



Regional Transportation Planning Agency - Local Transportation Commission
Monterey County Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways
Monterey County Regional Development Impact Fee Joint Powers Agency
Email: info@tamcmonterey.org

Executive Committee

Members are: Michael LeBarre, Chair; Chris Lopez, 1st Vice Chair; Dave Potter, 2nd Vice Chair; Mary Adams, Past Chair; Wendy Askew, County Representative; Chaps Poduri, City Representative

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

****9:00 AM****

MEETING LOCATION

Voting members must attend a physical meeting location to count towards quorum

*55B Plaza Circle, Salinas, California 93901
Transportation Agency Conference Room*

Alternate Locations with Zoom Connection Open to the Public

*2616 1st Avenue, Marina, California 93933
Supervisor Askew's Office*

*599 El Camino Real, Greenfield, California 93927
Supervisor Lopez's Office*

Members of the public & non-voting members may join meeting online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/775161178?pwd=STY4UzZZblpOK0VLdEs3RGZUS3kyUT09>

OR

Via teleconference at +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 775 161 178

Password: 536047

Please note: If all committee members are present in person, public participation by Zoom is for convenience only and is not required by law. If the Zoom feed is lost for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted, but the meeting may continue at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Please see all the special meeting instructions at the end of this 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 an inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Please recycle this agenda.

1. QUORUM CHECK - CALL TO ORDER

Call to order and self-introductions. If you are unable to attend, please contact Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant. Your courtesy to the other members to assure a quorum is appreciated.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any member of the public may address the Board on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Board. Under this item, each member of the public is allowed three minutes to address concerns. Comments in items on this agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed. Persons who wish to address the Board for public comment or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to Maria at maria@tamcmonterey.org by 5:00 pm the Monday before the meeting, and such comments will be distributed to the Board before the meeting.

Alternative Agenda Format and Auxiliary Aids: 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 staff at 831-775-0903. Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish language interpreters, 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.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the staff recommendations for items listed below by majority vote with one motion. Any member may pull an item off the Consent Agenda to be moved to the end of the **CONSENT AGENDA** for discussion and action.

3.1. APPROVE Executive Committee draft minutes of November 1, 2023.

- Elouise Rodriguez

4. RECEIVE update on state and federal legislative issues and **RECOMMEND** the Board of Directors adopt the final 2024 legislative program.

- Christina Watson

Staff and consultants will present updates on state and federal legislative activities and present the 2024 legislative program.

5. RECEIVE nominations for the 2023 Transportation Agency Excellence Awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups, or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation network in Monterey County, and **SELECT** awards recipients for the 22nd awards ceremony to be held during the January 2024 Transportation Agency Board Meeting.

- Theresa Wright

The Transportation Agency released a call for nominations for the "22nd Annual Transportation Excellence Awards" in October 2023 to encourage and appreciate the efforts made by Monterey County residents, businesses and employees to improve the transportation network in Monterey County. Seven nominations were submitted to the Agency in December 2023 for consideration for the awards ceremony scheduled during the January 2024 Transportation Agency Board meeting.

6. **PROVIDE** direction and guidance to staff on assumptions for the three-year budget for fiscal years 24/25, 25/26, 26/27.

- Jefferson Kise

The TAMC annual budget development is an iterative process encompassing input from staff, the Executive Committee, and the Board of Directors. The budget reflects the financial impact of ongoing and committed projects & programs, as well as staff recommendations for operating expenditures. In addition to meeting the planning and programming commitments of the agency, staff seeks to insure the agency has the operating capacity to meet its needs for the future. These goals are pursued while balancing direct and operating revenue with their associated expenses, and planning for any strategic use of reserves.

7. **RECOMMEND** the Board of Directors adopt resolution 2024-01 which updates the individual with supervisory authority over the agency's investment policy from the County of Monterey Treasurer to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Executive Director or their designee.

- Jefferson Kise

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County has an Investment Policy which specifies the types of investments permissible for excess agency funds. The policy includes a Delegation of Authority which names the County of Monterey Treasurer as the person with supervisory authority over the agency's investments. Staff recommends giving the TAMC Executive Director or their designee supervisory authority over its investment accounts to insure alignment with the agency goals and objectives.

8. **RECOMMEND** the Board of Directors adopt resolution 2024-02 which expands the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Investment Policy to include pooled investment options offered by qualified municipal entities in addition to the Monterey County investment pool.

- Jefferson Kise

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County manages six different funds, the aggregate balance of which is over \$110,000,000. The only market investment option available in TAMC's current policy is the Monterey County Investment pool. Due to the liquidity requirements of the County and its other investment considerations, the yield on this portfolio is 100-200 basis points lower than what can be achieved from some other pools available to the agency. The pooled programs being considered are currently investment components within the County pool. Preservation of capital will

remain the core focus, while improving the yield on investments to provide additional funding for agency programs.

9. **RECEIVE** report on draft agenda for January 24, 2024 TAMC Board meeting.

- Todd Muck

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS and/or COMMENTS**

11. **CLOSED SESSION:**

Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section §54957 –
Position: Agency Counsel.

Reconvene in open session and report any actions taken.

Enclosures provided only to Executive Committee members.

