

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPC)

**Wednesday, January 4, 2017
6:00 PM**

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC) TAMC Conference Room AGENDA

Complete agenda packets are on display at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County office and at these public libraries: Carmel, Monterey, Salinas Steinbeck Branch, Seaside, Prunedale, and King City. Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call the Agency Secretary to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Please recycle this agenda.

1. ROLL CALL

Call to order and self-introductions. Committee bylaws specify that a quorum shall consist of a majority (7) of the number of voting memberships actually filled at that time (13); the existence of any vacancies shall not be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum. If you are unable to attend, please contact the Transportation Agency. Your courtesy to the other Committee members to assure a quorum is appreciated.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any member of the public may address the Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Each member of the public is allotted with three minutes to address any concerns. Comments on items on today's agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed.

3. BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA

Any member of the public may address the Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of Transportation Agency and Executive Committee. Comments on items on today's agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed.

3.1 Approved minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting of November 2, 2016.

- Montiel

***The Draft minutes of the November 2, 2016 Bicycle and Pedestrian
Facilities Advisory Committee meeting are attached for review.***

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. **PROVIDE** input on the City of Salinas' Alisal Complete Streets project.

- Serrano

The City of Salinas received grant funds to make complete streets safety improvements for bicyclists, pedestrians and drivers on Alisal Street, between Blanco Road and Front Street.

5. **RECEIVE** update on Measure X and the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan.

- Murillo

Measure X, the local 3/8% transportation sales tax to fund countywide transportation improvements, passed in November 2016. Staff will present an update on implementation.

6. **RECEIVE** update on the Active Transportation Program Cycle 3 grant program.

- Murillo

The Monterey County Health Department was awarded grant funds for safe routes to school education and to support open street Ciclovia events in the cities of Salinas, Gonzales, Greenfield, and King City.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS and/or COMMENTS**

8. **ADJOURN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Committee meeting:
Wednesday February 1, 2017
TAMC Conference Room
55b Plaza Circle, Salinas, California, 93901

Light refreshments will be provided

Documents relating to an item on the open session that are distributed to the Committee less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA. Documents distributed to the Committee at the meeting by staff will be available at the meeting; documents distributed to the Committee by members of the public shall be made available after the meeting.

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901-2902
Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
TEL: 831-775-0903
FAX: 831-775-0897

The Committee Agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon nine (9) working days before the regular meeting. Any member may request in writing an item to appear on the agenda. The request shall be made by the agenda deadline and any supporting papers must be furnished by that time or be readily available.

If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may contact Transportation Agency at 831-775-0903.

Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish Language interpreters and printed materials, and printed materials in large print, Braille or on disk. These requests may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting, and should be made at least 72 hours before the meeting. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the request.

CORRESPONDENCE, MEDIA CLIPPINGS, & REPORTS

Correspondence - No items this month.

Media Clipping

- M 1. [Salinas Californian - \\$192,521 grant awarded to cut Salinas pedestrian deaths 11/17/2016](#)
- M 2. [Gonzales Tribune - TAMC Asks for Local Input on Biking and Walking Improvements 12/1/2016](#)
- M 3. [Salinas Californian *We Could Car Less* - Street Safety kicks up on East Market 12/1/2016](#)
- M 4. [KION - New 'safer route to school' project in Castroville 12/12/2016](#)
- M 5. [Univision - Project in Castroville Seeks to Improve Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians 12/12/2016](#)
- M 6. [Salinas Californian - Project blazes walk-bike path in Castroville 12/15/2016](#)

Reports - No items this month.



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
From: Debra L. Hale, Executive Director
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee minutes of November 2, 2016**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approved minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting of November 2, 2016.

SUMMARY:

The Draft minutes of the November 2, 2016 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting are attached for review.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This item has no financial impact.

