

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)**

SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS

MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE

JOINT POWERS AGENCY

**DRAFT MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2022, TAMC BOARD MEETING**

Via Zoom Meeting Video/Audio Conference Call

<b>TAMC BOARD MEMBERS</b>	<b>JAN 22*</b>	<b>JAN 22</b>	<b>FEB 22*</b>	<b>FEB 22</b>	<b>MAR 22</b>	<b>APR 22</b>	<b>MAY 22</b>	<b>JUN 22</b>	<b>AUG 22</b>	<b>SEP 22</b>
Luis Alejo, Supr. Dist. 1, (Linda Gonzales; Javier Gomez)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P
John Phillips, Supr. Dist. 2, (Claudia Link)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P
Chris Lopez, Supr. Dist. 3, <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair</b> (Priscilla Barba)	A	P	A	P	P(A)	P(A)	P	P	P	P
Wendy Root Askew, Supr. Dist. 4, <b>County Rep</b> (Yuri Anderson)	P(A)	P	A	P	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P	P(A)
Mary Adams, Supr. Dist. 5, <b>Chair</b> (Sarah Hardgrave, Colleen Courtney)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Dave Potter, Carmel-by-the-Sea (Jeff Baron)	E	P	A	A	P	P	P	P	P	P
Alison Kerr, Del Rey Oaks (Pat Lintell)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P
Jose Rios, Gonzales (Lorraine Worthy)	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
Robert White, Greenfield (Andrew Tipton)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Michael LeBarre, King City, <b>1st Vice Chair</b> (Carlos DeLeon)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Cristina Medina Dirksen, Marina (Bruce Delgado)	A	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	A	P
Edwin Smith, Monterey, <b>Past Chair</b> (Dan Albert; Andrea Renny)	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P
Chaps Poduri, Pacific Grove, (Bill Peake)	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Kimbley Craig, Salinas, <b>City Representative</b> (Christie Cromeenes)	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P
Gregory Hawthorne, Sand City (Jerry Blackwelder; <del>Kim Cruz</del> )	P	A	P	P	A	A	P(A)	A	P(A)	P
Ian Oglesby, Seaside (David Pacheco)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Alejandro Chavez, Soledad (Anna Velazquez)	P	P	P	A	A	P	P	P	P	P



**OTHERS PRESENT**

Colleen Courtney	Supervisor District 5 alternate	Gus Khouri	Khouri Consulting
Sam Sargent	Caltrain	Jim Davenport	Thorn Run Partners
Joanna Xiao	Caltrans District 5	Yuri Anderson	Supervisor District 4 alternate
Claudia Link	Supervisor District 2 alternate	Linda Gonzales	Supervisor District 1 alternate

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Elouise Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board, called the roll and confirmed a quorum was established.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None this month.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

**M/S/C** Potter/Lopez/unanimous

The Board approved the consent agenda as follows:

***ADMINISTRATION and BUDGET***

**3.1.1** Approved minutes of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, the Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways, and the Monterey County Regional Development Impact Fee Joint Powers Agency for Monterey County meeting of August 24, 2022.

**3.1.2** Accepted the list of checks written for the month of August 2022 and credit card statements for the month of July 2022.

**3.1.3** Adopted finding, pursuant to AB 361, that the COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom is still in effect; the TAMC Board of Directors has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet in person.

**3.1.4** Regarding Agreement for Accounting Services:

1. Authorized the Executive Director to execute contract Amendment #2 with Oppidea, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$32,220 per year for an additional twelve months to provide accounting services for the period ending December 31, 2023, and to change the monthly rate to \$2,685 effective January 1, 2023;
2. Approved the use of \$32,220 for the extended term of the Agreement in funds budgeted for this purpose; and
3. Authorized the Executive Director to make administrative changes to the contract if such changes do not increase the Agency’s net cost, subject to approval by Agency counsel.

***BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, TRANSIT and SOCIAL SERVICES***

**3.2.1** Regarding Monterey-Salinas Transit State of Good Repair Funds:

1. Adopted Resolution 2022-11 allocating \$878,286 of Fiscal Year 2022-23 Senate Bill 1 State of Good Repair funds to Monterey-Salinas Transit to help fund bus procurement, purchase of facility maintenance equipment, and installing, repairing, and replacing passenger shelters as needed throughout the system; and
2. Authorized the Executive Director to execute all required documents and any amendments with the California Department of Transportation.

**3.2.2** Regarding Measure X Senior & Disabled Transportation Program:

1. Adopted the Measure X Senior & Disabled Transportation Program Guidelines for Fiscal Years 2023/24 through 2025/26; and
2. Released the call for projects.

