

FINAL MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES AND MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE JOINT POWERS AGENCY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

*Members: Ed Smith (Chair),
Mary Adams (1st Vice Chair), Michael LeBarre (2nd Vice Chair),
Luis Alejo (Past Chair),
Chris Lopez (County representative), Kimbley Craig (City representative)*

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

*** 8:30 a.m. ***

ZOOM REMOTE VIDEO/PHONE CONFERENCE ONLY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	JUN 20	AUG 20	SEP 20	OCT 20	NOV 20	JAN 21	FEB 21	MAR 21	APR 21	MAY 21
Ed Smith, Chair Monterey (D. Albert, A. Renny)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Mary Adams, 1st Vice Chair Supr. Dist. 5 (S. Hardgrave, C. Courtney)	P (A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Michael LeBarre, 2nd Vice Chair King City (C. DeLeon)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Luis Alejo, Past Chair Supr. Dist. 1 (L. Gonzales/ J. Gomez)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	A (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Chris Lopez, County Representative Supr. Dist. 2 (P. Barba)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	A (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Kimbley Craig, City Representative (C. Cromeenes)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)

TC: via teleconference; VC: via Zoom video conference

P = Present

A = Absent

P(A) = alternate present

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed. (as noted above). Committee member Adams arrived at 9:07a.m.

Staff present: Goel, Hale, Muck, Rodriguez, Watson, and Zeller.

Others present: Agency Counsel Katherine Hansen; Legislative Consultant Gus Khouri; Alternate District 5 Colleen Courtney.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

M/S/C

Lopez/Craig/unanimous

On a motion by Committee Member Lopez seconded by Committee Member Craig, the committee voted 6-0 to approve the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of April 7, 2021.

4. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Committee received an update on state and federal legislative activities and recommended the Board of Directors adopt updated positions on proposed legislation.

On a motion by Committee Member LeBarre, seconded by Committee Member Adams, the committee voted 6-0 to recommend the Board of Directors adopt the staff-recommended positions on state legislation, with the change of a position from “support” to “watch” on AB 41, and a new “support” position on SB 790.

Gus Khouri, Agency Legislative Consultant, provided a state legislative update and highlighted the state bill list. He noted a recommended change to a previous position of “support” to “watch” on Assembly Bill (AB) 41, which no longer provides an assurance regarding broadband investments into disadvantaged areas within the county. He noted a staff recommendation of “support” on Senate Bill (SB) 790, which authorizes the Department of Fish and Wildlife to give Caltrans mitigation credit for wildlife crossing projects. SB 790 could be useful for addressing work on Route 68.

Mr. Khouri reported on Governor Newsom’s proposed lifting of the COVID-19 restrictions on June 15, 2021 and on the various efforts to continue exceptions, or make new revisions, to Brown Act rules regarding remote meetings. Agency Counsel Katherine Hansen noted that County Counsel does not expect that meetings will become in-person instantaneously on June 15, but that there will be a slower return over time under the supervision of the County Health Department.

Committee Member Craig noted that the City of Salinas supports a return to in-person meetings based on issues, including out-of-state residents participating in council meetings. Chair Smith noted the City of Monterey supports a continuation of virtual meetings, whether as a hybrid with in-person meetings or as a substitute. Committee Member Alejo noted that the California State Association of Counties supports extending the ability for meetings to use videoconference technology to increase public participation and reduce vehicle miles traveled.

Mr. Khouri reported on the proposals to increase funding for the Active Transportation Funding (ATP). Executive Director Hale noted that the increase in ATP funding could help the Fort Ord Recreational Trail and Greenway (FORTAG) project get funding, which just missed the cutoff for funding in the last round.

Committee Member Lopez commented that he would like to make sure TAMC advocate for all ATP projects in the county, including projects in the south county cities San Lucas, King City, and Chualar. Director Hale noted that if the cut-off for ATP projects was 75 points, there would be projects in Monterey, King City and Salinas that would also qualify for funding.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reviewed federal legislative activities. She reported that Representative Panetta submitted the US 101 South of Salinas project for \$2 million for funding a portion of the environmental process, and that staff would submit the same project to Senator Feinstein.

5. OVERALL WORK PROGRAM, INTEGRATED FUNDING PLAN & 3-YEAR BUDGET FY 21/22

On a motion by Committee Member Adams, seconded by Committee Member Craig, the committee voted 6-0 to recommend the Board of Directors approve Resolution 2021-05 adopting the three-year budget for fiscal years 21/22 through 23/24 and the Overall Work Program for fiscal year 21/22, and the 2021 Integrated Funding Plan.

Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director, reported minimal changes including minor edits by Caltrans since last reviewed in February. The Agency has for the first time separated out capital projects into the Integrated Funding Plan. This separation allows the Overall Work Program to focus on the planning and operational activities (e.g. the Freeway Service Patrol, and the Go831 program).

Rita Goel, Finance & Administration, highlighted the changes to the operating and direct program. On the proposed fiscal year 2021-2022 operating expenditure budget is \$3,810,434, a net increase over fiscal year 2020-2021 of \$211,138. Expenditures changed as follows:

1. Computer costs increased by \$75,000 to allow for replacements and transition to more telework-friendly equipment.
2. Recruitment costs in the amount of \$50,000 added in light of the Executive Director's impending retirement.
3. Cyber Security costs increased by \$6,000 to protect agency information from a ransomware attack or other system infiltration.

Ms. Goel also reported on the proposed fiscal year current direct program expenditure budget is \$2,030,739 a net decrease over fiscal year 20/21 of \$11,692,180. This decrease is primarily due to the capital expenditures related to the Rail to Salinas project being incorporated into the Integrated Funding Plan. Ms. Goel noted the following changes: Rail to Salinas HDR amendment 1 to fund increased design services, funded by Regional Surface Transportation Program, added \$45,000 and Federal legislative advocate expenditures, funded by Undesignated Reserves, added \$75,000.

6. POST COVID-19 TRANSITION

Received update and provided input on the Post COVID-19 transition plans.

Director Debbie Hale reported that in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, in April 2020 the Transportation Agency adopted a protocol that included adding protective equipment to the office and setting policies for social distancing to protect staff, Board and committee members from contracting the disease through Agency activities. Since March 16, 2020, TAMC has held entirely virtual meetings, has had 90% of the staff working from home full time, and has allowed no more than 4 people in the office at one time. To-date, no employees have contracted COVID-19 at the workplace due to these safety practices. Teleworking has allowed for successful accomplishment of Agency activities.

As the County of Monterey progresses into the lower tiers of COVID-19 classification, an update to the protocol will be needed. Given the large size of the TAMC Board, it may be difficult to find a meeting venue that will allow for proper distancing of attendees. Ms. Hale noted that staff is targeting August for a possible restart of in-person Board or committee meetings, but requested Committee input.

Committee members expressed overall support for the TAMC Board meeting to be hybrid in-person/Zoom as of August. There was a difference of opinion as to whether in-person attendees should be required to be vaccinated or not.

They expressed a preference for continuing to hold Executive Committee meetings online due to the short length of the meeting versus travel time, noting sometimes the

meeting is shorter than the time it takes to get there and back. It was suggested that staff ask other committees for their opinions on how to hold their meetings after June.

TAMC BOARD DRAFT AGENDA

Deputy Executive Director Muck reviewed the draft regular and consent agenda for the TAMC Board meeting of May 26, 2021. Mayor LeBarre indicated his intention to comment on the Network Integration Study prior to a vote but that item should be left on consent.

After Executive Committee discussion, direction was provided to staff to place the following items for consideration on the regular agenda:

- Overall Work Program, Integrated Funding Plan & 3-Year Budget
FY 21/22 Measure X Third Year Audit Results
- Post COVID-19 Transition

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None this month.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.