

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS
MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE
JOINT POWERS AGENCY

FINAL MINUTES OF AUGUST 23, 2023 TAMC BOARD MEETING

1441 Schilling Place, Salinas CA 93901, Cinnamon Conference Room

Alternate location: 168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901, 2nd Floor, Supervisor Alejo's Office

TAMC BOARD MEMBERS	SEP 22	OCT 22	DEC 22	JAN 23	FEB 23	MAR 23	APR 23	MAY 23	JUN 23	AUG 23
Luis Alejo, Supr. Dist. 1, (Linda Gonzales, Javier Gomez)	P	P	P	P(V)	P(V)	E	P(A) (V)	P(A) (V)	P(A) (V)	P
Glenn Church, Supr. Dist. 2, (Marilyn Vierra, Leonie Gray)	P	P	P(A)	P*	P	P	P	P	P	P
Chris Lopez, Supr. Dist. 3, 1st Vice Chair (Priscilla Barba)	P	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P
Wendy Root Askew, Supr. Dist. 4, County Representative (Yuri Anderson, Eric Mora)	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P
Mary Adams, Supr. Dist. 5, Past Chair (Colleen Courtney)	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	P
Dave Potter, Carmel-by-the-Sea 2nd Vice Chair (Jeff Baron)	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Scott Donaldson, Del Rey Oaks (John Uy)	P	P	A	E	P*	P	P	P	P	P
Jose Rios, Gonzales (Lorraine Worthy)	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Rachel Ortiz, Greenfield (Robert White)	P	P	P	P(V)	A	E	E	E	E	P
Michael LeBarre, King City, Chair (Carlos DeLeon)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P
Cristina Medina Dirksen, Marina (Bruce Delgado)	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	E
Edwin Smith, Monterey, (Kim Barber , Marissa Garcia, Andrea Renny)	P	P	P	P	P(V)	P(A)	E	P	P	P(A)
Chaps Poduri, Pacific Grove, City Representative (Joe Amelio)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Andrew Sandoval, Salinas (Anthony Rocha)	P	P	P	P*	P	P	P	P	P	P
Gregory Hawthorne, Sand City (Jerry Blackwelder)	P	P(A)	A	P(V)	P	P(A)	A	P	A	A
Ian Oglesby, Seaside, (David Pacheco)	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	A
Alejandro Chavez, Soledad (Fernando Cabrera, Don Wilcox)	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	A

OTHERS PRESENT

Priscilla Barba	Supervisor District 3 office	Kevin Dabrinski	Caltrans District 5
Javier Gomez	Supervisor District 1 office	David Silberberger	Caltrans District 5
Layne Long	City of Marina	Jasmine Cortez	County resident

1. QUORUM CHECK – CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Elouise Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board, called the roll and confirmed a quorum was established. The Chair led the pledge of allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Scott Alder, Professor of UC Berkely, noted that he is working on an urban design program and is currently working on a River Road recreational bike trail promoting agricultural and winery tourism.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Potter/Lopez/unanimous

The Board approved the consent agenda as follows:

Item 3.41 was pulled for discussion.

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 June 28, 2023.
- 3.1.2** Accepted the list of checks written for the month of June and July 2023 and credit card statements for the month of May and June 2023.
- 3.1.3** Received report on conferences or trainings attended by agency staff.
- 3.1.4** Received list of contracts awarded under \$50,000.
- 3.1.5** Approved closure of Transportation Agency for Monterey County offices on December 27, 28 and 29, 2023.
- 3.1.6** Approved the evaluation form, procedure, and timeline for completing the annual evaluation for Executive Director and County Counsel.
- 3.1.7** Approved the appointment of Rosemarie Barnard to serve as the North County Representative and Ed Mitchell to serve as the Alternate North County Representative on the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee.

BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, TRANSIT and SOCIAL SERVICES

3.2.1 Regarding Transportation Development Act Allocation:

1. Approved Monterey-Salinas Transit District's (MST) application for State Transportation Development Act funds; and
2. Adopted Resolution 2023-11 allocating a total of \$26,380,256 in Transportation Development Act funds to the Monterey-Salinas Transit District, composed of \$19,395,686 in Local Transportation Funds and \$6,684,570 in State Transit Assistance funds for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

3.2.2 Regarding Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway Canyon Del Rey - Temporary Construction Easement Extension:

1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to execute an agreement for purchase / extension of a temporary construction easement with Ng, Lom & Ng, to extend the term to December 31, 2025 for an amount not to exceed \$27,600;
2. Authorized the use of Active Transportation Program funds budgeted to this project; and
3. Authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to take such other further actions as may be necessary to fulfill the intent of the agreement, including approvals of future modifications or amendments that do not significantly alter the scope of work, or change the approved contract term or amount.

