



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, May 4, 2020

****3:00 PM****

REMOTE CONFERENCING ONLY

There will be NO physical location of the meeting.

Please see all the special meeting instructions at the end of this agenda

Join Zoom Meeting online at: <https://zoom.us/j/654778900>

OR

Via Zoom app: Meeting ID: 654 778 900

OR

By teleconference at: +1 669 900 6833, Code: 654 778 900

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.

1. Quorum Check, Call to Order and Introductions

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 Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Under this item, each member of the public is allowed three minutes to address concerns. Comments in items on this agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed. Persons who wish to address the Committee for public comment or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to Maria at maria@tamcmonterey.org by 5:00 pm the Thursday before the meeting, and such comments will be distributed to the Committee before the meeting.

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 March 2, 2020.

- Montiel

The draft minutes of the March 2, 2020 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

- 3.2. **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 March includes the kickoff of the Coast Rail Corridor Studies.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Watson

The study will lay the groundwork for implementing the State Rail Plan in the Monterey Bay Area. Progress on the study since the last report to this Committee in February includes final outreach and existing conditions documents, outlines for future memos, and the third Network Advisory Committee meeting.

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

- Watson

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in March include progress on construction of Package 1, the Lincoln Avenue Extension and parking improvements, and meetings related to future rail operations.

6. **DISCUSS** COVID-19 impacts on rail projects.

- Watson

Staff will discuss the temporary and long-term anticipated impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on the rail program and seek feedback on any

issues/concerns related to the crisis and how it may effect the rail program.

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, June 1, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Important Meeting Information

Remote Meetings: On March 12, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20, which enhances State and Local Governments ability to respond to COVID-19 Pandemic based on Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health. The Executive Order specifically allows local legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically, in order to protect public health. The public is strongly encouraged to use the Zoom app for best reception. Prior to the meeting, participants should download the Zoom app at: <https://zoom.us/download>. A link to simplified instruction for the use of the Zoom app is: <https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2018/07/03/video-communications-best-practice-guide/>.

Remote Meeting Public Comment: Due to current circumstances, there may be limited opportunity to provide verbal comments during the meeting. Persons who wish to address the Committee for public comment or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to maria@tamcmonterey.org by 5:00pm the Thursday before the meeting. Such comments will be distributed to the Committee before the meeting. Members of the public participating by Zoom are instructed to be on mute during the proceedings and to speak only when public comment is allowed, after requesting and receiving recognition from the Chair.

Agenda Packet and Documents: Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call or email the Agency office to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Complete agenda packets are on display online at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County website. 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 review at the Agency website. Agency contact information is as follows:

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
www.tamcmonterey.org
Office is closed an all employees are working remotely until further notice

TEL: 831-775-0903
EMAIL: info@tamcmonterey.org

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

Alternative Agenda Format and Auxiliary Aids: 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 staff at 831-775-0903. Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish language interpreters, 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 month.
- C 2.** **RECEIVE** reports attached online.
- C 3.** **RECEIVE** media clippings attached online.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Subject: **Draft March RPC Minutes**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of March 2, 2020.

SUMMARY:

The draft minutes of the March 2, 2020 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

- ▣ RPC Draft March 2019 minutes

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
DRAFT Minutes of March 2, 2020
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA

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

Brad Tarp Salinas resident

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Potter/ Smith/unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the February 3, 2020 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.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that 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. She reported that on February 19, TAMC staff and Committee members participated in the Central Coast Coalition legislative day in Sacramento. Ms. Watson noted that the next Policy Committee meeting will be in March 20th, 11 a.m. at the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission office.

Committee Member Potter reported that the Central Coast Coalition legislative day was a well-organized and productive day, with the five-county coalition sending a unified message.

Committee Member Smith noted that they met with Secretary Kim of the California State Transportation Agency.

Chair LeBarre noted that Fort Hunter Liggett is seeking a different federal designation that may bring in additional funding for infrastructure and that the Fort supports the King City rail station project.

