

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee (X-TOC)

DRAFT minutes of July 21, 2020 Meeting

Held via a Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 pandemic

Voting Members	JAN 2019	APR 2019	JUL 2019	OCT 2019	FEB 2020	MAY 2020	JUL 2020	OCT 2020
Kevin Dayton Salinas Valley Taxpayers Association <i>(Rick Giffin)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Jesus Valenzuela Transit Users <i>(Andrea Manzo)</i>	A	A	A	A	P	A	P	
Janet Brennan League of Women Voters <i>(Howard Fosler)</i>	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	
Tom Rowley Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association <i>(Rick Heuer)</i>	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Kalah Bumba Senior or disabled services agency <i>(Teresa Sullivan)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Victoria Beach Bicycling Advocate <i>(Claire Rygg)</i>	P	E	E	P	A	P	P	
Rod Smalley Labor Organization <i>(Glen Schaller)</i>	A	A	A	-	-	-	-	
Cliff Fasnacht Central Coast Builders Association <i>(Kristine O'Dell)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
John Haupt Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce <i>(John Bailey)</i>	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
Dan Limesand Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce <i>(vacant)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dan Limesand Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce <i>(vacant)</i>	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	
Scott Waltz Habitat Preservation <i>(Rachel Saunders, Big Sur Land Trust)</i>	-	-	-	V	V	V	V	
Scott Waltz Habitat Preservation <i>(Rachel Saunders, Big Sur Land Trust)</i>	E	P	A	A	P	P	P	
Scott Waltz Habitat Preservation <i>(Rachel Saunders, Big Sur Land Trust)</i>	E	P	E	P	-	-	-	

Barbara Meister Hospitality (<i>Sam Teel</i>)	P -	P -	P -	E -	P P	P -	P -	
Norm Groot Agriculture (<i>Paul Arnaudo</i>)	P -	E -	P -	P -	P -	P -	P -	
Joshua Jorn Education (<i>Jarrett Garife, Patrick Deberdt</i>)	P - P	A P -	A - P	A P	A -	A -	A P	
Paula Getzelman, Chair South County (<i>Carol Kenyon</i>)	P P	P P	P -	P P	P -	P -	P -	
Chris Barrera Latino Organization (<i>vacant</i>)	P -	E -	E P	A P	P -	P P	P V	
Ron Rader North County (<i>Scott Freeman</i>)	P -	E -	P -	P -	P -	A -	A -	
Daniel Hernandez Pedestrian (<i>Laurie Eavey</i>)	- -	P -	A -	P -	P -	P -	P -	
Alexis Garcia-Arrazola Youth/College (<i>Vacant</i>)	A -	P -	P -	P V	P V	P V	P V	
Sean Hebard Construction (<i>Keith Severson</i>)	P P	P P	E P	P P	P P	P P	P P	
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY STAFF								
Debbie Hale Executive Director	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	
Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director	P	E	P	P	E	P	P	
Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	
Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	
Kay Reimann, Legal Counsel	E	P	P	E	P	E	E	
Rich Deal, Principal Transportation Engineer	E	E	E	E	P	E	E	
Stefania Castillo, Transportation Planner	E	E	P	P	E	P	E	
Rita Goel, Deputy for Admin & Finance	E	P	E	E	E	E	E	
Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	

Laurie Williams, Transportation Engineer	P	E	P	E	E	P	E	
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	E	E	E	P	P	P	P	
Ariana Green, Senior Transportation Planner	E	E	E	E	E	P	E	
Tracy Burke, Go831 Program Coordinator	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	
(alternate) P = present E = excused absence A = unnoticed absence - = alternate absent V = vacant position								
OTHERS PRESENT								
Diana Edwards	AECOM			Carl Sedoryk		Monterey-Salinas Transit		

1. WELCOME

Kevin Dayton, Committee 2nd Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. 2nd Vice Chair Dayton asked Maria Montiel, TAMC’s Administrative Assistant, to take the roll.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Bring back at next meeting for approval, confirm action on item 6: Senior & Disabled Transportation Cycle 2 award Recommendations.

3.1 Approved draft minutes of the May 5, 2020 committee meeting.

4. MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT MEASURE X PROJECTS UPDATE

The Committee received a presentation on Monterey-Salinas Transit's Measure X-funded projects, including the SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit Project and the South County Operations and Maintenance Facility.

Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner introduced Carl Sedoryk, CEO and General Manager for Monterey-Salinas Transit. He presented on the SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit. The project aims to create a new bus-only corridor, paralleling Highway 1 between Monterey and Marina. He noted that the busway would build within Monterey Branch Line rail right-of-way owned by the Transportation Agency to provide commuters a traffic-free alternative to Highway 1. He noted that in fall 2019, MST hired Kimley-Horn to conduct the environmental review and preliminary design work, which officially kicked-off in November 2019. Since project initiation, MST and TAMC have been meeting with key stakeholders. The project team is planning virtual public outreach activities to start later this summer. A video simulation of travel along the corridor is being developed and will be ready within the next two months.

