



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

REVISED AGENDA Item #6

Monday, June 6, 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

REVISED AGENDA Item #6

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 May 2, 2022.

- Montiel

The draft minutes of the May 2, 2022 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. RECEIVE update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

- Watson

Progress since the last update to this Committee in May includes a Policy Committee meeting on May 20.

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

- Watson

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in May include work related to transferring the properties acquired for Package 1 (Salinas Station access and circulation improvements) to the City of Salinas and design coordination efforts with key stakeholders on Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy track connections).

6. DISCUSS terms for a City of Marina lease agreement for recreational use of the Monterey Branch Line corridor between Marina and Sand City in 2022.

- Guther

The Museum of Handcar Technology and the Mendocino Railway company

submitted unsolicited proposals for use of the same section of the Monterey Branch Line corridor for recreational use of handcar or railbike operations. During the March 23, 2022 TAMC Board meeting, the Board voted to enter into a lease agreement with the City of Marina to transfer coordination of the proposals for recreational use of the Monterey Branch Line to Marina staff. TAMC staff will present draft terms to the Committee for discussion.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS and/or COMMENTS from Rail Policy Committee members on matters that they wish to put on future Committee agendas.**
8. **ADJOURN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Rail Policy Committee meeting:
Monday, August 1, 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.** No media clippings this agenda.
- C 3.** **RECEIVE** reports attached online.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Date: June 6, 2022
Subject: **Draft May RPC Minutes**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE minutes of the Rail Policy Committee meeting of May 2, 2022.

SUMMARY:

The draft minutes of the May 2, 2022 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

- ▣ Draft May RPC Minutes

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT Minutes of May 2, 2022

Transportation Agency for Monterey County

ZOOM REMOTE VIDEO/PHONE CONFERENCE ONLY

	JUN 21	JUL 21	AUG 21	SEP 21	OCT 21	NOV 21	DEC 21	JAN 22	FEB 22	MAR 22	APR 22	MAY 22
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez, J. Gomez)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	E	P(A)	C	P(A)
J. Phillips, Dist. 2 (J. Stratton, C. Link)	P(A)	O	P(A)	-	P(A)	P(A)	O	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	A	P(A)
W. Askew, Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson)	P(A)		E	P(A)	P	P(A)		P	P(A)	P(A)	N	P
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (S. Hardgrave , C. Courtney)	P(A)	M	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	E	M	P(A)	P(A)	E	C	P(A)
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	E	P
C. Medina Dirksen, Marina (B. Delgado)	P(A)	E	P	P	P	P(A)	E	A	A	P	L	A
E. Smith, Monterey (D. Albert, A. Renny)	E	T	E	P	A	P	T	P	P	P	L	P
K. Craig, Salinas, (C. Cromeenes)	P	I	P	A	P	P	I	A	A	P	E	P
G. Hawthorne, Sand City (J. Blackwelder , K. Cruz)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	N	P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	D	P(A)
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)	P	G	P	P	P	P	G	P	P	A		P
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Ledesma)	P		P	A	A	P		A	P	A		A
D. Potter, At Large Member, Vice Chair	P		P	P	A	E		P	P	P		P
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	A		A	P	P	A		A	A	A		A
C. Sedoryk, MST (L. Rheinheimer)	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)	E		P(A)	P(A)	P(A)		A
STAFF												
T. Muck, Executive Director	P		P	P	P	P		P	P	P		P
C. Watson, Director of Planning	P		P	P	P	P		P	P	P		P
M. Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery	E		P	P	P	P		P	P	P		P
T. Wright, Outreach Coordinator	P		A	A	A	A		A	A	A		A
M. Montiel Admin Assistant	P		P	P	P	P		P	P	P		P
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer	P		P	P	P	P		P	P	P		P
D. Bilsle, Principal Engineer	A		A	A	A	P		P	P	P		P
A. Guther Assis. Transp. Planner						P		P	P	P		P

TC: via teleconference; VC: via video conference

P = Present
A = Absent
P(A) = alternate present
E = Excused

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. A quorum was established.

