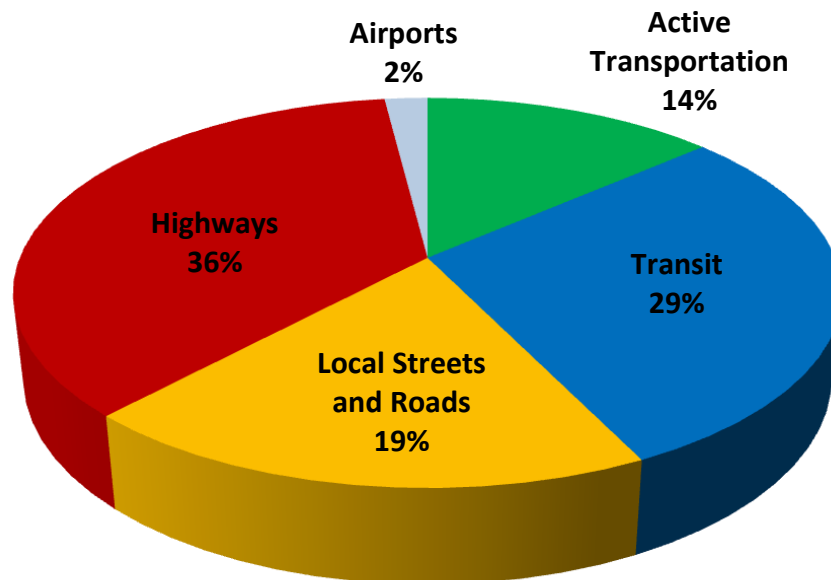


4. Transportation Investments

The 2018 Regional Transportation Plan identifies a range of transportation investments to be funded over the 22-year lifetime of the document that support the goals and policy objectives of the plan, as well as the region’s Sustainable Communities Strategy. The Agency coordinated with member jurisdictions to assemble a list of transportation projects for consideration in the plan. The list of projects was evaluated through a scenario planning process undertaken by AMBAG. After conducting quantitative and qualitative assessments of how different project scenarios performed relative to the adopted goals and policy objectives described in Chapter 2, the Agency selected a preferred project scenario.

Figure 4-1 summarizes the total distribution of funding to project categories in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan. The plan assumes increased investment relative to the previous plan in active transportation projects (supporting bicycling and walking), public transit improvements, and local streets and roads projects. Local streets and roads improvements are important for implementing Complete Streets projects that ensure that pedestrian, bicycle and transit facilities appropriate to the type of street and location are included in each project.

Figure 4-1: Distribution of Transportation Expenditures by Project Type



Although the Regional Transportation Plan highlights large projects that improve the regional transportation system, maintaining local streets and roads, enhancing public transit, improving airports, and providing for active transportation are equally important to the quality of life in Monterey County. These improvements support the Sustainable Communities Strategy and are part of a planned system that achieves the region’s greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Transportation investments described in this chapter are divided between regionally significant transportation improvements funded in the plan and local, non-regional projects that are summarized in the plan according to the project categories identified above. The entire project list for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan, including project cost estimates and project descriptions for regional projects, is included as **Appendix C** to this document.

Regional Transportation Investments

As described above, the Regional Transportation Plan is focused on regionally significant projects on the regional road, highway, transit and rail network that are described individually in the plan and included in the AMBAG Regional Travel Demand Model for evaluation purposes. The plan incorporates long-term priorities adopted by the Transportation Agency Board of Directors in 2011, updated in January 2013, and updated again in December 2017. These regional priorities were identified using a qualitative assessment consistent with the regional goals and objectives approved for the policy element of the regional plan.

Regional Development Impact Fee Program

The Transportation Agency administers the Monterey County Regional Development Impact Fee Program, which collects fees from development projects to mitigate the cumulative regional impacts of new trips on the regional road and highway network. The *Regional Development Impact Fee Nexus Study* establishes a relationship between the impact fees and new development, projects needed to serve new trips, and the proportion of project costs attributable to those trips. Projects included in the fee program must also be included in the Regional Transportation Plan. An update to the Nexus Study was completed in 2014, and this plan reflects the projects in that study. The Agency began a new update of the Nexus Study in August 2017, and it is anticipated to be completed by summer of 2018, after this Regional Transportation Plan is adopted. Readers are referred to the *Regional Development Impact Fee Program Nexus Study* for more information on how the fee program was developed.

Goods Movement

As noted in Chapter 1, the regional highway and rail network in Monterey County also serves as the regional goods movement system supporting the county's major industries. Improvements included in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan have been identified to serve goods movement needs and are consistent with recent corridor-based studies and funding efforts. These include the *2012 Commercial Flows Study* and *Salinas Valley Truck-to-Rail Intermodal Facility Feasibility Study* completed by AMBAG. The truck to rail study recommended sites for an intermodal facility for shipping Salinas Valley agricultural products to market by rail, which is assumed to be a privately funded project not included on the project list in this plan.

