HIGHLIGHTS

May 23, 2018

TAMC Introduces Go831 “Smart Commute Program”

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County Board of Directors was presented with a new approach to smart commuting by agency staff with the introduction of “Go831.” Go831 is a new program by the Transportation Agency to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality in Monterey County. Through the program, the Agency will provide tools, incentives and a coordinated program to enable employers and the public to help reduce traffic, improve air quality and promote health by encouraging alternatives to driving alone.

Go831 will initially be rolled-out to 15 major employers in Monterey County, and is designed to support employer-based commuter programs while keeping administrative costs low. Go831 will also provide services to help employers develop new employee commute programs. This first phase will focus on reducing traffic during peak commute hours.

The second phase, expected to kick-off in Fall 2019, will target congestion and safety issues around K-12 schools. The final phase, anticipated to roll out in Spring 2010, will concentrate on improving transportation options for agricultural workers and those traveling to special events on the Monterey Peninsula.

More information about the Go831 program can be found at www.go831.org.

Corridor Study in Progress to Improve Travel between Pajaro and Prunedale

Agency staff provided an update on public outreach scheduled for the Pajaro to Prunedale Corridor Study to the Board of Directors at Wednesday’s meeting. The study is designed to help solve safety and congestion issues and storm water management on the corridor connecting Pajaro to Prunedale along San Miguel Canyon Road, Hall Road, Elkhorn Road, Salinas Road, Porter Road between US Highway 101 and State Route 1 in North Monterey County (known as the G12 Corridor).
This 10-mile long stretch of road has seen increased traffic in the last five years, as more drivers use this route to commute between Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties. The average amount of traffic currently using this route is 16,000-26,000 vehicles per day. Trucks make up 6%-12% of this daily amount on what is mostly a two-lane county road. The corridor also serves as the downtown for the communities of Pajaro, Las Lomas and Prunedale; thereby making it essential that the study address their concerns about walking, biking, safety and congestion along the route.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments and suggestions at public workshops and on the project website. They can also sign up for updates and learn more about the Pajaro-Prunedale Corridor Study at www.pajarotoprunedalestudy.org.

The results of the study will assist the County of Monterey evaluate how to make the necessary improvements to accommodate current and future travel patterns along the Pajaro to Prunedale Corridor.

Regional Measure X Projects and SB 1 Gas Tax Funding

The TAMC Board of Directors received an update on how Measure X regional projects are moving forward towards project delivery and that staff is leveraging additional grant funds from SB 1, the gas tax and other sources. Staff provided a project description for each of the regional projects, identity of the lead agency on the project, a timeline for the environmental review and design documents, construction start date and estimated costs. The presentation also included the funding sources anticipated for each of the following regional projects with the leveraging of Measure X funds for additional monies from SB 1:

Projects:
- Monterey – Salinas Scenic SR 68 Safety & Traffic Flow
- SR 156 / Castroville Blvd Interchange
- State Route 156 Blackie Road Extension
- US 101 Safety South County
- Marina – Salinas Multimodal Corridor: Imjin Safety & Traffic Flow
- Holman Hwy 68 Safety: Pacific Grove
- Fort Ord Trail and Greenway
- Hwy 1 Rapid Bus Corridor

Measure X is the 3/8 of a cent sales tax approved by voters in November 2016. 60% of the funds are dedicated to local streets and roads projects. 40% is dedicated to regional projects. SB 1 is the statewide gas tax, approved by the Legislature in 2017.