktops at schools which are designed to teach kids about traffic safety & provide a safe place to practice their biking and scooting skills off the street. She stated traffic gardens are designed to look like a real street and that the agency is working with CSUMB students on the design.

The committee had the following comments and questions on the Safe Routes to School program update:

- Consider looking at the demand increase and interest
- Consider education about e-bikes and motorized scooters due to the growing interest in these modes
- Do you use volunteers in the program? The program is looking for crossing guards and volunteers for the walking school buses
- Consider future expansion of the program in rural areas south of King City.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

Committee member Janet Brennan thanked TAMC staff for responding to the concerns in Del Rey Oaks regarding the FORTAG trail. The work that staff did was extremely helpful.

Committee member Robin Lee expressed concerns on some major repaving projects that do not support bicycle lanes or pedestrian crossing. She stated that they do not follow the guidelines and they should coordinate the complete streets. Executive Director Todd Muck replied that we talk to County staff and jurisdictions to incorporating complete streets. Staff will agendized this at a future meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Meister adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.