



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

AGENDA TAMC RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting of Monday
June 3, 2019

**Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas**

3:00 PM

Complete agenda packets are on display at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County office and at these public libraries: Carmel, Monterey, Salinas Steinbeck Branch, Seaside, Prunedale, and King City. 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. Please recycle this agenda.

1. Quorum Check, Call to Order and Introductions

A quorum for the voting TAMC Rail Policy Committee members consists of a minimum of 6 of the following voting members: A quorum is 7 of the following members: Adams, Alejo, Chavez, Davis, Delgado, Hawthorne, LeBarre, Oglesby, Parker, Phillips, Potter and Smith..

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 Rail Policy Committee on any item not on

the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Rail Policy Committee. Comments on items on today's agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed.

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 May 6, 2019.

- Montiel

The draft minutes of the May 6, 2019 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. RECEIVE update and **PROVIDE** feedback on the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study.

- Watson

Staff will provide an update on the stakeholder coordination and public outreach strategy for the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study.

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

- Watson

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update on May 6, 2019 include utility meetings and a meeting of the Northern California Megaregion group.

6. RECEIVE update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

- Watson

Progress since the last update on the coast rail project to this Committee in March includes a meeting of the Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee.

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

8. ADJOURN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Rail Policy Committee meeting:
Monday, August 5, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.
Transportation Agency for Monterey County Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, California 93901

Light refreshments will be provided

If you have any items for the next agenda, please submit them to:
Christina Watson, Rail Program Coordinator
Christina@tamcmonterey.org

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 inspection at the office of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA. Documents distributed to the Committee at the meeting by staff will be available at the meeting; documents distributed to the Committee by members of the public shall be made available after the meeting.

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901-2902
Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
TEL: 831-775-0903
FAX: 831-775-0897

The Committee Agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon nine (9) working days before the regular meeting. Any member 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.

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 at 831-775-0903. Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish Language interpreters and printed materials, 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.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, MEDIA CLIPPINGS

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



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Date: June 3, 2019
Subject: **Draft May RPC Minutes**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of May 6, 2019.

SUMMARY:

The draft minutes of the May 6, 2019 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

- ▣ RPC Draft May Minutes

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
Draft Minutes of May 6, 2019
 Transportation Agency for Monterey County
 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA

	JUN 18	JUL 18	AUG 18	SEP 18	OCT 18	NOV 18	DEC 18	JAN 19	FEB 19	MAR 19	APR 19	MAY 19
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez, J. Gomez)	C	N	P(A)	P(A)	C	P	N	P(A)	C	P(A)	C	P(A)
J. Phillips, Dist. 2 (J. Stratton, C. Link)	A	O	P(A)	P(A)	A	P(A)	O	P(A)	A	P(A)	A	P(A)
J. Parker, Dist. 4 (W. Askew)	N		P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)		P(A)	N	E	N	P(A)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (Y. Anderson)	C	M	P(A)	E	C	P(A)	M	P(A)	C	P(A)	C	P
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	E	E	P	P	E	P	E	P	E	P	E	P
B. Delgado, Marina, Vice Chair (F. O'Connell)	L	E	P	-	L	P	E	P	L	P	L	P
E. Smith, Monterey (A. Renny)	L	T	-	-	L	E	T	P	L	P	L	P
S. Davis, Salinas, (C. Cromeenes)	E	I	P	P	E	P	I	P	E	P	E	-
G. Hawthorne, Sand City (J. Blackwelder)	D	N	P	P	D	-	N	-	D	-	D	-
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)		G	P	P		P(A)	G	-		P		P
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Ledesma)			-	-		P		-		P		-
D. Potter, At Large Member										-		P
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson , P. Hierling)			-	-		-		P(A)		-		P(A)
O. Monroy-Ochoa, Caltrans District 5			-	-		P		-		-		-
C. Sedoryk, MST (H. Harvath, L. Rheinheimer)			P(A)	P(A)		P(A)		P(A)		P(A)		P(A)
STAFF												
D. Hale, Exec. Director			P	E		P		P		E		E
T. Muck, Deputy Exec. Director			P	E		P		P		P		P
C. Watson, Principal Transp. Planner			P	P		P		P		P		P
M. Zeller, Principal Transp. Planner			P	E		P		P		P		P
Theresa Wright, Outreach Coordinator			P	P		P		P		P		E
M. Montiel Admin Assistant				P		P		P		P		P
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer						P		P		E		P

1. **QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER**

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was established, and self-introductions were made.

OTHERS PRESENT

Kim Cruz	Sand City Councilmember	Brad Tarp	Salinas Resident
Jennifer Russell	MNS Engineers	Don Reynolds	City of Salinas
Todd Kennedy	City of San Juan Bautista	Ginger Dykaar	SCCRTC
Cheryl Ku	Monterey County RMA	Paul Powers	Salinas Resident

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None this month.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

M/S/C Oglesby/ Smith /unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the March 4, 2019 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. **SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE**

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

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported on recent progress on the Monterey County Rail Extension Project. Laurie Williamson, Senior Engineer, reported that Agency staff is working the City of Salinas on relocation of their sanitary sewer to Railroad Avenue and the storm drain to the future Lincoln Avenue Extension alignment, and that both relocation projects are expected to start late May or early June. She noted that once the utility relocation projects are complete, TAMC's construction contractor MPE will relocate Cal Water lines and stage the construction of the Lincoln Avenue extension, anticipating completion of all work by the fall of 2020.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that recent work preparing for the acquisition of parcels for Package 2, the Salinas layover facility, include the completion of a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and plats and legal descriptions of the partial acquisitions. He noted that now that those activities are complete, ARWS can initiate the appraisal process. Mr. Zeller noted that they found arsenic on one parcel and would need to get a cost estimate for clean it up in order to proceed with the acquisition.

Ms. Watson reported on other projects underway by other agencies that may affect the Package 3 work in Gilroy or along the rail corridor between Gilroy and Salinas, and that staff will prepare a Request for Proposals for final design of Packages 2 and 3 after meeting with Caltrain, the State, and Union Pacific on the 75% plans and move forward with negotiations for track rights and encroachment or acquisition of Union Pacific right of way in Salinas.

Committee member Potter expressed that the letter from Caltrain (included in the packet) is the closest TAMC has ever been to securing an operator for the service.

Committee member Smith noted that in the letter from the City of Salinas, City Manager Ray Corpuz highlighted issues with the storm drain and sanitary sewer in Station Place. Don Reynolds, City of Salinas Assistant Public Works Director, noted that the relocation plans were changed to work around conflicts with AT&T in West Market, and that the project team are working to resolve conflicts with CalWater in Railroad Avenue. Ms. Williamson noted that some of the buildings for which the sanitary sewer was needed are no longer there, and the relocated lines will serve the existing users and the future bioswales in the new parking lots.

Brad Tarp, resident, expressed that there should be no arsenic on his property, due to the water pollution clean-up that was done, and that the only restriction is a prohibition on drilling wells. He stated that he has previously provided Mr. Zeller with a copy of the document from the State Water Board clearing the property of contamination.

5. COAST CORRIDOR RAIL PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that progress since the last update on the coast rail project includes a meeting of the Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee in Santa Barbara on March 8. The Committee approved bylaws and a contract with Gus Khouri for legislative assistance. She said that in March, the State announced two State Rail Assistance grant awards. She noted that the next Policy meeting is rescheduled for May 31 in San Luis Obispo.

Ms. Watson noted that in April, CRCC Chair Dave Potter, RPC Chair Mike LeBarre, and Ms. Watson attended the 7th annual California Passenger Rail Summit in Oakland.

Committee member Potter noted that he attended the Rail Summit and there were over three hundred people and it seems to be growing each year. He noted that the opportunity to network with other rail operators to collaborate was great and was a good conference that included an enlightening tour of transit-oriented developments in Richmond and Emeryville.

Committee member Smith asked why a temporary platform on King City. Chair LeBarre noted that a temporary platform is the minimum investment needed to get the train to stop. The State is motivated to get it going soon and having a stop will build ridership and help get more funding for further investments in a station. Mr. Smith noted that the City of Monterey provides services for Fort Hunter Liggett via an intergovernmental services agreement with the Presidio thinks that could be leveraged for additional funding.

Committee ex-officio alternate Harvath requested to be included in the planning of the King City station.

6. RAIL NETWORK INTEGRATION STUDY

The Committee received an update on the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that on April 24, the TAMC Board approved a contract with AECOM to perform a Monterey Bay Area Network Integration Study and noted the anticipated reports to the RPC were outlined in the staff report.

Chair LeBarre asked how the study would be coordinated with work being done in other areas, such as the Service Implementation Plan in San Luis Obispo County. Ms. Watson replied that she would make sure that studies being done in connecting regions will be coordinated.

Committee ex-officio alternate Hierling requested to be included in the Rail Network Integration Study.

Ms. Watson reported that Agency staff was approached by Dennis Lowery of Lowery Capital Partners inquiring about the potential for a privately-run rail service in the County, connecting Marina, Santa Cruz, and Gilroy or San Jose.

Committee member Smith noted the letter to Mr. Lowery (included in the packet) was well worded and made it clear that the Agency must follow certain rules as a public agency. He asked if there are other examples of privately-run railroads in California. Ms. Watson replied the only one she knew of is in Florida. Committee ex-officio Harvath (originally from Florida) noted the difference would be population density along the corridor.

Committee member Adams asked if the project should be considered a Public-Private Partnership (P3). Deputy Executive Director Todd Muck noted TAMC would consider it a P3 project as the Agency owns the Branch Line they would want to run on.

Committee member Potter reported that he met with Mr. Lowery and noted that as developers, they want a rail service to connect with their developments, and that they seemed open to only running from Monterey to Santa Cruz, with connections to the future service to Gilroy/San Jose.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), noted that the RTC completed a Santa Cruz Branch line feasibility study known as the Unified Corridor Investment Study. She reported that the RTC voted unanimously to protect the rail corridor right-of way for future mass transit operations. Ms. Dykaar noted that the RTC will work with the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District on an alternatives analysis. In conclusion Ms. Dykaar noted that RTC also received funding from the state for a network integration study.

Committee member Potter asked about the current condition of the branch line. Ms. Dykaar reported that trains currently cannot run north of Pajaro due to multiple washouts and disruptions from this winter's rains.

8. **ADJOURN**

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: June 3, 2019
Subject: **Rail Network Integration Study**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update and **PROVIDE** feedback on the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study.

SUMMARY:

Staff will provide an update on the stakeholder coordination and public outreach strategy for the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This report does not have a financial impact.

DISCUSSION:

TAMC kicked off the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study with AECOM and stakeholders on May 16, 2019. Participants included representatives from the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass Transportation, Caltrans District 5, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, San Benito Council of Governments, San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, and Monterey-Salinas Transit District.

Next steps on public outreach include drafting a stakeholder engagement plan and setting the first meeting of the Network Advisory Committee (NAC). The NAC is expected to be composed of representatives from the above agencies, plus representatives from jurisdictions that have new rail stations. Additionally, AECOM will prepare an existing conditions analysis and grants memo, and begin to draft a future service vision memo.

Staff also participated in the kick-off for the Santa Barbara network integration study on May 15.

Staff will provide a verbal update on all activities at the meeting.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: June 3, 2019
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 on May 6, 2019 include utility meetings and a meeting of the Northern California Megaregion group.

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 extends 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 is fully funded with \$81 million in state funding, and is proceeding with construction of Package 1, improvements at the Salinas train station. The layover facility and track improvements are ready for final design, pending comments from Union Pacific Railroad.

Package 1: Salinas Station Improvements

On May 17, the project team met to discuss utility relocation schedules and to introduce the contractor team to the City and utility personnel. PG&E completed the gas and electrical line relocations along West Market Street in May. The City of Salinas Sanitary Sewer/Storm Drain relocation project is

expected to begin in June. PG&E is completing the design of the “joint trench” for utilities that will install gas and electric and cable lines from West Market Street along the new Lincoln Ave extension starting in August. The TAMC project is still awaiting the Salinas permits and developing a phasing plan to initiate CalWater relocation and road construction work while the utility relocation work proceeds.

Package 2: Salinas Layover Facility

In May, TAMC's right-of-way consultant ARWS sent Notices of a Decision to Appraise to property owners of parcels for the Package 2 layover facility in Salinas.

Package 3: Gilroy Station & Track Improvements

Staff continues to participate in meetings for the Central Coast Highway 1 Climate Resiliency study, looking at the impacts of climate change and sea level rise to transportation corridors through the Elkhorn Slough. This study will consider possible re-routings of the Union Pacific Railroad-owned tracks in order to elevate the rail corridor. In the worst case scenario, they are predicting a sea level rise of up to 8 inches by 2030, up to 2 feet 4 inches by 2060, and up to 5 feet 3 inches in 2100.

Operations Scenarios

On May 23, staff attended a meeting of the Northern California Rail Megaregion Partners Working Group.

Staff will provide a verbal update on all activities at the meeting.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: June 3, 2019
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.

SUMMARY:

Progress since the last update on the coast rail project to this Committee in March includes a meeting of the Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Coast Rail service project construction and operation costs are still 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 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 Policy Committee is scheduled to meet in San Luis Obispo on May 31 (after the deadline to finalize this report). The Committee will discuss Senate Bill 742 (Allen): Intercity passenger rail services: motor carrier transportation of passengers, which would enable non-rail passengers to buy a ticket on an Amtrak Thruway bus (see **web attachment**), and using the Rosenberg Rules of Order instead of the more complex Robert’s Rules of Order. The next Policy meeting is scheduled for July 12. Staff to the member agencies convene regular technical working group phone calls.

Staff will provide a verbal update at the meeting.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [SB 742 \(Allen\)](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: June 3, 2019
Subject: Reports

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE reports attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Article in HNTB Designer magazine, Issue 111, pages 16-23, "Reinventing Train Travel: Envisioning a new day for U.S. train travel, Brightline launches America's first new major private intercity passenger railroad in more than a century"](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: June 3, 2019
Subject: **Media Clippings**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE media clippings attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Article in the second quarter 2019 edition of Steel Wheels, "The California's Coast - Part 2: Why Not Lease the Coast Line?"](#)
- [April 1, 2019 article in Mass Transit, "FL: Brightline trains often seem empty. Is it a sign of trouble, or just growing pains?"](#)
- [May 15, 2019 article in Mass Transit, "CA: Polls show support for Caltrain sales tax in 2020, but is it enough?"](#)
- [May 16, 2019 article in the San Jose Mercury News, "Feds take back nearly \\$1 billion for California high-speed rail, just like they said they would: the funding rollback puts the whole project in jeopardy"](#)