- Jefferson Kise

12. **ADJOURN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Executive Committee meeting:

Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

**Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Conference Room**

55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas CA 93901

A quorum of voting members is required to be present to hold this meeting.

There will be a zoom link for hybrid participation by members of the public.

If you have any items for the next agenda, please submit them to:
Elouise Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board & Senior Administrative Assistant
Elouise@tamcmonterey.org

Important Meeting Information

Agenda Packet and Documents: Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call or email the Agency office to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Complete agenda packets are on display online at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County website. 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 review at the Agency website. Agency contact information is as follows:

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
www.tamcmonterey.org
55B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901

TEL: 831-775-0903
EMAIL: info@tamcmonterey.org

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

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant & Clerk of the Board
Meeting Date: January 10, 2024
Subject: Executive Committee Draft Minutes

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE Executive Committee draft minutes of November 1, 2023.

SUMMARY:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Exec draft minutes Nov_1_2023

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

DRAFT MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
 SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES AND MONTEREY COUNTY
 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE JOINT POWERS AGENCY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

*Members: Michael LeBarre (Chair), Chris Lopez (1st Vice Chair),
 Dave Potter (2nd Vice Chair), Mary Adams (Past Chair),
 Wendy Root Askew (County representative), Chaps Poduri (City representative)*

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

*** 8:30 a.m. ***

Transportation Agency Conference Room, 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas CA

Alternate locations:

2616 1st Avenue, Marina, CA 93933, Supervisor Askew's Office

599 El Camino Real, Greenfield, CA 93927, Supervisor Lopez's Office

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	JAN 23	FEB 23	MAR 23	APR 23	MAY 23	JUN 23	AUG 23	SEP 23	OCT 23	NOV 23
Michael LeBarre, Chair King City (C. DeLeon)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P	P	P	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)
Mary Adams, Past Chair Supr. Dist. 5 (C. Courtney)	P (TC)	P (VC)	P	P	P(A) (VC)	P	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P	P(A) (VC)
Chris Lopez, 1st Vice Chair Supr. Dist. 3 (P. Barba)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)
Dave Potter, 2nd Vice Chair Carmel-By-The-Sea (J. Baron)	P (VC)	A	P*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Wendy Root Askew, County Representative Supr. Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)
Chaps Poduri, City Representative (Joe Amelio)	E	P* (VC)	P	P	P	P (VC)	P	P	P	P

TC: via teleconference; VC: via video conference

P = Present

A = Absent

P(A) = alternate present

E = Excused

P(VC) Video Conference

P*= New Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

Staff present: Guther, Kise, Montiel, Muck, Sambrano, Strause, Watson, and Zeller.

Others present: Robert Brayer, County Counsel; Carl Sedoryk and Lisa Rheinheimer, Monterey-Salinas Transit.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment

3. CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Committee Member Lopez seconded by Committee Member Potter, the Committee voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of October 4, 2023.

4. STATE TRANSIT AND ZERO EMISSION FUNDING PROJECTS

On a motion by Committee Member Lopez, seconded by Committee Member Potter, the Committee voted 6-0 to recommend the Board of Directors approve distribution of state transit and zero emission funding as follows:

- Administrative expenses (MST/TAMC): \$524,758
- MST: 50% of SB 125 funding for bus transit projects & operations: \$25,975,523
- TAMC: 50% of SB 125 funding for rail capital projects: \$25,975,523
- Measure X funding to cover the construction cost increases on the SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit project: \$9,234,350

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that on July 10, 2023, the Governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 125 into law, which included new formula funding through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and created a new Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP). TAMC is slated to receive \$44.5 million over two years in TIRCP formula funds and \$8 million over four years for the ZETCP.

5. APPOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE

On a motion by Committee Member Askew, seconded by Committee Member Lopez, the Committee voted 6-0 to recommend that the Transportation Agency for Monterey County appoint Chair LeBarre and Past Chair Adams as the Nominating Committee to meet and

return to the Board of Directors on January 24, 2024, with recommendations for Board Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, and Executive Committee members to serve one-year terms beginning upon their election through the next election of officers at the beginning of the January 22, 2025, Board meeting.

6. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2024

On a motion by Committee Member Askew and seconded by Committee Member Lopez, the Committee voted 6-0 to recommend the Board of Directors approve the 2024 schedule of meetings for the Agency Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

Executive Director Muck reported that the Executive Committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month, except in January, when it is on the second Wednesday, and in July and December, when there are no meetings due to holidays. Mr. Muck noted that staff is recommending the Executive Committee meeting to be changed back to start time to 9 a.m. because the Committee is now holding its meetings in person.

7. TAMC BOARD DRAFT AGENDA

Executive Director Todd Muck reviewed the draft regular and consent agenda for the TAMC Board meeting of December 6, 2023. After Executive Committee discussion, directions were provided to staff to place the following items for consideration on the regular agenda:

- Employee of the Quarter
- State Transit and Zero Emission Funding Project Candidates

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair LeBarre announced that the next meeting will be on January 10, 2024.

9. CLOSED SESSION

The Committee held a closed session regarding Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section §54957 – Position: Executive Director and Agency Counsel.

