

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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HIGHLIGHTS

April 24, 2019



Salinas Rail Project

The project to extend rail service to Monterey County is moving along with the Transportation Agency's Board of Directors approving the Salinas Rail Project Package 1 construction contract presented at the board meeting this morning. The Board approved the authorization for the Agency to execute a contract with Monterey Peninsula Engineering for the construction of the Package 1 Improvements at the Salinas Train Station. These improvements include enhanced pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access, and parking improvements, as well as the abandonment of Station Place and the extension of Lincoln Avenue from Market Street to Railroad Avenue. It's anticipated that the completion of package 1 will be in the fall of 2020. The overall Monterey County Rail Extension Kick Start project proposes to extend passenger rail service from Santa Clara south to Salinas, New service could start as early as 2022.

DRAFT 2019 Five-Year Integrated Funding Plan



To ensure there is efficient coordination among various fund sources, TAMC staff presented the draft 2019 Integrated Funding Plan to the Agency's Board of Directors which identified projects that are strong candidates for specific Senate Bill 1 grants, State Transportation Improvement Program funds, Measure X, and other matching funds that can be brought to construction over the next five years. This plan reflects the strategic goal identified by the Board of Directors to deliver regional Measure X projects, while strategically utilizing debt financing to expedite delivery, and leverage as much matching funds as possible. Here are the regional projects prioritized in the Integrated Funding Plan:

Salinas Rail Extension:

The construction of this project is funded with State Transportation Improvement Program funds and Proposition 116 funds. Construction begins this fall.

Multimodal Corridor: Imjin Parkway Improvements:

This project received \$19 million in Senate Bill 1 grant funds and is currently full-funded with additional funding coming from Measure X, developer fees, and the State Transportation Improvement Program. Construction for this project is scheduled to begin early in 2020.

Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway (FORTAG):

With the award of \$10 million Statewide Active Transportation Program grant, the first section of the FORTAG project is fully-funded. Additional funding on the project includes Measure X and SB 1 Local Partnership Program formula funds. The project is currently in the environmental phase and construction is scheduled to begin in 2022.

Highway 1 Rapid Bus Corridor:

Monterey-Salinas Transit is initiating the preliminary engineering and environmental phase to develop a dedicated busway utilizing the Monterey Branch Line right-of-way between Marina and Sand City. Construction of the project's first segment is targeted to begin in 2022.

Highway 156/Castroville Boulevard Interchange:

The Transportation Agency will be seeking Senate Bill 1 grant funds to match Measure X and State Transportation Improvement funds to build this new interchange. If successful, construction could begin in 2023.

Scenic Route 68 Corridor Improvements:

Currently in the environmental phase, this project is funded with a mix of State Transportation Improvement Program funds and Measure X. Future phases of the project are proposed to be funded with Senate Bill 1 grant funds, Measure X, and State Highway Operations and Protection Program Funds. If successful in securing grant funding, this high priority regional project could begin construction on its first segment by 2024.

US 101 South of Salinas:

The Transportation Agency is working with Caltrans to look at safety and congestion improvements such as removing left turns, constructing a new interchange, and adding frontage roads along this congested agricultural route. Once complete, the Agency will pursue the results of the study to begin the environmental phase in 2020 with \$5 million in State Transportation Improvement Funds, which the Agency will seek to match with \$5 million in Inter-regional Transportation Improvement Program funds. Future phases of the project are proposed to be funded with Measure X, Senate Bill 1 grants, and State Highway Operations and Protections Program funds, with construction of initial improvements as early as 2024.

Caltrans Honors Fallen Workers

Once a year, from Sacramento, to San Luis Obispo and Southern California, Caltrans pauses for the Caltrans Workers Memorial to honor employees who have died in the line of duty. Caltrans District 5, which serves Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties will host a Fallen Worker Memorial at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 2 at their office, 40 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo. A statewide memorial service will be held in Sacramento on Thursday, May 25th. Caltrans welcomes their partner agencies attendance & participation and invites the public to join them at the memorial.

The memorials will honor the 189 Caltrans employees who have died in the line of duty since 1921, of which 8 employees are from District 5. Caltrans would also like to encourage drivers to exercise caution when driving through areas where highway workers are present. In 2017, 46 people were killed and more than 3,000 injured from crashes that happened in construction zones, according to data from the California Highway patrol.