

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee

Final Minutes of August 5, 2020

Held remotely via Zoom due to COVID-19 pandemic

Voting Members	JAN 20	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 20	MAY 20	JUN 20	JUL 20	AUG 20
Eric Petersen, District 1, Past Chair	P	P	C	C	P	P	N	P
Jack Smith – District 2 <i>(David Tavarez)</i>	P	P	A	A	P	P	O	P
Mike Novo – District 3	P	E	N	N	P	P		P
Jeff Wriedt, District 4 <i>(Frank Henderson)</i>	P	E	C	C	P	P	M	E
Martin Wegenstein, District 5 <i>(Jeff Lindenthal)</i>	P	P	E	E	P	P	E	P
D. L. Johnson, Carmel-By-The Sea	A	P	L	L	P	P	E	P
Del Rey Oaks - vacant	-	-	L	L	-	-	T	-
Gonzales - Vacant	-	-	E	E	-	-	I	-
Ernest Gallardo, Greenfield	P	E	D	D	-	P	N	P
Michael LeBarre, King City	P	E			P	-	G	P
Hans Hofmann Jr, Marina	P	E			P	P		P
Abby Ostovar, Monterey	P	E			P	E		E
vacant Pacific Grove <i>(Jung Hwa Kim)</i>	E	-			-	-		-
Chris Flescher, Salinas, Vice Chair <i>(Mark Lasnik)</i>	P	P			P	P		P
Elizabeth (Libby) Sofer, Sand City	P	P			P	P		-
Jan Valencia, Seaside <i>(Ralph Wege)</i>	P	P(A)			P	P		P
Soledad - Vacant	-	-			-	-		-
Vacant, MBUAPCD	-	-			-	-		-
Vacant, Monterey Salinas Transit	-	-			-	-		-
Vera Noghera, Velo Club of Monterey <i>(Alex Capelli)</i>	P	P			-	-		-
Vacant, FORA	-	-			-	-		-
N. County Recreation & Park District - Vacant	-	-			-	-		-
Andrew Easterling, Salinas Public Works	-	-			-	-		P
Raul Martinez – County Public Works	P	P			-	P		P
Caltrans - District 5	-	-			P	-		-
Will Condon, AMBAG	-	P			P	P		P
Vacant, Pebble Beach Company	-	-			-	-		-
Matthew McCluney - CSUMB	A	P			P	-		P

E – Excused
P(A) – Alternate

VC – Video Conference
TC – Teleconference

	JAN 20	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 20	MAY 20	JUN 20	JUL 20	AUG 20
Debbie Hale, Executive Director	E	P			P	-		E
Todd Muck, Deputy Executive Director	E	P			P	P		E
Ariana Green, Senior Transportation Planner	P	-			P	P		-
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	E	P			P	P		P
Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner								P
Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner	P	P			P	P		P
Stefania Castillo, Transportation Planner	P	P			P	P		P
Laurie Williamson, Senior Engineer	-	P			P	P		P
Rich Deal, Principal Engineer		P			-	-		-
Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner						P		-
Tracy Burke, Go831 Program Coordinator								P

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ralph Wege	Seaside - Alternate	Mary Lynch	Public
Stanley Sokolow	Public	Paola Berthoin	Public
Jessica Madueno	CHP Officer	Noel	Public

1. Chair Jack Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established, and self-introductions were made.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

3. **BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA**

M/S/C Novo/Wegenstein/*unanimous*

3.1 Approved minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting of June 3, 2020 with minor grammatical typos addressed and clarification to public comment by Ms. Berthoin.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

The Committee received a presentation on bicycle safety and enforcement from Jessica Madueño, Public Information Officer for the California Highway Patrol.

Madilyn Jacobsen, Transportation Planner introduced Jessica Madueño Public Information Officer for the California Highway Patrol. Ms. Madueño reported that the California Highway Patrol uses a comprehensive statewide approach to promote and enforce safe pedestrian, bicyclist, and motorist behavior, ensuring all road users share the road safely. She provided a report on bicycle collision data from January through July 2020 within her district, which encompasses North Monterey County through the City of Soledad. Ms. Madueño indicated a total of 11 bicycle collisions, including one fatality and two major injury collisions. Two of the reports were in Pebble Beach, two on Carmel Valley Road, on one Highway 68, one in the Intergarrison area and one on county roads in Carmel. In addition, Ms. Madueño noted a collision that occurred earlier in the day (August 5) on the bike path near eastbound State Route 156 due to a cyclists hitting an object in the path. Ms. Madueño noted that most bicycle collisions are during the daylight hours.

In conclusion, Ms. Madueño expressed the need to use a helmet and bright colors for better visibility and use had signals. She also mentioned a pedestrian task force to provide educational resources for those who do not understand the rules of the road.

Mary Lynch, member of public, noted that the helmet law requirement is for minors. She also mentioned that a rear light on bike is not required. Ms. Lynch also expressed that the majority of unsafe bicycling in Monterey County is due to riding on the wrong side of the road. She expressed the need of helmets for youth and the need for Spanish translation on bike information.

Committee member Martin Wegenstein asked Ms. Madueño how many of the reported collisions were due to bicyclists not stopping at a stop sign. Ms. Madueño did not have an answer at the time.

Noel, member of public, asked for Ms. Madueño's contact information. Ms. Madueno provided her direct phone of (831) 770-8038.

Committee member Michael LeBarre noted that California Highway Patrol should coordinate with the Food Banks, especially in South County, to hand out bike education activities for children and parents while they are waiting in line for food.