The Committee reconvened in open session:

Chair LeBarre reported no reportable actions taken.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: January 10, 2024
Subject: **Legislative Update & Final 2024 Program**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on state and federal legislative issues and **RECOMMEND** the Board of Directors adopt the final 2024 legislative program.

SUMMARY:

Staff and consultants will present updates on state and federal legislative activities and present the 2024 legislative program.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The legislative program continues a focus on preserving and seeking transportation funding.

DISCUSSION:

State Agency legislative analyst Gus Khouri will present an update on state legislative activities, federal Agency legislative analysts Paul Schlesinger and Jim Davenport will present an update on federal legislative activities, and staff will present the final Agency legislative program for 2024. **Attachment 1** is a state legislative update on the legislative calendar, the state budget, and changes in leadership. An article about the possible replacement measures for the declining gas tax is online as a **web attachment**. **Attachment 2** is a federal legislative update, focused on the status of the transportation appropriations bill.

Attachment 3 is the final legislative program, showing changes from the draft program. **Attachment 4** is the final program, with changes accepted. Changes from the draft program approved by the TAMC Board in October are as follows:

State:

2S: Simplified language to focus on the key issue, seeking a fair application of vehicle miles traveled metrics in transportation funding decisions.

13S: Added in monitoring of the Transportation Development Act (TDA) reform task force, per MST request.

Federal:

No changes from the draft.

Staff will provide a verbal update at the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. State legislative update
2. Federal Legislative update
3. FINAL TAMC 2024 Leg Program SHOW CHANGES
4. FINAL TAMC 2024 Leg Program

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [December 13, 2023 article in CalMatters, "California gas tax revenue will drop by \\$6 billion, threatening roads"](#)



December 18, 2023

TO: Board Members, Transportation Agency for Monterey County
FROM: Gus Khouri, President, Khouri Consulting LLC
RE: **STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – DECEMBER**

General Update

The Legislature is in recess and will return to Sacramento to begin the second year of the 2023-24 Legislative Session on January 3, 2024. There are two notable deadlines: 1) All two-year bills still in the house of origin must be moved to the other house by January 31, and 2) February 16 marks the bill introduction deadline for new bills. The 2024 Calendar states that August 31 will be the final day of the 2023-24 Legislative Session. The State Budget must be acted upon by the legislature on June 15 and signed by the Governor by June 30. Governor Newsom will have until September 30 to sign or veto legislation.

TAMC is monitoring AB 817 (Pacheco), which amends the Brown Act to allow a subsidiary body of a local agency (i.e., all committees) to use teleconferencing for its meetings without posting agendas at each teleconference location. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Local Government Committee and must pass out of the Assembly by January 31.

Legislative Leadership Changes

On December 4, current Senate President pro-Tempore Toni Atkins (San Diego) announced that she would transfer her position to Majority Leader Mike McGuire (Healdsburg) on February 5. Senator Atkins is expected to run for Governor in 2026 when Governor Newsom terms out. On November 21, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (Hollister) announced that Assembly Member Lori Wilson (Suisun City) will succeed Assembly Member Laura Friedman (Burbank) as Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee. Assembly Member Friedman has been a champion of the Governor's Climate Action Plan for Transportation Committee, prioritizing mode-shift to active and public transportation over highway

capacity projects. Assembly Member Friedman is attempting to succeed Representative Adam Schiff in Congress.

State Budget Outlook

The state and federal tax collection deadline was extended from October 16 to November 16. The Governor's May Revision anticipated \$42 billion in tax collections from capital gains and corporate and personal income tax filings. According to the State Treasurer's Office, only \$18 billion has been collected thus far, leaving uncertainty about whether the fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 State Budget deficit will grow beyond the \$31.5 billion the Legislature addressed this summer to \$68 billion. Early indications suggest that the Legislature may need to address a \$14 billion deficit for FY 2024-25. Governor Newsom will release the proposed FY 2024-25 State Budget by January 10.

State Budget Impact on Transportation: Challenges and Opportunities

Despite the news of a state budget deficit forecast, there still may be opportunities to access funding for transportation by restoring truck weight fees or recalibrating existing state programs, such as Cap and Trade, to augment the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program and Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. The Cap and Trade program must be extended beyond 2030 to continue providing resources for transit capital and operating needs. We are working with Speaker Rivas, incoming Senate President pro-Tempore Mike McGuire, and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), among others, to discuss solutions.

TO: Christina Watson

FROM: Paul Schlesinger
Jim Davenport

On November 16, President Biden signed into law a Continuing Resolution (CR) that extended fiscal year (FY) 2024 Federal government funding for agencies and programs to:

- January 19, 2024, for agencies covered under the following appropriations bills: (1) Agriculture-Food & Drug Administration (Ag), (2) Energy and Water, (3) Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, and (4) **Transportation-Housing and Urban Development (THUD)**; and
- February 2, 2024, for agencies covered under the following appropriations bills: (1) Interior and Environment, (2) Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS), (3) Defense, (4) Homeland Security, (5) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (LHHS), (6) State-Foreign Ops, (7) Financial Services, and (8) the Legislative Branch.

This dual-date CR is a new approach, but kicking appropriations decisions into the following year does happen on occasion. You might recall the FY22 Consolidated Appropriations Act was signed into law on March 15, 2022, nearly five months after the 2022 fiscal year began, following a similar extension.

