

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: For the TAMC meeting this Wednesday, October 23, Item 12, #1 (Public Comment; Closed Session; Real Estate Negotiations).
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:37:46 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. (831) 775-4414 / Fax (831) 775-0897
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: acless@aol.com <acless@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 4:58 PM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: For the TAMC meeting this Wednesday, October 23, Item 12, #1 (Public Comment; Closed Session; Real Estate Negotiations).

This message is for the TAMC meeting this Wednesday, October 23, Item 12, #1 (Public Comment; Closed Session; Real Estate Negotiations).

To the TAMC Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Clerk of the Board:

I wholeheartedly support keeping the Handcar Tours in Marina. Please extend the lease of the Monterey Branch Line for Handcar Tours. Better yet, please find a way for TAMC and Handcar Tours to co-exist, preferably in their current location. The Handcar Tours brings a unique, positive, memorable experience to share with family and friends of all ages, which includes the local community and visitors to our area. Handcar Tours has proven to be a positive tourist attraction to our community. It has a 4.8 star Google review rating from 174 customers. Please read the reviews to see for yourselves how this tourist attraction brings joy and wonderful memories of being on the Monterey Peninsula. I am sure that Handcar Tours visitors and tourists venture to other sites, benefitting the Monterey Peninsula. This unique, memorable experience brings so much joy to its visitors: a sense of history, fresh air, exercise, wonderful memories to share with family and friends of how much they enjoyed their unique experience on the beautiful Monterey Peninsula coastline. It's truly disheartening to hear that it's destined to disappear.

Please save Handcar Tours!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Helen Guyton
Marina, California

From: [Mike](#)
To: district1@co.monterey.ca.us; district2@co.monterey.ca.us; district3@co.monterey.ca.us; district4@co.monterey.ca.us; district5@co.monterey.ca.us; dpotter@ci.carmel.ca.us; SDonaldson@delreyoaks.org; cityclerk@ci.gonzales.ca.us; rortiz@ci.greenfield.ca.us; mlebarre@kingcity.com; bdelgado62@gmail.com; smith@monterey.org; cpoduri@cityofpacificgrove.org; joseandrewsandoval@gmail.com; maryann@sandcityca.org; ioglesby@ci.seaside.ca.us; fcabrera@cityofsoledad.com; [Todd Muck](#); [Elouise Rodriguez](#)
Subject: Handcar Lease extension
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 2:03:38 PM
Attachments: [HandCar TAMC.pages](#)

Mike Moeller
Marina, Ca
mikeformarina@gmail.com

October 22, 2024

TAMC Board of Directors
55-B Plaza Circle
Salinas, CA 93901

Dear Members of the TAMC Board of Directors,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing today to express my thoughts on the importance of forgiveness, compromise, and collaboration as we continue to work together for the future of our community.

As we all know, mistakes happen. None of us is immune to making them, but what truly defines us—both as individuals and as a community—is our ability to forgive and move forward. Forgiveness is not a sign of weakness; it is a demonstration of strength, showing that we can rise above the past and focus on what is truly important: the future.

By embracing forgiveness, we create space for compromise. True leadership requires us to find common ground, to put aside differences, and to prioritize the best interests of all involved. This is especially crucial when it comes to decisions that affect the economic vitality of our region.

One matter of particular importance is the Handcar Tours, which has become a vital part of our tourism industry. The company has brought character and excitement to our area, attracting visitors and contributing to the growth of our local economy. Losing this unique and valuable asset would be a significant blow, not only to the business itself but to the region's tourism and historical appeal.

I urge the board to consider the benefits that the Handcar Tour brings and to explore opportunities for compromise. By working together and finding solutions that allow them to continue operating, we can preserve a valuable resource for both our community and its visitors.

Our community thrives when we set aside differences, forgive past mistakes, and collaborate for the common good. I sincerely hope that we can find a path forward that reflects these values, benefiting everyone involved.