Committee Member Smith noted that the City of Monterey Public Works department provides services to Fort Hunter Liggett via the Monterey Bay Defense Alliance service agreement with the Monterey Presidio.

5. SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE

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

Laurie Williamson, Senior Engineer, reported construction team continued to make progress constructing the Lincoln Avenue Extension and associated parking lot improvements. She noted that the project is approximately 56% completed in terms of project schedule and the contractor has invoiced 34% of the contract budget. Ms. Williamson noted that the construction team expects to start paving in the next few weeks and plans to complete the project in September 2020.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that staff and consultants continue to further negotiations for the acquisition of five parcels for the Salinas layover facility. Mr. Zeller noted that more information would be provided to the Board in March in a closed session.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that 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. She noted that TAMC staff is negotiating with HDR Engineering Inc. to do the work and is aiming to put the contact on the April Board meeting.

6. SURF! BUSWAY UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the SURF! Busway project along the Monterey Branch Line from Marina to Sand City.

Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner, reported that in 2018, Monterey Salinas Transit 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 benefit. She noted that in the 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.

Lisa Rheinheimer, Monterey-Salinas Transit, reported that the project development team held a meeting with key project stakeholders, including the Cities of Marina, Sand City, Seaside, California Coastal Commission, State Parks, and Caltrans District 5.

Ms. Jacobsen noted that the consultant team recently received the topographic data and is working to modify the engineering drawings to reflect the topography of the corridor. Ms. Jacobsen noted that in mid-February, MST, TAMC and the consultants went on a biking site visit of the rail corridor to collect data about key intersections within the corridor. Ms. Jacobsen shared a slideshow of pictures from the site visit with the Committee.

Committee Member Delgado asked whether there was room for the busway in the corridor with double tracks in Marina. Deputy Executive Director Todd Muck noted that the team was still brainstorming and looking over the technical information to determine alignment options.

Committee Member Smith asked about fencing ownership. Mr. Muck replied that the fence was sometimes within the TAMC right-of-way, but not always.

Brad Tarp, Salinas resident, asked about the campgrounds recently publicized for the State Park. Ms. Jacobsen replied that the team is working with State Parks.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None this month.

8. ADJOURN

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



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: May 4, 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 March includes the kickoff of the Coast Rail Corridor Studies.

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. In light of recent events, CRCC working group and policy meetings and activities are on hold until there is a clear path forward for progress; they anticipate a meeting, either in person or virtual, by early Summer.

On March 27, 2020, the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments held the Technical Kickoff Meeting and Outreach Immersion Meeting for the Coast Rail Corridor Studies. Those studies are defined as follows:

1. **Service Implementation Plan:** phased implementation plan for increasing the frequency of intercity rail service between Goleta and Salinas and achieving an integrated intercity rail and bus system through the Central Coast area consistent with the 2018 California State Rail Plan. The study will evaluate and recommend potential options for rail operations/ schedules, integrated intercity bus/rail service, local transit connectivity, infrastructure improvement needs, equipment needs, and governance.
2. **Passenger Rail Improvement Study:** comprehensive study of potential commuter rail feasibility and options – looking at technology options, service options, potential ridership, conceptual capital and operating costs, and plausible funding possibilities – with the objective of developing a feasible and realistic phased strategy for implementing commuter rail in the region.

The anticipated timeline for these studies is to have drafts for circulation to partner and stakeholder agencies in January (Service Implementation Plan) and March (Passenger Rail Study) 2021.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Subject: Rail Network Integration Study Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

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

SUMMARY:

The study will lay the groundwork for implementing the State Rail Plan in the Monterey Bay Area. Progress on the study since the last report to this Committee in February includes final outreach and existing conditions documents, outlines for future memos, and the third Network Advisory Committee meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The study has a budget of \$500,000, funded out of the state Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program: \$350,000 for consultant costs and \$150,000 for staff and in-house costs.

