



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

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Monday, March 2, 2020
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, Marina, 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 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 February 3, 2020.

- Montiel

The draft minutes of the February 3, 2020 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. 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 to this Committee in January includes submittal of a grant application for the valuation of the Coast rail corridor.

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

- Watson

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update on February 3, 2020, include progress on construction of Package 1, the Lincoln Avenue Extension and parking improvements, and recommendation of HDR Engineering for final design of Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy station track improvements).

6. RECEIVE update on the SURF! Busway project along the Monterey Branch Line from Marina to Sand City.

- Jacobsen

Monterey-Salinas Transit initiated the environmental analysis and preliminary engineering for the SURF! Busway in November 2019. Staff will provide updated information the the status of the project's development.

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, April 6, 2020 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. RECEIVE** correspondence attached online.
- C 2. RECEIVE** media clippings attached online.
- C 3. RECEIVE** reports attached online.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Date: March 2, 2020
Subject: **Draft February RPC Minutes**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of February 3, 2020.

SUMMARY:

The draft minutes of the February 3, 2020 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

- ▣ Draft RPC Minutes February 3, 2020

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
DRAFT Minutes of February 3, 2020
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA

	MAR 19	APR 19	MAY 19	JUNE 19	JUL 19	AUG 19	SEP 19	OCT 19	NOV 19	DEC 19	JAN 20	FEB 20
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez, J. Gomez)	P(A)	C	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	C	P(A)	P(A)	N	-	P(A)
J. Phillips, Dist. 2 (J. Stratton, C. Link)	P(A)	A	P(A)	E	O	P(A)	A	P(A)	P(A)	O	P(A)	P(A)
J. Parker, Dist. 4 (W. Askew)	E	N	P(A)	E		E	N	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (Y. Anderson)	P(A)	C	P	E	M	P(A) TC	C	-	P(A)	M	P(A)	P(A)
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	P	E	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	E	P	P
B. Delgado, Marina, Vice Chair (F. O'Connell)	P	L	P	P	E	P	L	P	-	E	P	P
E. Smith, Monterey (A. Renny)	P	L	P	P(A)	T	P	L	-	-	T	P	P
S. Davis, Salinas, (C. Cromeenes)	P	E	-	-	I	P	E	P	P	I	P	P
G. Hawthorne, Sand City (J. Blackwelder , K. Cruz)	-	D	-	-	N	P(A)	D	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)	P		P	P	G	P		-	P	G	P	-
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Ledesma)	P		-	P		-		P	P		-	P
D. Potter, At Large Member	-		P	P		P		E	E		P	P
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson, P. Hierling)	-		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)		E	P(A)		P(A)	-
O. Monroy-Ochoa, Caltrans District 5	-		-	-		-		-	-		-	-
C. Sedoryk, MST (L. Rheinheimer)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)
STAFF												
D. Hale, Exec. Director	E		E	E		P		P	E		E	P
T. Muck, Deputy Exec. Director	P		P	P		P		P	P		P	P
C. Watson, Principal Transp. Planner	P		P	P		P		P	P		P	P
M. Zeller, Principal Transp. Planner	P		P	P		P		P	P		P	P
Theresa Wright, Outreach Coordinator	P		E	E		-		E	P		-	-
M. Montiel Admin Assistant	P		P	P		P		P	P		P	P
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer	E		P	P		E		P	E		P	E
Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner								P	P			P
Rich Deal, Principal Engineer												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

Michael Cornfield	Deutsche Bahn	Ryan Park	AECOM
Will Condon	AMBAG	Mellissa Gjerde	AECOM
Rod Neubert	Salinas resident		

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Davis/Smith/unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the January 6, 2020 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The Committee held elections for Chair for 2020-22.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, noted that bylaws call for the Rail Policy Committee to elect a Chair and Vice Chair in February of every even year.

M/S/C Davis / Potter / unanimous

Committee Member Davis made a motion, seconded by Committee Member Potter, to nominate Mike LeBarre to continue to Chair the Rail Policy Committee.