PLANNING

3.3.1 Received update on state and federal legislative issues.

3.3.2 Received the Caltrans US 101 Business Plan.

PROJECT DELIVERY and PROGRAMMING**3.4.1** Regarding Traffic Garden Striping Contract:

1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, to execute contract with Boyds Asphalt Services, subject to approval by Agency Counsel, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 to layout and stripe 13 traffic gardens across Monterey County for the period ending June 30, 2024;
2. Approved the use of Measure X funds budgeted to this project through the Safe Routes to School Program; and
3. Authorized the Executive Director, or their designee, 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.

Board Member Church expressed concerns with the proposed traffic garden in Pajaro. Director Muck noted that the focus was on the playground area.

3.4.2 Regarding Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Allocation Requests:

1. Approved the request by the County of Monterey to program RSTP fair share funds for the Davis Road Bridge Replacement and Road Widening Project in the amount of \$2,500,000;
2. Approved the request by the City of Pacific Grove to program RSTP fair share funds for: the 18th Street and Spruce Avenue Emergency Storm Water Infrastructure Repairs Project in the amount of \$39,950; and the Flashing Beacon 19th and Sunset Project in the total amount of \$42,480; and
3. Approved amending Exhibit A of the local funding agreement to include these projects and funding.

3.4.3 Regarding Regional Surface Transportation Program Time Extension Requests”

1. Approved time extensions on the use of Transportation Agency competitive funds until August 28, 2024 for the following projects:
 - City of Monterey's Traffic System, Pedestrian, and Bike Upgrades;
 - City of King's Complete Streets Downtown Streetscape Bulbout Improvements;
 - City of Marina's Reservation Road Roundabout project;
 - City of Greenfield's Walnut Avenue Pedestrian and Bikeway Improvements project;
 - City of Salinas' Boronda Road Congestion Relief Project - Phase 1 project; and
 - City of Seaside's Broadway Avenue Corridor Improvements project.
2. Approved amending Exhibit A of the local funding agreement to include updated funding deadlines for these projects.

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 August 2, 2023
- Rail Policy Committee – draft minutes of August 7, 2023
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee – draft minutes of August 2, 2023
- Technical Advisory Committee – draft minutes of August 3, 2023
- Excellent Transportation Oversight Committee – Meeting agenda of August 18, 2023

3.7.2 Received Transportation Agency for Monterey County correspondence for August 2023.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

The Board presented Transportation Agency Employee of the Quarter to Transportation Planner Aaron Hernandez.

Aaron has been selected by their colleagues at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County as the Employee of the Quarter for April 1 – June 30, 2023.

Agency employees recognize Aaron for his professionalism, his positive attitude, and his hard work on developing GIS tools for the US 101 and Safe Routes to School projects and creating maps for grant applications. Staff appreciate Aaron’s assistance in the office transition to a new agenda preparation software, Civic Clerk, and for upgrading our meeting hardware to the E-MEET capsule. He managed a very complicated grant process with the Senior & Disabled grant program.

Board Member Lopez and Chair LeBarre thanked Mr. Hernandez for his efforts in south county and representing TAMC well.

5. DRAFT 2023 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

The Board of Directors received the draft 2023 Public Participation Plan:

1. The Chair opened public hearing;
2. There was no public comment; and
3. The Chair closed public hearing.

Heather Adamson, AMBAG Director of Planning, presented the Draft 2023 Participation Plan. She reported that the federally- required 2023 Public Participation Plan is a comprehensive document that guides regional planning agencies and local jurisdictions in the public participation process for the tri-county Monterey Bay region that either receive federal funds or are subject to a federally required action.