DISCUSSION:

The draft minutes of the November 2, 2016 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting are attached for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

- BPC Draft November minutes

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
Draft Minutes of November 2, 2016
Held at the Transportation Agency office
55 Plaza, Cir. Suite B, Salinas, CA

Voting Members	MAR 16	APR 16	MAY 16	JUN 16	AUG 16	SEP 16	OCT 16	NOV 16
Eric Petersen, District 1, Chair	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jerry Ramos – District 2	E	E	E	E	-	-	E	-
Jeff Wriedt, District 4 <i>(Frank Henderson)</i>	E	P	P	P	P(A)	P	P	P
Jeff Lindenthal, District 5 <i>(Geof Tibbitts)</i>	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	E
D. L. Johnson , Carmel-By-The Sea	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	E
Del Rey Oaks - vacant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gonzales - Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenfield - Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michael LeBarre, King City	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Vacant, Marina, Vice Chair <i>(Debra Daniels)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monterey - Vacant,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Linda Petersen, Pacific Grove <i>(Tony Prock)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P
Chris Flescher, Salinas <i>(Mark Lasnik)</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Sand City - Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jan Valencia, Seaside	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Soledad - Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
David Craft, MBUAPCD	-	P	-	P	P	P	P	P
Lisa Rheinheimer, Monterey Salinas Transit	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bill Boosman, Velo Club of Monterey <i>(Vera Noghera)</i>	P	P	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P
Mary Israel, FORA <i>(Jonathan Brinkmann)</i>	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	P
N. County Recreation & Park District - Vacant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
James Serrano, Salinas Public Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raul Martinez – County Public Works	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	E	P	-	P
Caltrans - District 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
–AMBAG <i>(Sasha Tepedelenova)</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kevin Cole, Pebble Beach Company	P	-	-	P	E	P	P	P
Brian Cook, CSUMB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E

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

	MAR 16	APR 16	MAY 16	JUN 16	AUG 16	SEP 16	OCT 16	NOV 16
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY STAFF								
Debbie Hale, Executive Director	E	E	E	E	E	-	-	E
Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director	E	E	E	E	E	P	-	p
Ariana Green, Associate Transportation Planner	P	P	E	P	P	E	-	E
Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

OTHERS PRESENT:

Grant Leonard	TAMC staff	Bernard Green	TAMC staff
Fernanda Roveri	City of Monterey	Rick Riedl	City of Seaside
Lauryn Ricigliano	Seaside Resident	Adisa Vaughn	Seaside Resident
Asante Ricigliano-Vaughn	Seaside Resident	Carol Stoker	Monterey Resident
Mindy Surratt	Monterey Resident	Ralph Wege	Seaside Resident
Peter Said	FORA		

- Chair Eric Petersen 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 LeBarre /Petersen /unanimous

- 3.1** Approved minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting of October 5, 2016.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR AND APPOINTMENTS FOR 2017

The Committee appointed a committee chair and vice chair, who would serve a one-year term beginning January 2017. The Committee adopted the 2017 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting calendar.

Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner reported that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee must elect officers and approve its meeting calendar for the next calendar year. She noted that an election is held in November of each year pursuant to the Committee Bylaws. The proposed schedule of meetings for 2016 follows the existing pattern of meetings, occurring on the first Wednesday of the month, from 6 to 8 p.m. except for the months of July and December when all Agency committee meetings are cancelled.

M/S/C Craft /Petersen /unanimous
Committee member David Craft nominated Chris Flescher for Chair and the motion was seconded by Committee member Eric Petersen.

M/S/C Cole /LeBarre /unanimous
Committee member Kevin Cole nominated Lisa Rheinheimer for Vice Chair and Committee member Michael LeBarre seconded the motion.

5. SEASIDE WEST BROADWAY PROJECT UPDATE

The committee received a report on the City of Seaside's West Broadway Urban Village Infrastructure Improvement project.

Rick Riedl, City of Seaside presented on the West Broadway Urban Village Infrastructure Improvement project. He noted that Broadway Avenue and Del Monte Boulevard in Seaside are key corridors for bike and pedestrian travel that currently lack bike facilities and are in need of pedestrians crossing improvements. The project will begin the transformation of West Broadway as the core of a new pedestrian and bicycle friendly, transit-oriented urban village. Improvements will include:

- West Broadway Avenue (between Del Monte Blvd & Fremont Blvd): reduced from four-lanes to two-lanes with bicycle lanes provided on both sides of the street, widened sidewalks and bulb-outs. Crosswalks will be delineated with high-visibility white-painted crossing marks and stop bars.
- Del Monte Boulevard (between Canyon Del Rey & Broadway): clearly-marked bike lanes and bike boxes at critical intersections.

In conclusion, Mr. Riedl noted that pedestrian improvements will create a complete, connected network of sidewalks with crosswalks and pedestrian signals at key crossings locations. Bike lanes on Broadway will be delineated with green paint and contrasting markings, and the Del Monte Blvd bike lanes will be delineated with pavement striping. Altogether, these improvements will enhance bike and pedestrian safety. He noted that construction is expected to begin in April 2017, and last less than one year.