DISCUSSION:

The study focuses on determining the optimal options for: rail connectivity and operations, equipment needs, governance, and community benefits for service between Monterey County and Santa Clara County, Monterey and Santa Cruz, and the Coast Rail Corridor. This study will also assist TAMC by providing the data needed to prepare grant applications for funding new stations at Pajaro/Watsonville, Castroville, Soledad and King City.

Attached online are the following documents for the Committee to review:

- Stakeholder Engagement Plan - a document that guides outreach activities, this plan has been updated since the Rail Policy Committee reviewed it in October 2019.
- Existing & Future Conditions memo - the final memo, incorporating comments and changes since the presentation of the draft to this Committee in January 2020, lays the groundwork for the study by summarizing existing rail lines and rail line capacity, existing transit operations, recent studies and plans, and anticipated future conditions if those studies and plans are implemented.
- Governance Models memo outline - a draft outline of the forthcoming Governance and Operations Models memo. This memo will evaluate the options for governance and operations of future rail service on the Central Coast, using case studies of similar rail services in operation today.
- Network Integration Study outline - a draft outline of the final study. This study will be the final product of this contract.

The third Network Advisory Committee meeting for TAMC's Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study was held on April 27, 2020 via webinar. Staff will present a verbal update at the meeting.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Stakeholder Engagement Plan \(final\)](#)
- [Existing & Future Conditions memo \(final\)](#)
- [Governance Models memo outline \(draft\)](#)
- [Network Integration Study outline \(draft\)](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: May 4, 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 in March include progress on construction of Package 1, the Lincoln Avenue Extension and parking improvements, and meetings related to future rail operations.

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.

Package 1 is under construction by MPE Engineering for an original contract amount of \$7,487,989 with a contingency fund of \$1,123,200. On March 18, TAMC approved the fifth construction change order for a valley gutter in the west parking lot for \$22,294. On March 31, TAMC approved the sixth change order for Market Street pavement transitions for \$68,722.50. On April 14, TAMC approved the seventh change order for drainage, curb and gutter repair on Palmetto Avenue for \$12,550. On April 17, TAMC approved the eighth change order to repair the uplift of sidewalks caused by poor soil conditions for \$63,720. Approved change orders now total \$279,292.98, or 25% of the contingency fund approved by the Board. TAMC staff and MNS are working on additional change orders and will update the Committee when they have been approved.

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 March and April

2020, the construction team continued to make progress constructing the Lincoln Avenue Extension and associated parking improvements. The construction work is now 44% complete per the budget and 65% percent complete per the schedule.

Responding to COVID-19 has been a top priority for MPE. As of March 31, they added extra porta-potties and hand-wash stations on site and included social distancing into their safety briefings. As of April 3, the Monterey County Health Department issued a new order which gives new parameters for determining whether a construction project can be considered "essential". TAMC Counsel determined that proceeding with the completion of stage 1 complies with the order, but that MPE should then wait to start stage 2 pending a new order from the Health Department. **Attached online** is a map showing the improvements that are in stages 1 and 2. The staging was done to ensure access throughout construction to existing on-site uses such as the train station.

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. A closed session with a full update was on the April TAMC Board agenda.

Package 3: Gilroy Station & Track Improvements, Operations Scenarios

On March 17, 2020, Caltrain held a stakeholder advisory call to discuss next steps on the Business Plan. The presentation is available online as a **web attachment**. The Salinas extension is mentioned on slide 86, stating that two roundtrips to Salinas are subject to further planning and agreement by both Caltrain and Union Pacific. On April 15, TAMC and Caltrain staff met to discuss Caltrain's feasibility study evaluating the parameters of extending service from Gilroy to Salinas and to determine next steps toward a memorandum of understanding or similar agreement. Staff agreed to finalize the feasibility study, which will be provided to this Committee upon receipt, and to set up a meeting between Caltrain and Caltrans to discuss liability and insurance coverage questions. Caltrain is experiencing significant (95%) ridership impacts from the shelter-in-place orders, cause for a significant financial crisis for the rail operator, as it largely depends on fare revenue to support ongoing operations and maintenance costs. Caltrain continues to provide essential rail operations, albeit at a reduced frequency (42 round trips, down from 92).

On April 13, TAMC staff participated in the Northern California megaregional rail working group meeting, which included updates on Caltrans and California State Transportation Agency rail coordination efforts, the 2022 State Rail Plan, state rail fleet management plan, new transbay crossing project, and the integrated ticketing effort.

On April 22, the TAMC Board approved a new contract with HDR Engineering to complete the final design of Package 2 and 3, pending approval by the Independent Office of Audits and Investigations.

The Central Coast Highway 1 Climate Resiliency Study held its second public outreach meeting on February 27 and its third stakeholder meeting on April 14, and at this point they have found that re-routing the rails through Elkhorn Slough (about a mile of tracks) is not necessary for habitat reasons and that the railroad berm actually provides benefits to the environment that converting the tracks to a trestle would not provide. Possible elevation options in light of sea level rise include a levee system. TAMC's Network Integration Study's analysis of infrastructure capacity shows that double-tracking through the slough would not be required to support even the most ambitious level of rail service.

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

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Package 1 Construction Stages 1 & 2 Map](#)

- [March 2020 Caltrain Business Plan Presentation](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Subject: COVID-19 Impacts on Rail Projects

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

DISCUSS COVID-19 impacts on rail projects.

SUMMARY:

Staff will discuss the temporary and long-term anticipated impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on the rail program and seek feedback on any issues/concerns related to the crisis and how it may effect the rail program.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Construction delays and delays caused by remote work may have financial implications to the rail program. Federal or state infrastructure stimulus funds may help offset the costs of lost ridership on the transit system.

DISCUSSION:

On March 19, 2020, Monterey Salinas Transit (MST) declared a fiscal emergency to enable implementation of emergency service reductions and other strategies to respond to the COVID-19 crisis, including seeking state or federal assistance.

On March 27, the President signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or CARES Act. The Transportation section has important grant features that may help MST through this crisis:

- Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Transit Infrastructure Grants – \$25 billion for transit providers, including states and local governments across the country, for operating and capital expenses. Funding will be distributed using existing FTA formulas.

In addition, the CARES Act could help Amtrak:

- Amtrak – \$1.018 billion for Amtrak operating assistance to cover revenue losses related to coronavirus. In addition funding is provided to help states pay for their share of the cost of state supported routes.

As reported under the Salinas Rail Extension project update, construction of Package 1, stage 2, is subject to delays as a result of the April 3 County Health Department order changing the definition of "essential" construction projects. The remaining work within the rail station project area (Stage 2) will be delayed until the construction restrictions are lifted, for the safety of construction workers.

Anticipated grant funding for rail projects may be delayed. TAMC supported two applications for Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grants - one from Monterey-Salinas Transit for the SURF! project in the Monterey Branch Line

corridor, and one from the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency for a valuation of the coast rail corridor. The California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) was scheduled to announce awards on April 1, but delayed announcements on the TIRCP awards. Staff will update the Committee once the awards are announced.

On April 15, 2020, Todd Clark from the Museum of Handcar Technology contacted TAMC to suspend the lease agreement for a demonstration handcar project on the Monterey Branch Line this summer, due to the impacts of sheltering in place requirements and the anticipated continuing limitations on gatherings and travel. As the lease agreement expires on August 31, 2020, TAMC will reach out to Mr. Clark to determine next steps in advance of that expiration date and will update the Committee in August.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Subject: Reports

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE reports attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [April 10, 2020 message from Capitol Corridor](#)
- [April 17, 2020 notice from the California High-Speed Rail Authority re: San Jose to Merced Project Section Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Statement will be available April 24-June 8, 2020](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Subject: **Media Clippings**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE media clippings attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [April 9, 2020 article in the New York Times, "Transit Has Been Battered by Coronavirus. What's Ahead May Be Worse"](#)
- [April 12, 2020 article in Planetizen, "A new ballot measure could increase Caltrain's funding by \\$108 million per year"](#)