

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Final Minutes of February 6, 2023

Transportation Agency for Monterey County

ZOOM REMOTE VIDEO/PHONE CONFERENCE ONLY

	MAR 22	APR 22	MAY 22	JUN 22	JUL 22	AUG 22	SEP 22	OCT 22	NOV 22	DEC 22	JAN 23	FEB 23
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez, J. Gomez)	P(A)	C	P(A)	A	N	P(A)	A	C	P(A)	N	P(A)	P
G. Church, Dist. 2 (M. Vierra, L. Gray)	P(A)	A	P(A)	P(A)	O	P(A)	P(A)	A	A	O	A	P
W. Askew, Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson , E. Mora)	P(A)	N	P	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (S. Hardgrave, C. Courtney)	E	C	P(A)	P(A)	M	P(A)	P(A)	C	P(A)	M	E	A
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	P	E	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	E	A	P
C. Medina Dirksen, Marina (B. Delgado)	P	L	A	A	E	P	P	L	P	E	P	P
E. Smith, Monterey (K. Barber, M. Garcia, A. Renny)	P	L	P	A	T	P	P	L	A	T	P	A
A. Sandoval, Salinas, (A. Rocha)	P	E	P	P	I	P	P	E	P	I	P	P
G. Hawthorne, Sand City (J. Blackwelder , K. Cruz)	P(A)	D	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)	D	P(A)	N	A	A
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)	A		P	P	G	P	P		P	G	P	P
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Cabera, D. Wilcox)	A		A	P		P	A		A		P	P
D. Potter, At Large Member, Vice Chair (J. Barron)	P		P	P		P	P		P		P	P
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson, P. Hierling)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)		A	P(A)
J. Xiao, Caltrans District 5	A		P	P		P	P		P		P	P
C. Sedoryk, MST (L. Rheinheimer/ M. Overmeyer)	P(A)		A	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)		P(A)		E	P(A)
STAFF												
T. Muck, Executive Director	P		P	P		P	P		P		P	P
C. Watson, Director of Planning	P		P	P		P	P		P		P	P
M. Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery	P		P	P		P	P		P		E	P
M. Montiel	P		P	P		P	P		P		P	P

Admin Assistant												
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer	P		P	P		P	P		P		P	P
D. Bilse, Principal Engineer	P		P	A		P	P		P		A	P
A. Guther, Assis. Transp. Planner	P		P	E		P	P		P		P	P
T. Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator	A		A	A		P	A		P		A	P
J. Strause, Transportation Planner	-		-	-		P	A		A		A	A
A. Hernandez Assis. Transp. Planner												P
Emily Belding Transportation Intern												P

P = Present A = Absent P(A) = alternate present E = Excused

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. A quorum was established.

TAMC welcomes newly appointed Rail Policy members: Glenn Church, Supervisor District 2 and Andrew Sandoval, City of Salinas.

OTHERS PRESENT

Brianna Goodman	SCCRTC	Javier Gomez	Supervisor District 1 Office
Jasmine Mejia Corez	County	Linda Gonzales	Supervisor District 1 Office
Shannon Simonds	Caltrans DRMT	Barry Scott	Coastal Rail Santa Cruz
Alex Lopez	Caltrans D5	Roland Lebrun	Public
Geneva Hurley	Public		

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Barry Scott, Coastal Rail Santa Cruz, expressed that he is happy to hear about the coordination between the SCCRTC and TAMC on rail projects. He wished TAMC good luck on the grant application for the Pajaro Station.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Alejo / Medina Dirksen /unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the January 9, 2023, Rail Policy Committee meeting.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. 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 and discussed the logistics of a tour of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) system in March.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that the next Policy Committee meeting would be on February 24 virtually, and the following meeting in April would be in person in San Luis Obispo, with a link for non-voting members, staff, or public to participate remotely.

Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner, reported that staff is coordinating with Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) staff on a tour of the SMART system tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 2023. She asked if RPC members are interested in attending the trip. Ms. Guther noted two options for the trip. One is to head to San Rafael on Thursday morning and ride the train and tour on Thursday afternoon, stay overnight in San Rafael and return on Friday March 31, or some might want to return Thursday evening. She suggested carpooling.

Committee Member Alejo noted that he was interested in attending the tour and noted that he would like to hear about finances and the lessons learned in implementing the new service.

Joanna Xiao, Caltrans District 5, asked if there is a limit on how many can go. She noted that Caltrans staff are interested in attending. Ms. Guther replied that she needs a headcount by mid-March.

Barry Scott, Costal Rail Santa Cruz, noted that he went on a tour with SCCRTC several years ago. He mentioned that Santa Cruz Metro has a new General Manager Michael Tree and would be good to invite him and his planner to join the trip.

Roland Lebrun, Member of Public, asked if members of the public be able to join the tour. Executive Director Todd Muck replied that TAMC would look into making it available at each participant's cost.

Chair LeBarre is interested in attending and asked Alissa to provide the itinerary to see the schedule times.

5. SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE

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

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that we have successfully executed the land transfer of the package 1 parcels to Salinas and no longer have updates on that part of the project.

Mike Zeller, Director of Programming and Project Delivery, reported that negotiations for the acquisition of properties needed for the Salinas layover facility (Package 2) and Gilroy track improvements (Package 3) are ongoing.

Ms. Watson reported that the design is underway, the 100% plans were distributed in September, and that meetings continue.

Committee Member Alejo asked about phase 2 of the project, the Pajaro station, for which TAMC is seeking grant funding. Ms. Watson replied that staff is working on the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program application for Pajaro, due Friday. Awards will be announced in April.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, announced the next Committee meeting scheduled for March 6 will be cancelled due to TAMC staff and Chair LeBarre not being available. Ms. Watson noted that the April 3, 2023, meeting will be in person at the TAMC office and Supervisor Askew's office as a satellite option; locations will be noticed on the agenda. There will be a zoom link for remote participation by the public and ex-officio members.

7. ADJOURN

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 3:33 p.m.