The Committee had the following comments and suggestions on the City of Seaside's West Broadway Urban Village Infrastructure Improvement project:

- Consider putting the bike lanes between sidewalk and parked cars
- Consider cycle tracks
- Consider adding sharrows in certain areas for enhanced connectivity
- Consider 11' travel lanes
- Consider hosting a local bike race to inaugurate the project

Members of the public had the following comments and suggestions:

- Bike lane from Del Monte Blvd to Embassy Suites is needed

6. **2017 BICYCLE SECURE PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

The Committee provided recommendations for updating the 2017 Bicycle Secure Program Guidelines.

Grant Leonard, Transportation Planner, reported that in 2015 the Agency restarted the Bicycle Secure Program. He noted that the Transportation Agency budgeted Regional Surface Transportation Program funding to reinstate the Bicycle Protection Program under the new name "Bicycle Secure Program" and distribute bicycle racks, skateboard racks, cages, lockers, other secure storage facilities and repair stations where they may be needed to support bicycling in Monterey County. The program will release a call for applications for its third cycle of grants in December 2016.

He noted that currently the program goals include a statement supporting equitable distribution of equipment throughout the county, but no limits to the number of times a business or agency may receive equipment through the program. In the past the Committee recommended the Agency provide a partial award to an institution that applied two years consecutively, citing the program goal to support equitable distribution of equipment throughout the county. In March 2016 Monterey-Salinas Transit requested that bicycle racks on buses be considered for eligibility in the program as there is a need for more bicycle racks on buses in Monterey County.

The Committee and members of the public had the following suggestions on the 2017 Bicycle Secure Program Guidelines:

- Consider retro fit of bike lockers installed for attraction
- Consider contacting Urban Arts Collaborative – Building Healthy Communities for painting the lockers and etc.
- Consider looking into big cages for elementary schools to put their bicycles

M/S/C

Cole /LeBarre /unanimous

Committee member Kevin Cole motioned to not include limits on the number of times a business or agency may receive equipment through the program and to include bicycle racks on buses for funding eligibility in the program and Committee member Michael LeBarre second the motion.

7. **2017 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

The Committee received and commented on the draft 2017 Legislative Program.

Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner, noted that the purpose of the legislative program is to set general principles to guide staff and Board responses to proposed state and federal legislative or budgetary issues. She noted that the program also notifies state representatives of the Transportation Agency's position on issues of key importance. The 2016 TAMC Legislative Program focused on maintaining and augmenting transportation funding. The 2017 legislative program continues this focus on transportation funding.

Committee member LeBarre said he does not support 7S public tolls or a pay-by-the-mile user fee.

Chair Petersen reported that the California Bike Coalition is pushing legislation to have a special car license plate fee with revenues going to the Active Transportation Program. The Coalition is also looking to clarify the California Vehicle Code 21202 regarding riding as far right to the road as possible.

8. **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

The Committee received a verbal update on outreach efforts for the Active Transportation Plan.

Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner, noted that the outreach for the Active Transportation Plan, an updated of the 2011 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan continues. She noted that Transportation Agency staff has been presenting to interested stakeholders, and has been collecting input via the online Wikimapping tool that is posted to the Transportation Agency website. In conclusion Ms. Murillo noted that the closing date for public input would be December 16, 2016.

The Committee had the following suggestions on the Active Transportation Plan:

- Consider monitoring the Wikimapping even after the closing date can be good data for future
- Consider working with high school students to have students provide input
- Consider posting the Wikimapping for Active Transportation Plan at libraries

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS**

Committee member Kevin Cole announced that this would be his last meetings. He mentioned it was a pleasure working with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee and noted he was retiring and moving to Hawaii.

Chairman Eric Petersen noted the envelope for contributions for Ariana's twin boy's gift card is going around. He noted that last month the committee agreed on contributing for a gift card to give to Transportation Agency staff Ariana Green.

Fernanda Roveri, City of Monterey noted that she has a few bike share surveys and expressed the committee members to fill them out if you haven't done so. The survey is also available online.

Chairman Eric Petersen thanked Transportation Agency staff and committee members for his 5-years of service as chairman to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Petersen adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Downtown Salinas Complete Streets Project**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

PROVIDE input on the City of Salinas' Alisal Complete Streets project.

