

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
 SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS
 MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE
 JOINT POWERS AGENCY

Final Minutes of January 28, 2009 TAMC Board Meeting

Held at the
 Agricultural Center –Conference Room
 1428 Abbott Street, Salinas

	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09
F. Armenta, Supr. Dist. 1 (A. Chavez)	P	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P	P(A)	N	P(A)	P
L. Calcagno, Supr. Dist. 2 2nd Vice Chairman (H. Gowin)	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	O	P	P
S. Salinas, Supr. Dist. 3 (D. Dunham)	P	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P		P(A)	P
J. Parker Supr. Dist. 4 (K. Markey)	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	M	P(A)	P
D. Potter, Supr. Dist 5 Chairman (K. Lee)	P	P	P(A)	P	E	P(A)	P	P	E	P	P
K. Sharp, Carmel-by-the-Sea	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
J. Edelen, Del Rey Oaks (J. Russell)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	T	P	P
M. Orozco, Gonzales (M. Gourley)	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	I	P	P
J. Huerta, Greenfield – Past Chair (A. Moreno)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N	P	P
S. Kleber, King City (J. Pereira)	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	G	P	P
B. Delgado, Marina (K. Gray)	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P		E	E
F. Sollecito, Monterey - 1 st Vice Chair (C. Della Sala, W. Reichmuth)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P
D. Lindsay, Pacific Grove (C. Garcia)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P		P	P
S. Villegas, Salinas (R. Russell, J. Serrano)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P(A)	P	-		P	P
S. Matarazzo, Sand City (R. Simonitch)	P	P(A)	P	-	-	P	-	P		P	P
R. Rubio, Seaside (S. Bloomer, D. Ingersoll)	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P		P	P
R.Ortiz, Soledad (G. Gerbrandt)	P	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)
R. Rubio, AMBAG (R. Deshazo)	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P		P	P
M. Bersamin, Watsonville (M. Rodriguez)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-
R. Krumholz, Caltrans, Dist. 5 (A. Loe, D. Murray, M. McCumsey)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P	P(A)		P	P(A)
J. Getchell, MBUAPCD (B. Nunes, D. Fairchild)	-	-	-	P	E	P	P	P		E	P
W. Sabo, Mtry Pen. Airport Dist. (R. Searle)	-	P(A)	P	E	P	P	E	P		P	P
C. Sedoryk, MST (H. Harvath, M. Hernandez)	P	P(A)	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P		P	P(A)

TAMC STAFF	FEB 08	MAR 08	APR 08	MAY 08	JUN 08	AUG 08	SEP 08	OCT 08	NOV 08	DEC 08	JAN 09
D. Hale, Executive Director	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N	P	P
L. Blankenship, TAMC Counsel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	O	P	P
D. Bachman, Deputy Executive Director	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P
K. Chen, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	E	P	E	P	M	P	P
A. Cook, Associate Trans. Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	P
D. Delfino, Finance Officer/Analyst	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
R. Goel, Administrative Services Mgr.	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	T	P	P
K. Hoschouer, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	I	P	P
M. Montiel, Administrative Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	N	P	P
T. Muck, Principal Trans. Planner	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	G	P	P
H. Myers, Associate Engineer	E	E	E	E	E	P	E	P		P	P
E. Rodriguez, Senior Admin. Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P
L. Terry, Accountant Assistant							P			P	P
C. Watson, Senior Trans. Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P		P	P
M. Zeller, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P

OTHERS PRESENT

Trish Lopez	Monterey County Public Works	Patrick Dobbins	Mark Thomas & Company Inc.
Rich Deal	City of Monterey	Diane Ingersoll	City of Seaside
Lacey Raak	City of Monterey	Jim Vossen	KNRY AM
Christy Hopper	City of Monterey	Mary Lou Vossen	KNRY AM
Jim Cullem	Harris & Associates	Ron Pasquinelli	Monterey Taxpayer's Assoc.
Dell Matt	101 Bypass Committee	Sam Teel	Monterey Taxpayer's Assoc.
Mark Silberstein	Elkhorn Slough Foundation	Carmelita Garcia	City of Pacific Grove
Tuan Nguyen	URS Corporation	Kristi Markey	District 4 Aide
David Silberberger	Caltrans District 5	Alma Almanza	CCCIL
Mark McCumsey	Caltrans District 5	Derrick Mills	Sound consultant
Steve Collins	Grower-Shippers Association	Mario Romo	Access Monterey Peninsula
Walter Grant	Mark Thomas & Company Inc.	Alex Vasquez	Access Monterey Peninsula
Chirs Orman	North County Fire	Michael Martins	Access Monterey Peninsula
Richard Perez	City of Soledad	Tim Nysten	CHOMP
Bryce Graybill	CHOMP	Ken Gordon	CHOMP
Al Bettencourt	CHOMP	Adriana Robles	Bestor Engineers
Tom Sears	Monterey County Housing Authority	Pat Ward	Bestor Engineers
Starla Warren	Monterey County Housing Authority	Patrick Amaris	
Carolina Sahagun	Monterey County Housing Authority	Randy Bruino	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Staff confirmed that a quorum was present. Chairman Sollecito called the meeting to order.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Armenta/Rubio