M/S/C Davis / Stratton / unanimous

Committee Member Davis made a motion, seconded by Committee Alternate Stratton, to nominate Dave Potter as Vice Chair for the Rail Policy Committee.

5. RAIL NETWORK INTEGRATION STUDY UPDATE

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

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study will lay the groundwork for implementing the State Rail Plan in the Monterey Bay Area.

Ryan Park, AECOM, presented on the status of the Network Integration Study and reported on the January 27, 2020 Network Advisory Committee meeting. Michael Cornfield, Deutsche Bahn, presented on the future service vision. Mr. Cornfield noted that the service planning and network design process is designed to facilitate TAMC's development of an

implementable, technically sound vision for a future Monterey Bay Area regional rail network that accomplishes stakeholder service goals and provides technical inputs for implementation planning. He noted that the process is currently in the concept refinement stage, moving toward recommended service plan concepts to comprise the future integrated network. He noted that the study will assist Transportation Agency staff by providing the data needed to prepare grant applications for funding new stations at Pajaro/Watsonville, Castroville, Soledad and King City.

Committee alternate Anderson noted that the study should support connecting rail to disadvantaged communities like Castroville. Mr. Cornfield noted that Castroville was an important station location for the connection between the Monterey Branch Line and the mainline tracks.

Committee member Davis asked if flooding at Elkhorn Slough was included in the study. Mr. Cornfield noted that the current infrastructure would support the proposed vision scenario, but climate resiliency might call for a raised embankment or trestle bridge through the Slough.

6. SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE

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

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update include progress on construction of Package 1, the Lincoln Avenue Extension and parking improvements. Ms. Watson noted that the Salinas Lincoln Avenue Extension and circulation improvements at the station are approximately 50% complete in terms of project schedule.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that staff is continuing to negotiate with the owners of the five parcels at the Salinas Layover Facility.

Executive Director Debbie Hale noted that Transportation Agency staff is working with Caltrain on a formal letter of agreement. She noted that the proposed service would include two roundtrips each weekday using existing trains.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Christina Watson announced the Central Coast Coalition Legislative Day will be on February 19.

Committee member Davis announced that in March the City of Salinas will be holding a one-day clean-up of the rail line in the Chinatown area.

8. ADJOURN

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 4:01 p.m.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: March 2, 2020
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 to this Committee in January includes submittal of a grant application for the valuation of the Coast rail corridor.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Coast Rail service project construction and operation costs are still under evaluation.

DISCUSSION:

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council 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.

On February 19, 2020, staff and Board members participated in the Central Coast Coalition legislative day in Sacramento. Participants will provide a verbal report at the meeting.



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: March 2, 2020
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 February 3, 2020, include progress on construction of Package 1, the Lincoln Avenue Extension and parking improvements, and recommendation of HDR Engineering for final design of Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy station track improvements).

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 proceeding with construction of Package 1, improvements at the Salinas train station. The layover facility (Package 2) and track improvements (Package 3) are ready for final design, pending comments from Union Pacific Railroad.

Package 1: Salinas Station Improvements

TAMC hired Monterey Peninsula Engineering (MPE) for construction of Package 1, MNS Engineers as Construction Managers on the project, and HDR Engineering to provide design support during construction. In February 2020, the construction team continued to make progress constructing the Lincoln Avenue Extension and associated parking improvements. As of February 28, 2020, the project is approximately 56% completed in terms of schedule and the contractor has invoiced 34% of the contract budget, inclusive of the approved change orders.

Package 2: Salinas Layover Facility

On December 4, 2019, the Transportation Agency Board approved Resolutions of Necessity on portions of four parcels and one full parcel needed for the Salinas layover facility. TAMC staff continues to oversee the right-of-way

consulting team of AR/WS and Meyers Nave to further negotiations and finalize the acquisitions.

Package 3: Gilroy Station & Track Improvements, Operations Scenarios

Staff held interviews for the final design of Package 2, the Salinas layover facility, and Package 3, the Gilroy track improvements, on February 7, 2020. Staff is negotiating with HDR Engineering, Inc. to do the work, and is aiming to have the contract on the March 25, 2020 TAMC Board agenda, pending review and approval by Caltrans Audits and Investigations.

