

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY**

[www.tamcmonterey.org](http://www.tamcmonterey.org)

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**October 28, 2020**



**Prunedale Improvement Project Right of Way Rescission**

The Transportation Agency and Caltrans seek to rescind the old Prunedale Bypass route segment of the US 101 corridor, sell the excess property originally purchased for the bypass in the 1970's, and insure that the estimated \$10 million of proceeds from the sell are applied to a project (or projects) identified in the Monterey County Local Alternative Transportation Improvement Program.

The TAMC Board adopted the US 101 South of Salinas Corridor Improvement Project and Route 156 West Corridor Project as transportation projects included in the alternative program.

A 60-day public review period is required as part of the rescission process prior to a submittal to the California Transportation Commission. Caltrans is scheduled to submit the rescission request to the Transportation Commission in January 2021.

[Prunedale Area Rescission Map](#)



**SURF! Busway and Rapid Transit Project Presentation & Update**

In what was describe as a “game changer” that will encourage more people to get out of their vehicles to bypass congestion on Highway 1, the TAMC Board of Directors received a presentation and update on the development of the SURF! Busway and Rapid Transit Project.

The goals of the SURF! Busway and Rapid Transit project, partially funded by

Measure X, include:

- Improving air quality through reduced greenhouse gas emissions



- Increasing transit ridership
- Reducing traffic on Highway 1
- Enhancing mobility through improved bicycle path connections
- Improving travel time reliability for transit users
- Improving transit connections

Additionally, one of the major goals has been to design the busway in a cost-effective manner that also minimizes the impact on the tracks, to preserve the option for future rail use. The project is not intended to replace rail but provide an opportunity to build ridership demand required to support rail service. [SURF Busway - Overall Project Map](#)

The project timeline anticipates completing the final engineering and design by Summer 2022/Fall 2023, construction beginning in Spring 2024 and operation at the beginning of Spring 2027.



### **TAMC Seeks Transportation Excellence Awards Nominations**

The Transportation Agency is accepting nominations for its annual “Transportation Excellence Awards.” The award honors Monterey County residents, businesses, employees, individuals, groups, or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation system in Monterey County.

Examples of potential awards include but are not limited to:

- Transportation employees who excel at their jobs and go the extra mile to improve our transportation system.
- Innovative activities that promote more efficient use of the local transportation network.
- Citizens or organizations that have made significant efforts to inform and educate the public about transportation issues.
- Successful efforts to improve transit services and encourage the use of smart commute options as alternatives to driving alone through the Go831 Smart Commute Program.

The one-page nomination form is due by noon, December 4, 2020. The form is available here [Transportation Excellence Award Nomination Form](#) or on the TAMC website at: <https://www.tamcmonterey.org/transportation-excellence-awards>

The award honorees will be honored during the regular January Transportation Agency Board meeting. That meeting will be at 9 a.m., Wednesday, January 27, 2021.



**MST Offers Free Fares on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

MST is offering free fares, systemwide on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, so that the lack of transportation does not prevent anyone from being able to exercise their right to vote. For more information, visit [mst.org](http://mst.org) or call 1-888-MST-BUS1 (1-888-678-2871) toll free.