SUMMARY:

The City of Salinas received grant funds to make complete streets safety improvements for bicyclists, pedestrians and drivers on Alisal Street, between Blanco Road and Front Street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Design and construction of Alisal Street improvements are funded through a Federal \$2,600,000 Highway Safety Improvement Program grant and a \$310,000 Regional Surface Transportation Program grant from TAMC.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Salinas' Downtown Vibrancy Plan identified needs to update Downtown's infrastructure to assure pedestrian safety, calm vehicular traffic to encourage increased bicycle use, provide a sustainable parking strategy, and create a sense of place through art and culture that attracts visitors to a new, safe destination. The city is planning on instituting a "Road Diet" for Alisal Street between Blanco Road and Front Street (see **attachment**). As part of an overall project to resurface Alisal Street with an asphalt overlay on the road, a comprehensive set of improvements will be incorporated into the project.

Alisal Street complete street improvements are listed in the Downtown Vibrancy Plan, and will enhance safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and drivers. Improvements along Alisal

Street include:

- Buffered bike lanes between Blanco Rd & Front St
- Parking buffered bike lanes between Salinas St & Capitol St
- Center turn lanes between Front St & Soledad St
- Curb extensions and high-visibility crosswalks on Pajaro St, Monterey St, Church St, Lincoln Ave, Homestead Ave & W Acacia St
- Pedestrian all-way crosswalks (pedestrian scrambles) on Main St & Salinas St

Altogether, the Alisal Street road diet improvements are designed to accommodate the existing and planned volumes of auto traffic while making it safer for pedestrians and bicyclists to use the street.

The planning level cost estimate for design and construction of these improvements is \$2.6 million. Construction is expected to begin this summer, and be complete by Spring 2018.

City of Salinas staff will present the concept design improvements. Staff requests Committee input on these designs.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Alisal Road Diet map



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Measure X Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on Measure X and the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan.

SUMMARY:

Measure X, the local 3/8% transportation sales tax to fund countywide transportation improvements, passed in November 2016. Staff will present an update on implementation.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Measure X will raise an estimated \$600 million for local transportation improvements over its 30 year lifetime by levying a 3/8% sales tax. This local money will also allow the region to leverage additional state and federal matching funds.

DISCUSSION:

Monterey County voters approved Measure X in November 2016 to fund the Transportation Safety & Investment Plan (**web attachment**), just above the required 2/3rds voter approval threshold, at 67.71%. The revenues are split with 60% dedicated to local road maintenance, pothole repairs and safety projects, and 40% dedicated to regional safety and mobility projects. As part of the 40% dedicated to regional projects, Measure X includes \$20 million for the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway project, and \$20 million for a Safe Routes to School category.

Several implementation steps will occur before the tax begins. Beginning in January 2017, TAMC will approve agreements with the Board of Equalization, the County Auditor and the cities and the County to develop agreements for revenue. TAMC will initiate a

pavement management system and hire a bond analysis advisor. Per Investment Plan policies and guidelines, the Transportation Agency will also be setting up the Citizens Oversight Committee that includes representatives from a diverse set of community organizations and interest groups such as, the League of Women Voters, the Salinas Valley Taxpayers Association, a pedestrian or bicycle transportation advocate, transit users and a Chamber of Commerce.

The tax will begin collection on April 1, 2017, and the first payments to the cities and County are expected in August 2017. The cities and county will develop a list of early delivery projects and a 5-year expenditure plan for local street and road maintenance projects. In September 2017, TAMC will develop a 5-year X-cellent Transportation Project Priority Plan to launch regional projects.

Public outreach will be a key component of Measure X. TAMC will issue press releases and present to community groups as project implementation begins. The TAMC website and Facebook pages will be updated regularly to reflect progress on the projects included in the Investment Plan. "This project funded by Measure X" signs will also be displayed at project construction sites.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

[Measure X: Transportation Safety & Investment Plan](#)



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Active Transportation Program Cycle 3**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on the Active Transportation Program Cycle 3 grant program.

SUMMARY:

The Monterey County Health Department was awarded grant funds for safe routes to school education and to support open street Ciclovía events in the cities of Salinas, Gonzales, Greenfield, and King City.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Of the seven grant proposals submitted in Monterey County, only the County Health Department was awarded \$965,000 in State Active Transportation Program Cycle 3 grant funds.

