

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Held At
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Conference Room 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

Draft Minutes of Thursday, June 4, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	JUN 19	AUG 19	SEP 19	OCT 19	NOV 19	JAN 20	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 20	MAY 20	JUN 20
R. Harary, Carmel-by-the-Sea (S. Friedrichsen)	P	C	P		P		P	P	C	P	P
D. Pick, Del Rey Oaks		A			P				A		
P. Dobbins Gonzales (M. Sundt)	P	N	P/A	P		P		P	N	P	P
D. Pike, Greenfield (T. Nisich)		C					P/P(A)	P	C	P/P(A)	P/P(A)
O. Hurtado, King City, Vice Chair (S. Adams)	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
B. McMinn, Marina (E. Delos Santos)	P	L	P	P	P		P	P	L	P	P
A. Renny, Monterey (F. Roveri, M. Garcia)	P(A)	L		P	P(A)	P	P		L	P(A)	P
D. Gho, Pacific Grove (M. Brodeur)	P(A)	E		P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
A. Easterling, Salinas, Chair (J. Serrano)	P	D	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	D	P	P
L. Gomez, Sand City (F. Meuer)	P		P	P	P		P(A)	P		P	P
S. Ottmar, Seaside (L. Llantero)				P	P	P	P	P		P	P(A)
D. Wilcox, Soledad (B. Slama, E. Waggoner)											
E. Saavedra, MCPW (R. Martinez)			P	P	P	P/A	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	
Vacant , Monterey County Economic Development											
H. Adamson, AMBAG (P. Hierling)					P(A)	P/A	P(A)	P(A)			
O. Monroy-Ochoa, Caltrans (K. McClendon)			P	P			P	P		P/P(A)	P
M. McCluney, CSUMB											
A. Romero, MBUAPCD											
P. Said, FORA											
L. Rheinheimer, MST (M. Overmeyer)	P			P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)

STAFF	JUN 19	AUG 19	SEP 19	OCT 19	NOV 19	JAN 20	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 20	MAY 20	JUN 20
D. Hale, Exec. Director				P	P	P		P	C	P	
T. Muck, Dep. Exec. Director	P		P	P	P	P		P	A	P	P
M. Zeller, Principal Transp. Planner	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	N	P	
C. Watson, Principal Transp. Planner								P	C		P
M. Jacobsen, Transportation Planner			P	P	P	P	P	P	E		P
T. Wright, Public Outreach Coordinator	P								L		P
R. Deal, Principal Engineer	P			P	P		P	P	L	P	P
A. Green, Senior Transportation Planner	P					P			E		
S. Castillo, Transportation Planner						P			D		
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer	P					P	P			P	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Randy Ishii, County of Monterey

Will Condén, AMBAG

Norm Groot, Monterey County Farm Bureau

John Olejnik, Caltrans D5

Kevin Dayton, Salinas Valley Taxpayers Association

Joyce Halabi, Pacific Grove

Katherine Hansen, County of Monterey

Scott Waltz, Sierra Club

Howard Fosler, League of Women Voters

1. ROLL CALL

Chair Andrew Easterling, City of Salinas, called the meeting to order at 9:31 am. Introductions were made and a quorum was established.

1.1 ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

None.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA

M / S / C: McMinn / Gho / unanimous

Ayes: Dobbins, Easterling, Gho, Gomez, Harary, Hurtado, Ishii, Llantero, McMinn, Pike, Renny

No: None

Abstain: None

3.1 APPROVE the minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee meeting of May 7, 2020.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. MEASURE X MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT – TEMPORARY MODIFICATION

Michael Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, requested feedback from the Committee on potential options to temporarily modify the Measure X Maintenance of Effort requirement in response to COVID-19.

Mr. Zeller presented that The purpose of the Maintenance of Effort requirement is to assure that no funds previously used for transportation are shifted to other uses and then back-filled with Measure X monies - the so-called "bait and switch." The Measure X implementing ordinance was recently amended to revise the maintenance of effort calculation from a rolling three-year average to the higher of a jurisdiction's Senate Bill 1 Maintenance of Effort amount or the amount of general fund expenditures on transportation in the 2016/17 fiscal year, adjusted annually for inflation.

With the State of Emergency, planned local transportation projects may not be moving forward, and jurisdictions may be diverting local funds for emergency relief or public health projects. To address this, Agency staff is reviewing potential temporary modifications to the Measure X Maintenance of Effort requirement. Given the severity of some jurisdictions' budget shortfalls, one option could be to temporarily suspend the maintenance of effort requirement for fiscal year 2019/20. Another option could be to allow for a percentage reduction from a jurisdiction's maintenance of effort amount. The California League of Cities recently requested that the Senate Bill 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Act Maintenance of Effort be reduced by 25 percent to account for the reduction in spending during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year, as a result of the State of Emergency.

Randy Ishii, County of Monterey, commented that the County is working towards delivering its projects, but we understand that other jurisdictions may be having issues. The County does not see a need to defer projects yet, and we support a temporary suspension for this year only.

Brian McMinn, City of Marina, commented that they are looking at numbers but do not have a degree of clarity yet as to how the downturn in revenues will impact their projects. The revenue shortfalls are not affecting everyone equally. Approving a temporary suspension would allow jurisdictions to keep spending if they are able to and provide relief to those who cannot.

Robert Harary, City of Carmel, commented that they are in dire straits. The Carmel City Council defunded all projects for this year and next. The City does not recommend an ordinance amendment if its only Carmel, although suspending Measure X disbursements until you are caught up on your Maintenance of Effort makes sense. It could be 2 to 4 years for Carmel to catch-up.

Leslie Llantero, City of Seaside, commented that the city bonded for our projects and that they would like to move forward with the current maintenance of effort or perhaps a 25% reduction

Andrea Renny, City of Monterey, commented that they city would like to be less restrictive, and allow for a reduction of the maintenance of effort since the city has had people laid off and projects defunded.

Dan Gho, City of Pacific Grove, commented that they city relies on tourists and they are not coming. But Public Works staff has lobbied their council to try to meet our maintenance of effort, and they've approved the budget as of now. My concern is that if we suspend the requirement, the council may cancel projects and reallocate funding.

Andrew Easterling, City of Salinas, commented that the city will have some trouble meeting the maintenance of effort this year, and supports a temporary suspension or reduction.

Tony Nisich, City of Greenfield, asked if TAMC staff will be sending out a survey to the city managers to find out what the impacts are so you have that data? Todd Muck responded that it makes sense as a next step.

Norm Groot, Monterey County Farm Bureau and Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee Member, commented that the Oversight Committee will need data from the jurisdictions to be able to justify making a change. If any change is approved, it needs to be for one year and then reevaluated. We also need to consider public perception about the wise use of tax dollars and that cities are delivering on the Measure X projects.

5. CENTRAL COAST HIGHWAY 1 ELKHORN SLOUGH RESILIENCY STUDY

Will Conden, AMBAG, presented that the transportation corridors through Elkhorn Slough will face significant challenges under conditions of climate change and sea level rise. The draft Central Coast Highway 1 Elkhorn Slough Resiliency Study provides a comprehensive assessment of the threats and options available to respond to those threats including the transportation, environmental and economic dimensions.

The study presents a detailed understanding of the risks and options for adaptation in this critical stretch of Highway 1 and the railway corridor, as well as an adaptation management strategy to ensure updated scientific information is integrated into the project planning process. The eight-mile stretch of Highway 1 near Elkhorn Slough is already constrained and will be increasingly impacted by coastal storm flooding and sea level rise.

The study emphasizes the importance of planning for Highway 1 and railway adaptation in the early to mid-2030s and implementing a course of action well before sea levels are

predicted to follow the exponential part of the curve in mid-to late-21st century. The no action scenario would result in widespread loss of habitat and biodiversity through the slough and worsen an existing transportation function problem, to the detriment of the community, region, and visitors to Monterey Bay.

John Olejnik, Caltrans D5, commented that he was glad to see four-lane widening was included and that you would see positive benefits from it.

Robert Harary, City of Carmel, asked to what extent did the railway participate in the study? Will Conden responded that we reached out to them but received no response. Todd Muck commented that Christina Watson, our rail planner, was involved in the study for regional rail.

Patrick Dobbins, City of Gonzales, asked if there was any coordination with the Coastal Commission? Will Conden responded that yes, they were involved in the steering committee and we worked with them to address concerns.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michelle Overmeyer, Monterey-Salinas Transit, announced that MST are still operating limited service right now, encouraging people to enter through rear doors and not collecting fare box. Increasing frequency in mid-July and starting to install barriers for the drivers when fare collection starts again. Also, please coordinate with MST if your city is promoting outdoor events and there are road closures.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, announced that TAMC published a public survey for the rail network integration survey, and that a link to the survey will be sent out to the committee.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 am.