OTHERS PRESENT

Tarah Brady	Caltrans	Joanna Xiao	Caltrans
Alan Miller	Caltrans	Jasmine Mejia Cortez	Supervisor Phillips' Aide
Bryce Goldstein	Caltrans	Berry Scott	Coast Rail Santa Cruz
Shannon Simonds	Caltrans		

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Berry Scott, Coast Rail Santa Cruz, reported that the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission have two items of concern on Thursday's agenda: item 11 is to reject a bid for repairs on the Pajaro River rail bridge with a staff recommendation to drop the project; item 28 includes support for a trail alternative that removes tracks and rail bridges. Mr. Scott also shared information about a speaker series for May 12-14th.

Executive Director Todd Muck noted that staff deferred a discussion about a lease with the City of Marina regarding the proposed recreational use of the Monterey Branch Line right-of-way until the June Committee meeting.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Potter/Smith/unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the March 7, 2022 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE

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

Mike Zeller, Director of Programming and Project Delivery, reported that staff continues to coordinate with the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and the City of Salinas on the logistics to transfer ownership of the completed package 1 train station project to the City of Salinas. He noted that staff continues to work with the City and will be working with them to prepare a revised resolution that accepts the transfer of properties independent of any future development. Mr. Zeller noted CTC deferred the approval of the property transfer to the June CTC meeting. The maintenance requirement for this site is an ongoing cost for TAMC.

Committee Member Craig noted she will help to ensure that the item goes to the City Council as soon as possible.

5. **COAST CORRIDOR RAIL PROJECT UPDATE**

The Committee received 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 next Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) Policy meeting will be on May 20, 2022, at the Portola hotel in Monterey. She noted that the meeting will be an in-person meeting with a call-in option.

Committee Member Potter mentioned that they are offering discounted rooms at Portola for anyone wanting to attend the meeting.

Chair LeBarre expressed that Mayor Potter's leadership has really developed a great relationship on the state level.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Doug Bilse, Principal Engineer, announced that a SURF! busway outreach meeting is tentatively scheduled for the week of June 20.

Committee Alternate Josh Stratton announced that Friday will be his last week with Supervisor Phillips' office. He mentioned that Claudia Link will be the new Chief of Staff. In conclusion, Mr. Stratton noted that he will be working with Cal Am as the external affairs manager.

Chair LeBarre thanked Caltrans and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) staff for supporting the King City station with rail funding.

7. **ADJOURN**

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m.



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: June 6, 2022
Subject: **Coast Corridor Rail Project Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

SUMMARY:

Progress since the last update to this Committee in May includes a Policy Committee meeting on May 20.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Coast Rail project capital and operation costs are under evaluation.

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 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.

The Policy Committee, chaired by RPC member Dave Potter, met on May 20 in Monterey. The agenda is online as a **web attachment**. Staff will provide a verbal update on the project at the meeting.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Coast Rail Coordinating Council meeting agenda](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: June 6, 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 May include work related to transferring the properties acquired for Package 1 (Salinas Station access and circulation improvements) to the City of Salinas and design 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 has wrapped 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 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. City staff is requesting confirmation from the CTC that the parcels can be redeveloped prior to agreeing to take ownership, however CTC staff has indicated that the funds used to construct the project may not allow the properties to be redeveloped from their original purpose. Staff will provide a verbal update at the Committee meeting.

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 special counsel Meyers Nave to further negotiations and finalize the remaining acquisitions in Salinas, and the team of Bender Rosenthal and Nossaman for Union Pacific property access negotiations.

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. HDR is now working on responding to comments, with the goal of preparing 100% plans by August.

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

- Amtrak and Union Pacific - May 5
- Gilroy and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) - May 4
- Northern California Rail Megaregion Working Group - May 4
- Salinas - May 3 and June 1

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

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: June 6, 2022
Subject: **Monterey Branch Line Recreational Use Lease to City of Marina**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

DISCUSS terms for a City of Marina lease agreement for recreational use of the Monterey Branch Line corridor between Marina and Sand City in 2022.

SUMMARY:

The Museum of Handcar Technology and the Mendocino Railway company submitted unsolicited proposals for use of the same section of the Monterey Branch Line corridor for recreational use of handcar or railbike operations. During the March 23, 2022 TAMC Board meeting, the Board voted to enter into a lease agreement with the City of Marina to transfer coordination of the proposals for recreational use of the Monterey Branch Line to Marina staff. TAMC staff will present draft terms to the Committee for discussion.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

For the 2019-20 work on the Museum of Handcar Technology proposal, developing and executing the reimbursement agreement and lease agreement, TAMC expended approximately \$17,500 on planner time and legal costs, including the filing of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation. Of that amount, the Museum of Handcar Technology reimbursed TAMC a total of \$6,130.56 in 2020, leaving TAMC to pay about \$11,370 in Agency reserve funds to cover those costs.