DISCUSSION:

The State Active Transportation Program was created to encourage the increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking. The Program combines various state and federal active transportation funds into a single call for projects program. Cycle 3 was an especially competitive Program grant cycle. \$240 million was available statewide on a competitive basis. The Program received 456 applications requesting \$976.7 million.

Only the County Health Department's safe routes to school education and outreach grant proposal was awarded an ATP grant in Cycle 3. Staff will be requesting a debrief from the California Transportation Commission for each of the applications. Staff will take these comments to improve future grant applications, and will coordinate with the County and the

City of Salinas to identify potential alternative sources of funds to complete these projects.

TAMC, the City of Salinas and the County Public Works submitted the following applications that were not awarded funding:

Agency	Project	Request
TAMC	Monterey County Bicycle and Pedestrian Wayfinding Sign Project	\$684,000
TAMC	Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway Central Loop	\$7,231,000
County Public Works	MBSST- Moss Landing Segment Bicycle/Pedestrian Path & Bridge Project	\$7,587,000
County Public		
County Public Works	San Ardo & San Lucas Schools Pedestrian Improvements	\$1,283,000
City of Salinas	East Laurel Drive Active Transportation Project	\$5,315,000



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Salinas Californian - \$192,521 grant awarded to cut Salinas pedestrian deaths**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

[Salinas Californian - \\$192,521 grant awarded to cut Salinas pedestrian deaths 11/17/2016](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

- Salinas Californian - \$192,521 grant awarded to cut Salinas pedestrian deaths

\$192,521 grant awarded to cut Salinas pedestrian deaths

MACGREGOR 'GOYA' EDDY 5:12 p.m. PST November 17, 2016



(Photo: Macgregor Eddy/For The Californian)

The Monterey County Health Department will work with three elementary schools in Salinas to provide education in pedestrian and bicycle safety.

The California Office of Traffic Safety has awarded a \$192,521 grant to prevent pedestrians and bicyclist traffic collisions. The program is called Safe Travels Via Salinas and will focus on Fremont, Los Padres and Sherwood Elementary schools. Monterey County Health Department Disease Prevention coordinator Jessica Perez will be responsible for the implementation.

"A unique feature of the grant is having the children practice with a mock town brought to their school," the health department announcement says. "Students will work with pretend traffic situations, such as cars backing up in driveways and distracted drivers, learning to recognize the problems and how to protect themselves."

The yearlong grant will start on Nov. 21, an appropriate date since Nov. 20 is World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic victims (worlddayofremembrance.org (<http://worlddayofremembrance.org/>)). The grant aims to reduce pedestrian accidents in the Salinas. There were 55 pedestrians injured in 2015, and three of them died. To help with the program or for more information contact Jessica Perez at 755-8975, or email PerezJ7@co.monterey.ca.us (<mailto:PerezJ7@co.monterey.ca.us>).

SPD granted \$105,000 for crash prevention

The Salinas Police Department has been awarded \$105,000 by the OTS for crash prevention. "This grant will no doubt prevent death and injury in Salinas," said SPD Traffic Sgt. Gerry Ross. "This money provides us with the resources to keep working toward our goal of zero traffic deaths." Statewide, after falling to a 10-year low in 2010, the number of persons killed in collisions has climbed 17% in California with 3,176 killed in 2015, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Particularly alarming is the six-year rise in pedestrian and bicycle fatalities.

It is less than a month since the death of 17-year-old pedestrian Gabriela Beas, who was killed when motorcyclist ran a red light at high speed on North Main Street in Salinas. It feels right that these two grants are aimed at preventing such tragedies in the future.

Salinas pedestrian death rates high

Our police and our health department are taking the issue of pedestrian injuries and deaths seriously. As reported in this column on Oct. 28 (<http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/news/2016/10/27/pedestrian-deaths-should-shock-us/92864672/> ([/story/news/2016/10/27/pedestrian-deaths-should-shock-us/92864672/](http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/news/2016/10/27/pedestrian-deaths-should-shock-us/92864672/))), the proportion of pedestrian deaths in Salinas is four times the national average, and twice the California average. "Over the last few years approximately half of the fatal traffic collisions in Salinas have involved pedestrians," Ross said. "We need to realize how dangerous it is to drive. If a two-ton machine strikes a person at even 20 to 25 mph, that person will more likely suffer serious injury or death."