Thank you for your time and for your continued dedication to making Monterey County a great place to live and visit. I look forward to seeing how we can work together to support the future of our community.

Sincerely,

Mike Moeller

From: [Todd Muck](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#)
Subject: RE: SUBJECT: LEASE EXTENSION of Monterey Branch Line for HANDCAR TOURS
Date: Monday, October 21, 2024 2:08:38 PM

Thanks Elouise

Todd Muck, AICP
Executive Director
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
831-521-8389

From: Elouise Rodriguez <elouise@tamcmonterey.org>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 1:45 PM
To: Todd Muck <todd@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: FW: SUBJECT: LEASE EXTENSION of Monterey Branch Line for HANDCAR TOURS

Todd,
This email was sent to the Board of Directors,

Elouise Rodriguez

Senior Administrative Assistant & Clerk of the Board

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
831-775-0903 / Fax 831-775-0897

elouise@tamcmonterey.org

www.tamcmonterey.org

Consistency/ Responsibility/ Arranger/ Input

so my thought is that no further action is needed.

Thanks.

From: ehoumani@aol.com <ehoumani@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 1:41 PM
To: district1@co.monterey.ca.us; district2@co.monterey.ca.us; district3@co.monterey.ca.us;
district4@co.monterey.ca.us; district5@co.monterey.ca.us; dpotter@ci.carmel.ca.us;
SDonaldson@DelReyOaks.org; cityclerk@ci.gonzales.ca.us; rortiz@ci.greenfield.ca.us;
mlebarre@kingcity.com; bdelgado62@gmail.com; smith@monterey.org;
cpoduri@cityofpacificgrove.org; joseandrewsandoval@gmail.com; maryann@sandcityca.org;
ioglesby@ci.seaside.ca.us; fcabrera@cityofsoledad.com; Todd Muck <todd@tamcmonterey.org>;
Elouise Rodriguez <elouise@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: SUBJECT: LEASE EXTENSION of Monterey Branch Line for HANDCAR TOURS

From: [Patricia Marshall](#)
To: [Todd Muck](#); [Elouise Rodriguez](#)
Cc: cpoduri@cityofpacificgrove.org; district5@co.monterey.ca.us
Subject: Please Keep The Handcar Tours Open
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 11:29:51 AM

I am a resident of Pacific Grove. I had hoped to attend your 10/23 meeting but now must resort to an email plea.

Please keep the Handcar Tours running in their current location as long as possible.

It's a super entertaining attraction for residents and tourists alike - of all ages and physical capabilities.

Like the Elkhorn Slough Safari, it offers a unique and wholesome way to see and better understand the natural beauty of our area - with little disruption to the environment or traffic.

It's a community asset that sets us apart and one that is loved by many.

I urge you to do the right thing and hold off on this closure.

Thank you.

Patricia Marshall

Luis Alejo, County Supervisor District 1
Glenn Church, County Supervisor District 2
Christopher Lopez, County Supervisor District 3
Wendy Root Askew, County Supervisor District 4
Mary Adams, County Supervisor District 5
Mayor Dave Potter, City of Carmel-by the-Sea
Mayor Scott Donaldson, City of Del Rey Oaks
Mayor Jose L. Rios, City of Gonzales
Council Member Rachel Ortiz City of Greenfield
Mayor Michael LeBarre, City of King
Mayor Bruce Delgado, City of Marina
Council Member Ed Smith, City of Monterey
Council Member Chaps Poduri, City of Pacific Grove
Council Member Andrew Sandoval, City of Salinas
Mayor Mary Ann Carbonne, City of Sand City
Mayor Ian Oglesby, City of Seaside
Council Member Fernando Cabrera, City of Soledad
Executive Director Todd Muck
Board Clerk Elouise Rodriguez

To the TAMC Board of Directors and Executive Director Todd Muck

Dear Executive Director Todd Muck and TAMC Board of Directors:

I am a resident and citizen in the City of Marina. I respectfully request that the TAMC Board PLEASE EXTEND the lease of the Monterey Branch Line to ALLOW small business owner, Todd Clark and his Handcar Tours, to continue operating until construction for Monterey-Salinas Transit's bus road is truly ready to break ground.

