

AGENDA

TAMC RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting of Monday

June 2, 2008

*****3:00 P.M.*****

**Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas**

Complete agenda packets are on display at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) office and at these public libraries: Carmel, Monterey, Salinas Steinbeck Branch, Seaside, Prunedale, and King City. Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call the TAMC office to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Please recycle this agenda.

1. **Roll Call and Introductions.** A quorum for the voting TAMC Rail Policy Committee members consists of a minimum of 6 of the following voting members: Potter (Chair), Rubio (Vice-Chair), Armenta, Calcagno, Mettee-McCutchon, Wilmot, Sollecito, Villegas, Morgan, Ortiz.
If you are unable to attend, please make sure that one of your two 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.

BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA: Approve the staff recommendations for **items 3.1 - 3.3** 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 April 7, 2008 Rail Policy Committee meeting.
– Cook

Pages 5 - 7

- 3.2 **RECEIVE** information on the Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account project nomination guidelines. – Watson **Pages 8 - 9**

Project nominations for the Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account are due June 16, 2008. \$100 million is available statewide for high-priority railroad crossing improvements, including grade separation projects.

- 3.3 **RECEIVE** information about Steinbeck Steam Salinas Special postponement to 2009. – Watson **No Enclosures**

The plan to run a special exhibition steam engine-led Caltrain train from San Francisco to Salinas during the Steinbeck festival has been postponed to 2009 for logistical reasons.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. **APPROVE** the list of mode alternatives for the Monterey Branch Line Project and timing for the selection of a locally preferred alternative. – Hoschouer **Pages 10 - 12**

An updated list of alternatives for the Monterey Branch Line has been developed and will be presented as well as an updated timeline for selecting a locally preferred alternative.

5. **RECEIVE** information about the draft scope of work for a contract with Woodside Consulting Group to provide Caltrain Commuter Rail Extension to Monterey County Project Assistance with Negotiations. – Watson **Pages 13 - 14**

Parsons is under contract to the Agency to provide technical assistance in strategy and negotiations with Federal Transit Administration, Union Pacific, Caltrain Joint Powers Board and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. This contract is for additional outside contract assistance to Agency and Parsons staff in these negotiations. A selection panel selected Woodside Consulting Group as the most qualified applicant for this work.

6. **RECEIVE** update on the Castroville bicycle/ pedestrian undercrossing project. – Watson **Pages 15 - 19**

Agency staff have been coordinating with the County on planning for the Castroville bicycle/ pedestrian undercrossing project, as a sub-element of the Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project and planning for the station in Castroville. Monterey County Public Works and Agency staff will present a project update at this meeting.

7. **RECEIVE** update on Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project schedule.
– Watson **Pages 20 - 22**

The Caltrain Commuter Rail Extension to Monterey County service will provide extended Caltrain service from the existing terminus in Gilroy to Monterey County, including stations in Salinas, Castroville and Pajaro; relieving congestion and providing transportation alternatives for commuters traveling between Monterey County and southern Santa Cruz County to the San Francisco Bay Area. The Transportation Agency is aiming for the start of service in 2011.

8. **RECEIVE** information and **PROVIDE** input on Rail~Volution mobile workshop ideas. – Watson **Pages 23 - 25**

The Rail~Volution conference will take place in San Francisco from October 26-30, 2008. A mobile workshop to Monterey is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 30, 2008.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** and/or **COMMENTS** from Rail Policy Committee members on matters that they wish to put on future Committee agendas.

10. **WATCH** intercity rail video. – Potter **No Enclosures**

The Capitol Corridor led the production of a video on Intercity Passenger Rail in California, featuring Supervisor Potter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Rail Policy Committee meeting:

Monday, August 4, 2008, 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

by Tuesday, July 22, 2008

55-B PLAZA CIRCLE, SALINAS, CA 93901-2902

TEL: 831-775-0903

FAX: 831-775-0897

The next Rail Policy Committee agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon Tuesday, July 22, 2008 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

Online at www.tamcmonterey.org

- C-1** March 17, 2008 article in the *Washington Post*, "Letting the Market Drive Transportation: Bush Officials Criticized for Privatization."
- C-2** April 1, 2008 article in the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, "Purchase of 32-mile rail line slated for fall."
- C-3** April 5, 2008 article in the *Palo Alto Daily News*, "Ridership rockets to record: Baby Bullet helps push numbers past 2001 peak."
- C-4** April 7, 2008 article in *Progressive Railroading*, "Caltrain, MBTA chalk up more riders."
- C-5** April 20, 2008 article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "High-speed rail bonds heading for ballot."
- C-6** May 9, 2008 article in *Late Breaking Rail Industry News* "House committee seeks five-year Amtrak reauthorization."
- C-7** May 12, 2008 email from A.J. Farrar re: "Money allocated for improvements along Starlight route."
- C-8** Page of the Bay Rail Alliance website, "What problems are encountered when a passenger rail train uses tracks owned by freight rail companies?"