The Health Department is concentrating on education, while the SPD plans to do both education and enforcement. "Years of research tell us that enforcement and education work best jointly," said OTS Director Rhonda Craft.

Improving our county's infrastructure with Measure X funds

The third E in preventing traffic collisions, (along with Education and Enforcement) is Engineering, which means building safer infrastructure. Our county has just successfully passed a self-help transportation sales tax (Measure X.) We can now set our priorities for safe transportation.

It is difficult for many people to attend the public meetings concerning transportation planning. To increase opportunities to contribute, the

Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) wants your ideas for pedestrian and bicycle improvements. Using an online interactive tool you can even draw what you want as well as: analyze gaps, identify sites for better connections, share routes that you currently walk/bike or routes that you would like to use if improvements were made. It is our money, our plan, so speak up now. Go to <http://www.tamcmonterey.org> (<http://www.tamcmonterey.org>) or call Virginia Murillo, TAMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, at 831-775-0903 or email: virginia@tamcmonterey.org (<mailto:virginia@tamcmonterey.org>).

MST Job Fair Saturday at its bus operations and maintenance facility at One Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey. Positions for bus drivers and mechanics are available. For full job descriptions, and applications, visit www.mst.org/about-mst/employment (<http://www.mst.org/about-mst/employment>).





TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Gonzales Tribune - TAMC Asks for Local Input on Biking and Walking Improvements**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

[Gonzales Tribune - TAMC Asks for Local Input on Biking and Walking Improvements 12/1/2016](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

- TAMC Asks for Local Input on Biking and Walking Improvements - Gonzales Tribune

Gonzales Tribune

522-B Broadway, King City, CA 93930 • Ph: 831-385-4880 • Fax: 831-385-4799

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Local News



TAMC asks for local input on biking and walking improvements - Tomorrow night South County residents are invited to meet in Gonzales to help out their local city

Posted: Thursday, Dec 1st, 2016
BY: KELLIE HICKS

GONZALES - Residents of South County are invited to attend a public meeting to share their thoughts on local biking and walking improvements.

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) and the City of Gonzales have teamed up to invite South County residents to attend the public workshop for the Monterey County Active Transportation Plan.

The meeting is Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. at the Gonzales Police Department in the Emergency Services Building located at 109 Fourth Street.

Community input is a key component to the plan, and will guide the development of priority bicycle and pedestrian projects and infrastructure improvements for the city and county.

The Monterey County Active Transportation Plan is an update to the 2011 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, and will serve as a guide for long-term bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements throughout South Monterey County.

In particular, the Active Transportation Plan will focus on:

Analyzing gaps in the bicycle and pedestrian network in the City of Gonzales and in South Monterey County, identifying sites for projects such as bike lanes and identifying areas for regional and local connectivity.

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In 2011, as official hammered out the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, they discussed bikeway Projects for Monterey County cities.

They also planned the costs of the different projects

For the complete article see the 11-30-2016 issue.

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TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Salinas Californian - Street Safety Kicks up on East Market**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

[Salinas Californian *We Could Car Less* - Street Safety kicks up on East Market 12/1/2016](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

- Salinas Californian - Street Safety Kicks up on East Market

Street safety kicks up on East Market

MACGREGOR "GOYA" EDDY 6 p.m. PST December 1, 2016



(Photo: Provided)

On Thursday morning many students were crossing East Market Street where it intersects with Towt Street in Salinas. They were on their way to one of three schools – Fremont Elementary, El Sausal Middle or Alisal High. There to help them cross the busy street in front of Fremont was crossing guard Sara Villanueva.

As she stepped into the street to escort her young charges, Villanueva said, “The drivers are supposed to stop back at the yield sign (50 feet before the crosswalk). They are not supposed to stop right at the crosswalk.”

Villanueva says some people stop at the yield sign, but others do not.

"When I try to tell them, sometimes they get angry and curse at me."

This month the city will begin a project to reduce the number of traffic lanes from four to three (one lane each way with a turn lane in the middle) on East Market Street between Eucalyptus Drive and Midway Avenue. The new design will have a five-foot-wide bicycle lane with a 2½-foot buffer zone, according to James Serrano, Salinas public works director.

New traffic signals

"Traffic signals will replace the four-way stop signs at two intersections: Towt and East Market, and Eucalyptus and East Market," said Serrano. "The stop lights and fewer lanes are intended to slow the vehicle traffic."

Teresa Castro is a Fremont School child supervisor. Her job in the morning is to keep the drop-off area in front of the school safe.

"The traffic goes too fast," Castro said. "Slower would be better."

The changes to East Market are funded in part by the Via Salinas Valley project, a grant received by the Monterey County Health Department and the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC). The grant is for improving safety for bicycling or walking to school in Salinas and south Monterey County. Under the California Active Transportation program, the purpose of such a project is to make it safer for children to walk or bicycle to school while also improving fitness and health.

The Salinas city general plan, written in 2002, set the goal of increasing bicycle and pedestrian safety. This is consistent with the nationwide Complete Street movement.

A complete street is for everyone, not just cars and trucks.

Complete streets

On Nov. 15, I attended the first national conference of the Complete Streets Coalition, held in Sacramento. Many cities have adopted Complete Streets policies, but having a policy and implementing that policy is a big step. The conference was organized by Smart Growth America, (see smartgrowthamerica.org) and it featured consultants, engineers, public officials and activists sharing their experiences in making streets safe for pedestrians, bicyclists, bus riders as well as motor vehicle drivers.

What I learned is that it takes a lot of different participants to make streets safer for everyone. Interagency cooperation, public support and a transparent public process are all essential to success.

Cancellations hurt: It is unfortunate that the Salinas Traffic and Transportation Commission (which usually meets on the second Thursday of the month) will not meet in December for the second month in a row. The commission is meant to be a link between Salinas City Council members, city staff and the people of Salinas. Canceling public meetings does not provide a transparent public process for city traffic policies.

For example, the Monterey County Health Department was just awarded a \$192,521 grant from the state Office of Traffic Safety to reduce pedestrian deaths in Salinas. The Salinas Police Department has received an OTS grant of \$105,000 to reduce vehicle crashes.

Learning about these grants and planning how the city can participate could have filled a Traffic Commission meeting agenda. Let me know what you think.

Board meets: The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) Board of Directors will meet at 9 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 1428 Abbott St., Salinas. Online: See the agenda at www.tamcmonterey.org/

Follow MacGregor "Goya" Eddy on Twitter at @Goya1949. Contact her by email at wecouldcarless@gmail.com or mail to: We Could Car Less, in care of The Salinas Californian, 123 W. Alisal St., Salinas 93901.

Read or Share this story: <http://bit.ly/2gS9z0S>





TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **KION - New 'safer route to school' project in Castroville**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

[KION - New 'safer route to school' project in Castroville 12/12/2016](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

- KION - New 'safer route to school' project in Castroville

[Monterey County \(/news/monterey-county\)](/news/monterey-county)

New 'safer route to school' project in Castroville

By: Mariana Hicks (<http://www.kion546.com/meet-the-team/>) | [✉ \(mailto:mariana.hicks@kionrightnow.com\)](mailto:mariana.hicks@kionrightnow.com)

Posted: Dec 12, 2016 01:17 PM PST

Updated: Dec 13, 2016 10:06 AM PST

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Pedestrian Safety Project breaks...

CASTROVILLE, Calif. - UPDATE 12/12/2016 5:15 PM:

On Monday, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), Monterey County and community members broke ground on the Castroville Bicycle/Pedestrian and Railroad Crossing Project.

The ¾ mile pathway will start at McDougall Street and end at Castroville Boulevard, running parallel to Highway 156.

"So there will be a path connecting up at McDougall Street and the bridge will gradually start, so it's not a big climb," explained Debbie Hale, executive director of TAMC. "If it's too big of a climb people aren't going to use it. It'll eventually be as high as the highway but it will kind of mirror it so that it's not very visually big."

Not only will it promote a safe route for students who walk or ride their bikes to school, it will help other pedestrians and cyclists who are trying to get into Castroville.

"There's a lot of kids that come this way through school," JoAnn McClain said. "There's a lot of residents that come to do their shopping here."

Not only do pedestrians have to trek over an active train track, they must also make their way next to muddy agriculture fields, then dodge cars on Castroville Boulevard.

"The car traffic, I would say the average speed is 45-55 mph around that corner and the kids that are coming to school, they just wait for a break in the traffic and run across the road," Mike Mooneyhan said. "No crosswalk, no signals, very unsafe."

Longtime Castroville resident and planning commissioner Cosme Padilla said the project has been in the works for more than a decade and it's taken that long to get the funding but it's something the community desperately needs.