As it pertains to TAMC, \$1.811 million for the Pajaro to Prunedale project is included in the FY 24 Senate THUD Appropriations Bill, which passed the Senate on November 1 by a vote of 82-15 as part of a three bill minibuss that also included spending for Military Construction-VA and Agriculture. While passage of this bill is a positive development, the House and Senate remain far apart on funding levels, policies, and provisions included in their respective appropriations bills. The Senate bills were drafted with bipartisan support at the funding levels agreed upon during the debt-ceiling negotiations and included in the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023. The House bills, primarily at the urging of the House Freedom Caucus, have been drafted at levels lower than what was agreed upon in the FRA, and carry partisan policy riders that House and Senate Democrats, and even some Senate Republicans, will not accept. However, Speaker Johnson has recently stated in letter to his colleagues that the FRA is the law of the land, which indicates he and some members of the Freedom Caucus are willing to negotiate with the Senate at the original agreed-upon numbers. While this is a positive development, to date those “top-line” numbers have not been agreed to and the House left Washington last night with no plans to return until January 9, giving themselves only 10 days to wrap up the first batch of spending bills (which includes THUD) before the first CR

expires on January 19. Speaker Johnson said he does not intend to pass another short-term CR, putting even more pressure on legislators to wrap up their appropriations work.

The reality is that there is little chance Congress can finish the first batch of bills by January 19, meaning something, or someone, will have to give when Members return next month. Nonetheless, given Speaker Johnson's willingness to negotiate with the Senate at higher funding levels, we are hopeful that Congress will resolve FY 24 appropriations matters in January and February, prior to the expiration of the current CRs or sometime soon after.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

2024 Legislative Program

~~DRAFT~~ State Priorities

- 1S. Preserve funding for all modes of transportation projects, maximize formula funding to regions, and preserve regional discretion and priority-setting for infrastructure needs, particularly safety projects, and the delivery of voter-approved programs and projects.
- 2S. ~~Advocate for proportionality on~~Support the fair application of vehicle miles traveled metrics in ~~comparison to larger metro~~rural and suburban areas ~~in the state, particularly for~~that seek to completeing multi-modal corridors or highway safety projects in underserved communities~~less densely populated or disadvantaged areas of the county, to increase safety for commuters, enhance routes needed for evacuation from climate events, goods movement, and tourism travel.~~
- 3S. Leverage Measure X funds and partner with state agencies to pursue competitive grant or bond funding for highway safety, traffic congestion relief, trade corridors, passenger rail, public transportation, infrastructure resiliency, and bicycle and pedestrian routes for Monterey County projects.
- 4S. Promote jobs-housing balance and clean transportation modes as ways to reduce vehicles miles traveled, such as via funding reduced transit fares, rail expansion, and frequent bus service, while maintaining statewide equity between urban and rural areas.
- 5S. Support funding for zero-emission fuel initiatives that enhance mobility and accessibility while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, such as electric vehicle charging infrastructure, electric power storage capacity, electrical grid reliability, hydrogen hubs, and incentives for electric bike and vehicle purchases.
- 6S. Explore replacement funding mechanisms to the gas and diesel tax for transportation investments, such as a pay-by-the-mile user fee, public private partnerships, full conversion

to a vehicle registration fee, or wholesale energy taxes, that are equitable to disadvantaged and rural areas.

- 7S.** Support the promotion of telecommuting to reduce vehicle miles traveled via broadband investments in rural areas and disadvantaged communities, support the inclusion of local government representation in the administration of broadband infrastructure funding, and support new server farms in rural areas.
- 8S.** Support an increase in State rail funding, such as the State Rail Assistance program, Public Transportation Account, or any successor or supplemental source, or redistribution of cap-and-trade proceeds, to implement new state-supported passenger rail service on the Coast Route to help the State meet transportation and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.
- 9S.** Support efforts to reauthorize Public Private Partnership authority, public tolling authority, and design-build authority, expand mode eligibility, and allow for regional control of such projects.
- 10S.** Support legislation that increases roadway safety by implementing Vision Zero strategies and improving driver safety training.
- 11S.** Support sustainable funding for the oversubscribed Active Transportation Program.
- 12S.** Support streamlining project delivery, including simplifying grant program applications, raising encroachment permit thresholds, and accelerating project permit approvals.
- 13S.** Coordinate with the Monterey-Salinas Transit District (MST) to monitor the Transportation Development Act (TDA) reform task force and augment state transit funding programs to provide ongoing operational support.
- 14S.** Support MST efforts to seek funding to implement the infrastructure needed to meet the deadlines of the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) Regulation transition to a 100 percent zero-emission bus fleet by 2040.
- 15S.** Support legislation that promotes transit-oriented development (such as via redevelopment or opportunity zones), complete streets, clean commutes, multi-modal transportation, bikes on board trains and buses, and active transportation projects.
- 16S.** Modernize the Brown Act to enhance transparency and wider public access to allow the use of remote access to public meetings without requiring noticing of all remote Board or committee member locations, provided the public can participate via remote access software or in-person.
- 17S.** Support member agencies' requests for state funding of regionally significant transportation projects and support partner agency legislative efforts as they interface with regional

transportation priorities when they are consistent with Transportation Agency for Monterey County priorities.



2024 Legislative Program

DRAFT Federal Priorities

- 1F.** Support stabilizing and increasing transportation infrastructure funding sources to avoid the bankruptcy of the federal highway and transit trust funds.
- 2F.** Support adequate funding for the following transportation priorities:
 1. Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) District capital projects, vehicles, and operations.
 2. Amtrak and state-supported passenger rail, including a fair share allocation to California for capital improvements and vehicle acquisition.
 3. Zero-emission vehicle infrastructure for transit and personal vehicles.
 4. Active transportation projects, including Vision Zero.
- 3F.** Support congressionally directed federal funding for Agency transportation priorities.
- 4F.** Coordinate with regional military installations to seek funding for transportation projects with a nexus to operations at those installations.
- 5F.** Support applications for Department of Transportation discretionary grant and climate resiliency/adaptation grant programs for projects on the California Central Coast.
- 6F.** Preserve regional discretion and priority-setting for infrastructure needs.
- 7F.** Support programmatic flexibility in federal funding for infrastructure.
- 8F.** Allow the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to substitute for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and expand the definition of Categorical Exclusions, while retaining environmental protections.
- 9F.** Support availability of funding for enhanced broadband and advocate for the Federal Communications Commission to regulate broadband/internet access as a utility to enable the increase of broadband infrastructure capacity to help bridge the digital divide and to encourage telecommuting.

- 10F.** Support streamlining of federal rail funding and removal of funding barriers between commuter and intercity rail programs, with the goal of increasing integrated passenger rail service for the traveling public.
- 11F.** Support the use of Federal rail funding to implement new passenger rail service on the Coast Route.
- 12F.** Support member agencies' requests for federal funding of regionally significant transportation projects and support partner agency legislative efforts as they interface with regional transportation priorities when they are consistent with Transportation Agency for Monterey County priorities.



2024 Legislative Program

State Priorities

- 1S.** Preserve funding for all modes of transportation projects, maximize formula funding to regions, and preserve regional discretion and priority-setting for infrastructure needs, particularly safety projects, and the delivery of voter-approved programs and projects.
- 2S.** Support the fair application of vehicle miles traveled metrics in rural and suburban areas that seek to complete multi-modal corridors or highway safety projects in underserved communities.
- 3S.** Leverage Measure X funds and partner with state agencies to pursue competitive grant or bond funding for highway safety, traffic congestion relief, trade corridors, passenger rail, public transportation, infrastructure resiliency, and bicycle and pedestrian routes for Monterey County projects.
- 4S.** Promote jobs-housing balance and clean transportation modes as ways to reduce vehicles miles traveled, such as via funding reduced transit fares, rail expansion, and frequent bus service, while maintaining statewide equity between urban and rural areas.
- 5S.** Support funding for zero-emission fuel initiatives that enhance mobility and accessibility while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, such as electric vehicle charging infrastructure, electric power storage capacity, electrical grid reliability, hydrogen hubs, and incentives for electric bike and vehicle purchases.
- 6S.** Explore replacement funding mechanisms to the gas and diesel tax for transportation investments, such as a pay-by-the-mile user fee, public private partnerships, full conversion to a vehicle registration fee, or wholesale energy taxes, that are equitable to disadvantaged and rural areas.
- 7S.** Support the promotion of telecommuting to reduce vehicle miles traveled via broadband investments in rural areas and disadvantaged communities, support the inclusion of local government representation in the administration of broadband infrastructure funding, and support new server farms in rural areas.

- 8S.** Support an increase in State rail funding, such as the State Rail Assistance program, Public Transportation Account, or any successor or supplemental source, or redistribution of cap-and-trade proceeds, to implement new state-supported passenger rail service on the Coast Route to help the State meet transportation and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.
- 9S.** Support efforts to reauthorize Public Private Partnership authority, public tolling authority, and design-build authority, expand mode eligibility, and allow for regional control of such projects.
- 10S.** Support legislation that increases roadway safety by implementing Vision Zero strategies and improving driver safety training.
- 11S.** Support sustainable funding for the oversubscribed Active Transportation Program.
- 12S.** Support streamlining project delivery, including simplifying grant program applications, raising encroachment permit thresholds, and accelerating project permit approvals.
- 13S.** Coordinate with the Monterey-Salinas Transit District (MST) to monitor the Transportation Development Act (TDA) reform task force and augment state transit funding programs to provide ongoing operational support.
- 14S.** Support MST efforts to seek funding to implement the infrastructure needed to meet the deadlines of the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) Regulation transition to a 100 percent zero-emission bus fleet by 2040.
- 15S.** Support legislation that promotes transit-oriented development (such as via redevelopment or opportunity zones), complete streets, clean commutes, multi-modal transportation, bikes on board trains and buses, and active transportation projects.
- 16S.** Modernize the Brown Act to enhance transparency and wider public access to allow the use of remote access to public meetings without requiring noticing of all remote Board or committee member locations, provided the public can participate via remote access software or in-person.
- 17S.** Support member agencies' requests for state funding of regionally significant transportation projects and support partner agency legislative efforts as they interface with regional transportation priorities when they are consistent with Transportation Agency for Monterey County priorities.