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



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: March 2, 2020
Subject: **SURF! Busway Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on the SURF! Busway project along the Monterey Branch Line from Marina to Sand City.

SUMMARY:

Monterey-Salinas Transit initiated the environmental analysis and preliminary engineering for the SURF! Busway in November 2019. Staff will provide updated information the the status of the project's development.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The preliminary engineering and environmental analysis phase of the project is budgeted to cost \$1,550,000. Monterey-Salinas Transit is contributing \$100,000 of its share of Senate Bill 1 Local Partnership Program funds for this phase. Funding for all phases of the Highway 1 SURF! Busway project is available from Measure X (up to a total of \$15 million). Additional matching funds will be needed to fully fund the project, which currently has an estimated cost of \$52 million.

DISCUSSION:

In 2018, MST completed the Monterey Bay Area Feasibility Study of Bus Operations on State Route 1 Shoulders and the Monterey Branch Line. The study analyzed seven alternatives and concluded that implementing a one-way bus rapid transit corridor on a segment of the Monterey Branch Line would provide the best cost to benefit. At the August 6, 2018 Rail Policy Committee meeting, MST staff presented an overview of the feasibility study, including next steps.

In Fall 2019, MST hired Kimley-Horn for the environmental review and preliminary design phase of work, and the project officially kicked-off on November 21, 2019. The following outlines the project's progress regarding stakeholder coordination, data collection and funding.

Stakeholder Coordination

MST and TAMC staff continue to meet with key stakeholders. Recent meetings include:

- Cal State Monterey Bay and Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway connections
- LandWatch
- GraniteRock

At the end of February, the project team held a project development team meeting with all key project stakeholders, including: Cities of Marina, Sand City, Seaside, California Coastal Commission, State Parks, and Caltrans District 5.

Data Collection

Data collection is underway along the rail corridor. The consultant team recently received the topographic data and is working to modify the engineering drawings to reflect the topography of the corridor.

In mid-February, MST, TAMC and the consultants went on a biking site visit of the rail corridor to collect data and engage in discussions about key intersections within the corridor.

Funding

MST and TAMC jointly submitted a grant application for \$25 million to the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program on January 15, 2020. Award announcements are anticipated for April 1st, 2020.

MST is actively coordinating with the Federal Transit Administration to apply for a Capital Investment Grant, a discretionary grant program to support transit capital investments including busway/bus rapid transit. Federal transit law requires transit agencies seeking funds to complete a series of steps throughout the life of the project.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: March 2, 2020
Subject: **Correspondence**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE correspondence attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [February 3, 2020 letter from TAMC to Mitch Weiss, California Transportation Commission Executive Director, re: Caltrain Service Improvement Project Phase III - Reallocation Request: Traffic Congestion Relief Program \(TCRP\) #7.3: Date of California Transportation Commission meeting: March 25-26, 2020](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: March 2, 2020
Subject: **Media Clippings**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE media clippings attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [January 29, 2020 article in the Monterey County Weekly, "Salinas seeks to remake its Lincoln Avenue corridor, and Silicon Valley developers want in with a \\$489 million plan"](#)
- [February 5, 2020 podcast "Salinas: Past, Present, Future: Salinas Rail Project"](#)
- [February 11, 2020 article in Progressive Railroading, "Trump's budget slashes Amtrak funding, phases out long-distance routes"](#)
- [February 11, 2020 article in Mass Transit, "Santa Clara VTA Board adopts first-of-its-kind Climate Emergency Declaration: Santa Clara VTA's planned youth summit will further the focus by engaging with them to advocate for sustainability"](#)
- [February 11, 2020 article in Mass Transit, "President Trump's FY21 budget proposal: What's in and what's out for transit: The FY21 budget also provided the jumping off point of the administration's proposed 10-year surface transportation proposal"](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: March 2, 2020
Subject: **Reports**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE reports attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Draft 2020 California High-Speed Rail Business Plan](#)