Board Member Medina-Dirksen asked staff to identify current grant recipients.

Aaron Hernandez noted that ITN Monterey, Alliance on Aging, Partnership for Children and Josephine Kernes Memorial Pool are current grant recipients.

**3.2.3** Regarding Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway Right of Way Just Compensation

1. Authorized the Executive Director to establish just compensation and approve appraisals for the acquisition of parcels for the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway - Canyon Del Rey segment; and
2. Authorized the Executive Director to make purchase offers in the amount that equals the statutory offer of just compensation established for the parcel and negotiate acquisition agreements for parcels needed for the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway - Canyon Del Rey segment.

Board Member Kerr asked what right-of-way was included in this item.

Director Muck noted that it was the PG&E right-of-way along Plumas.

**3.2.4** Approved the increase of the Agency's local match to the Federal Lands Access Program grant for the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway project by \$1.01 million for a total match of \$5.01 million.

**3.2.5** Regarding Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway - GHD Contract Amendment #2:

1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director to execute contract amendment #2 with GHD, subject to approval by Agency Counsel, in an amount not to exceed \$36,528, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$2,828,641, to conduct additional environmental analysis;
2. Authorized the use of Measure X funds budgeted to this project;
3. Authorized the Executive Director to take such other further actions as may be necessary to fulfill the intent of the contract, including approvals of future modifications or amendments that do not significantly alter the scope of work, or change the approved contract term or amount; and
4. Approved sole source finding.

***PLANNING*****3.3.1** Regarding Caltrans Sustainable Communities Grant Applications:

1. Authorized staff to partner with the Monterey County Health Department and Ecology Action to submit a grant application to develop the North Monterey County Safe Routes to School Plan;
2. Authorized staff to submit a grant application to conduct a county-wide assessment of the bicycle network level of traffic stress; and
3. Authorized an amount not to exceed \$150,000 of agency funding as a grant match for both applications.

Board Member Phillips commented that a significant majority of students at North County schools are dropped off by parents or buses. He noted students do not bicycle because it is too dangerous.

Director Muck noted that if funded, the study would identify safe drop offs and teach walk and bike to school safety strategies.

**3.3.2** Authorized the Executive Director to submit a support letter for California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Reconnecting Communities Pilot grant application.***PROJECT DELIVERY and PROGRAMMING*****3.4.1** Approved and authorized the Executive Director to enter into a Measure X Funding Agreement with the City of Pacific Grove, subject to approval by Agency Counsel, for an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, to fund the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase of the Cedar, Sunset & Congress Intersection Improvements project.

**3.4.2** Regarding Regional Traffic Counts Request for Proposals:

1. Approved the Request for Proposals Scope of Work for the Regional Traffic Counts program, subject to counsel approval;
2. Authorized staff to publish the Request for Proposals and return to the Board of Directors with a recommendation for approval of a consultant, including the final scope of work; and
3. Approved the use of funds from the approved project budget for this contract in an amount not to exceed \$109,500.

**3.4.3** Approved the appointment of Brent McFadden to serve as the education representative and Darren Fort to serve as the alternate education representative on behalf of Monterey County Office of Education; and Steve Snodgrass to serve as the North County representative on the Measure X Transportation Safety & Investment Plan Citizens Oversight Committee.

***RAIL PROGRAM***

**3.5.1** No items this month.

***REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE***

**3.6.1** No items this month.

***COMMITTEE MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE***

**3.7.1** Accepted draft minutes from Transportation Agency committees:

- Executive Committee - draft minutes of September 7, 2022
- Rail Policy Committee - draft minutes of September 12, 2022
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee - draft minutes of September 7, 2022
- Technical Advisory Committee - draft minutes of September 1, 2022
- Excellent Transportation Oversight Committee – No meeting this month.

**3.7.2** Received Transportation Agency for Monterey County correspondence for September 2022.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**4. EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

The TAMC Board presented Transportation Agency Employee of the Quarter to Alissa Guther. Alissa has been selected by her colleagues at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County as the Employee of the Quarter for April 1 – June 30, 2022.

Agency employees recognized Alissa for having a great attitude, for her professionalism, and for her hard work. Most notably, they appreciate her work on the Regional Transportation Plan, TAMC Legislative Program, and the Local Access Fund Program; and for her assistance on the Safe Routes to Schools website, social media, and Move It Monterey County! challenge.

**5. SALINAS RAIL: CALTRAIN OPERATIONS DISCUSSIONS**

The Board received update from Sam Sargent, Caltrain Director of Strategy and Policy, on next steps in the operations discussions for the Salinas Rail extension project.

