



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

HIGHLIGHTS

August 26, 2026

TAMC Board Receives Update on the Scenic Route 68 Corridor Improvement Project

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) Board of Directors received an update on the Scenic State Route 68 Corridor Improvement Project, including performance of the Adaptive Traffic Signal Control (ATSC) pilot project and a report on traffic operations and a benefit-cost analysis for the Phase I project, proposed roundabouts on SR 68 at San Benancio Road, Corral de Tierra Road, and Laureles Grade. The goal of the Scenic State Route 68 Corridor Improvement Project is to improve safety and traffic flow between Monterey and Salinas while preserving the corridor's environmentally sensitive setting.

Caltrans completed an evaluation of the Phase I roundabout project using updated traffic data and conditions reflecting the implementation of adaptive signal operations as the baseline. The analysis confirms that the Phase I roundabout project is expected to improve safety and traffic operations along the corridor. Based on this evaluation, the Phase 1 improvements are projected to reduce the potential for serious injury and fatal collisions by simplifying intersection movements and lowering travel speeds.

Following the nearly two-hour presentation and discussion period, the TAMC Board of Directors authorized staff to work with Caltrans to submit a Senate Bill 1 grant application to the California Transportation Commission for the construction of the Scenic State Route 68 Corridor Improvement Project Phase 1. Combined, the design, right-of-way, and construction phases of the Phase I Scenic Route 68 Project are projected at \$102 million. With the leveraging of \$22 million in Measure X funds, applying for the SB 1 grant would provide \$64 million in SB 1 funds for the project, with the remaining \$16 million provided through other funding sources.

TAMC Awards \$15.4 Million for 2028 Competitive Grants Program of Projects

The TAMC Board of Directors awarded \$15.4 million of Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Transportation Development Act (TDA) 2% funds to the 2026 Competitive Grants Program of Projects. The funding includes \$2.4 million for Quick-Build and Pilot Projects and \$13 million for Competitive Projects.

In establishing the RSTP Competitive Grants program, the Transportation Agency seeks to fund projects that advance the goals of the Transportation Agency. Agency goals include delivering projects of regional significance that improve safety, provide maintenance for existing facilities, or support the development of a multimodal transportation network utilizing the principles of Complete Streets. The Agency considers fair geographic balance and cost-effectiveness of the proposed projects when awarding grant funds.

The following six applications were awarded funding through the Competitive Grant Program for a total of \$13 million in Regional Surface Transportation Program grant funding:

- City of Monterey - The North Fremont Gap Closure Project - \$2,862,000
- City of Gonzales - Gonzales Citywide Multimodal Improvement Project - \$3,219,773
- City of Seaside - Coe Avenue and General Jim Moore Boulevard and Seaside Middle School Intersection Improvements - \$2,231,000
- County of Monterey - Prunedale Roundabout Project - \$2,868,546
- City of Pacific Grove - Walkway, Sunset Drive - \$200,000
- Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) - MST High-Capacity Bus Replacement Project - \$1,634,103

The following four applications were awarded funding through the quick-build program for a total amount of \$2.4 million:

- City of Gonzales - Gonzales Quick-Build Project - \$187,000
- County of Monterey - San Juan Road Improvement Project - \$870,000
- City of Soledad - Citywide Ped and Signal Upgrade Project - \$965,000
- County of Monterey - Moss Landing Road Pedestrian Path - \$386,532