Approved Consent Agenda

Opposed: Gerbrandt

ADMINISTRATION and BUDGET

- 3.1.1** Approved minutes of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County and the Joint Powers Agency for Monterey County meetings of December 3, 2008.
- 3.1.2** Accepted the list of checks written for November and December 2008 and credit card statements for the months of October and November 2008.
- 3.1.3** Received report on conferences attended by Agency staff.
- 3.1.4** Approved Resolution No. 2009-01, to add new Board Chair Frank Sollecito, Executive Director Debra Hale, Deputy Executive Director Don Bachman, and Administrative Services Manager Rita Goel, to list of authorized signatures for banking services in support of agency financial operations.
- 3.1.5** Approved the amendment to the Will Gallagher contract to transfer all of the interests and obligations of the consultant from Will Gallagher to Oppidea LLC.
- 3.1.6** Approved the basic concept and format of the 2008 Transportation Agency for Monterey County Annual Report.

BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, TRANSIT and SOCIAL SERVICES

- 3.2.1** This item was pulled from the agenda for comment at the request of Board alternate Gerbrandt, then added back on the consent agenda and approved.

Approved amendments to Resolutions 2008-12 and 2008-14 allocating Fiscal Year 2008-09 Local Transportation Funds for Monterey-Salinas Transit Line 23 Express operations through June of 2009.

Board alternate Gerbrandt acknowledged that the south county cities contribute their Local Transportation Funds to Monterey-Salinas Transit.

- 3.2.2** This item was pulled from the agenda for comment at the request of Board alternate Gerbrandt, then added back on the consent agenda and approved.

Approved short-term, zero interest Regional Service Transportation Program (RSTP) loan to Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) in the amount of \$1,500,000 for bus purchase debt reduction subject to approval of a draft agreement by Agency Counsel.

Board alternate Gerbrandt expressed the City of Soledad's concern with the loss of interest, taking funds from RSTP and allocating an interest-free loan to MST. He asked which projects will this affect and if the projects will be delayed or not funded at all. Mr. Gerbrandt also asked if the loan was secured and in conclusion, noted that this item should not have been on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Hale replied that the loan is secured through the annual local transportation funds that the Agency gives to MST. She also noted that this loan is consistent with the long-range goals of Agency to support regional transit. Deputy Executive Director Bachman noted that no projects are expected to be delayed due to the loan.

Hunter Harvath, MST, noted that the current state fiscal crisis has caused cash flow problems at MST and MST is asking TAMC for help. He noted that delaying the loan puts MST's services at risk.

PLANNING

- 3.3.1** Adopted CALCOG 2009 Priority Actions.
- 3.3.2** Received revised final 2009 Legislative Program.
- 3.3.3** Approved cost sharing agreement between the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, the San Benito Council of Governments and the Transportation Agency for environmental review of the 2010 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Regional Transportation Plans.

PROJECT DELIVERY and PROGRAMMING

- 3.4.1** Approved the request by City of Seaside to allocate \$284, 487 in Regional Surface Transportation Program fair share funds from the Fiscal Years 04/05/06 cycle to 2008 Pavement Management System Implementation and to reallocate fair share funds from the Fiscal Years 07/08/09 cycle in the amounts of \$10,000 from the Circle Avenue Retaining Wall project and \$50,000 from the Emergency Vehicle Detection project to the Fremont/Trinity Lighted Crosswalk project.
- 3.4.2** Received fiscal year 2007-2008 Freeway Service Patrol Annual Report.
- 3.4.3** Regarding Construction Management Request for Qualifications:
1. Approved the construction management on-call consultant scope of work; and
 2. Authorized staff to release the standardized request for qualification with the scope of work, score the received statements of qualifications, and conduct interviews as necessary.