Mr. Sargent shared information about the ongoing discussion that Caltrain is having with the Transportation Agency in developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the extension of rail service from Gilroy to Salinas. After providing an overview of Caltrain's history as a commuter rail operator and reviewing their current service levels and ridership, Mr. Sargent concluded his presentation by stating that the next steps in developing the MOU include:

- Further evaluation of the Salinas extension with TAMC.
- Secure funding for zero emission rail vehicles for service south of San Jose. Otherwise, diesel equipment currently used for Gilroy service would be used for the Salinas extension.
- The TAMC-Caltrain MOU would be based on Caltrain's four principles:
  1. Service extension must be cost-neutral for Caltrain;
  2. No changes to Caltrain mainline service;
  3. TAMC and Caltrans assume all risks and liabilities of service extension; and
  4. Service extension makes no changes to the Peninsula Corridors Joint Powers Board governance structure.

Ex-officio Board Member Sabo asked what constrains a post-pandemic ridership rebound.

Mr. Sargent noted a large portion of pre-pandemic riders are now working remotely, and that in general people are traveling differently than they used to, and that Caltrain is seeing strong numbers in weekend and game-day ridership.

The Board noted their support of the proposed extension of Caltrain service to Monterey County.

## 6. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

The Board received an update on state and federal legislative issues.

Jim Davenport, Agency federal legislative analyst, presented an update on federal legislative activities. Mr. Davenport noted that Congress passed, and the President signed, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which includes new grant programs for transportation projects.

Gus Khouri, Agency state legislative analyst, presented an update on state legislative activities. Mr. Khouri reported that the Legislature is in the process of wrapping up the 2021-2022 legislative session.

The Board expressed concerns with the electric vehicle grid being able to accommodate the planned increase in electric vehicle investments.

Executive Director Muck noted there would be a presentation at the October Board meeting on electric vehicle charging station implementation.

## 7. **REPORTS FROM TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS**

**Caltrans District 5** – Orchid Monroy-Ochoa announced grant season is around the corner. The Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program includes:

- Sustainable Communities Grants (\$17 million Competitive; \$12.5 million Formula) to encourage local and regional planning that furthers state goals, including, but not limited to, the goals and best practices cited in the Regional Transportation Plan Guidelines adopted by the California Transportation Commission
- Climate Adaptation Planning Grants (\$50 million) to support local and regional identification of transportation-related climate vulnerabilities through the development of climate adaptation plans, as well as project-level adaptation planning to identify adaptation projects and strategies for transportation infrastructure
- Strategic Partnerships Grants (\$4.5 million) to identify and address statewide, interregional, or regional transportation deficiencies on the State highway system in partnership with Caltrans. The transit component that will fund planning projects that address multimodal transportation deficiencies with a focus on transit.

Ms. Monroy announced Caltrans will be hosting two virtual workshops in November and will release a Grant Application Guide in December. In conclusion, Ms. Monroy noted California has the green light to start using federal infrastructure funding to expand electric vehicle (EV) charging stations along the state's interstates and highways following the recent federal approval of a joint



plan by Caltrans and California Energy Commission. For more information, visit:  
<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5>.

Board Member Lopez commented that the request from community is for additional signage, preferably lighted, at the US 101 southbound exit onto Pi Bar Ranch Road, which is not easy to see, especially at night due to lack of reflective markers.

**Monterey Regional Airport District** – Bill Sabo reported that the airport is doing great. The airport has increased their boardings, with expanded number of full flights to 98% pre-pandemic level and almost no cancellations. He noted that the airport is working with Canadian Airlines to add flights to Canada and is working to get customs to provide international flights. Board Member Medina-Dirksen asked if Mexico travels were also discussed. Mr. Sabo noted that Mexico flights have been discussed but since the airport does not have customs, international flights are not feasible. In conclusion, Mr. Sabo announced the airport is using Turo, a private car rental business, where private people rent their cars.

**Monterey Salinas Transit District** – No report this month.

**Monterey Bay Air Resources District** – No report this month.

**7. REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY BOARD MEMBERS AT AGENCY EXPENSE**

None this month.

**8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Todd Muck announced the kickoff of the Safe Route to School Pop up events for safety improvement in the Salinas Valley. The City of Greenfield Safe Routes to School event will be up until October 14, located on Second Street. He added that the Fall Move it Challenge is from October 1 to 31. In conclusion, Director Muck reminded Board Members to send the Executive Director evaluation forms to Chair Mary Adams by September 30, 2022.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS**

Board Member Kerr thanked Mike Zeller and Lindsey Van Parys for attending the Del Rey Oaks council meeting last night and answering all the questions regarding FORTAG with knowledge and professionalism.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.