1. Allowing this business to remain open would provide numerous benefits to our county's local economy, tourism industry, and community as a whole.
2. Handcar Tours has put Marina on the Map, making Marina a destination point of interest. Handcar Tours provides a unique attraction for tourists which draws them to Monterey County and specifically to the City of Marina. The business is highly-rated on Yelp! and it is hugely popular as evidenced from how many tours sell-out in advance.
3. Handcar Tours has made commendable efforts to make its offerings accessible to a wide range of individuals. The electric-assist options cater to people of varying fitness levels, ensuring everyone can participate comfortably. Additionally, their ADA-compliant loading area and accommodation for mobility aids make the experience accessible to individuals with disabilities and the

elderly.

4. Beyond its entertainment value, Handcar Tours provides a valuable historical and educational experience. Participants can engage directly with railroad history in a hands-on way, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the past.
5. Handcar Tours has become a beloved family business that Marina residents embrace as their own. We are so pleased and so proud to have Todd Clark's family business here to offer a unique, outdoor activity to enjoy the beauty of the dunes, the ESHA, the exercise, the fresh air, and best of all the stunning views of the Monterey Bay.
6. And, one of the other most important things that Handcar Tours offers that I personally admire, is a look into the past as an effort to resurrect the appreciation of the handcar, the railroad, the Monterey Branch Line.....a preservation of a piece of our history of the City of Marina. Because once that history disappears, it's gone forever.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Elaine Houmani
Marina, CA 93933

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: Hand Car Lease
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:34:30 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. (831) 775-4414 / Fax (831) 775-0897
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: Vic Jacobsen <vic.jacobsen1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: Hand Car Lease

This attraction has brought considerable focus on the City of Marina. Great fun and support from visitors to our great city. Please allow this entity to continue operating until such time as TAMC route is fully approved.

VJJ

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: Hand car tours
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:35:45 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. (831) 775-4414/ Fax (831) 775-0897
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: MARY STURGES <js99b@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 3:39 PM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: Hand car tours

Please keep this business going, it is such an asset. My vote is to keep them in Marina. I have lived in Marina since 1960, yes a long time resident
163 Pebble Pl
Marina
Thanks
Jeanie Sturges

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: Please renew handcar lease
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:33:34 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. [\(831\) 775-4414](tel:(831)775-4414) / Fax [\(831\) 775-0897](tel:(831)775-0897)
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: Margaret Davis <attnmargaret@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 8:58 AM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: Please renew handcar lease

Dear TAMC Board Members,

I urge you to allow Handcar Tours to remain open until logistically impossible, ie, the Surf busline is shovel ready.

The handcars are an engaging and unique addition to the Monterey County transportation portfolio.

Very truly yours,

Margaret Davis
Marina

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: We love Handcar Tours
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:36:11 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. (831) 775-4414 / Fax (831) 775-0897
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: Anna Brigantino <abrigantino@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 4:30 PM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: We love Handcar Tours

We are residents of Marina and Handcar Tour customers. There are so many positives regarding this business. First and foremost it is just so fun--a great way to get some exercise and enjoy Marina's beautiful dune area with its magnificent Pacific Ocean backdrop. It is a great use and restoration of an area that was just trashy before the Handcar Tours cleaned it up.

Handcar Tours brings ecotourism to the Marina area where folks can also enjoy Marina Dunes and Fort Ord Dunes State Parks as well as Fort Ord Monuments and the greater Monterey area.

The people who run Handcar Tours are exceptionally friendly and committed to running a top notch organization which attracts rail enthusiasts from all over.

If Handcar Tours left, it would leave a big whole in our hearts. Marina has typically been an underserved and underappreciated city and many people do not know about all of the natural beauty that surrounds us here in Marina. Handcar Tours is literally a gateway to the natural beauty of the Marina area and a gateway to the greater Monterey area. What makes more sense for Monterey County Tourism--Handcar Tours or rusty overgrown tracks?

Anna Brigantino
Marina resident

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: Handcar Tours
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:32:22 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. (831) 775-4414 / Fax (831) 775-0897
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: Steve <steve_barnett55@att.net>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 8:37 AM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Cc: liz Barnett <liz_barnett@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Handcar Tours

Honorable TAMC Board,

As Marina residents and supporters of the Handcar Tours, I am asking for your consideration in accommodating this business in continuing to use the current track route as long as it is available for use, and granting approval for a possible new track route to the north for future Handcar tours.

We have personally experienced and enjoyed the Handcar Tours with our own family and have weekly observed the joy that others have experienced as well (while walking the adjacent Recreation Trail). It is a source of pride for all. Where else in Marina do we wave and smile at complete strangers?

Thank you for your consideration,

Steve & Liz Barnett
244 9th
Marina, CA 93933





Sent from my iPad

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Todd Muck](#); [Elouise Rodriguez](#)
Subject: Fw: Handcar Tours
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:33:57 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. [\(831\) 775-4414](tel:(831)775-4414) / Fax [\(831\) 775-0897](tel:(831)775-0897)
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: Robin Eales <robineales@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 9:46 AM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: Handcar Tours

I am writing this e-mail to ask that the Handcar Tours not be shutdown. I have enjoyed using these Handcars with friends visiting from out of town. They were excited to be able to see our coast line in a pleasant way. We then visited a restaurant and had a really nice meal. I believe this brings money into the city and helps small business. Word of mouth is the best advertisement ! My friends are interested to revisit with other friends.
Thank You Robin

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: Handcar
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:35:12 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. (831) 775-4414 / Fax (831) 775-0897
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: Mia Nguyen <mianguyen23@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 12:15 PM
To: district3@co.monterey.ca.us <district3@co.monterey.ca.us>; Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: Handcar

Hi,

My husband and I support the handcar rail business and urge the TAMC board to approve the extension of the lease to the city of Marina to allow handcars to run until SURF construction takes place.

Regards,

Mia Nguyen
Resident of Marina, CA

From: [Maria Montiel](#)
To: [Elouise Rodriguez](#); [Todd Muck](#)
Subject: Fw: Marina Handcarts
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:33:05 AM

FYI

Maria Montiel
Administrative Assistant
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55 -B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
Tel. (831) 775-4414 / Fax (831) 775-0897
maria@tamcmonterey.org
www.tamcmonterey.org

From: Carol <luvmyanatolians@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 8:39 AM
To: Maria Montiel <maria@tamcmonterey.org>
Subject: Marina Handcarts

Hello,

I've never addressed an issue with the Council before...so, please forgive me if the format is wrong. I am asking that the City of Marina reconsider their objective about getting rid of the handcarts all together.

The owners are diligently working on another plan to move the handcarts to a nearby track that is not being used.

It's a shame to not support them. Monterey County and all the cities within it...really don't offer much to their residents as far as activity goes.

The handcart rail system is something very unique to the City. It draws in visitors from all over the place.

I'm pretty sure that after a wonderful adventure with the handcart...folks will want to grab a bite to eat. I'm orrery sure the small shops in Marina are making some revenue from the handcarts being in town.

The City needs to support the small businesses. I'm sure you've all heard that before...but look how many businesses are shutting down for various reasons. Even big corporations are cutting back. Now is the time to support these folks and work with them in finding a solution that works for both parties involved.

Please don't shut down the handcart rail system. It's a great way to get folks out here and enjoy the beauty that Marina has to offer. Besides, it's putting Marina on the map for a fun destination to go to!

Many thanks,

Carol White.

A Monterey County Resident.

Sent from my iPhone