2024 Legislative Program

Federal Priorities

- 1F.** Support stabilizing and increasing transportation infrastructure funding sources to avoid the bankruptcy of the federal highway and transit trust funds.
- 2F.** Support adequate funding for the following transportation priorities:
 1. Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) District capital projects, vehicles, and operations.
 2. Amtrak and state-supported passenger rail, including a fair share allocation to California for capital improvements and vehicle acquisition.
 3. Zero-emission vehicle infrastructure for transit and personal vehicles.
 4. Active transportation projects, including Vision Zero.
- 3F.** Support congressionally directed federal funding for Agency transportation priorities.
- 4F.** Coordinate with regional military installations to seek funding for transportation projects with a nexus to operations at those installations.
- 5F.** Support applications for Department of Transportation discretionary grant and climate resiliency/adaptation grant programs for projects on the California Central Coast.
- 6F.** Preserve regional discretion and priority-setting for infrastructure needs.
- 7F.** Support programmatic flexibility in federal funding for infrastructure.
- 8F.** Allow the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to substitute for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and expand the definition of Categorical Exclusions, while retaining environmental protections.
- 9F.** Support availability of funding for enhanced broadband and advocate for the Federal Communications Commission to regulate broadband/internet access as a utility to enable the increase of broadband infrastructure capacity to help bridge the digital divide and to encourage telecommuting.

- 10F.** Support streamlining of federal rail funding and removal of funding barriers between commuter and intercity rail programs, with the goal of increasing integrated passenger rail service for the traveling public.
- 11F.** Support the use of Federal rail funding to implement new passenger rail service on the Coast Route.
- 12F.** Support member agencies' requests for federal funding of regionally significant transportation projects and support partner agency legislative efforts as they interface with regional transportation priorities when they are consistent with Transportation Agency for Monterey County priorities.

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator
Meeting Date: January 10, 2024
Subject: **2023 Transportation Excellence Awards**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE nominations for the 2023 Transportation Agency Excellence Awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups, or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation network in Monterey County, and **SELECT** awards recipients for the 22nd awards ceremony to be held during the January 2024 Transportation Agency Board Meeting.

SUMMARY:

The Transportation Agency released a call for nominations for the "22nd Annual Transportation Excellence Awards" in October 2023 to encourage and appreciate the efforts made by Monterey County residents, businesses and employees to improve the transportation network in Monterey County. Seven nominations were submitted to the Agency in December 2023 for consideration for the awards ceremony scheduled during the January 2024 Transportation Agency Board meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None.

DISCUSSION:

Each year, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County seeks nominations for the Agency's "Transportation Excellence Awards" to honor individuals, businesses, groups, or programs for their efforts to improve the transportation system in Monterey County. The program has award categories for individuals, businesses/groups, programs or projects.

Examples of potential awards include:

- Projects that exemplify the Transportation Agency's mission to build connections that help our communities thrive and grow by developing and maintaining a multimodal transportation system that enhances mobility, safety, access, environmental quality, and economic activities in Monterey County.
- Innovative activities that promote safer or more efficient use of the local transportation network.
- Citizens or organizations that have made significant efforts to inform and educate the public about transportation issues.
- Successful efforts to improve transit services and encourage the use of smart commute options as alternatives to driving alone.
- Transportation employees who excel at their jobs and go the extra mile to improve our transportation systems.

The Transportation Agency received the following seven nominations in December 2023 for consideration for the 22nd Annual Transportation Excellence Awards:

- Individual: Amir Attia, Associate Professor, Graphic Design, Cal State University, Monterey Bay
- Business: Boyds Asphalt Services
- Program: "Better Bus Network," Monterey-Salinas Transit
- Project: California Avenue at Marina Heights Drive, City of Marina
- Project: Marina Parking Lot Improvement Project, City of Monterey
- Project: Downtown Streetscape Project, City of King
- Project: ParkIt!

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2023-Transportation-Excellence-Awards-Ceremony-Nomination-Summaries

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

2023 Transportation Excellence Awards Nominations

Individual Award:

Amir Attia, Associate Professor, Graphic Design, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB)

Amir Attia worked with CSUMB graphic design students to develop designs for the first traffic gardens in Monterey County. In addition to meeting regularly with the Transportation Agency and other safe routes to school partners over a two-year period, Professor Attia attended the King City Steering Committee meeting to hear direct feedback from community members. The project was done in partnership through the Sustainable City Year Program designed to give students real-world experience and help local agencies with projects. The traffic gardens designed by Amir and his students at CSUMB will help teach traffic safety and driving skills to hundreds of students across Monterey County.

Business Award:

Boyd's Asphalt Services

Boyd's Asphalt Services stripped 13 traffic gardens across Monterey County in Fall 2023. These are the first traffic gardens to be installed in Monterey County, and Boyd's Asphalt went above and beyond to help TAMC staff navigate this new type of project. Boyd's prioritized the traffic garden project to get it done in a narrow timeframe to help meet the Transportation Agency's grant deadline. They also worked side-by-side with TAMC staff to adjust traffic garden designs in the field as needed.