US 101 serves as the main north-south corridor for goods movement between Los Angeles and San Francisco, and is the primary corridor for goods movement into and out of the Central Coast counties. In 2014, AMBAG initiated a *US 101 Corridor Freight Study* through a Caltrans planning grant that recommended improvements for freight movements in the corridor.

The Agency is also working with the Central Coast Coalition, which is a partnership of Central Coast transportation agencies from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara, to improve funding in the region and to seek funding for US 101 improvements that support goods movement and interregional access.

Regionally significant transportation investments that are included in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan are divided into the following four regional corridors described below:

- Corridor 1: **North Monterey County Gateways**
- Corridor 2: **Inland Salinas Valley/US 101 Corridor**
- Corridor 3: **Salinas-Monterey Corridor**
- Corridor 4: **Coastal Corridor/State Route 1**

Detailed information about these projects, including project descriptions and project costs are included in Appendix C.

Corridor 1: North Monterey County Gateways

Regional routes connecting Monterey County to the San Francisco Bay Area and Northern California are critical to the Monterey County economy, serving commuters and students, visitors to Monterey County, transporting county goods to market and providing access to medical facilities. Planned improvements on these gateway routes will expand transportation options, improve safety and support the county's leading industries: agricultural and tourism.

- A. Rail Extension to Salinas:** This project will provide a safe, air-quality beneficial alternative to driving on US 101 by establishing new daily passenger rail service between Salinas and Silicon Valley. Service will extend Caltrain and/or Capitol Corridor trains to Monterey County, with new stations in Pajaro/Watsonville, Castroville and Salinas. Major stops in Gilroy and San Jose will allow convenient transfers to regional rail service to San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento, as well planned high-speed rail service to central and southern California. In 2013, the Agency created the Kick Start project, which funds the first segment of improvements, focused on extending two trains daily to Salinas and Gilroy from San Jose.

B & C. State Route 156 West Corridor: The Transportation Agency has conducted a Level 2 Traffic and Revenue Study that concludes that tolling can be utilized to finance a portion of the project, but there remains a need for significant state and/or federal funding. The Agency has agreed to proceed with the Castroville Boulevard Interchange portion of the project in the near term and have Caltrans finalize the supplemental environmental document related to tolling, while continuing to evaluate the potential to secure matching funds to cover the \$70 million to \$110 million shortfall.

B. Segment 1: This project will construct a new interchange at SR 156 and Castroville Boulevard just east of the current Castroville Boulevard signalized intersection and realign Castroville Boulevard. The project will meet critical safety needs and reduce traffic by removing the at-grade signalized intersection. In addition, the Blackie Road extension will provide a safer means for truck traffic from the Castroville distribution center to directly access State Route 156, by removing the need to travel on SR 183 through town.

C. Segments 2 & 3: These segments of this high priority project will meet critical safety needs and reduce traffic congestion by adding four lanes between Castroville and US 101 to the south of the existing Highway 156 and construct a new US 101/SR 156 interchange. The existing highway will be converted into to a frontage road for improved access to the Oak Hills community, and will become a designated route for bicyclists. The project will also reconstruct the US 101-SR 156 Interchange and reroute the San Miguel Road access to US 101, to remove conflicts between local, regional and interregional traffic, and improve operations on this heavily-traveled section of US 101.

D. State Route 156/Blackie Road: This project will construct a new road connecting Blackie Road with Castroville Boulevard at the new State Route 156 interchange (Project B above). This road will provide a new connection from the major distribution center in south Castroville to State Route 156, reducing truck traffic, improving traffic flow and pedestrian safety on Merritt Street through the town of Castroville.

E. Monterey County G12 Operational and Capacity Improvements: This Pajaro to Prunedale corridor has become a major thoroughfare between State Route 1 and US 101 since the construction of the Salinas Road/SR 1 and San Miguel Canyon Road/US 101 interchanges. Improvements in this corridor, to be conceptually-defined in a new Caltrans-funded Pajaro to Prunedale corridor study, will improve traffic flow and safety along County Road G12: San Miguel Canyon, Hall, Werner and Salinas Roads. The project is anticipated to include improvements to storm water drainage and bicycle facilities along the corridor, as well as intersection improvements at key locations, such as: San Miguel Canyon Road at Castroville Boulevard, Moro Road and Langley Canyon Road, Hall Road at San Miguel Canyon Road, Sill Road and Willow Road, and the Werner/Salinas Road triangle.

