



Regional Transportation Planning Agency - Local Transportation Commission
Monterey County Service Authority for Freeways & Expressways
Monterey County Regional Development Impact Fee Joint Powers Agency
Email: info@tamcmonterey.org

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 6, 2023

****3:00 PM****

REMOTE CONFERENCING ONLY

There will be NO physical location of the meeting.

Please see all the special meeting instructions at the end of this agenda

Join meeting online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/654778900?pwd=L2daellZTW5NSDZMQ2RSY1hJVlpGZz09>

OR

By teleconference at: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 654 778 900

Password: 506977

Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call the Agency Secretary to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda.

1. Quorum Check, Call to Order and Introductions

If you are unable to attend, please make sure that one of your alternates attends the meeting. Your courtesy to the other members to assure a quorum is appreciated.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON TRANSPORTATION MATTERS NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA.

Any member of the public may address the Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Under this item, each member of the public is allowed three minutes to address concerns. Comments in items on this agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed. Persons who wish to address the Committee for public comment or on an item on the agenda are

encouraged to submit comments in writing to Maria at maria@tamcmonterey.org by 5:00 pm the Thursday before the meeting, and such comments will be distributed to the Committee before the meeting.

Alternative Agenda Format and Auxiliary Aids: If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may contact Transportation Agency staff at 831-775-0903. Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish language interpreters, and printed materials in large print, Braille or on disk. These requests may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting and should be made at least 72 hours before the meeting. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the request.

3. BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the staff recommendations for items listed below by majority vote with one motion. Any member may pull an item off the Consent Agenda to be moved to the end of the CONSENT AGENDA for discussion and action.

3.1. APPROVE minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of January 9, 2023.

- Montiel

The draft minutes of the January 9, 2023 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. RECEIVE update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles and **DISCUSS** the logistics of a tour of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit system in March.

- Watson/Guther

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council working group met on Friday, January 20 to discuss grant applications and other issues of interest to the Council. The SMART tour is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 30.

5. **RECEIVE** update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project.

- Watson/Zeller

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in November include operations scenario discussions and design coordination efforts with key stakeholders on Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy track connections).

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** and/or **COMMENTS** from Rail Policy Committee members on matters that they wish to put on future Committee agendas.
7. **ADJOURN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Rail Policy Committee meeting:
Monday, March 6, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas CA 93901

A quorum of voting members is required to be present in the same room to hold this meeting.

There will be a zoom link for hybrid participation.

Voting members: please note that the circumstances in which you may remotely teleconference have been severely curtailed and require prior notice and only certain justifications. Click [here](#) for more detail.

If you have any items for the next agenda, please submit them to:

Christina Watson, Rail Program Coordinator

Christina@tamcmonterey.org

Important Meeting Information

Remote Meetings: On March 12, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20, which enhanced State and Local Governments ability to respond to COVID-19 Pandemic based on Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health. The Executive Order specifically allowed local legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically, in order to protect public health. That order expired on September 30, 2021. Governor Newsom has now signed AB 361, and the TAMC Board of Directors approved a resolution to enact AB 361 on September 22, 2021. This legislation permits teleconferencing for Brown Act meetings during a state of emergency. Thus, TAMC meetings will convene remotely, until further

notice. For remote meetings, the public is strongly encouraged to use the Zoom app for best reception. Prior to the meeting, participants should download the Zoom app at: <https://zoom.us/download>. A link to simplified instruction for the use of the Zoom app is: <https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2018/07/03/video-communications-best-practice-guide/>.

Remote Meeting Public Comment: Due to current circumstances, there may be limited opportunity to provide verbal comments during remote meetings. Persons who wish to address the Committee for public comment or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to maria@tamcmonterey.org by 5:00pm the Monday before the meeting. Such comments will be distributed to the Committee before the meeting. Members of the public participating by Zoom are instructed to be on mute during the proceedings and to speak only when public comment is allowed, after requesting and receiving recognition from the Chair.

Agenda Packet and Documents: Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call or email the Agency office to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Complete agenda packets are on display online at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County website. Documents relating to an item on the open session that are distributed to the Committee less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public review at the Agency website. Agency contact information is as follows:

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
www.tamcmonterey.org
55B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
TEL: 831-775-0903
EMAIL: info@tamcmonterey.org

Agenda Items: The agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon nine (9) working days before the regular meeting. Any member of the Committee may request in writing an item to appear on the agenda. The request shall be made by the agenda deadline and any supporting papers must be furnished by that time or be readily available.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, MEDIA CLIPPINGS

- C 1.** No correspondence this agenda.
- C 2.** No reports this agenda.
- C 3.** **RECEIVE** media clippings attached online.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Date: February 6, 2023
Subject: **Draft RPC Minutes**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of January 9, 2023.

