



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

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE

Monday, January 10, 2022

****3:00 PM****

REMOTE CONFERENCING ONLY

There will be NO physical location of the meeting.

Please see all the special meeting instructions at the end of this agenda

Join meeting online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/654778900?pwd=L2daellZTW5NSDZMQ2RSY1hJVlpGZz09>

OR

By teleconference at: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 654 778 900

Password: 506977

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.

1. Quorum Check, Call to Order and Introductions

If you are unable to attend, please make sure that one of your alternates attends the meeting. Your courtesy to the other members to assure a quorum is appreciated.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON TRANSPORTATION MATTERS NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA.

Any member of the public may address the Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Committee. 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 Committee 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 Thursday before the meeting, and such comments will be distributed to the Committee before the meeting.

3. BEGINNING OF 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 minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of November 1, 2021.

- Montiel

The draft minutes of the November 1, 2021 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. Coast Corridor Rail Project

1. **RECEIVE** update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles; and
2. **RECOMMEND** the Board of Directors appoint representatives to the Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee.

- Watson

The Transportation Agency Board previously appointed Mayor Dave Potter (RPC Vice Chair) and Mayor Mike LeBarre (RPC Chair) to the Coast Rail Coordinating Council, and Mayor Potter has been its Chair, for several years. Staff asks the RPC to consider recommending the Board reappoint both to the Council for 2022.

5. RECEIVE update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project.

- Watson

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in September include work related to closing out the construction contract for Package 1 (Salinas Station access and circulation improvements) and coordination efforts with key stakeholders on Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy track connections).

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS and/or COMMENTS from Rail Policy Committee members on

matters that they wish to put on future Committee agendas.

7. ADJOURN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Rail Policy Committee meeting:
Monday, February 7, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

If you have any items for the next agenda, please submit them to:
Christina Watson, Rail Program Coordinator
Christina@tamcmonterey.org

Important Meeting Information

Remote Meetings: On March 12, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20, which enhanced State and Local Governments ability to respond to COVID-19 Pandemic based on Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health. The Executive Order specifically allowed local legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically, in order to protect public health. That order expired on September 30, 2021. Governor Newsom has now signed AB 361, and the TAMC Board of Directors approved a resolution to enact AB 361 on September 22, 2021. This legislation permits teleconferencing for Brown Act meetings during a state of emergency. Thus, TAMC meetings will convene remotely, until further notice. For remote meetings, the public is strongly encouraged to use the Zoom app for best reception. Prior to the meeting, participants should download the Zoom app at: <https://zoom.us/download>. A link to simplified instruction for the use of the Zoom app is: <https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2018/07/03/video-communications-best-practice-guide/>.

Remote Meeting Public Comment: Due to current circumstances, there may be limited opportunity to provide verbal comments during remote meetings. Persons who wish to address the Committee for public comment or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to maria@tamcmonterey.org by 5:00pm the Monday before the meeting. Such comments will be distributed to the Committee before the meeting. Members of the public participating by Zoom are instructed to be on mute during the proceedings and to speak only when public comment is allowed, after requesting and receiving recognition from the Chair.

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
Office is closed an all employees are working remotely until further notice
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 Committee 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.

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.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, MEDIA CLIPPINGS

- C 1.** No correspondence this agenda.
- C 2.** **RECEIVE** reports attached online.
- C 3.** **RECEIVE** media clippings attached online.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Date: January 10, 2022
Subject: **Draft November RPC Minutes**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of November 1, 2021.

SUMMARY:

The draft minutes of the November 1, 2021 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

- ▣ Draft November RPC Minutes

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
DRAFT Minutes of November 1, 2021
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
ZOOM REMOTE VIDEO/PHONE CONFERENCE ONLY

	NOV 20	JAN 21	FEB 21	MAR 21	APR 21	MAY 21	JUN 21	JUL 21	AUG 21	SEP 21	OCT 21	NOV 21
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez, J. Gomez)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	C	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)
J. Phillips, Dist. 2 (J. Stratton, C. Link)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	A	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	O	P(A)	-	P(A)	P(A)
W. Askew, Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson)	-	P(A)	E	N	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		E	P(A)	P	P(A)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (S. Hardgrave , C. Courtney)	E	E	P(A)	C	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	M	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	E
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P
C. Medina Dirksen, Marina (B. Delgado)	-	-	P	L	-	-	P(A)	E	P	P	P	P(A)
E. Smith, Monterey (D. Albert, A. Renny)	P	P	P	L	P	P	E	T	E	P	-	P
K. Craig, Salinas, (C. Cromeenes)	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	I	P	-	P	P
G. Hawthorne, Sand City (J. Blackwelder , K. Cruz)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	D	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)	-	P	P		P	P	P	G	P	P	P	P
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Ledesma)	P	-	P		-	P	P		P	-	-	P
D. Potter, At Large Member, Vice Chair	P	-	E		P	P	P		P	P	-	E
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson , P. Hierling)	P(A)	-	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)
O. Monroy-Ochoa, Caltrans District 5	-		P		-	-	-		-	P	P	-
C. Sedoryk, MST (L. Rheinheimer)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	E
STAFF												
T. Muck, Executive Director	P	P	P		P	P	P		P	P	P	P
C. Watson, Director of Planning	P	P	P		P	P	P		P	P	P	P
M. Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery	P	P	P		P	P	E		P	P	P	P
T. Wright, Outreach Coordinator	P	P	P		P	-	P		-	-	-	-
M. Montiel Admin Assistant	P	P	P		P	P	P		P	P	P	P
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer	-	P	P		P	P	P		P	P	P	P
D. Bilse, Principal Engineer					P	-	-		-	-	-	P
A. Guther Assis. Transp. Planner												P