Map 1 – North Monterey County Gateways



Corridor 2: Inland Salinas Valley/US 101 Corridor

The inland US 101 Corridor includes the City of Salinas and the South Monterey County cities of Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City. This corridor serves as both a significant county commute corridor and an important interregional corridor for goods movement and Monterey County's agricultural industry. Planned improvements in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan will enhance mobility and expand travel options in the City of Salinas. The projects in the plan will also improve access to transportation for the South Monterey County cities for work, recreation, education and travel outside of Monterey County. Improvements to US 101 will upgrade this facility to improve safety and operations and enhance capacity.

A. Russell Road Widening: This project will widen Russell Road to four lanes between US 101 and San Juan Grade Road.

B. US 101 Alvin Drive: This project will construct a new overpass/underpass on US 101 and a new road connecting to Alvin Drive in North Salinas.

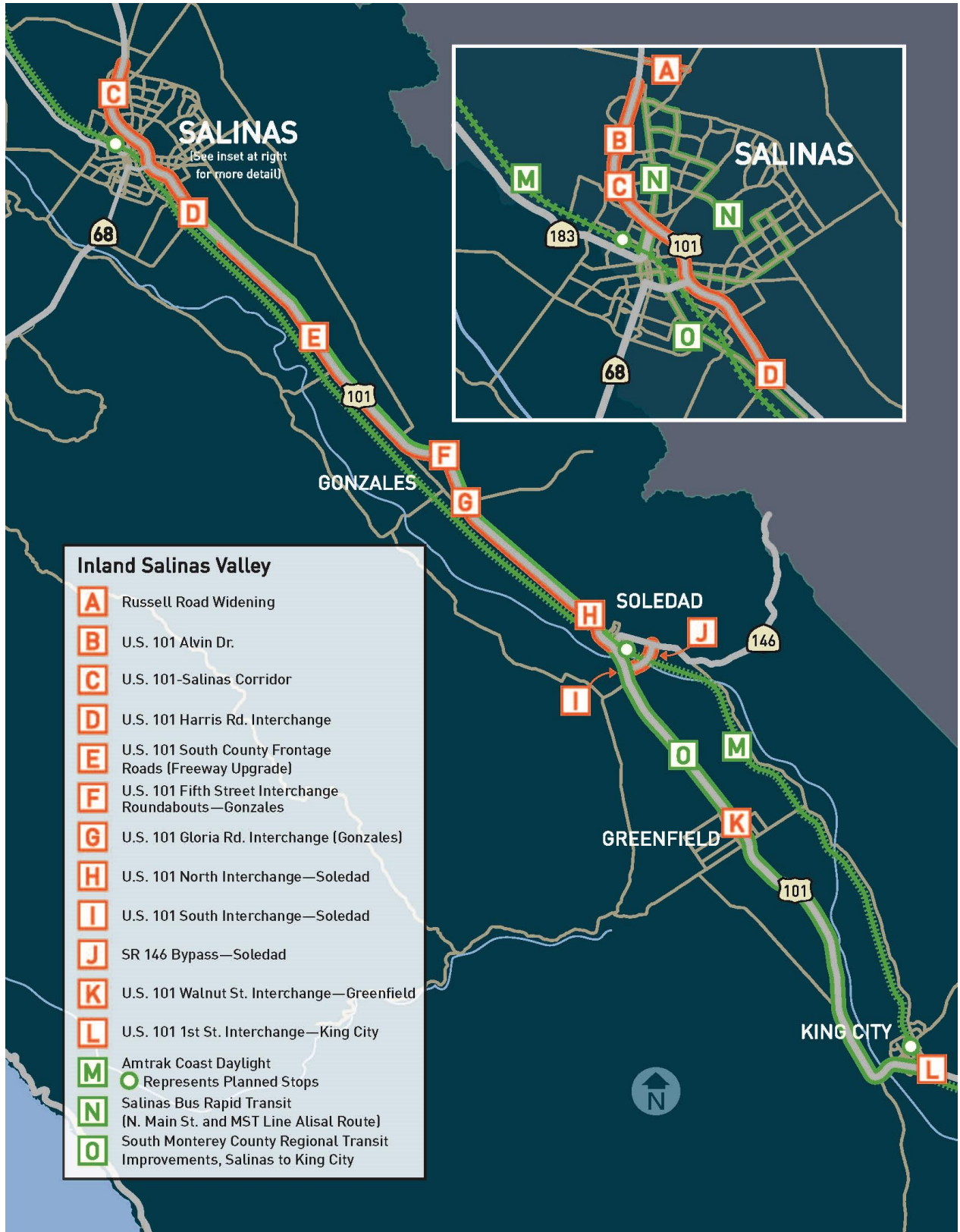
C. US 101 Salinas Corridor: This project will widen US 101 to six lanes from Boronda Road to south of the Airport Boulevard interchange within the existing right-of-way where feasible to increase capacity and improve operations at existing interchanges.

