

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

**RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

*DRAFT Minutes of February 5, 2018*

Transportation Agency for Monterey County

55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA

	MAR 17	APR 17	MAY 17	JUN 17	JUL 17	AUG 17	SEPT 17	OCT 17	NOV 17	DEC 17	JAN 18	FEB 18
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez)	P	<b>C</b>	P(A)	<b>C</b>	<b>N</b>	E	P(A)	<b>C</b>	P(A)	<b>N</b>	P	P(A)
J. Phillips, Dist. 2 (J. Stratton, <del>C.</del> <a href="#">Link</a> )	P(A)	<b>A</b>	P(A)	<b>A</b>	<b>O</b>	P(A)	P(A)	<b>A</b>	P(A)	<b>O</b>	P(A)	P(A)
J. Parker, Dist. 4 (W. Askew)	P(A)	<b>N</b>	-	<b>N</b>		P(A)	P(A)	<b>N</b>	E		P(A)	P(A)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (Y. Anderson)	E	<b>C</b>	P(A)	<b>C</b>	<b>M</b>	P(A)	P(A)	<b>C</b>	P(A)	<b>M</b>	P(A)	P(A)
B. Delgado, Marina, Vice Chair (F. O'Connell)	P	<b>E</b>	P	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	P	P	<b>E</b>	P	<b>E</b>	-	P
E. Smith, Monterey (R. Deal)	E	<b>L</b>	P	<b>L</b>	<b>E</b>	E	P	<b>L</b>	E	<b>E</b>	P	P
K. Craig, Salinas, Chair (J. Gunter)	E	<b>L</b>	P	<b>L</b>	<b>T</b>	P	P	<b>L</b>	E	<b>T</b>	P	P
T. Bodem, Sand City (L. Gomez)	P	<b>E</b>	P	<b>E</b>	<b>I</b>	P	E	<b>E</b>	P	<b>I</b>	P	E
R. Rubio, Seaside (D. Pacheco)	P	<b>D</b>	P	<b>D</b>	<b>N</b>	P	P	<b>D</b>	P	<b>N</b>	-	P
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Ledesma)	P		-		<b>G</b>	P	P		P	<b>G</b>	-	P
M. LeBarre, King City (C. Victoria)	P		P			P	P		P		P	P
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson)	P(A)		P(A)			E	-		-		-	-
O. Monroy-Ochoa, Caltrans District 5	-		-			-	-		-		-	-
C. Sedoryk, MST (H. Harvath, <del>L. Rheinheimer</del> )	P(A)		P(A)			P(A)	E		P(A)		P(A)	P(A)
B. Sabo, Airport (R. Searle)	-		-			-	-		-		-	-
<b>STAFF</b>												
D. Hale, Exec. Director	P		E			P	P		P		P	E
T. Muck, Deputy Exec. Director	P		P			P	P		P		E	P
C. Watson, Principal Transp. Planner	P		P			P	P		P		P	P
M. Zeller, Principal Transp. Planner	P		P			P	P		P		P	P
V. Murillo, Transp. Planner	P		P			P	E		P		-	P

1. **QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Craig called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. A quorum was established and self-introductions were made.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Cheryl Ku	Monterey County RMA	Chris Flescher	Rail PAC
Paul Hierling	AMBAG	Bruce Wiggins	Resident

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

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3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

M/S/C Chavez/LeBarre/unanimous  
Abstain: Rubio

3.1 Approved minutes of the January 8, 2018 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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4. **RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

M/S/C LeBarre/Askew/unanimous

The Committee unanimously elected Kimbley Craig as Chair and Bruce Delgado as Vice-Chair for 2018-2020.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that the bylaws call for the Rail Policy Committee to elect a Chair and Vice Chair in February of every even year. Current Chair Kimbley Craig and Vice Chair Bruce Delgado were elected in February 2017 for a one-year term.

5. **COAST CORRIDOR 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, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that the Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) is a coalition of Central Coast transportation agencies that have been working together since the 1990s to support new passenger rail on California's Coast. Ms. Watson reported that King City submitted a Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grant application for \$21.6 million for the King City train station.

Committee member LeBarre thanked TAMC, AMBAG, and SLOCOG staff for their assistance on King City's TIRCP grant application.

Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner, reported the CRCC Policy Committee met on January 19, 2018 in Santa Barbara to discuss next steps on the legislation to support rail extensions, the State Rail Plan, the TIRCP grant program, and the CRCC Memorandum of Understanding. The CRCC Policy Committee decided to pause the development of state legislation to support rail extensions, and revisit the issue in 2019, based on input from Caltrans and the California State Transportation Agency. Ms. Murillo reported that Caltrans is in the process of responding to comments on the State Rail Plan, and they expect to publish the final Plan in March 2018. Ms. Murillo reported that

there were over 40 TIRCP applications requested approximately \$22 billion out of a \$2.4 billion 5-year program. Ms. Watson noted that the CRCC Memorandum of Understanding is going to the TAMC Board in February.

Ms. Watson noted that there have been significant staff reductions at Amtrak, which will negatively impact existing California services and planning efforts for new stations or services.

**6. SALINAS RAIL EXTENSION PROJECT UPDATE**

The Committee received an update on the Salinas Rail Extension Project.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that the activities on the Salinas Rail Extension Kick-Start project include a \$65 million TIRCP grant application to: 1) fully fund the Salinas Rail Extension project and implement positive train control on the Salinas – Gilroy corridor (phase 1 at \$9.65 million); 2) build the Pajaro/Watsonville station (phase 2 at \$29.6 million); and 3) build the Castroville station (phase 3 at \$26 million). Grant awards will be announced in late April.

Ms. Watson reported that she attended a meeting of the Northern California Megaregional Rail Partners group on January 22. She noted that the State is interested in helping agencies plan and implement major regional rail projects.

Ms. Watson reported that she and Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director, attended a meeting with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to provide an overview of the Salinas Rail Extension project and discuss coordination. Mr. Muck noted that it was a positive meeting, and next steps would be for UPRR to conduct a capacity model run to identify the impacts of new passenger rail service on the Coast mainline tracks. Mr. Muck added that the capacity model serves as a negotiation tool to provide a cost estimate for passenger rail service. Ms. Watson noted that TAMC and UPRR have conducted capacity model runs in the past.

Committee alternate Anderson asked why another model run will be conducted if TAMC has done them before. Ms. Watson said the last capacity model run was done in 2008.

Vice Chair Delgado asked if the capacity model serves as an emergency planning tool or a service development tool. Mr. Muck said that the capacity model serves as a service development tool.

Committee member LeBarre asked what service will be analyzed in the capacity model.

Ms. Watson said the model will analyze Caltrain service from Gilroy to Salinas, pending an operations agreement with Caltrain, and noted that the Coast Daylight service has been analyzed in the past.

Committee member Smith asked how long the capacity model study takes. Ms. Watson said this would take a few months.

Michael Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that three more Salinas Rail Extension property settlements have been finalized, and that the final three properties for Package 1 are under TAMC possession and are in the process of negotiating the final price. Mr. Zeller noted that tenant relocation process for Package 1 is nearly complete.

Vice Chair Delgado asked about the timeline for settling the final properties. Mr. Muck responded that the settlements are subject to the courts.

Chair Craig asked if any member of the public had any questions or comments. Paul Hierling, AMBAG, asked if TAMC is tracking Google's plans to build a campus in the San Jose Diridon Station area. Ms. Watson said TAMC is following these developments.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**  
None.

8. **ADJOURN**  
Chair Craig adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.