Paola Berthoin, member of public, noted that the 3-foot law is great but expressed that 5-foot would be better on Carmel Valley Road due to the narrow and dangerous road for bicyclist. She noted that 3-foot signs should be displayed at narrow bike lane locations.

Committee member Ernie Gallardo expressed the need for Caltrans and California Highway Patrol to coordinate on the legality of bicyclist access near the exit off ramp in south end of Gonzales and Dan Martin. He mentioned that Caltrans website says open to bicyclists and the California Highway Patrol has mentioned not allowed and will be cited.

Committee member Michael LeBarre suggested the Committee direct staff to work with Caltrans and California Highway Patrol to clarify Mr. Gallardo's comment. Transportation Agency staff will work with Caltrans on clarifying and updating at a future meeting date.

5. FORT ORD REGIONAL TRAIL AND GREENWAY PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway (FORTAG) Project.

Stefania Castillo, Transportation Planner reported that the vision for the Fort Ord Regional Trail & Greenway (FORTAG) is to create a multimodal route designed 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. She noted that the final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed 28-mile paved trail was certified by the Transportation Agency Board on March 25, 2020. A Master Agreement was executed by the Transportation Agency and the underlying jurisdictions in June 2020. She noted that at the June 24, 2020 meeting, the Transportation Agency Board of Directors approved the release of a request for proposals for consultant design services, including right-of-way work and public outreach, for Phase 1 of the Canyon Del Rey/ State Route 218 segment. This segment includes a 1.5 mile trail portion which extends east from the intersection of Canyon Del Rey Blvd. (SR 218) and North Freemont Street traveling through Del Rey Oaks, under the highway to the Frog Pond Wetland Preserve, up Carlton Drive and north to Plumas Avenue in Seaside, then west to Del Rey Woods Elementary School. She noted that the proposals for the design and right-of-way work are due August 27.

In conclusion, Ms. Castillo noted that Transportation Agency expects to bring a contract for approval to the Board of Directors in October 2020. She noted that once a consultant is brought on board, public workshops will be scheduled in coordination with Caltrans, the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, and the cities of Del Rey Oaks and Seaside to gather input on how the trail will look and feel. The project will proceed to design, and construction as matching funds are obtained for various segments. Transportation Agency staff is working on a state Active Transportation Program grant application for a portion of the trail on the Cal State University Monterey Bay campus. A State Park grant application was also submitted for the Laguna Grande to Roberts Lake segment but was not funded. TAMC has identified another program for funding.

Chairman Jack Smith noted that a friend of FORTAG group should be considered. If any bike organizations or bicycle and pedestrian committee members are interested, please contact Scott Waltz and Fred Watson at www.FORTAG.org

6. 2020 COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

M/S/C Novo/Johnson

Abstained: Andrew Easterling

Committee member Mike Novo motioned and seconded by D.L. Johnson to approve the staff-recommendation to the Transportation Agency Board of Directors program with \$10.547 million of Regional Surface Transportation Program funds for the 2020 Competitive Grants Program of Projects.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner reported that the Transportation Agency Board approved releasing a call for projects for a new cycle of competitive grants at its March 2020 meeting. The grant applications were due June 1, 2020. Agency staff established an ad hoc committee of Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory and Technical Advisory Committee members to review and rank the applications and provide funding recommendations. He noted that the Transportation Agency received ten completed grant applications, totaling over \$27.6 million in requested Regional Surface Transportation Program grant funding. Each application was reviewed and scored by five committee members. After considering the scores and factoring in geographic equity and cost effectiveness, the following projects are recommended by Agency staff for grant funding in ranked order:

- Salinas - Boronda Road Congestion Relief Project - \$4,000,000
- Salinas - Bardin Road Safe Routes to School - \$1,800,000
- King City - Complete Streets Downtown Streetscape - \$950,000
- Monterey - Traffic System, Pedestrian/Bike Upgrades - \$1,680,000
- Salinas - Pedestrian Crossing Enhancements - \$545,000
- Pacific Grove - Point Pinos Trail Project - \$382,000
- Greenfield - Walnut Avenue Pedestrian/Bike Improvements - \$590,000
- Seaside - Broadway Avenue Corridor Improvements - \$600,000

Committee member Michael LeBarre gave kudos to the Ad-hoc Committee for looking at the whole region with an equitable lens on projects.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS**

Will Condon, AMBAG, introduced new member Miranda Taylor. He also mentioned she would attend future meetings.

Madilyn Jacobsen mentioned that Transportation Agency did not get awarded the funding grant for the State Route 1 Carmel Area Safer School Access Study. She noted that staff is meeting with Caltrans next week for feedback on the application and to explore other funding opportunities. Madilyn Jacobsen introduced TAMC's new staff member Tracy Burke Vasquez, Go831 Coordinator.

Madilyn Jacobsen announced the following on behalf of Committee member Eric Petersen due to technical difficulties:

1. The San Carlos Family Summer Bicycle Challenge, we need something like this, either in individual communities or county-wide
2. The 2020 Silicon Valley Bike Summit on-line, August 6th and 7th. It costs \$50 and registration is required.
3. CalTrans Highway Design Manual has been revised.
4. He asked is there any way TAMC can do anything about projects which do not follow the CalTrans Highway Design Manual? Possible future meeting agenda item.

Committee member Martin Wegenstein mentioned a useful application on phone called MCconnect allows you to report any road issues with direct images and it will send to the Monterey County Supervisors.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.