

**FINAL MINUTES**

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY**  
 SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES AND MONTEREY COUNTY  
 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE JOINT POWERS AGENCY

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

*Members: Mary Adams (Chair), Michael LeBarre (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair),  
 Chris Lopez (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair), Ed Smith (Past Chair),  
 Wendy Root Askew (County representative), Kimbley Craig (City representative)*

**Wednesday, March 2, 2022**

\*\*\* 8:30 a.m. \*\*\*

REMOTE VIDEO/PHONE CONFERENCE ONLY

<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>APR 21</b>	<b>MAY 21</b>	<b>JUN 21</b>	<b>AUG 21</b>	<b>SEP 21</b>	<b>OCT 21</b>	<b>NOV 21</b>	<b>JAN 22</b>	<b>FEB 22</b>	<b>MAR 22</b>
Mary Adams, <b>Chair</b> Supr. Dist. 5 (S. Hardgrave, C. Courtney)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Michael LeBarre, <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair</b> King City (C. DeLeon)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Chris Lopez, <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair</b> Supr. Dist. 2 (P. Barba)	P (VC)	P (VC)	E	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Ed Smith, <b>Past Chair</b> Monterey (D. Albert, A. Renny)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	E	P (VC)
Wendy Root Askew, <b>County Representative</b> Supr. Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	E	P (VC)	:P (VC)
Kimbley Craig, <b>City Representative</b> (C. Cromeenes)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)

*TC: via teleconference; VC: via video conference*

P = Present

A = Absent

P(A) = alternate present

E = Excused

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed. Committee member Askew left at 9:36 a.m., Committee member Lopez left at

Staff present: Goel, Guther, Muck, Rodriguez, Strause, Watson, Williamson, and Zeller.

Others present: Agency Counsel Katherine Hansen; Colleen Courtney, District 5 alternate; Yuri Anderson, District 4 alternate; Priscilla Barba, District 3 alternate; Cristina Medina Dirksen and Brian McCarthy, City of Marina; Paul Schlesinger and Jim Davenport, Thorn Run Partners; Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting; Robert Jason Pinoli, David Rohal and Chris Hart, Sierra Railroad; Todd and Mason Clark, Museum of Handcar Technology; Tuka Gafari, Tina Nieta, Brian Jacobson, and Harry Nagel, public.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No public comment.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**M/S/C**

Askew/Lopez/unanimous

On a motion by Committee Member Askew, seconded by Committee Member Lopez, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of February 2, 2022, with a correction noted by Committee Member Askew to update her district to 4 and her alternate name to Yuri Anderson.

**4. MONTEREY BRANCH LINE RECREATIONAL USE UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL**

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported the Museum of Handcar Technology submitted a new request for recreational handcar operations on the Monterey Branch Line corridor in 2022. The Mendocino Railway company submitted a similar unsolicited proposal for use of the same section of the Monterey Branch Line corridor for recreational use of railbike operations. Neither entity offers a service that meets TAMC's mission, thus, per the adopted unsolicited proposals policy, the Executive Committee can refuse both requests at any time during the process. The Executive Committee can also direct staff to initiate a Request for Proposals (RFP) process for recreational uses of the corridor. Staff seeks Committee input and direction.

Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner, reported that if the Executive Committee directs staff to proceed with activities related to publishing a request for proposals for a recreational use of the corridor, staff estimates that planner and legal costs are likely to exceed \$15,000. CEQA documentation is expected to be more extensive for long-term use of the corridor. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) indicated that long-term use would require TAMC to apply for a CPUC permit to make any changes to the rail line. Proceeding with any recreational proposal would involve an additional set of costs, including potential liability and insurance costs, although every effort would be made to transfer such costs to the operator.

On a motion by Committee Member Askew and seconded by Committee Alternate Cromeenes, the Committee directed staff to evaluate a potential lease of the corridor to the City of Marina and, if such a lease is not possible, to recommend the Board approve a Request for Proposals for a limited-time recreational use of the corridor that protects the SURF! bus project and seeks to be cost-neutral to TAMC.

After discussion from the Executive Committee and the public, the Committee agreed that staff first investigate leasing the TAMC property to the City of Marina to publish a Request for Proposals for a recreational use. Cristina Medina Dirksen, City of Marina Council Member, expressed her support along with Committee Member Askew for continued recreational use of the tracks, if the future SURF! busway project is protected.

#### **5. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

The Committee received an update on state and legislative activities and took the following action:

On a motion by Committee Member LeBarre, seconded by Committee Alternate Cromeenes, the committee voted 6-0 to recommend the Board of Directors adopt positions on state legislation.

Agency legislative analyst Paul Schlesinger presented an update on federal legislative activities. Agency legislative analyst Gus Khouri presented an update on state legislative activities and recommended positions on certain bills. He reviewed the revised proposed bill list and noted the recommended positions to support, oppose or watch.

#### **6. RETURN TO IN PERSON MEETINGS**

The Executive Committee discussed how to conduct future TAMC Board of Directors and committee meetings.

Executive Director Todd Muck reported that the COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom allows the Transportation Agency Board of Directors and Committees to meet remotely under AB361, noting the state of emergency declaration could be lifted soon and staff needs to be prepared to return to in-person or hybrid meetings.

The Committee agreed that the option for virtual or hybrid meetings would be the best way to go, so long as it is permitted under state law. Staff will look at location options and hybrid capabilities.

**7. TAMC BOARD DRAFT AGENDA**

Executive Director Todd Muck reviewed the draft regular and consent agenda for the TAMC Board meeting of March 23, 2022.

After Executive Committee discussion, direction was provided to staff to place the following items for consideration on the regular agenda:

- Legislative Update
- Lease Monterey Branch Line corridor to Marina or Request for Proposals for a recreational use

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None this month.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 10:29 a.m.