RAIL PROGRAM

3.5.1 *No items this month*

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE

3.6.1 Received update on the Regional Development Impact Fee Strategic Expenditure Plan.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

3.7.1 Accepted minutes from Transportation Agency committees:

- Executive Committee – Draft January 7, 2009
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee – Draft January 7, 2009
(online at www.tamcmonterey.org)
- Rail Policy Committee – No Meeting
- Social Services Transportation Advisory Council –Draft January 8, 2009
(online at www.tamcmonterey.org)
- Technical Advisory Committee – Draft January 8, 2009

END OF CONSENT

4. FISCAL YEAR 2008-09 STATE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE FUND ALLOCATIONS

M/S/C Sharp/Armenta
Opposed: Gerbrandt

The Board approved revised administrative policies regarding State Transit Assistance funding; and approved State Transit Assistance and Proposition 1B bond allocations for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

Andy Cook, Associate Transportation Planner, reported that the Board of Directors adopted revisions to the Agency's administrative policies in February 2008 to eliminate substantial and ongoing unallocated carryover of State Transit Assistance balances. The new policy awards these funds to transit operators competitively. In response to a request from the City of Soledad, Counsel reviewed the State Transit Assistance policies and recommends a revision based on state law. Mr. Cook reported that MST has requested that all available State Transit Assistance be allocated to backfill lost operating funds for its RIDES paratransit service, which is a federal Americans with Disabilities Act mandate. MST does not have sufficient operating funding to cover these costs given the state budget cuts. This program is eligible to use State Transit Assistance to cover operating expenses. Mr. Cook also reported that the City of Soledad has requested that the new Agency policy not apply retroactively to past carryover funds, and further that all past carryover funds for the City be allocated to the City for projects, including \$200,000 for a hybrid replacement bus. Agency staff recommends an award of up to \$100,000, in Prop 1B funds, which represents the estimated cost of a hybrid vehicle should it be included on the Caltrans' procurement contract, or the cost of a gasoline or diesel-fueled bus, which is substantially less.

Public comment:

Alma Almanza, CCCIL, urged the Board to approve staff's recommended State Transit Assistance allocations and revised administrative policies regarding State Transit Assistance funding; noting that MST RIDES is essential for providing transportation to persons with disabilities.

Board alternate Gerbrandt reported that this is clearly a transparency issue. The Soledad City Council voted to purchase a hybrid bus to go green and the City should be able to get the type of bus they want, noting a hybrid bus will save money for the city.

Board member Armenta reported that the policy change doesn't demonstrate a lack of transparency; the Board has had transparency going back to when the new policy was first adopted in February 2008. He noted that the Board has the responsibility to think regionally and needs to be flexible. TAMC members need to be regional partners in transportation.

Board member Salinas expressed support for MST's function and asked if there had been an attempt to compromise with Soledad to grant them more than \$100,000. Executive Director Hale replied that the proposal for \$100,000 represents a compromise, since the cost of a diesel van is in the range of \$60,000.

Board member Sharp reported that we're in hard economic times and expressed concern for the RIDES program, noting we have to be very careful to preserve services.

5. FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS PACKAGE UPDATE

M/S/C Potter/Huerta/unanimous

The Board received an update on the federal infrastructure stimulus package and authorized staff to issue a call for projects.

Todd Muck, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that Agency staff has been working with Caltrans, other transportation agencies in the State, Monterey-Salinas Transit, and local jurisdictions to promote a federal transportation infrastructure stimulus package that benefits Monterey County. He recommended that a priority list of projects to receive stimulus package funds be developed in order to meet short timelines anticipated after the stimulus package is enacted into law. Current versions of the stimulus package would require at least half of the funding to be federally obligated within 75 to 120 days. Mr. Muck reported that the clock will start when the President signs the bill, so staff is asking the Board to issue a call for projects that are ready to go.

Executive Director Hale noted that staff sent out a memo and application for the Transportation Agency for Monterey County's call for federal infrastructure stimulus package projects to the Public Works Directors, City Managers, and Technical Advisory Committee. She noted that the deadline for the applications is February 9, 2009, at 12 p.m.

Board member Potter reported that because of the time constraint, the Agency should utilize the Executive Committee to review the draft allocation of funds. He also recommended that staff continue with an expedited process, noting relaxing environmental processes are highly unlikely to happen. In conclusion, Mr. Potter noted that staff should coordinate with the County's legislative committee and our state and federal representatives.

Board member Rubio asked that contractors meet federal prequalification requirements. Mr. Muck noted that under the proposed stimulus package, all existing federal requirements must be met except for the matching funds requirement.

6. **AGRICULTURAL FREIGHT RAIL ECONOMIC STUDY**

The Board received report on an agricultural freight rail feasibility study.

Steve Collins, consultant to the Grower Shipper Association of Central California, presented findings from the *Agricultural Transportation Intermodal Rail Study; Market Feasibility and Economic Assessment*. Mr. Collins noted that the economic feasibility analysis found that the proposal to ship more produce and other freight by rail via the construction of a rail shipping center in the Salinas Valley would provide a significant benefit to the County of Monterey and its surrounding areas, as well as to the shippers and growers in the area.

Board member Lindsay asked if it would be possible to use electric trains or some fuel other than the traditional diesel fuel. Mr. Collins replied that this consideration would be part of the next study.

Randy Deshazo, AMBAG, reported that in late February, AMBAG will issue a request for proposals for consultant services to look at existing freight infrastructure needs in a five-county region from Santa Barbara to Santa Cruz. The goal of their study is to establish a freight study taskforce to pursue federal and state funds and build on Grower-Shipper study.

Board member Huerta thanked Mr. Collins for his presentation and noted his support for the freight study and its findings.

Vice Chairman Calcagno noted that agriculture is Monterey County's key economic mover and provides the majority of the county's jobs. He also said that the Agency and its partners moving forward with this study will help to ensure the agriculture sector remains viable.

Board member Sharp agreed that the findings are positive for the local economy.

Public comment:

Dell Matt, Highway 101 Bypass Committee, expressed traffic concerns regarding how the residents of Prunedale might be affected and whether the proposed loading center would generate more traffic on Highway 101 north of Salinas. Mr. Collins replied that the traffic on Highway 101 north of Salinas should diminish, noting the train loading facility would probably be located south of Salinas and west of Highway 101.

7. **HIGHWAY 101 – SAN JUAN ROAD INTERCHANGE PROJECT STATUS**

The Board received a presentation from Dave Silberberger on the Highway 101 – San Juan Road Interchange project.

Mr. Silberberger reported the US 101 – San Juan Road Interchange project will address congestion and safety issues on US 101 in the vicinity of San Juan Road, near the Red Barn and the Monterey County/San Benito County line. The project has progressed to the point that preliminary engineering is complete and that the draft environmental document (Mitigated Negative Declaration / Environmental Assessment) was released for public review and comment on January 15, 2009. Mr. Silberberger reported that this is a 3 for 1 project, noting there are 3 main at-grade intersections taken care of by 1-interchange. He reported that the total cost for this project is \$90 million funded in 3-parts by State Transportation Improvement Program, Trade Corridor bond funds and a local match. Executive Director Hale clarified that the Transportation Agency needs to decide which funding sources to use toward the project to come up with the local match. She noted that the original plan was to use Measure Z funds, but because the sales tax failed, the Agency is looking at developer fees and federal funds.

In conclusion Mr. Silberberger announced a public hearing for the project and the environmental document would be held at the Aromas School Gymnasium on February 5, 2009 from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

8. **BOARD PHOTO**

This item was postponed to a future date.

9. **PRESENTATION OF 2008 TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

The Board Honored Monterey County businesses, groups, individuals, projects, community plans or events that have worked to improve transportation.

Award-Winning Individuals:

- Jim and Mary Lou Vossen: Program Director, Your Town Show, KNRY AM 1240
- Ron Pasquinelli & Sam Teel: Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association

Project/Program:

- Mustard Seed Biodiesel Research: Monterey-Salinas Transit
Hunter Harvath, Monterey-Salinas Transit, accepted the award.
- Holman Highway 68 – Community Hospital Project: City of Monterey, TAMC, Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, County of Monterey, URS Corporation, Granite Construction, Bestor Engineers, Caltrans, The Coastal Commission.
Rich Deal, Christy Hopper, and Lacey Raak of City of Monterey; Adriana Robles and Pat Ward of Bestor Engineers; Ken Gordon, Bryce Graybill, Tim Nysten, and Al Bettencourt of Community Hospital; Tuan Nguyen, URS Corporation; and Aileen Loe, Caltrans accepted the award.
- Basin Complex Fire – Highway 1 Winter Preparation Project: Caltrans – District 5, Granite Construction, AIS Construction, and Hi Tech Rockfall Construction.
Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5, accepted the award.
- Elkhorn Slough Early Mitigation Partnership: Caltrans—District 5, California Coastal Commission, California Dept. of Fish and Game, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Elkhorn Slough Foundation, Federal Highway Administration, Monterey County Planning Dept, National Marine Fisheries Service, TAMC, University of California Davis, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Mark Silberstein, Elkhorn Slough Foundation, and Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5, accepted the award.

Honorable Mention:

- Point Lobos State Reserve-Accessible Trail: California State Parks
Dana Jones, State Parks, accepted the award.
- Tynan Village, Transit-Oriented Development: Monterey County Housing Authority
Starla Warren, Monterey County Housing Authority, accepted the award.
- Seaside Auto Center Revitalization Project: City of Seaside
Diane Ingersoll, City of Seaside, accepted the award.
- Agricultural Freight Rail Study, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California: City of Salinas, Monterey County, TAMC
Steve Collins, Grower Shipper Association, accepted the award.

- City of Soledad Bike Lanes: City of Soledad
Gary Gerbrandt, City of Soledad, accepted the award.
- Moss Landing – Route 1 Centerline ‘Soft’ Median Barrier and Turnouts Project: Caltrans – District 5
Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5, accepted the award.
- Pacific Street Improvements: City of Monterey
Rich Deal and Lacey Raak, City of Monterey, accepted the award.
- Reservation Road Bike Lanes: City of Marina
Christi di Iorio, City of Marina, accepted the award.
- Larkin Street Bridge: City of Monterey
Rich Deal and Lacey Raak, City of Monterey, accepted the award.

Board Chairman Sollecito presented a plaque of appreciation to outgoing TAMC Board Chair Dave Potter for his service on the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Board of Directors, representing District 5 and for his contributions to improving transportation facilities and services in Monterey County. Chairman Sollecito noted that he looks to Past Chairman Potter as a mentor, and thanked him for a job well done.

10. **REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY BOARD MEMBERS AT TRANSPORTATION AGENCY EXPENSE, AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW**
None.

11. REPORTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

- ❑ **Caltrans** –Aileen Loe, Chief Deputy for District 5 Planning, reported that the Caltrans construction project report in the agenda was current. She announced a grant workshop on transportation grant opportunities scheduled on February 4, 2009 in San Luis Obispo. She noted that Caltrans is working with TAMC on the creation of the potential list of projects for the stimulus package.

Chairman Potter asked why the on/off ramps on Highway 1, Carmel northbound are closed in the evenings, noting most recently the closure at Highway 68. Ms. Loe said she would look into the ramp closures and report back at a future date.

- ❑ **Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments** – Randy Deshazo, Senior Planner, announced that AMBAG is working with the Transportation Agency on the Regional Blueprint Planning and noted that they are continuing to seek support and participation. He announced that Senate Bill 375 calls for regions in California to shrink their carbon footprint. The bill also seeks to align the long-range transportation planning process and the regional housing needs assessment. In conclusion, he reported that AMBAG will be working with the local agencies to develop a local strategy for approaching this bill.
- ❑ **Fort Ord Reuse Authority** – No report this month.
- ❑ **Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District** – Jean Getchell announced the Air District and City of Monterey would be hosting the Air Quality Project Analysis and Strategies for addressing climate change conference on February 20, 2009. The conference is free and will be held in the Steinbeck Forum at the Monterey Conference Center, Monterey.
- ❑ **Monterey Peninsula Airport District** – No report this month.
- ❑ **Monterey-Salinas Transit** – Hunter Harvath thanked the Board for supporting MST during these tough economic times. He reported that MST has eliminated administrative positions and on January 3, 2009 raised fares instead of making service cuts.

12. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Hale reported that staff is actively working on setting up meetings with the Board members to prepare for our study session to discuss the Agency's goals and objectives scheduled in March. She announced that Brigid McGrath Massie would be hosting the study session and that Ms. Massie would be contacting the Board members independently for their input.

13. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM TRANSPORTATION AGENCY MEMBERS ON MATTERS THAT THEY WISH TO PUT ON FUTURE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY AGENDAS**

Board member Potter asked for the status on the Laureles Grade project. Executive Director Hale replied that staff has contacted County public works and noted an update would be provided at a future date. Ms. Hale also noted the need for public outreach on the Laureles Grade project.

Board alternate Gerbrandt thanked Chairman Sollecito and Ms. Hale for the opportunity to be heard. Mr. Armenta thanked the City of Soledad for its comments.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Sollecito adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.