She noted that AMBAG, as the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Monterey Bay region, prepares and adopts the Public Participation Plan at least once every four years. The prior Public Participation Plan, the 2019 Monterey Bay Area Public Participation Plan, was adopted in October 2019. to comply with the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) legislation. The 2023 Public Participation Plan will cover the four-year period from 2023-2026. and must comply with the current Federal Surface Transportation Act, Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), which was enacted in 2015. The 2023 Public Participation Plan emphasizes the transportation decision making process, including the expanded use of visualization techniques and innovative online marketing strategies in public outreach.

Key sections of the 2023 Public Participation Plan are listed below:

- Public Participation Plan Guiding Principles
- 2023 Public Participation Plan Timeline
- Incorporating Limited-English Proficiency (LEP) Populations into the plan
- Public Participation Plan Procedures and Development Process
- Interested Parties and Public Engagement
- Online and Visualization Outreach Strategies

An updated Public Participation Plan is the required guide for all public involvement activities conducted by AMBAG. As such, the plan contains the procedures, strategies and techniques used by AMBAG for public involvement in all programs and projects that use federal funds.

6. FORT ORD REGIONAL TRAIL AND GREENWAY CALIFORNIA AVENUE FINAL DESIGN AND RIGHT-OF-WAY CONTRACT

M/S/C Askew/Adams/unanimous

The Board of Directors

1. Approved and authorized the Executive Director to execute a contract with GHD, subject to approval by Agency Counsel and Caltrans' Independent Office of Audits and Investigations, for an amount not to exceed \$2,272,508, which includes a 10% contingency, to provide final design and right of way certification services for the FORTAG California Avenue Segment, for the period ending June 30, 2026; and
2. Approved the use of State Active Transportation Program and Regional Measure X funds budgeted for 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 approval of future modifications or amendments that do not significantly alter the scope of work, or change the approved contract term or amount.

Janneke Strause, Transportation Planner reported the Transportation Agency released a Request for Proposals for the design and right-of-way / permit work for the California Avenue segment of FORTAG in March 2023. Janneke Strause, Transportation Planner, reported the Transportation Agency released a Request for Proposals for the design and right-of-way / permit work for the California Avenue segment of FORTAG in March 2023. Four proposals were submitted by the deadline of April 24, 2023. Based on the proposals and interviews, the review team recommends selecting GHD for this work. The vision for the Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG) is to create a multimodal route designated to accommodate people of all ages and abilities that connects communities in and around the former Fort Ord to each other and to education, employment, community, and recreation centers. It will serve as a safe pedestrian and bicycle corridor connecting the cities of Seaside, Marina,

Del Rey Oaks, Monterey and unincorporated community residents to California State University Monterey Bay, the Fort Ord National Monument, and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail. It will serve as a safe pedestrian and bicycle corridor connecting the cities of Seaside, Marina, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, and unincorporated community residents to California State University Monterey Bay, the Fort Ord National Monument, and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail.

Board Membermember Askew thanked TAMC staff for keeping on track with the project. and noted that this is a long time coming, the trail has come together in a significant way. Board Membermember Adams concurred.

7.

2023 COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

M/S/C Potter/Lopez/unanimous

The Board of Directors approved programming \$10.538 million of Regional Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Development Act 2% funds to the 2023 Competitive Grants Program of Projects.

Janneke Strause, Transportation Planner, reported that the Transportation Agency Board approved releasing a call for projects for a new cycle of competitive grants at its March 2023 meeting. Transportation Agency Board voted to use \$10.75 million of Regional Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Development Act 2% funds from the Transportation Agency's fiscal year (FY) 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 allocation for a new round of competitive grants, with \$1 million dedicated to Quick-Build Projects and the remaining \$9.75 million for Competitive Program Projects. The quick-build grant program favorsapplication is composed of one section for a total possible application score of 100 points. The scoring for the application was approved by the Transportation Agency Board to favor projects that use semi-permanent materials to test a concept that quickly addresses a safety need, continuously engageengages the community throughout the duration of the project, measuremeasures progress and performance, and provideprovides a foundation for potential permanent infrastructure.

Mrs. Strause noted that the competitive grant program scoring considers project information and regional significance, complete streets, project readiness and cost effectiveness, and prior project delivery performance. The scoring criteriaStrause noted that the competitive grant application is composed of four sections, each with 25 available points, for a total possible application score of 100 points. The four categories are Project Information & Regional Significance, Complete Streets, Project Readiness & Cost Effectiveness, and Prior Project Delivery Performance. The scoring for the application was approved by the Transportation Agency Board to favor projects that improve regional routes with high traffic volumes, include bicycle and pedestrian facilities and safety enhancements,

can be completed within the three-year funding window, and support sponsors that are utilizing their Regional Surface Transportation Program fair share allocations and have a history of delivering projects within the three-year funding cycle.