Program:

MST "Better Bus Network"

During the COVID-19 pandemic it became clear to Monterey-Salinas Transit that social inequalities existed in their distribution of transit services. As a result, the agency took a step back and re-examined their mission, vision, and values to gain a better understanding of their purpose in the community and for their employees. After much self-examination, Monterey-Salinas Transit better defined their purpose and developed a simple statement that reflected their vision and values: "MST is "Connecting communities. Creating opportunity. Being kind to our planet." With this new focus, their vision guides that all that they do supports their goal to do better for their passengers who depend on them every day, and this was the basis for the re-examination of their services and the creation of the Better Bus Network.

MST launched the Better Bus Network in December 2022, after almost two years of research, planning, and community outreach. The Network is a redesigned transit system focused in areas where service was needed most-in historically disadvantaged and underrepresented communities. As a result, MST riders save time, save money, and save our planet through faster, more frequent, and more reliable service.

Projects:

City of Marina: California Avenue Pedestrian Crossing at Marina Heights Drive

California Avenue is a three-lane north-south major collector in the City of Marina. Marina Heights Drive is a newly constructed roadway that was constructed as part of the Sea Haven development project.

The three-legged intersection of California Avenue and Marina Heights Drive is stop-controlled on Marina Heights Drive with dedicated left and right turn pockets. The speeds are over 40 mph on California Avenue, and the nearest crosswalks are 1,300 feet to the south and 2,300 feet to the north. With the new development project to the east and Marina High School to the west, a safe and accessible crossing was needed.

The California Avenue Pedestrian Crossing at Marina Heights Drive project included the installation of a crosswalk and two new ADA compliant curb ramps on the south side of the intersection with a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon signal. In addition, improvements included curb, gutter and sidewalk work, pavement markings, and striping.

As a result, this project, which is an important link for alternative modes of transportation between residential areas, Marina High School, and regional bike routes, creates a safe and accessible crossing across a busy high-speed roadway in the City.

City of Monterey: Marina Parking Lot Improvement Project

The Marina Parking Lot Improvement project in the City of Monterey focused on rehabilitating failing pavement, improving pedestrian safety, lighting, traffic flow circulation, and providing environmental improvements. The design took into consideration the needs of all users and provides one user experience across both lots.

The redesign of the parking lot created an opportunity to relocate and widen the recreational trail in the area between Figuero and Washington Streets. By relocating and widening the trail crossings, the City has reduced pedestrian and bicycle exposure to vehicles and eliminated the multi-lane at the Figueroa exit of the parking lot providing a safer and more comfortable experience for trail users.

The relocation and widening of the recreation trail included raised crossings and rectangular rapid flashing beacon warning systems, which improved pedestrian and bicycle visibility access. Although there are now more Rec Trail crossings, each crossing has less conflicting vehicle traffic than the single former trail crossing did. Two of these crossings are single lane, one-way crossings, so trail users now only need to look in one direction for on-coming traffic.

King City Downtown Streetscape Project

The King City Streetscape project is a comprehensive placemaking and beautification project on Broadway Street in the city's core historic downtown area. The project implements the major components of the downtown Streetscape Master Plan developed through years of planning and public input efforts. The design concepts are also associated with Blue Zones Project Monterey County, which incorporates build environment enhancements to improve public health through the creation of a more active pedestrian-oriented environment.

The King City Streetscape Project included new and expanded corner bulbouts, decorative crosswalks, and reconstructed medians. The result is a more pedestrian-oriented area that improves safety and access to the downtown, and beautifies the area through landscaping and public art.

The Streetscape project offers an enriched streetscape experience for those users who currently venture to downtown King City, while attracting more people to visit the historic Broadway Street neighborhood.

ParkIt!

ParkIt! is a community-based, phased approach to improve public safety and protect natural resources while optimizing access and visitor experience to Highway 1 parklands, Carmel to Big Sur.

Phase 1 of ParkIt! seeks to solve the escalating parking and traffic threat on the Highway 1 corridor directly outside of Point Lobos State Natural Reserve. The organization is in the process of developing a reservation shuttle system and an offsite parking solution to support access to Point Lobos, improve visitor experience, reduce natural resource impacts, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The group will submit a Coastal Development Permit to Monterey County in 2024 and are optimistic that they will break ground on an accessible and safe offsite parking lot in 2025. Once Phase 1 is completed with the reservation system, shuttle service, and offsite parking solution in place, ParkIt! will continue to the next identified priority. This may include development of property across from Point Lobos in cooperation with Caltrans for highway updates to accommodate an underground pedestrian tunnel and turn lane with additional parking.

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Jefferson Kise, Director of Finance & Administration
Meeting Date: January 10, 2024
Subject: Review budget assumptions

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

PROVIDE direction and guidance to staff on assumptions for the three-year budget for fiscal years 24/25, 25/26, 26/27.

SUMMARY:

The TAMC annual budget development is an iterative process encompassing input from staff, the Executive Committee, and the Board of Directors. The budget reflects the financial impact of ongoing and committed projects & programs, as well as staff recommendations for operating expenditures. In addition to meeting the planning and programming commitments of the agency, staff seeks to insure the agency has the operating capacity to meet its needs for the future. These goals are pursued while balancing direct and operating revenue with their associated expenses, and planning for any strategic use of reserves.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No final action is being taken. The financial impact will depend on the final outcome of the budgeting process.

