

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 are: Jerry Edelen (Chair),
Jane Parker (1st Vice Chair), Kimbley Craig (2nd Vice Chair),
Simon Salinas (Past Chair),
Fernando Armenta (County representative), Alejandro Chavez (City representative)*

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

***** 9:00 a.m. *****

Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Edelen called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Board members present: Craig, Edelen, Parker and Salinas. Staff present: Cheung, Cook, Gavin, Goel, Hale, Meyers, and Rodriguez. Others present: Agency Counsel Reimann and Sam Teel, Monterey County Hospitality Association. John Arriaga and Erica Arriaga, JEA & Associates (via phone).
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Board member Craig and seconded by Board member Parker, the committee voted 4 – 0 to approve the consent agenda.

- 3.1 **APPROVED** minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of March 6, 2013.

END OF CONSENT

- 4. RECEIVED** an update on state legislative activities and **RECOMMENDED** that the Board approves positions on state legislation.

On a motion by Board Salinas and seconded by Vice Chair Parker, the committee voted 4 – 0 to receive the update on state legislative activities and recommended that the Board approves positions on state legislation.

Kaki Cheung, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that the draft bill track has been updated since the March Executive Committee meeting. Agency legislative consultant John Arriaga reported (via phone) on current legislative activities that may impact the Agency. He reported on the California state budget and the restructuring of the Business, Housing and Transportation Agency. Mr. Arriaga gave a brief status update on the Cap and Trade program, and noted that an estimate of between \$200 million and \$400 million in auction revenues are expected in fiscal years 2012-13 and FY 2013-14. There are five bills in this legislative session on cap and trade program expenditures, and the Agency will be following those bills closely. With regards to SB 1 (Steinberg), following dissolution of redevelopment agencies, there is a great deal of support for this bill in the capital.

Erica Arriaga, JEA & Associates, reported on AB 1290 (Perez), legislation that would add a number of new reporting requirements for Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies. Ms. Arriaga recommended that the Agency take a “watch” position on the bill. In terms of voter threshold reduction bills, such as SCA 4, with the Democrats holding a supermajority in the legislature, there is a high likelihood that these bills will move forward. The Transportation Agency is working with the City of Monterey and Caltrans on the relinquishment of State Route 68 west of Highway 1, to improve access to the Monterey Peninsula. This relinquishment is part of the omnibus transportation bill, which is now SB 788 (transportation committee).

- 5. RECEIVED** update on the State Route 156 Corridor Traffic and Revenue Study.

On a motion by Committee member Craig and seconded by Simon Salinas, the committee voted 4 – 0 to receive report on the State Route 156 Corridor Traffic and Revenue Study.

Executive Director Debbie Hale gave an update on the State Route 156 Corridor Traffic and Revenue Study. She reported that the State Route 156 Corridor project is unfunded and is the Agency’s highest priority. The project as proposed in the EIR includes a new 4-lane highway to the south of existing 156 with a new interchange at Castroville Boulevard and improved connections at US 101. She noted that the project could be divided into two phases with Phase 1 to include the new 4-lane facility and the Castroville Boulevard interchange, and Phase 2 to include the improvements at US 101. Ms. Hale reported that there are a couple of options for funding this project; tolling provides a stream of revenue by which you can bond and then pay back, with some offsets by FORA Fees and the Regional Impact Fee. She noted that the tolling study will

be released in draft shortly and will be presented to the ad hoc 156 committee and the Board at a future date.

Sam Teel, Monterey County Hospitality Association (MCHA), reported that according to the Monterey Bay Aquarium study, 72% of the residents didn't like the idea of tolls, noting this is a big concern to the MCHA. He noted that there needs to be discounts for the local residents, perhaps setting a discounted fee when they pay their vehicle registration fees annually.

6. **DISCUSSED** significant reduction in federal metropolitan planning funding passed through to the Transportation Agency proposed in AMBAG's preliminary FY 2013/14 Overall Work Program.

On a motion by Board member Salinas and seconded by Committee member Craig, the committee voted 4 – 0 to discuss the significant reduction in federal metropolitan planning funding passed-through to the Transportation Agency proposed in AMBAG's preliminary FY 2013/14 Overall Work Program.

Executive Director Debbie Hale reported that the amount of federal metropolitan planning funds proposed to be passed-through to the Transportation Agency as reported in AMBAG's preliminary Overall Work Program will be reduced to \$100,000, which represents a 65.4% cut from the FY 2012-13 level. She reported that the Transportation Agency relies on the "PL" funds for operating costs, and noted that the Agency is entitled to receive them under federal law. Director Hale reported that the Agency is currently understaffed and with these sudden deductions has been under filling the vacant position. She expressed the concern of the Agency that this amount could be further reduced or even eliminated in the future years. Director Hale expressed her appreciation for the AMBAG director's help, but would appreciate more advance notice of such cuts and a multi-year estimate of likely funding.

Maura Twomey, Executive Director of AMBAG, reported that she has met with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration to discuss the PL funds and that they are only guarantying the bottom of the range of funds, making AMBAG's budget very lean.

7. **RECEIVED** report on Monterey-Salinas Transit's Strategic Planning Workshop. This item was deferred to the April Board meeting.

8. **RECEIVED** report on draft agenda for TAMC Board meeting of April 24, 2013.

On a motion by Committee member Craig and seconded by Committee member Salinas, the committee voted 4 – 0 to receive a report on the draft agenda for the TAMC Board meeting of April 24, 2013.

Executive Director Debbie Hale reviewed the April 24, 2013 draft agenda. She reported the first item on the agenda would be a closed session regarding real estate negotiations, then reconvene to report any actions taken. The Board will take a group photo that will be posted on the TAMC website. The Board will receive an overview of the California Cap and Trade program and a report on the Transportation Coalition's proposal for directing a fair share of funds to transportation. The Board will also receive a report on state legislative activities from our Legislative consultant John Arriaga, and will be asked to approve the positions on state legislation and the Regional Transportation Planning survey contract. Staff will present a rail project update, and lastly the Board will be asked to approve appointments of Agency staff Debbie Hale, Executive Director, as ex-officio member and Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director as ex-officio alternate to the Association of Monterey Bay Area of Governments' Board of Directors.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Edelen adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant