HIGHLIGHTS

May 22, 2019

Measure X Annual Audit and Compliance Report

The results of the first Measure X Annual Audit and Compliance Report was presented to the TAMC Board of Directors by staff members and the Chair of the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee.

The results of the report revealed that there has been a learning curve for all entities involved. Accordingly, the first full year of Measure X reporting, for fiscal year 2017/18, was due on December 31, 2018. As of May 7, 2019, nine of the thirteen recipient jurisdictions have fully complied, and the four remaining jurisdictions are in the process of completing the independent audit requirements.

In addition to the local jurisdictions, TAMC was also audited for compliance with the Measure X requirements. The Transportation Agency for Monterey County financial audit found no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards, nor did they note any matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that they consider to be material weaknesses.

Following the Chair’s presentation, TAMC staff provided an evaluation of this year’s process and presented a set of recommended changes to help clarify the requirements to help avoid reporting delinquencies in the future.

The Measure X Annual Audit and Compliance Report was written by the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee as one of their duties to review the independent audits of the jurisdictions and prepare and present an annual report regarding the administration of the Measure X program. The report can be found in the TAMC Annual Report.

Measure X Senior & Disabled Transportation Draft Needs Assessment and Program Guidelines Released for Public Review

The TAMC Board of Directors authorized the release of the Measure X Senior & Disabled Transportation Draft Needs Assessment and Program Guidelines for public review and comment. The purpose of the needs assessment is to review the existing transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities in the County to determine the most effective way to spend Measure X funding for future grant cycles of the Senior and Disabled Transportation Program.

The assessment will:
1. Identify the existing transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities,
2. Determine gaps in service, potential enhancements, and improved coordination; and
3. Identify potential changes to the Program application to better meet the needs of Monterey County seniors and disabled residents.
The draft guidelines and needs assessment are posted on TAMC’s website for public review and will be presented to the MST Mobility Advisory Committee and the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee. The public comment period will close on July 31, 2019.

It’s expected that the TMC Board of Directors will adopt the guidelines and needs assessment and open the call applications for Cycle 2 projects to be funded through the program in November.

**CALTRANS Makes Two Major Announcements at TMC Board Meeting**

Caltrans announced that the work on the Highway 68 Salinas River Bridge Widening Project is officially completed effective Thursday, May 23, 2019! This project that began in the Spring of 2016 peaked the public’s curiosity and generated multiple inquires over the past three years.

Caltrans also announced that they are installing Truck/Commercial “No U-Turn” signs at all minor roads at-grade intersections on southbound and northbound Highway 101 south of Salinas between Gould Road and Chualar.

Caltrans crews began installing signs last week and expect the installations to be done in 3-4 weeks. The work includes the placement of advance intersection warning signs at every crossing, mainline truck U-turn restrictions, and side street left-turns onto US 101 restrictions.

The signs recommended by the California Highway Patrol, Caltrans and the S.O.S. US 101 Traffic Safety Alliance will prohibit trucks/commercial vehicles from making a U-turn on the highway, and/or a left turn movement off a minor road onto US 101, anywhere between Gould Road and Chualar. Trucks/commercial vehicles will need to use Airport Blvd. and Chualar exits to turn around and head northbound or southbound, depending on their destination.

**Proclamation Recognizes National Public Works Week**

The TMC Board of Directors adopted a proclamation in recognition of National Public Works Week, May 19 – May 25, 2019. The Agency joined others from around California and the United States to pay tribute to public work professionals, engineers, managers and employees in recognition of the substantial contributions they make to our community’s health, safety, welfare and quality of life. These contributions include everything from providing clean water to disposing of solid waste, to building roads and bridges or planning for and implementing mass transit, to devising emergency management strategies to meet nature or man-made disasters.