DISCUSSION:

There are four items on which staff is seeking guidance:

1. Cost of living adjustment
2. Adding one position to the agency headcount
3. Exploring new accounting, grant management and payroll software
4. Commencing the evaluation process for new office space

ATTACHMENTS:

None

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Jefferson Kise, Director of Finance & Administration
Meeting Date: January 10, 2024
Subject: **Investment Policy: Supervisory Authority update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECOMMEND the Board of Directors adopt resolution 2024-01 which updates the individual with supervisory authority over the agency's investment policy from the County of Monterey Treasurer to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Executive Director or their designee.

SUMMARY:

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County has an Investment Policy which specifies the types of investments permissible for excess agency funds. The policy includes a Delegation of Authority which names the County of Monterey Treasurer as the person with supervisory authority over the agency's investments. Staff recommends giving the TAMC Executive Director or their designee supervisory authority over its investment accounts to insure alignment with the agency goals and objectives.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no cost or financial impact of this decision.

DISCUSSION:

In considering recommending a change to the TAMC investment policy, staff identified the need to update the Delegation of Authority portion of the policy as well. Giving the TAMC Executive Director or their designee supervisory authority over its investment accounts facilitates the alignment of the agency's investments with its goals and objectives.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2024-01 - Investment Policy supervisory authority update

WEB ATTACHMENTS:



RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
CHANGING THE INVESTMENT POLICY STAFF ASSIGNMENT
FOR SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) has fiduciary responsibility for several trust accounts; and

WHEREAS, TAMC needs to act according to the guidelines of a prudent investor; and

WHEREAS, the TAMC Investment Policy confers supervisory authority over its investment accounts to a named individual; and

WHEREAS, under the current Investment Policy, the TAMC Board has delegated supervisory authority over its investment accounts with the County of Monterey to the County of Monterey Treasurer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Board of Directors as follows:

1. The Transportation Agency for Monterey County Investment Policy is amended to confer supervisory authority over all its investment account upon the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Executive Director and their designee.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, State of California this January 24, 2024 by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

CHRIS LOPEZ, CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

ATTEST:

TODD A. MUCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Memorandum

To: Executive Committee
From: Jefferson Kise, Director of Finance & Administration
Meeting Date: January 10, 2024
Subject: **Investment Policy: Investment Policy update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECOMMEND the Board of Directors adopt resolution 2024-02 which expands the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Investment Policy to include pooled investment options offered by qualified municipal entities in addition to the Monterey County investment pool.

SUMMARY:

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County manages six different funds, the aggregate balance of which is over \$110,000,000. The only market investment option available in TAMC's current policy is the Monterey County Investment pool. Due to the liquidity requirements of the County and its other investment considerations, the yield on this portfolio is 100-200 basis points lower than what can be achieved from some other pools available to the agency. The pooled programs being considered are currently investment components within the County pool. Preservation of capital will remain the core focus, while improving the yield on investments to provide additional funding for agency programs.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This action provides the opportunity to increase interest income for the funds administered by TAMC.

DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County investment pool 2023 third quarter report reflected a portfolio market value of just over \$2.9 billion spread across 315 separate securities and funds. The yield for the period was 3.10% and reflected the utilization of "shorter term debt to provide liquidity and enhanced investment opportunities in the current period" (the report). The liquidity risk discussion in the report discloses that 16% of the portfolio is in overnight investments. Overnight investments yield less than those with longer time horizons.

Bringing this back to TAMC, 16% of its funds managed totals \$17,600,000 which is almost two and a half years worth of operating and direct expenses. TAMC does not need to be that liquid. The agency would like the ability to consider opening investment accounts directly with the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), California Asset Management Program (CAMP) and CalTrust. All of these investment options are represented in the Monterey County Investment pool, and individually have yields from 40 to 200 basis points higher than the County pool.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2024-02 - Investment Policy update

WEB ATTACHMENTS:



RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
EXPANDING THE INVESTMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE AGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) is has fiduciary responsibility for several trust accounts; and

WHEREAS, TAMC needs to act according to the guidelines of a prudent investor; and

WHEREAS, under the current Investment Policy, the TAMC Board has limited the investment options to the County of Monterey Investment Pool and other federally insured investments such as Certificates of Deposit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Board of Directors as follows:

1. TAMC may continue to invest funds in County of Monterey Investment Pool and other federally insured investments such as Certificates of Deposit.
2. TAMC may invest funds in shares of beneficial interest issued by a joint powers authority organized pursuant to Section 6509.7 that invests in the securities and obligations authorized in subdivisions (a) to (r), inclusive. Each share shall represent an equal proportional interest in the underlying pool of securities owned by the joint powers authority. To be eligible under this section, the joint powers authority issuing the shares shall have retained an investment adviser that meets all of the following criteria:
 - a. The adviser is registered or exempt from registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
 - b. The adviser has not less than five years of experience investing in the securities and obligations authorized in subdivisions (a) to (q), inclusive.
 - c. The adviser has assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, State of California
this January 24, 2024 by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

CHRIS LOPEZ, CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

ATTEST:

TODD A. MUCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY