

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee

Draft Minutes of September 2, 2020

Held remotely via Zoom due to COVID-19 pandemic

Voting Members	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 20	MAY 20	JUN 20	JUL 20	AUG 20	SEP 20
Eric Petersen, District 1, Past Chair	P	C	C	P	P	N	P	P
Jack Smith – District 2 <i>(David Tavarez)</i>	P	A	A	P	P	O	P	P
Mike Novo – District 3	E	N	N	P	P		P	P
Jeff Wriedt, District 4 <i>(Frank Henderson)</i>	E	C	C	P	P	M	E	P
Martin Wegenstein, District 5 <i>(Jeff Lindenthal)</i>	P	E	E	P	P	E	P	P
D. L. Johnson, Carmel-By-The Sea	P	L	L	P	P	E	P	-
Del Rey Oaks - vacant	-	L	L	-	-	T	-	-
Gonzales - Vacant	-	E	E	-	-	I	-	-
Ernest Gallardo, Greenfield	E	D	D	-	P	N	P	P
Michael LeBarre, King City	E			P	-	G	P	P
Hans Hofmann Jr, Marina	E			P	P		P	E
Abby Ostovar, Monterey	E			P	E		E	P
vacant Pacific Grove <i>(Jung Hwa Kim)</i>	-			-	-		-	-
Chris Flescher, Salinas, Vice Chair <i>(Mark Lasnik)</i>	P			P	P		P	P
Elizabeth (Libby) Sofer, Sand City	P			P	P		-	P
Jan Valencia, Seaside <i>(Ralph Wege)</i>	P(A)			P	P		P	P
Soledad - Vacant	-			-	-		-	-
Vacant, Monterey Salinas Transit	-			-	-		-	-
Vera Noghera, Velo Club of Monterey <i>(Alex Capelli)</i>	P			-	-		-	-
N. County Recreation & Park District - Vacant	-			-	-		-	-
Andrew Easterling, Salinas Public Works	-			-	-		P	P
Raul Martinez – County Public Works	P			-	P		P	P
Caltrans - District 5	-			P	-		-	-
Miranda Taylor, AMBAG <i>(Will Condon)</i>	P			P	P		P	P (A)
Matthew McCluney - CSUMB	P			P	-		P	P

E – Excused VC – Video Conference
P(A) – Alternate TC – Teleconference

	JAN 20	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 20	MAY 20	JUN 20	JUL 20	AUG 20
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY STAFF								
Debbie Hale, Executive Director	E	P			P	-		E
Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director	E	P			P	P		E
Ariana Green, Senior Transportation Planner	P	-			P	P		-
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	E	P			P	P		P
Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner								P
Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner	P	P			P	P		P
Stefania Castillo, Transportation Planner	P	P			P	P		P
Laurie Williamson, Senior Engineer	-	P			P	P		P
Rich Deal, Principal Engineer		P			-	-		-
Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner						P		-
Tracy Burke, Go831 Program Coordinator								P

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ralph Wege	Seaside - Alternate	Peter Meyerhofer	Kimley-Horn
Alexander Garrido	Public	Lauren Jumanan	Kimley-Horn
Lisa Rheinheimer	MST	Michelle Overmeyer	MST
Guadalupe Martinez	Monterey County Health Department		

- Chair Jack Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established, and self-introductions were made.

- PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

- BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA**

M/S/C Wriedt/Valencia/*unanimous*

Abstained: Andrew Eastearling

- Approved minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting of August 5, 2020.

- Approved Greenfield Community Science Workshop's application to the Bicycle Secure Program with the award of up to two bicycle repair stations and one secure double-bicycle locker.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. GO831 SMART COMMUTE CHALLENGE

The Committee received information about the Go831 Smart Commute Challenge.

Tracy Burke, Go831 Rideshare Coordinator reported in Spring of 2018, TAMC launched a traveler information/Rideshare Program called Go831 to help employers in Monterey County to establish or expand smart commute programs for their employees. She noted that Go831 is a free program from the Transportation Agency that offers a creative approach to get cars off streets and parking lots during the busiest travel times and is designed to support employer-based commuter programs. We find ourselves in the middle of a global pandemic and the majority of employed people have drastically had their commuters, among other things, altered. She noted that this year, we are pleased to have the support of the Blue Zones Project. The Blue Zones Project is a global movement aimed at inspiring people to live longer, more active lives and therefore lower rates of chronic disease. The Blue Zones promotes sustainable, common-sense changes that encourage healthier lifestyles in Monterey County.

In conclusion Ms. Burke noted that the October 2020 Go831 Smart Commute Challenge will run for the full month of October and is available to anyone living and /or working in Monterey County. The contest is designed to track your daily commuting habits/Trips via the Ride Amigos platform and is open to both children and adults by tracking up four trips. She noted that the pandemic has brought a unique scenario in which many were forced into telecommuting positions. Many have found this telecommuting situation beneficial via the decreased congestion and emissions on the roadways and the saved commute time. For more information GO831rideamigos.com.

Committee member Mike LeBarre thanked her for the awesome presentation. He mentioned that a family bicyclist contest for families to participate would be a nice opportunity and exciting.

5. SURF! BUSWAY AND RAPID TRANSIT PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received a presentation on SURF! Busway and Rapid Transit Project and provided input on bicycle and pedestrian connections.

Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner reported that in 1990's TAMC purchased Monterey Branch Line property. In 2009 Light rail was selected as locally preferred alternative by the TAMC Board. In 2014, TAMC Board supports Bus Rapid Transit as interim solution. In 2016 approval of Measure X with Highway 1 Rapid Bus Corridor approved. In 2018 MST concludes Feasibility Study of Bus on Shoulder Operations on State Route 1/Monterey Branch Line. In 2019 MST initiated the environmental analysis and preliminary engineering for Surf! Busway and Rapid Transit Project.

Peter Meyerhofer, Kimley Horn, reported the SURF! Corridor would formally begin at the Marina Transit Exchange and operation in mixed traffic until it enters the rail right-of way at Del Monte Boulevard and Palm Avenue in Marina. He noted a bicycle connection at an existing bicycle/pedestrian crossing over the rail tracks that the Busway would go through at the connection between Beach Range Road and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail. Mr. Meyerhofer presented on the following bicycle and pedestrian connections within the SURF! Corridor:

- 1) Bicycle connection at an existing crossing that the Busway would go through at the connection between Beach Range Road and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (owned by Caltrans). Design options include:
 - 4-way stop for bicyclists and buses
 - Extend Beach Range Road bike route to Marina Drive, west of the railroad tracks
- 2) 5th Street connection with the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail; features under consideration are:
 - Protected cycle-track paralleling bus-only lane
 - Connection with FORTAG at 5th Street
 - Bike lockers and general bicycle storage
- 3) Beach Range Road southern terminus (adjusting existing rec trail connection): continuation of Beach Range Road along west side of Busway
- 4) Bike and pedestrian circulation around California Avenue/Fremont Street, where buses would exit the rail right-of-way and enter mixed-flow traffic.

Committee member Mike Novo noted to avoid conflicts in the North end. Peter Meyerhofer replied that they considered installing sharrows. He noted that the frequency is low and a Class I seems like would work best.

Committee member Matthew McCluney asked if any asphalt improvements on the existing Del Monte Boulevard part of the recreation trail? Mr. Meyerhofer replied that there is a bus-stop only and possible re-alignment, but the recreation trail would be maintained.

Committee member Jeff Wriedt asked who would be responsible for restoring the rail tracks for future rail service. Lisa Rheinheimer, MST, suggested that would be sorted through in the use agreement between TAMC and MST.

Committee member Matthew McCluney asked if there is any possibility of the 5th Street transit center not moving forward without any of the Dunes development? Ms. Rheinheimer responded that there are no specific factors holding it back.

Committee member Mike Novo expressed concern on the left turn for buses out of 5th Street. He noted that short turning into the facility would be tough. Mr. Meyerhofer noted that an underpass coming up is considered and they will look at possibly re-aligning the path for bus and the project team will review the sightline for visibility.

Committee member Mike LeBarre noted that crossings encourage opportunity lighting can play a role and enhance safety. Member LeBarre also suggested the project team consider the ability for the parking to have a second story and partner that with the hospitality industry for parking.

Committee member Jeff Wriedt asked if there is a nearby states parks project. Mr. Meyerhofer indicated yes and the project team has coordinated with them.

Committee member Andrew Easterling noted to consider a few stop signs on the bus route not on the bike path.

Lisa Rheinheimer announced that the Notice of preparation for the project's Environmental Impact Report was released by Monterey-Salinas Transit on August 13, 2020 and is currently available for public review and feedback. Comments on the Notice of Preparation should be submitted to Michell Overmeyer, Director of Planning and Innovation at MST by 5pm on September 14, 2020.

6. VISION ZERO IMPLEMENTATION

The Committee received a presentation from the cities of Monterey and Salinas on Vision Zero implementation.

Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner introduced Stefania Castillo, Transportation Planner and former staff to City of Monterey, who reported that in 2016, the City of Monterey was awarded a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan. The City staff compiled five years of collision data and created maps to identify the roads with the highest concentration of fatal and severe injuries. She noted that the City also created a collision types matrix that identifies the contributing collision factor, the typical causes, and the principal strategy and supporting strategies to address each collision type. In conclusion Ms. Castillo noted that the Monterey City Council passed a resolution endorsing Vision Zero Action Plan and was adopted by the Monterey City Council on November 7, 2017. The plan identified strategies for engagement, enforcement, engineering, education, and evaluation.

Marisa Garcia, City of Monterey reported that that the City of Monterey remains committed to Vision Zero. She noted that as part of the current effort to update the city's Multi-modal Plan, Vision Zero as well as several other City Transportation efforts have been integrated into the City's Circulation Element and Multi-Modal plan.

Committee member Mike LeBarre encouraged to add under collision types look at new design methods that increase awareness for new/beginning bicyclist that will make it more intuitive.

Andrew Easterling, City of Salinas reported that the City of Salinas is in the process of developing their Vision Zero Action Plan. The Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries collision, while increasing safe, healthy equitable mobility for all. In conclusion Mr. Easterling noted that the Salinas City staff has compiled 10 years of collision data and created maps to illustrate spatial patterns and identify the City of Salinas High injury network.

Committee member Ernie Gallardo asked what percent of the collisions were the cyclist's faults? Mr. Easterling indicated City staff can follow-up on that.

Committee member Eric Peterson indicated support for Vision Zero as it has seen success in Norway.

Guadalupe Martinez, Monterey County Health Department asked how many of those collisions were homeless involved accidents. Andrew Easterling replied that the City doesn't have specific description of information about homelessness on the collision reports.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

Committee member Libby Sofer noted that the virtual cities task force is available at the city website sandcity.org. She also announced that the city is having a virtual mural project on September 28 through October 4, social distancing is encouraged. She noted that a total of 7 murals and will be able to interact with the artist.

Guadalupe Martinez, member of public announced Monterey County Health Department will be having EnLACE event on September 15, 2020 in the City of Soledad. It has provided a space for community members to connect with each other and with community leaders. She also announced that EnLACE will be in the City of Greenfield in November.

Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner reported that she received information from the Caltrans staff on a public map that shows bike routes on the State Highway System. Transportation Agency staff will forward information to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.