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. A quorum was established.

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Scott	Coastal Rail Santa Cruz	Tarah Brady	Caltrans
Andrew Easterling	City of Salinas	Shannon Simonds	Caltrans

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Berry Scott, Coastal Rail Santa Cruz, thanked everyone for coming out for the streetcar demonstration project last month. He noted that the Santa Cruz Regional Transportation Commission meeting in November has an item related to rail in Santa Cruz County.

Chair LeBarre thanked him for the invitation to ride the streetcar and noted those who went enjoyed it.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Oglesby/Delgado /unanimous

Alternate Stratton joined after consent

3.1 Approved minutes of the October 4, 2021, Rail Policy Committee meeting.

3.2 Approved 2022 schedule of Rail Policy Committee meetings.

3.3 Received the call for nominations for the 20th Annual Transportation Excellence awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation system in Monterey County.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. 2022 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

The Committee received and commented on the draft 2022 Legislative Program.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that the legislative program helps guide staff and consultants in responding to legislative proposals. She reviewed the changes from the 2022 adopted program, highlighting the issues on the draft program of key interest to the committee.

5. SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project.

Laurie Williamson, Senior Engineer, reported that the team continues to work toward the completion of Package 1 construction. She noted that the City of Salinas should be closing out the permit shortly. Ms. Williamson noted that staff plans to bring the Notice of Completion to the TAMC Board in December.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, noted that the TAMC Board approved the property transfer agreement in September, and the Salinas City Council approved it on October 26, and now it will go to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for approval in January 2022. She noted that the MNS Engineers construction management contract is expiring on

December 31, 2021, and staff is proposing a one-year extension to review project designs for the December Board agenda. She noted that there will be another extension once the construction cost estimate and schedule are better known.

Mike Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery, reported that staff and consultants continue to further negotiations on the five parcels for the Salinas layover facility. Mr. Zeller noted that the Meyers Nave contract is expiring on December 31 and staff will take to the Board a one-year extension. In conclusion, Mr. Zeller noted that a Request for Proposals for the Monterey County Rail Extension Union Pacific Railroad Property Acquisition closed on October 28 and received several bids, and he stated the new contract will go to the January Board meeting.

Ms. Watson reported that staff is working on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between TAMC and Caltrain outlining the process towards an operating agreement, and an MOU among TAMC, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and the City of Gilroy for improvements near the Gilroy train station. She noted the MOUs might be on the January Board meeting agenda.

6. COAST CORRIDOR RAIL PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee receive an update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that the Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) met on October 15 and discussed state grant options. She noted that the next Policy Committee is scheduled for December 10. Ms. Watson noted that the City of King City is recommended for funding for construction of their Accelerated Access Platform project in the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP).

Chair LeBarre expressed that they are looking forward to the final ITIP.

Shannon Simonds, Caltrans, noted that supporters can voice support for the funds at an ITIP hearing on November 8, 2021.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Alternate Delgado noted that the handcar tours ended last month. Mr. Delgado noted that 6,000 riders rode on the rail lines pushing on the handcars.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, announced the next Committee meeting is on January 10, 2022, at 3 pm and requested everyone mark their calendars for the 2022 schedule of meetings.

8. ADJOURN

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: January 10, 2022
Subject: Coast Corridor Rail Project Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Coast Corridor Rail Project

1. **RECEIVE** update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles; and
2. **RECOMMEND** the Board of Directors appoint representatives to the Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee.

SUMMARY:

The Transportation Agency Board previously appointed Mayor Dave Potter (RPC Vice Chair) and Mayor Mike LeBarre (RPC Chair) to the Coast Rail Coordinating Council, and Mayor Potter has been its Chair, for several years. Staff asks the RPC to consider recommending the Board reappoint both to the Council for 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Coast Rail project capital and operation costs are under evaluation. The Agency budget includes funding for Board member travel to Coast Rail Coordinating Council and associated meetings. In the near term, these meetings are expected to be virtual.