SUMMARY:

The draft minutes of the January 9, 2023 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

- ▣ Draft January RPC Minutes

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Draft Minutes of January 9, 2023

Transportation Agency for Monterey County

ZOOM REMOTE VIDEO/PHONE CONFERENCE ONLY

	FEB 22	MAR 22	APR 22	MAY 22	JUN 22	JUL 22	AUG 22	SEP 22	OCT 22	NOV 22	DEC 22	JAN 23
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez, J. Gomez)	E	P(A)	C	P(A)	A	N	P(A)	A	C	P(A)	N	P(A)
G. Church, Dist. 2 (vacant)	P(A)	P(A)	A	P(A)	P(A)	O	P(A)	P(A)	A	A	O	A
W. Askew, Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson)	P(A)	P(A)	N	P	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)		P(A)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (S. Hardgrave , C. Courtney)	P(A)	E	C	P(A)	P(A)	M	P(A)	P(A)	C	P(A)	M	E
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	E	A
C. Medina Dirksen, Marina (B. Delgado)	A	P	L	A	A	E	P	P	L	P	E	P
E. Smith, Monterey (K. Barber, M. Garcia, A. Renny)	P	P	L	P	A	T	P	P	L	A	T	P
K. Craig, Salinas, (vacant)	A	P	E	P	P	I	P	P	E	P	I	P
G. Hawthorne, Sand City (J. Blackwelder , K. Cruz)	P(A)	P(A)	D	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)	D	P(A)	N	A
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)	P	A		P	P	G	P	P		P	G	P
A. Chavez, Soledad (A. Velasquez)	P	A		A	P		P	A		A		P
D. Potter, At Large Member, Vice Chair	P	P		P	P		P	P		P		P
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson , P. Hierling)	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)		A
J. Xiao, Caltrans District 5	A	A		P	P		P	P		P		P
C. Sedoryk, MST (L. Rheinheimer/ M. Overmeyer)	P(A)	P(A)		A	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)		E
STAFF												
T. Muck, Executive Director	P	P		P	P		P	P		P		P
C. Watson, Director of Planning	P	P		P	P		P	P		P		P
M. Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery	P	P		P	P		P	P		P		E
M. Montiel Admin Assistant	P	P		P	P		P	P		P		P

L. Williamson, Senior Engineer	P	P		P	P		P	P		P		P
D. Bilse, Principal Engineer	P	P		P	A		P	P		P		A
A. Guther, Assis. Transp. Planner	P	P		P	E		P	P		P		P
T. Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator	A	A		A	A		P	A		P		A
J. Strause, Transportation Planner	-	-		-	-		P	A		A		A

P = Present

A = Absent

P(A) = alternate present

E = Excused

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Potter called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. A quorum was established.

OTHERS PRESENT

Brianna Goodman	SCCRTC	Tarah Brady	Caltrans
Jasmine Mejia Corez	Public	Shannon Simonds	Caltrans
Paul Guirguis	Caltrans	Geneva Hurley	Public
Alex Lopez	Caltrans		

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Craig / Anderson /unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the November 7, 2022, Rail Policy Committee meeting.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. COAST CORRIDOR RAIL PROJECT UPDATE

M/S/C Oglesby/Chavez /unanimous

The Committee received an update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles; and recommended the Board of Directors appoint Mayor Potter and Mayor LeBarre to the Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee.

Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner, reported that staff is coordinating with Santa Cruz staff on a date for another trip to visit the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) system in spring 2023 and will provide more information at the February meeting. Ms. Guther noted that staff is working on a grant application for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program for the Pajaro Station due in February.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that in January 2022, the TAMC Board approved the Rail Policy Committee recommended appointment of Dave Potter as the TAMC representative and Mike LeBarre as the TAMC alternate for a one-year term, and the CRCC Policy Committee selected Mr. Potter as the Chair. She noted that the Rail Policy Committee is now asked to recommend appointments to the CRCC Policy Committee for the period ending January 2024. Ms. Watson reported that the appointment involves attending up to four meetings of the Committee and potentially representing the group at a legislative day in Sacramento with the Intercity Passenger Rail group and the California Passenger Rail Summit, should they occur in 2023.

5. SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start Project.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved the land transfer of Package 1 parcels to Salinas. She noted that TAMC staff have been coordinating with the City of Salinas to finalize the transfer agreement and quitclaim deeds.

Ms. Watson reported that negotiations for the acquisition of properties needed for the Salinas layover facility (Package 2) and Gilroy track improvements (Package 3) are ongoing. She noted that the Tarp parcel received approval from the Regional Water Board regarding

arsenic contamination. She mentioned that it is now pending the final approval needed from the State Water Board.

Ms. Watson reported that staff is working with the City of Gilroy, Caltrans, Caltrain, and High-Speed Rail regarding overlapping plans at the Gilroy station. She noted that the design team and construction management team have been coordinating on reviewing cost estimates for the construction of packages 2 and package 3.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, announced the next Committee meeting is on February 6, 2023, at 3 pm via Zoom and noted the March meeting will be held in person in the TAMC office, with the possibility for remote participation by ex-officos and members of the public.

