Transportation Agency Presents Golden Helmet Awards During Board Meeting

The Transportation Agency presented their “Annual Golden Helmet Awards” during the Agency’s Board meeting to honor individuals and programs that advocate for and encourage bicycling in Monterey County. The awards also provide an opportunity to celebrate Bike Month. This year’s honoree categories includes one individual, a grass-roots community organization serving families of color, a project that rewards bicycling to local businesses and more, a high school mountain bike team and an organization dedicated to teaching skills and encouraging youth participation in cycling.

This year’s recipients are:

- **Michael Baroni**: for providing bike valet parking areas at local events, bike maintenance classes, community volunteer service as a course marshal for local walk and run events, bike-powered smoothies and his bike courier business.
- **Salinas High School Mountain Bike Team**: for their 10 years of service as a team that participates in Fort Ord trail building, volunteer service to introduce younger students to mountain biking and participate in weekly rides for middle school students and for their emphasize on trail etiquette on all of their rides.
- **Families of Color Monterey County**: Lauryn Ricigliano and Adisa Vaughn are recognized for founding Families of Color Monterey County which is a group dedicated to making bicycling accessible and affordable through advocacy, education and community building and their subsequent family-friendly biking initiatives, Family Biking Monterey County and Dads Read.
- **Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day**: the Monterey Off Road Cycling Association for this event introducing mountain biking to kids and engaging youth leadership within the cycling.
- **HER Helmet Thursdays**: is a project of Bicycling Monterey providing discounts for cyclists from participating bike-friendly spots countywide.
TAMC Board Approves Measure X Funding Agreement with local Cities/County

With the passage of Measure X by Monterey County voters in November 2016, the Agency has been working to develop the organizational framework and agreements necessary to implement the measure. As required by the implementing ordinance, each city and the County of Monterey must enter into a funding agreement with the Transportation Agency.

That Measure X Local Funding Agreement sets the guiding documents that establishes policies for implementing the ordinance, reporting requirements, a payment management program and financial accounts. It also includes enforcement procedures, designed to reassure the public that tax revenues are spent in accordance with the ballot language.

On Wednesday, the TAMC Board of Directors approved the Measure X Local Funding Agreement and authorized staff to distribute the agreements to the cities and the County of Monterey for their adoption.

Measure X is estimated to generate $600 million over 30 years for transportation improvements in Monterey County from the 3/8% sales tax approved by voters. Of that amount, $360 (60%) will be distributed to the cities and the County for local projects, while the remaining $240 (40%) is programmed to regional safety and mobility projects.

Board Adopts Resolution Authorizing Federal Funding for South County Transit Service

The TAMC Board of Directors adopted a resolution authorizing federal funding for Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) under the Federal Transit Administration Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program through the California Department of Transportation. The resolution was in support of a grant to fund MST’s operating expense to continue service connecting Fort Hunter Liggett with Salinas, Soledad with Paso Robles, Fort Hunter Liggett to Templeton, and continue service between King City and San Jose.

Under the federal guidelines, TAMC is required to authorize Monterey-Salinas Transit’s grant application under this Intercity Bus Transportation Program which provides capital and operating assistance for public transit services with rural to urban connections on the state’s intercity bus routes. The Board also authorized TAMC’s Executive Director to sign and submit the required regional agency certifications and assurances for the grant application.

MST is seeking $557,951 funding from this program to continue service to South Monterey County in the federal fiscal year 2018.