



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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## **HIGHLIGHTS**

**September 28, 2022**



### **Caltrain Provides Update on the Salinas Rail Extension Project**

The TAMC Board of Directors received an update on the Salinas Rail Extension project from Caltrain's Director of Strategy and Policy, Sam Sargent. Mr. Sargent shared information about the ongoing discussion that Caltrain is having with the Transportation Agency in developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the extension of rail service from Gilroy to Salinas.

After providing an overview of Caltrain's history as a commuter rail operator and reviewing their current service levels and ridership, Mr. Sargent concluded his presentation by stating that the next steps in developing the MOU include:

- Further evaluation of the Salinas extension with TAMC.
- Secure funding for zero emission rail vehicles for service south of San Jose. Otherwise, diesel equipment currently used for Gilroy service would be used for the Salinas extension.
- The TAMC-Caltrain MOU would be based on Caltrain's four principles:
  1. Service extension must be cost-neutral for Caltrain;
  2. No changes to Caltrain mainline service;
  3. TAMC and Caltrans assume all risks and liabilities of service extension; and
  4. Service extension makes no changes to the Peninsula Corridors Joint Powers Board governance structure.

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



**Board Adopts Measure X Senior and Disabled Program Guidelines and Releases  
Call for Projects**

The TAMC Board of Directors adopted the Measure X Senior and Disabled Transportation Program guidelines for the third round of grant awards and authorized the release for a call for projects for fiscal years 2023/24 through 2025/26.

The adopted guidelines included changes that were based upon input provided by the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee and the Monterey-Salinas Transit Mobility Advisory Committee. The most notable change is a new grant workshop for prospective applicants.

The program implementation timeline is as follows:

**2022**

September 28	Call for projects
October 12	TAMC grant workshop
December 1	Applications due at 12pm
Dec. 15-21	Grant review, field visits

**2023**

January 17	Draft Program of Projects presented to the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee
January 25	Draft Program of Projects presented to the MST Mobility Advisory Committee
February 22	TAMC Board of Directors adopt Program of Projects for fiscal years 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26
March 29	TAMC executes grant agreements

Measure X allocates \$15 million over 30 years to this program, approximately \$500,000 per year, to increase transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities to support their ability to live independently in their homes and communities.

Click here for the program guidelines:

<https://www.tamcmonterey.org/senior-disabled-transportation-program>

### **New Representatives Appointed to Serve on the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee**

The TAMC Board of Directors appointed three new members to serve on the Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee. Brent McFadden, Deputy Superintendent, Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE) will serve as the education representative, and Darren Fort, Senior Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation of MCOE will serve as the alternate representative. Steve Snodgrass will serve as the North Monterey County representative.

The Measure X Citizens Oversight Committee's purpose is to be an additional layer of accountability so that the public is assured that the Transportation Agency, the County of Monterey, and the participating cities are operating consistent with the terms of the Measure X, the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan Ordinance. Measure X is anticipated to generate an estimated \$600 million over thirty years through a retail transaction and use tax of a three-eighths' of one percent (3/8%).

### **TAMC Board Approves Measure X Funding Agreement with the City of Pacific Grove**

The TAMC Board of Directors approved and authorized TAMC's Executive Director to enter into a Measure X Funding Agreement with the City of Pacific Grove, subject to approval by Agency Counsel. The agreement in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 is to fund the Project Approval and Environmental Document phase of the Cedar, Sunset and Congress Intersection Improvements project. This funding agreement between the City of Pacific Grove and TAMC allows the City's project costs to be funded and reimbursed through Measure X.

The Cedar, Sunset and Congress Intersection Improvements project will construct safety and multimodal improvements at the Congress, Sunset and Cedar 5-way intersection south to 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunset in Pacific Grove. This 5-way intersection is near Pacific Grove High School and Forest Grove Elementary School. The purpose of the project is to design and construct an intersection that is safe for all users.