8.

REPORTS FROM TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

Caltrans District 5 – Brandy Rider highlighted Caltrans District 5 construction, road closures and repairs:

- Caltrans plans to lower the speed limit for a section of US Highway 101 in southern Monterey County and northern San Luis Obispo County. Currently, the speed limit between King City and San Miguel is 70 mph. On Thursday, Caltrans announced that it will lower the speed limit to 65 mph. The new speed limit for the 40-mile stretch of highway will go into place by August 25, 2023.
- Caltrans honors fallen highway workers with memorial signs in state roadside rest areas; the signs will also promote safe driving campaigns.
- The southbound US 101 Camp Roberts Safety Roadside Rest Area will reopen to the public at 10 am today following an extensive renovation of the facility. Upgrades include a complete replacement of the wastewater treatment system to improve operational efficiency and to protect groundwater quality as well as major upgrades to the electrical system to support new more energy efficient equipment. The Electric Vehicle Charge Station will remain off-line pending delivery and installation of a new cell signal power module. However, upgrades to the solar powered EV station have also been made including the addition of a second Level 2 Charger. The northbound Camp Roberts Safety Roadside Rest Area will remain closed pending completion of similar renovations delayed by material deliveries. No date for reopening of the northbound facility is yet confirmed.

Chair LeBarre expressed his disappointment about for the speed limit in southern Monterey County being reduced to 65 miles per hour. He , noting that 5-mile increase change will not make any difference. He also noted that this is a very wrong move, noting there was no public participation in the decision-making process for this change.. Board Members members Alejo and Lopez concurred; Mr. concur, Lopez noting that this sounds like is a gimmick to give out more speeding tickets. Board Member member Potter asked whether Caltrans performed an about the 85th percentile study, noting that speed limits are normally set based on near the actual speeds of 85th percentile speed. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at or below which 85 percent of the traffic is moving, and statistically represents one standard deviation above the average speed..

Board Member member Lopez expressed his appreciation for the opening of the south bound Camp Roberts rest area.

Monterey Regional Airport District – No Report.

Monterey Salinas Transit District – Carl Sedoryk announced the following:

- Monterey-Salinas Transit has resumed service on Line 25 Salinas, noting during peak hours the bus is people are standing-room only up.
- He invited the Board and staff to attend MST's Golden Anniversary Luncheon on September 1, at their facility on Ryan Ranch.
- The Trolley service will be suspended on Labor Day.
- On October 30, MST will begin service on Line 59, servicing Salinas to Gilroy, providing four trips per day.
- The SURF Busway project is now free from lawsuits; MST has received a notice of dismissal.

Monterey Bay Air Resources District – Richard Stedman announced the following:

- Monterey Bay Air Resources District is reviewing AB2766 Grant applications and will award winners in October.
- The Camp Roberts Rest areas are solar powered and electric vehicle charging stations upgrades include a second Level The Camp Roberts Rest areas are solar powered and electric vehicle charging upgrades include the addition of a second Level 2 Charger.
- Charger.
- Electric Bike offers cash Incentives for electric bicycle purchases for low-income applicants. Electric Bike grant program offers cash Incentives for electric bicycle purchases for low-income applicants.

9.

REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY BOARD MEMBERS AT AGENCY EXPENSE

No reports this month.

10.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Todd Muck announced the following:

- Call for Art Salinas Sidewalk Art Project -- display your artwork on the sidewalks of East Salinas! Deadline to apply by September 15, 2023, 5 p.m.
- Soledad Pop-up Safe Routes to School temporary installation September 8th through October 6th.
- Measure X Committee is seeking two youth candidates to join the committee.

- The \$2 million allocated for the Castroville Improvement Project is no longer needed, so staff will propose on Friday, August 25th, to the California Transportation Commission to transfer that funding to the Salinas Rail Extension Project.
- The California Transportation Commission adopted the agenda appointing Monterey County to host the CTC meeting on June 27-28th & 28th, 2024. This will be a great opportunity to highlight our projects!

11.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

None this month.

12.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.