7. ADJOURN

Vice-Chair Potter adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: February 6, 2023
Subject: **Coast Corridor Rail Project Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles and **DISCUSS** the logistics of a tour of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit system in March.

SUMMARY:

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council working group met on Friday, January 20 to discuss grant applications and other issues of interest to the Council. The SMART tour is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 30.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Coast Rail project capital and operation costs are under evaluation.

DISCUSSION:

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) is a multi-agency advisory and planning organization focused on improving the rail corridor between Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area along the California Central Coast. Members of the Council include all regional transportation planning agencies along the Central Coast – all of which have a strong interest in improving rail service and the rail infrastructure along the Central Coast’s portion of the California Coast Passenger Rail Corridor.

The CRCC working group met via videoconference on January 20, 2023 and discussed legislative issues and grant applications. The next Policy Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 24, 2023 via videoconference. **Attached** is the updated meeting schedule.

Meanwhile, TAMC staff is coordinating a trip for the Rail Policy Committee, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC), and Caltrans District 5 staff to tour the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) system in late March. The SMART map and train schedule are online as **web attachments**.

Tentatively, the plan is to head up to San Rafael the morning of Thursday, March 30, ride the train and tour the Rail Operations Center on Thursday afternoon, stay overnight in San Rafael, and return on Friday, March 31. Note that Friday is a state holiday, Cesar Chavez day.

Both TAMC and SCCRTC are submitting Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program applications related to the Pajaro train station and the Santa Cruz branch line, respectively. Applications are due February 10 and awards will be announced in April.

Staff will provide an update at the meeting on all activities.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Updated CRCC 2023 meeting calendar

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [SMART train map](#)
- [SMART train schedule](#)



2023 Meeting Schedule

Updated 1/27/23 *(subject to change)*

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, January 20, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

POLICY MEETING

Friday, February 24, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-10:00

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, March 17, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, April 21, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

POLICY MEETING

**Friday, May 19, 2023 SLOCOG Office
1114 Marsh St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 11:00-12:30***

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, June 16, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, July 21, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

POLICY MEETING

Friday, August 18, 2023 LOCATION TBD 10:30-12:00*

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, September 15, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

POLICY MEETING

Friday, October 20, 2023 LOCATION TBD 10:30-12:00*

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, November 17, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

WORKING GROUP MEETING

Friday, December 15, 2023 Teleconference 8:30-9:30

* Starting in March 2023, we will hold CRCC Policy Meetings in person to be compliant with changes to the Brown Act. Timing will vary depending on location and Policy Committee member availability.

Additional meeting(s) may be added subject to need.

1. Most meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Friday of the month. If significant conflicts occur, it is rescheduled.
2. Policy meetings occur 4-5 times per year; Working Group meetings are monthly teleconference meetings.
3. Meetings will be canceled in advance as necessary

Contact: Sarah Woolsey, (805) 781-1385, swoolsey@slocog.org



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: February 6, 2023
Subject: **Salinas Rail Kick Start Project Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project.

SUMMARY:

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in November include operations scenario discussions and design coordination efforts with key stakeholders on Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy track connections).

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The capital cost of the Monterey County Rail Extension project, Phase 1, Salinas Kick Start project (the Salinas station and improvements in Santa Clara County), is estimated at \$81 million. The Kick Start project is proceeding with secured state funding under the adopted state environmental clearance.

DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Rail Extension Project will extend passenger rail service from Santa Clara County south to Salinas. TAMC is pursuing a phased implementation of the Project. Phase 1, known as the Kick Start Project, includes Salinas train station circulation improvements, a train layover facility in Salinas, and track improvements at the Gilroy station and between Salinas and Gilroy. The Kick Start Project has wrapped up construction of Package 1, improvements at the Salinas train station. The layover facility (Package 2) and track improvements (Package 3) are now in final design.

Property Acquisition for Package 2: Salinas Layover Facility

On December 4, 2019, the Transportation Agency Board approved Resolutions of Necessity on portions of four parcels and one full parcel needed for the Salinas layover facility. TAMC staff continues to oversee the right-of-way special counsel from Burke, Williams, & Sorensen to further negotiations and finalize the remaining acquisitions in Salinas, and the team of Bender Rosenthal and Nossaman for Union Pacific property access negotiations.

Final Design for Package 2 and Package 3: Gilroy Station & Track Improvements

HDR Engineering prepared the 100% plans, specifications and estimates for stakeholder review on September 1, 2022, and has gathered stakeholder input on those plans. The final design team held the following meetings to further the project's design:

- Amtrak related to Salinas platform coordination - January 18
- High-Speed Rail, Gilroy, Caltrain, Caltrans, and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) related to Gilroy station and track coordination - January 10, 12 and 18



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: February 6, 2023
Subject: **Media Clippings**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE media clippings attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [January 17, 2023 article in the Monterey Herald, "Caltrain layover facility to be built in Salinas steps from Intermodal Transportation Center"](#)
- [January 18, 2023 article in the Monterey County Weekly, "Good Week/ Great Week" item celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Salinas Freight Depot](#)