The 2021 lease agreement included a \$15,000 deposit for staff time. In fiscal year 2020-2021, \$11,140.82 was expended to support the 2021 trial run, of which \$7,350.89 was funded through the deposit and \$3,789.93 from TAMC funds. During fiscal year 2021-2022, TAMC spent \$4,824.86 of the deposit funds for the first two quarters until December 2021. The total expenditures from 2021 on then total \$15,965.68, which is \$965.68 over the deposit amount.

In preparing a lease agreement with the City of Marina for a recreational use of the corridor, staff estimates that planner and legal costs are likely to exceed \$15,000. CEQA documentation is expected to be more extensive for long-term use of the corridor. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) indicated that long-term use would require TAMC to apply for a CPUC permit to make any changes to the rail line. Proceeding with any recreational proposal would involve an additional set of costs, including potential liability and insurance costs, although every effort would be made to transfer such costs to the operator.

In the draft lease, TAMC is requesting a \$20,000 non-refundable payment for cost recovery from the City of Marina as well as a monthly rental payment totaling \$8,858 for the use of the rail line and a storage area at the start of the

proposed recreational use area.

DISCUSSION:

On February 24, 2021, the Board of Directors approved a lease agreement with the Museum of Handcar Technology for a trial use of the Monterey Branch Line corridor for recreational use. The agreement was executed, and the handcars had a successful trial in the summer of 2021. The lease agreement expired on September 30, 2021. The Museum of Handcar Technology's proposed 2022 operations would run approximately three and a half (3.5) miles from the Palm Avenue/ Marina Drive intersection in Marina, under the Highway 1 overcrossing and over the bike path, to the balloon spur tracks in the Fort Ord Dunes State Park, with a request to include a lease for an additional two and a half (2.5) miles towards Sand City. The project proponents are requesting to place a 45-foot-long cargo container to store handcars and a 20-foot-long container for support item storage on the tracks within the Monterey Branch Line right-of-way near Palm Avenue in Marina. They propose to have employees and customers park on TAMC property off Marina Drive. They would make upgrades to the tracks needed to support their operations. Changes to their operations as compared to the trial run in 2021 include permanently modifying the bicycle path that connects across the rail tracks from Beach Range Road to the Caltrans coastal trail; having a year long, month to month lease; possibly extending operations to Sand City; and adding fencing around the area where they will base their operations.

In January 2022, Mendocino Railway submitted an unsolicited conceptual proposal for use of the Monterey Branch Line rail corridor for railbike operations. Their proposal is similar to the handcar operations, with a different kind of technology (the handcars are operated by hand, while the railbikes are operated by foot). The railbike proposal requests a long-term agreement for use of the corridor from Marina to Sand City, including a base at Marina with a container using electricity to charge batteries and store bikes. The proposal also includes permanent alterations to the bicycle path that connects across the rail tracks from Beach Range Road to the Caltrans coast trail, and bike turntables at either end that can be installed or removed within a day. The railbike proposal includes other concepts such as a train car station for administration operations at Palm Avenue.

During the March 23, 2022 TAMC Board meeting, the Board voted to enter into a lease agreement with the City of Marina to transfer coordination of the proposals for recreational use of the Monterey Branch Line to Marina staff. TAMC staff will present draft terms to the Committee for discussion.

As the property owner, the Agency would be required to participate as a Responsible Agency for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). TAMC would also likely be responsible for coordinating on a permit from the California Public Utilities Commission, in cooperation with the winning vendor for the operations. Recovery of TAMC staff expenses have been incorporated into the lease terms.

The project proponent would be responsible for obtaining all reviews and permits, including, as necessary: County and City of Marina use permits (branch line is in the County, parking is in the City), and Coastal Commission review and permits.

Staff will present draft terms for a lease with City of Marina for discussion.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

[TAMC and Marina DRAFT Lease Agreement](#)



Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: June 6, 2022
Subject: Reports

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE reports attached online.

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Capitol Corridor monthly reports for March 2022](#) and [April 2022](#)