

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Final Minutes of January 8, 2024

55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, California 93901 - Transportation Agency Conference Room

Alternate locations: 2616 1st Avenue, Marina, California 93933 - Supervisor Askew's Office

11140 Speegle Street, Castroville CA, 95012 Supervisor Church's Office

168 West Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901, Supervisor Alejo's Office

	JAN 23	FEB 23	MA R 23	APR 23	MAY 23	JUN 23	JUL 23	AUG 23	SEP 23	OCT 23	NOV 23	JAN 24
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez , J. Gomez)	P(A)	P	C	P	P	C	N	P	P	P(A) (VC)	P	P
G. Church, Dist. 2 (M. Vierra , L. Gray)	A	P	A	P(A)	P(A)	A	O	P(A)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)
W. Askew, Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson, E. Mora)	P(A)	P(A)	N	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	N		P(A)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (C. Courtney)	E	A	C	P(A) (VC)	E	C	M	E	A	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	A	P	E	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	P
B. Delgado Marina (vacant)	P	P	L	A	A	L	E	A	A	A	P (VC)	A
E. Smith, Monterey (K. Barber, M. Garcia, A. Renny)	P	A	L	P	A	L	T	P	A	P	P	E
A. Sandoval, Salinas, (A. Rocha)	P	P	E	E	P	E	I	A	P	P	P	P(A)
M. Carbone, Sand City (J. Blackwelder)	A	A	D	A	A	D	N	A	A	A	P	A
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)	P	P		P	P		G	P	P	P	A	P
F. Cabrera, Soledad (A. Velazquez)	P	P		P	P			P	P	A	A	P
D. Potter, At Large Member, Vice Chair (J. Barron)	P	P		E	P			E	A	E	P	P
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson , P. Hierling)	A	P(A)		P(A)	P(A) (VC)			P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	E	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)
A. Lopez, Caltrans District 5	P	P		A	P (VC)			A	A	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
C. Sedoryk, MST (L. Rheinheimer/ M. Overmeyer)	E	P(A)		P(A)	P (VC)			P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P(A)

STAFF												
T. Muck, Executive Director	P	P		E	P			E	P	P	P	P
C. Watson, Director of Planning	P	P		P	P			P	P	P	P	P
M. Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery	E	P		P	P (VC)			P (VC)	E	E	P (VC)	E
M. Montiel Admin Assistant	P	P		P	P			P	P	P	P	P
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer	P	P		P	P (VC)			P (VC)	P (VC)	A	P	P
D. Bilse, Principal Engineer	A	P		P	P (VC)			P (VC)	A	P (VC)	P (VC)	A
A. Guther, Assis. Transp. Planner	P	P		P	E			P	P	P	P	P
T. Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator	A	P		E	A			A	A	A	A	A
J. Strause, Transportation Planner	A	A		A	A			P	P (VC)	P (VC)	A	A
A. Hernandez Transp. Planner		P		A	A			A	A	A	A	A
A. Sambrano Transp. Planner									P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P

P = Present A = Absent P(A) = Alternate Present E = Excused (VC) = Video Conference

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 3: 00p.m. A quorum was established.

OTHERS PRESENT

Tarah Gatten	Caltrans	Javier Gomez	District 1 staff
Shannon Simonds	Caltrans	Jasmine Mejia Cortez	District 1 staff
Vibeke Norgaard	City Manager, Sand City	Javier Fernandez	Public
Zane Mortensen	Sand City Staff	William Godwin	Public
Michael Groves	EMC	Walt	Public
Brianna Goodman	SCCRTC		

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Alejo/ Potter/ unanimous

- 3.1** Approved minutes of the November 6, 2023, Rail Policy Committee meeting.
- 3.2** Received update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project.
- 3.3** Received update on the Pajaro Multimodal Station Project.
- 3.4** Received media clippings attached online.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. SAND CITY BIKE TRAIL AND PARKING PROPOSAL

The Committee received information related to a proposal for a multi-use trail and parking on the Monterey Branch Line in Sand City.

Executive Director Todd Muck reported that he has discussed with city representatives potential uses of Agency-owned property within Sand City. He noted that Sand City is proposing a one-mile segment of a multi-use trail and parking in two areas within TAMC-owned right-of-way. Mr. Muck noted that the city promises that the “proposed multi-use trail will take into consideration the future use of the TAMC corridor for rail and/or bus transit would no obstruct any of the existing rail infrastructure” and would minimize conflict with the existing property leases.

Zane Mortensen, City Planner, Sand City, presented the City’s proposal of a 12-20-foot-wide path for pedestrian and bike traffic within the Monterey Branch Line right-of-way.

Committee members provided the following feedback on the proposal:

- Ensure any improvements preserve the rail corridor and avoid any rework when eventual rail and/or bus corridor is constructed;
- Ensure plans, vision, images reflect preservation of rail corridor;
- Show connections to broader trail network such as the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway project;
- Consider whether there needs to be a fence between the trail and rail corridor;
- City would be responsible for monitoring and maintaining the trail and parking and ensuring adequate lighting; and
- Consider solar panels as a source of energy that may help cover maintenance costs.

Lisa Rheinheimer, Monterey-Salinas Transit, reported that MST supports Sand City's proposal and MST is happy to be part of the planning process.

M/S/C Askew/Alejo/unanimous

On a motion by Committee Member Askew, seconded by Committee Member Alejo, the Committee voted 9-0 to support the conceptual project and direct staff to continue coordination with Sand City staff and recommend a presentation to the full Board to provide support for the conceptual design as currently envisioned.

Executive Director Muck noted that staff will work with Sand City staff to bring a presentation to the February or March Board meeting.

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, Director of Planning, reported that the next CRCC Policy Committee meeting is planned for February 16, 2024, in Oakland. She noted that certain member agencies of the CRCC have voted to allocate some portions of their Senate Bill 125 funding to projects that support the Coast Rail project. Ms. Watson noted that staff will seek authorization from the Board in January to contribute \$10,000 to the grant application consultant contract.

Shannon Simonds, Caltrans, reported that the Federal Railroad Administration announced the Corridor Identification grant awards, five of which went to Caltrans to help California rail operators create Service Development Plans, which will enable them to apply for federal funding. She noted that several of California's rail corridors are larger than most states. She noted that Caltrans wants to support all the projects along the Coast in making progress.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None this month.

7. ADJOURN

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m.