DISCUSSION:

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) is a multi-agency advisory and planning organization focused on improving the rail corridor between Los Angeles and the San Francisco bay area along the California Central Coast. Members of the Council include all regional transportation planning agencies along the Central Coast – all of which have a strong interest in improving rail service and the rail infrastructure along the Central Coast’s portion of the California Coast Passenger Rail Corridor.

In January 2021, the TAMC Board approved the Rail Policy Committee recommended appointment of Dave Potter as the TAMC representative and Mike LeBarre as the TAMC alternate for a one-year term, and the CRCC Policy Committee selected Mr. Potter as the Chair. The Rail Policy Committee is now asked to recommend appointments to the CRCC Policy Committee for the period ending January 2023. The appointment involves attending up to four meetings of the Committee and potentially representing the group at a legislative day in Sacramento with the Intercity Passenger Rail group and the California Passenger Rail Summit, should they occur in 2022.

The 2022 Policy Committee meeting schedule is tentatively as follows: February 18, May 20, August 19, and November 18. They will be virtual meetings until in-person meetings are once again permitted.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: January 10, 2022
Subject: **Salinas Rail Kick Start Project Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project.

SUMMARY:

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in September include work related to closing out the construction contract for Package 1 (Salinas Station access and circulation improvements) and coordination efforts with key stakeholders on Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy track connections).

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The capital cost of the Monterey County Rail Extension project, Phase 1, Salinas Kick Start project (the Salinas station and improvements in Santa Clara County), is estimated at \$81 million. The Kick Start project is proceeding with secured state funding under the adopted state environmental clearance.

DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Rail Extension Project will extend passenger rail service from Santa Clara County south to Salinas. TAMC is pursuing a phased implementation of the Project. Phase 1, known as the Kick Start Project, includes Salinas train station circulation improvements, a train layover facility in Salinas, and track improvements at the Gilroy station and between Salinas and Gilroy. The Kick Start Project is wrapping up construction of Package 1, improvements at the Salinas train station. The layover facility (Package 2) and track improvements (Package 3) are now in final design.

Construction of Package 1: Salinas Station Improvements

TAMC hired Monterey Peninsula Engineering (MPE) for construction of Package 1, MNS Engineers as Construction Managers on the project, and HDR Engineering to provide design support during construction. In November and December 2021, the construction team worked to close out the Caltrans and Salinas permits. Landscaping maintenance wrapped up in December. Staff closed out the construction contract in December.

TAMC staff is coordinating with Caltrans and the City of Salinas on the logistics to transfer ownership of the completed project to the City, pursuant to the adopted Memorandum of Understanding. The land transfer must be approved by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to empower the City and TAMC to approve transfer agreements. The CTC is requiring the City to commit to replacing any parking spaces used for future development in a location walking distance from the station.

Property Acquisition for Package 2: Salinas Layover Facility

On December 4, 2019, the Transportation Agency Board approved Resolutions of Necessity on portions of four parcels and one full parcel needed for the Salinas layover facility. TAMC staff continues to oversee the right-of-way consulting team of AR/WS and Meyers Nave to further negotiations and finalize the remaining acquisitions. A request for proposals for a team to assist in the negotiations regarding Union Pacific Railroad parcels in Gilroy and Salinas resulted in three responses; staff will bring a contract to the Board in January.

Final Design for Package 2 and Package 3: Gilroy Station & Track Improvements; Operations Scenarios

HDR Engineering prepared the 90% plans, specifications and estimates for stakeholder review on November 8. Comments are due from partner agencies by January 7.

The final design team held the following meetings to further the project's design:

- Amtrak - December 15
- Amtrak and Union Pacific - November 2 and December 7
- Caltrain - November 19
- Caltrans and Caltrain - November 15 and December 14
- City of Gilroy and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) - November 8 and December 13
- City of Salinas - December 22
- Northern California megaregion group - November 9
- Union Pacific - December 14
- VTA - November 4

Documents the team is preparing for future Committee/Board approval include the following:

- Memorandum of Understanding between TAMC and Caltrain outlining the process towards an operating agreement.
- Memorandum of Understanding among TAMC, VTA and Gilroy for improvements near the Gilroy train station to support the extension of passenger rail service south from Gilroy.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: January 10, 2022
Subject: **Reports**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE reports attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Capitol Corridor monthly report for October 2021](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: January 10, 2022
Subject: **Media Clippings**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE media clippings attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [November 2, 2021 article in the San Francisco Examiner, "A second transbay tunnel may be part of large rail improvement plan: Program covers 21-county Northern California megaregion"](#)
- [November 4, 2021 article in Climate Online Redwood City, "Proposal could end multi-year stalemate over Caltrain's governance"](#)
- [December 7, 2021 article in Mass Transit, "Caltrain electrification project cost increases, but still on schedule for 2024"](#)
- [December 7, 2021 article in Progressive Railroading, "Caltrain electrification project costs increase to \\$2.4 billion"](#)
- [December 7, 2021 article in Progressive Railroading, "UP unveils plan to achieve GHG emission reduction targets"](#)