

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee (X-TOC)
Final minutes of February 16, 2021 Meeting
Held via a Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 pandemic

Voting Members	JUL 2019	OCT 2019	FEB 2020	MAY 2020	JUL 2020	OCT 2020	NOV 2020	FEB 2021
Kevin Dayton Salinas Valley Taxpayers Association <i>(Rick Giffin)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jesus Valenzuela Transit Users <i>(Andrea Manzo)</i>	A	A	P	A	P	E	P	P
Janet Brennan League of Women Voters <i>(Howard Fosler)</i>	E	P	P	P	P	P	E	P
Tom Rowley Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association <i>(Rick Heuer)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Kalah Bumba Senior or disabled services agency <i>(Teresa Sullivan)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Victoria Beach Bicycling Advocate <i>(Claire Rygg)</i>	E	P	A	P	P	-	P	P
Rod Smalley Labor Organization <i>(Glen Schaller)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Cliff Fasnacht Central Coast Builders Association <i>(Kristine O'Dell)</i>	A	A	A	A	A	-	-	-
John Haupt Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce <i>(John Bailey)</i>	E	A	A	P	P	E	-	-
Jonathan Geisler Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce <i>(Monica Lal)</i>	E	P	P	P	P	P	-	-
Scott Waltz Habitat Preservation <i>(Rachel Saunders, Big Sur Land Trust)</i>	A	A	P	P	P	P	P	P
Barbara Meister Hospitality <i>(Sam Teel)</i>	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P

Norm Groot Agriculture (Paul Arnaudo)	P -	P -	P -	P -	P -	P P	P P	- P
Joshua Jorn Education (Jarrett Garife, Patrick Deberdt)	A - P	A P	A -	A -	A P	- -	- -	- -
Paula Getzelman, Chair South County (Carol Kenyon)	P -	P P	P -	P -	P -	P P	P P	P P
Chris Barrera Latino Organization (vacant)	E P	A P	P -	P P	P V	P -	P -	P P
Ron Rader North County (Scott Freeman)	P -	P	P -	A -	A -	- -	E -	- -
Daniel Hernandez Pedestrian (Laurie Eavey)	A -	P -	P -	P -	P -	P -	- P	P -
Natalie Olivas Youth/College (vacant)	P -	P V	P V	P V	P V	- P	P P	- -
Sean Hebard Construction (Keith Severson)	E P	P P	P P	P P	P P	P -	P P	P P
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY STAFF								
Debbie Hale Executive Director	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P
Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P
Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner	E	P	E	P	P	P	P	P
Katherine Hansen, Legal Counsel	P	E	P	E	E	E	-	
Rita Goel, Deputy for Admin & Finance	E	E	E	E	E	E	-	-
Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
Laurie Williams, Transportation Engineer	P	E	E	P	E	P	-	-
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ariana Green, Senior Transportation Planner	E	E	E	P	E	-	-	-
Tracy Burke, Go831 Program Coordinator	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	-

(alternate) P = present E = excused absence A = unnoticed absence - = alternate absent V = vacant position								
OTHERS PRESENT								
Erika Graves	Blue Zones			Tanja Ross			Blue Zones	
Kendra Howell	Blue Zones			Dan Burden			Blue Zones	
Danielle Schaeffner	Blue Zones			Tiffany DiTullio			Blue Zones	
David Jacobs	City of Salinas							

1. WELCOME

Barbara Meister, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Chair Meister asked Maria Montiel, TAMC’s Administrative Assistant, to take the roll.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Bumba/Hebard/unanimously

3.1 Approved draft minutes of the November 10, 2020 committee meeting.

4. BLUE ZONES MONTEREY COUNTY HEALTH AND WELL-BEING PROGRAM

The Committee received a presentation on innovative ideas on how to improve the built environment to improve the health and well-being for Monterey County residents.

Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator introduced Kendra Howell and her Blue Zones team: Dan Burden, Tonja Ross, Tiffany DiTullio, Erika Graves and Danielle Schaeffner. Ms. DiTullio noted that Blue Zones project is a community-by-community well-being improvement initiative designed to help people lead longer, better lives by making healthy choices easier. The initiative promotes simple permanent or semi-permanent changes to community, organization and home environments that support healthy, lifestyle behaviors and habits based on Blue Zones cultures. She noted Blue Zones Project Monterey County, launched in October 2018, with a focused launched in Salinas in January 2019 with the intention to be a county wide program. In February 2020, just before the pandemic they had the opportunity to facilitate a site assessment inclusive of all Monterey County. The Blue Zones initiative is sponsored by the Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System, Montage Health and Taylor Farms. Ms. DiTullio noted they are in the discovery process to better understand the needs that are county-wide. They are currently looking at what types of efforts are already taking place and are seeking to find an alignment with their efforts.

Kendra Howell noted that Blue Zones works in three policy areas: food systems, tobacco and built environment. She noted that they are fortunate to have subject matter experts at the national and international level that help identify those areas that our local projects can help support. She introduced Erika Graves, Sharecare’s Policy Lead for all local communities. She also introduced Danielle Schaeftner and Dan Burden, Chief Policy experts.

Dan Burden, Director of Innovations and Inspiration, presented several case studies that demonstrated Blue Zones Project ability to redesign streets, neighborhoods and towns with walkability and bikeability solutions. Mr. Burden, who led field trips to South County cities and the Monterey Peninsula, discussed those field trips which included ideas of reducing pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities, and strategies for improving community health through active transportation. He noted that at the State and Federal levels new monies are being designated to support and shape cities. Additionally, there are Measure X dollars to support equitable active transportation efforts in Monterey County.

Committee member Victoria Beach asked how do we get things done quickly as we have been talking about for many years? Dan Burden replied that social engagement is key-focusing on community values and being more equitable. Mr. Burden noted that the Blue Zones has organizational structures in place that have figured out how to get things moving by identifying how leadership needs to evolve to achieve the dreams and visions that people have. When asked, he responded that TAMC was one of the main organizations to work with in Monterey County on these types of projects.

Committee member Janet Brennan asked how active Blue Zones is in supporting higher density projects. Dan Burden replied they are very active on land use and help inform the community what their choices are and let the voters make the decisions.

5. SALINAS MEASURE X PROJECTS UPDATE

The Committee received a presentation from the City of Salinas on Measure X funded projects in the city.

Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator introduced David Jacobs, Public Works Director for City of Salinas. She noted that in October 2018, the City of Salinas' Public Works Director provided an update on their local Measure X Projects to the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee.

Mr. Jacobs provided an update on the Main Street Improvement Project and other city projects funded by Measure X. He noted that the City of Salinas has leveraged the majority of its Measure X distributions. He noted that traffic calming is a major concern for residents. Utilizing Measure X funding, over the past three years traffic calming improvements have been installed throughout the city to slow traffic down in neighborhoods.

Main Street Project:

He noted that the Main Street Streetscape Project is 70% complete and they are currently working on the 300 block, removing and pouring new sidewalks. They are taking a one-way street and making it a two-way street, widening sidewalks and installing pedestrian friendly traffic signals. Mr. Jacobs said that the current condition of the roadway is poor with a pavement index score of only 43 out of 100. The city is repaving and bringing the road back to excellent condition. He noted that the project is increasing mobility and access by narrowing the lanes of the road and giving preference to pedestrians.

West Alisal/Lincoln Avenue Downtown Complete Streets Project:

The West Alisal/Lincoln Avenue Downtown Complete Streets Project is 90% complete. They have turned the four-lanes into a three-lane road, with one lane in each direction and with a turning lane down the middle. They replaced the traffic signals and are working on interlinking signals and timing.

Street Maintenance Equipment Replacement:

The City has brought a new paving machine, grinding machine, and a crack filling machine to replace older equipment. The new equipment will help maintenance staff do more pavement maintenance and sidewalk repairs throughout the city.

Alvin Safe Routes to School Project:

The Alvin Safe Routes to School project is about 50% complete. It includes installing two traffic signals and turning the four lanes to one lane in each direction with a turning lane in the middle. He also noted that a traffic signal on Alvin and Linwood is part of the Safe Routes to School project.

Laurel Street Sidewalk Project:

The Laurel Street sidewalk project will construction a sidewalk from Sanborn to Constitution to improve access to the soccer fields and Natividad Hospital. The project also includes lighting and trail improvements in Carr Lake. The construction is scheduled to start in March 2021.

In conclusion Mr. Jacobs mentioned additional upcoming projects: The Barden Road Safe Routes to School Project will include two roundabouts. The Boronda Road congestion relief project will be a roundabout corridor that will have roundabouts at most intersections to help control flow and speed of traffic. He also noted that ongoing street tree trimming, an arterial chip seal project, and the San Juan Grade pavement rehabilitation project.

Committee Paula Getzelman asked if the projects are stand alone, single phase or multi-phase projects. Mr. Jacobs replied that most projects are stand alone with the exception of Barden Road that is a multi-phase project.

Committee member Daniel Hernandez asked if the businesses on Work Street would be informed? David Jacobs replied that all projects have a public outreach component which strives to get public input and disseminates information to the community. He noted that some projects are delayed due to public outreach.

Committee member Chris Barrera asked how much Measure X funding was used for the Oldtown project? David Jacobs replied that \$10.5 million for the project which includes construction, project oversight, testing and evaluation. The project is expected to be completed in April 2021. Mr. Jacobs also noted that the trees will be replaced, and the light poles were refurbished and put back up. In response to Mr. Barrera inquiry, Mr. Jacobs stated that the city receives around \$5-6 million in Measure X funds each year and that \$2-3 million of that money goes to repayment of the bond, the remaining amount is used for projects annually.

Committee member Tom Rowley asked if the city has considered a Neighborhood Community Improvement program similar to the City of Monterey. David Jacobs said he was not aware of it, but

he would forward that information to City of Salinas staff and would have the council consider if interested.

6. MEASURE X FY 2019/20 ANNUAL AUDIT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the results of the Measure X annual audit and compliance reporting for 2019/20.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner reported that the purpose of the Measure X annual audit is to confirm that the funding recipients TAMC, the County of Monterey and the twelve incorporated cities have complied with the voter-approved requirements specified in Ordinance 2016-01 for the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan. He noted that one of the responsibilities of the Measure X Transportation Oversight Committee is to review the independent audits of the jurisdictions and prepare and present an annual report regarding the administration of the program. Mr. Zeller noted that the third year of Measure X reporting, for fiscal year 2019/20, was due on December 31, 2020. He noted that all of the jurisdictions submitted their complete reports by the deadline. His presentation included images of completed projects. Mr. Zeller's summary pointed out that Sand City has not reached their maintenance of effort requirement. Staff has met with the city to discuss this issue and notified them that until this is resolved, their Measure X disbursement would be suspended. In conclusion Mr. Zeller said the Transportation Agency's independent auditor has confirmed the results as well.

Committee member Tom Rowley noted that in fiscal year 2018/19 Measure X revenue exceeded the projected \$20 million annually by \$10 million. He asked if these additional funds be set aside for regional projects that are under-funded and critical such as the 156 project. Mike Zeller replied that the agency is continuing its conservative approach and the additional revenue is kept in a reserved for future needs. He added that if there is substantial funding in the future, this issue could be brought to the TAMC Board. Deputy Executive Director Todd Muck added that 60% of the \$10 million in additional funds went to the Cities and County for street and road maintenance, which only leaves \$4 million for regional projects. He pointed out that several regional projects such as the Castroville Boulevard and Imjin Road are gearing up now; and the Highway 68 project will require \$50 million in Measure X funds. He stated that the agency will continue to build the reserve for those funding commitments. Executive Director Debbie Hale noted that TAMC is planning to deliver projects sooner if funding is available.

Committee member Kevin Dayton noted that we had 100% compliance this year from the local governments on the Measure X Reports. He said that the Committee is committed for making them publicly accountable; and the committee should be pleased for being effective.

Committee member Paula Getzelman announced that the Measure X Citizens Oversight Sub-Committee is meeting next Tuesday February 22, 2021 to review the Measure X annual audit reports. The following members are in the sub-committee: Barbara Meister, Paula Getzelman, Kevin Dayton, Rick Heuer and Tom Rowley.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator, announced that today is Daniel Hernandez last meeting. She thanked him and wished him the best of luck. Ms. Wright also welcomed Monica Lal, Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce to her first meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Meister adjourned the meeting at 3:33 p.m.