Mr. Sedoryk noted that MST is actively pursuing matching funds to help pay for the project, including coordinating with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to apply for Capital Investment Grant, a discretionary grant program to support transit capital investments including busways/bus rapid transit systems. The project has been accepted into the Project Development phase of FTA's Capital Investments Grants program, which is the first step towards obtaining funding.

Mr. Sedoryk also spoke about the South County Maintenance and Operations Facility which broke-ground on July 10, 2020. MST is pursuing a very-low interest loan from the U.S. Department of Transportation to finance construction of this facility. MST has already begun to incur design costs, and expects to incur construction costs, before receipt of the federal loan. He noted that construction on the Facility is anticipated to begin in August 2020, and completion is scheduled for September 2021.

Committee member Daniel Hernandez asked if they intend to block the bicycle path entering the Caltrans path from 5th Avenue. Carl Sedoryk replied that the bus facility and busway will not obstruct the bikeway.

Committee member Tom Rowley thanked Hunter Harvath, former MST Assistant General manager, and Carl Sedoryk, for their work on this project.

5. MEASURE X COMPLIANCE & MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT REQUIREMENTS

The Committee received presentation Measure X compliance policies and potential options to temporarily modify the Measure X Maintenance of Effort requirement in response to COVID-19.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that in light of the current economic downturn related to the COVID-19 pandemic, Agency staff is reviewing potential options to temporarily modify the maintenance of effort requirement to provide relief to jurisdiction. Each jurisdiction entered into a tax sharing agreement with the Transportation Agency in order to receive their share of Measure X Local Streets & Roads revenues. In exchange, these agreements require the jurisdiction to submit audit reports annually to the Transportation Agency detailing the steps taken to comply with the implementing ordinance, which includes a requirement for “maintenance of effort.” He noted that the first year the cities submitted Measure X reports they were of varying levels of completeness. The second year of Measure X reports were much more complete. All of the jurisdictions, with the exception of Greenfield, submitted complete reports by the December 31, 2019 deadline. Due to unanticipated project delays and the change in the City of Pacific Grove Maintenance of Effort calculation, the City did not make enough project expenditures to meet the requirement. The City of Salinas’ annual report indicated that Measure X funds were spent on a project that the City had been informed by Transportation Agency staff was ineligible. Both jurisdictions repaid the funding to their Measure X accounts. Greenfield submitted their report, albeit late. At present, all three jurisdictions are currently in compliance.

In conclusion, Mr. Zeller noted that looking ahead to future Measure X annual reporting periods, there is a possibility that jurisdictions may not be able to meet their maintenance of effort requirements due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn. 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 backfilled with Measure X monies. To address this unusual circumstance, the Agency has been asked to consider temporary modifications to the Measure X Maintenance of Effort requirement. Transportation Agency staff presented this issue at the June Technical Advisory Committee meeting and received feedback from the Committee’s members that the State of Emergency is affecting spending on transportation projects differently for each jurisdiction. Staff indicated that they are presently waiting for any jurisdiction that may have difficulty meeting their maintenance of effort to submit supporting documentation. To date, staff is not proposing to recommend changes to the Measure X annual audit requirements.

Committee member Janet Brennan asked which cities and projects are having difficulty in meeting their maintenance of effort requirements and which projects are affected. Mike Zeller replied that Transportation Agency staff is waiting on information from the cities to arrive at a conclusion.

Executive Director Debbie Hale noted that information on compliance with 2018/19 fiscal year maintenance of effort and audit reporting submittals were noted in the 2019 Measure X annual report. Any compliance issues related to the shelter-in-place economic impacts will not surface until the 2019/20 audit reports are submitted.

6. REGIONAL CONSERVATION INVESTMENT STRATEGY PRESENTATION

The Committee received a presentation on the Monterey County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, introduced TAMC consultant Diana Edwards, with AECOM. Ms. Edwards noted that with the passage of Senate Bill 1 and Measure X, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County has habitat mitigation needs for numerous regional transportation improvements in corridors that are highly constrained by environmental factors, including some projects lying within the coastal zone. Enacted into law in 2016, AB 2087 established a conservation planning tool called a Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (RCIS) to promote the conservation of species, habitats, and other natural resources. The Monterey County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy is designed to assess the vulnerability of species and habitat to climate change related stressors and pressures and to develop conservation actions to improve species and habitat resiliency. She noted that conservation actions identified in the Strategy may be then be turned into mitigation credits that can streamline transportation project delivery and result in superior species conservation.

Committee member Norm Groot asked for the Transportation Agency staff to consider looking at habitat improvements for species instead of removing the exotic species. Diana Edwards replied that the Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (RCIS) will take that approach.

Mike Zeller noted that Transportation Agency staff is working with Caltrans to develop mitigation sites; more information will be provided in the near future.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

None.

8. ADJOURMENT

2nd Vice Chair Dayton adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.