"I almost got hit by a train, we're going back 40-50 years," Mike Mooneyhan said. "But yeah, if it ever happen to me, almost, it can happen to someone else also."



33°

The \$7.5 million project, which is mostly being paid for by each state, transportation improvement funds should be completed by February 2018.

<http://www.kion546.com/weather>

ORIGINAL:

On Monday, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, Monterey County and community members broke ground on the Castroville Bicycle/Pedestrian and Railroad Crossing Project.

The 3/4 mile pathway will start at McDougall Street and end at Castroville Boulevard, running parallel to Highway 156. It will promote a safe route not only for students who walk or ride their bikes to school, but other pedestrians and cyclists trying to get to Castroville.

KION's Mariana Hicks will have more on this story at 6PM.

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TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Univision - Project in Castroville Seeks Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

[Univision - Project in Castroville Seeks to Improve Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians 12/12/2016](#)



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee
From: Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: January 4, 2017
Subject: **Salinas Californian - Project blazes walk-bike path in Castroville**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

[Salinas Californian - Project blazes walk-bike path in Castroville 12/15/2016](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

- ▢ Salinas Californian - Project blazes walk-bike path in Castroville

Project blazes walk-bike path in Castroville

MacGregor "Goya" Eddy, For The Salinas Californian 4:08 p.m. PST December 15, 2016



(Photo: File)

Elected officials and county transportation staff broke ground Monday morning on a \$10 million project to build a pedestrian/bicycle overpass and railroad crossing in Castroville. As Deb Hale, director of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, spoke about the merits of the project, pedestrians crossed the railroad tracks behind her, walking along a dirt path through an open field.

"I walk home through muddy fields," said Kenneth Boyte of Castroville. Boyte, who teaches at North Monterey County High School. "There are trucks working in the fields," said Boyte. "and there are students walking near them," Boyte said. He was pleased to hear that a safer way for students traveling to and from Castroville was being built.



Students on their way to North Monterey County High School in Castroville walk through open fields and cross railroad tracks and a busy boulevard to get to campus. (Photo: Provided)

Next, the task will be to get more students to walk and bike to school.

As it is now, a bike rack sits empty in front of the main office of North Monterey County High School. Meanwhile, every morning a line of cars and buses backs up along Castroville Boulevard, bringing students to school. On the side of the boulevard is an unused path leading to the high school. The path is unused because it leads to Highway 156. Because walking on the highway is not safe (or legal), the students who walk to school from Castroville must cross fields, railroad tracks and the busy boulevard.

Tax dollars at work: The total cost of the Castroville project will be \$10 million, according to Doug Poochigan, civil engineer with Monterey County. The funding comes from a mix of federal and state grants as well as local funds. A \$6.6 million Active Transportation Program state grant provides the largest infusion of funds, making the project possible (reported in this column Jan. 15.) The ATP grants are intended to make bicycling and walking safer, thus encouraging active methods of transportation. Active transportation, such as walking and bicycling, has the dual benefits of increasing physical fitness and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles.

Official guides for pedestrian planning recommend that pedestrian overpasses and underpasses be a last resort solution. Bicycle and pedestrian advocacy groups sometimes oppose overpass bridges because they are an expensive solution to an engineering problem and funds might be better used provide miles and miles of protected bicycle lanes and improved sidewalks.

It's unfortunate that, in Castroville, such an expensive project is a solution of last resort.

However, the presence of working railroad tracks makes the Castroville overpass project necessary. There will be, we hope, more trains on that track in the future. When the Amtrak Capitol Corridor train is extended to Salinas there should be more train traffic on that stretch of tracks. That train line now ends in San Jose.

County connection: Once completed, the pedestrian/bicycle path and railroad crossing will benefit Monterey County residents and visitors to the area, not just Castroville residents. Cyclists or hikers travelling from Salinas or the Monterey Peninsula cities to Santa Cruz County will have a safer route to enjoy.

"I have been looking forward to this much needed pedestrian route in our community, said John Phillips, Monterey County supervisor who represents District 3, including Castroville and north county. "I applaud the work of local and state planners in the design and implementation of this project."

Follow MacGregor "Goya" Eddy on Twitter at @Goya1949. Contact her by email at wecouldcarless@gmail.com or mail to: We Could Car Less, in care of The Salinas Californian, 123 W. Alisal St., Salinas 93901.



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