D. US 101 Harris Road Interchange: The project will construct a new interchange on US 101 near Harris Road (south of Salinas) to provide access to US 101 for the industrial facilities on Harris Road and in Spreckels, and across the highway on Spence Road. The project will connect to improvements planned in Project E below.

E. US 101 South County Frontage Roads/Freeway Upgrade: This project will eliminate at-grade highway crossings to improve safety and enhance highway operations, and construct frontage roads between Salinas and Soledad for improved access to farms and cities. The project will be phased and will construct a two-lane frontage road on the west side of US 101 between the Abbott Street Interchange and Chualar, close Abbott Street between US 101 and Harris Road, construct a two-lane frontage road on the east side of US 101 from Harris Road to Chualar, extend frontage roads from Chualar to Soledad. These frontage roads will link to Project D above, the interchange near Harris Road/Spence Road. The Agency is working with a coalition of Central Coast counties in to secure state matching funding for these improvements, which are important for moving goods to market.

F. US 101 5th Street Roundabouts The project will construct roundabouts on both sides of the US 101-5th Street Interchange to improve vehicular flow and improve safety for motorists and pedestrians.

Map 2 – Inland Salinas Valley/US 101 Corridor



G. US 101 Gloria Road Interchange (Gonzales): The project will re-align and reconstruct the Gloria Road / US 101 interchange in Gonzales.

H. US 101 North Interchange (Soledad): This project will modify the north Soledad interchange and construct related ramp improvements, which could accommodate future widening of US 101 mainline to six lanes.

I. US 101 South Interchange (Soledad): This project will modify south Soledad interchange and construct related ramp improvements to accommodate possible future widening of US 101 mainline to six lanes as well as the planned SR 146 Bypass from Front Street to Metz Road.

J. State Route 146 Bypass: This project will realign State Route 146 and construct a new two lane arterial around the south edge of Soledad, connecting the South Soledad interchange with Metz Road with a crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. This facility will serve interregional traffic traveling to the Pinnacles National Park.

K. US 101 Walnut Avenue Interchange (Greenfield): This project will reconstruct the existing tight-diamond interchange with a wider Walnut Avenue overcrossing and implement signal improvements at the ramp intersections.

L. US 101 1st Street Interchange (King City): This project will extend San Antonio Drive from Lonoak Road to First Street/US 101 interchange, including a grade separated crossing over the Union Pacific railroad tracks.

M. Amtrak Coast Daylight: The Transportation Agency is coordinating with the Central Coast Coordinating Council to increase daily Amtrak California Pacific Surfliner service from San Luis Obispo to Downtown San Francisco. The planned project will include station stops in Salinas, Soledad and King City to provide interregional access to and from South Monterey County. New stations are being planned by the City of Soledad and King City for this service, which are included in the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan as separate projects.

N. Salinas Bus Rapid Transit (North Main Street and East Alisal Routes): This project will expand transit access and improve travel options in the City of Salinas by constructing high quality Bus Rapid Transit improvements on the following routes: 1) North Main Street between the downtown Salinas Transit Center and Boronda Road, and 2) Monterey-Salinas Transit Line 41 service in the East Salinas/Alisal corridor.

O. South Monterey County Regional Transit Improvements (Salinas to King City): This project will expand regional transit in South Monterey County by increasing Monterey-Salinas Transit Line 23 service between King City and Salinas to provide 30 minute headways. The project will also include Bus Rapid Transit improvements on the existing route through Salinas to eliminate bottlenecks at major intersections that can impact on-time performance on this line.

Corridor 3: Salinas-Monterey Corridor

The Salinas-Monterey Corridor includes two major regional commute routes between Salinas that connect residential and employment centers in Salinas and on the Monterey Peninsula:

- State Route 68 between Salinas and Monterey; and
- Marina – Salinas Multimodal Corridor (Blanco Road-Reservation Road-Imjin Parkway) to State Route 1

Both routes are conventional two-lane roadways that are heavily congested during peak travel times. The corridor has numerous constraints in serving the major commute flows between these communities. Projects to either widen State Route 68 between Salinas and Monterey or construct a bypass through the former Fort Ord have not been pursued due to significant cost and environmental factors. Blanco and Reservation Roads have served as an alternative to travel on State Route 68, but improvements to Blanco Road are constrained by impacts to prime farmlands. Beginning with the closure of Fort Ord in 1994, the regional plan began identifying the Blanco-Reservation-Imjin route for multi-modal regional improvements, which were subsequently included in the Fort Ord Base Reuse Plan and refined in the Regional Transportation Plans that followed.

The 2014 Regional Transportation Plan identifies improvements to both regional routes, which are necessary to accommodate commute needs in this corridor.

A. & B. Marina-Salinas Multimodal Corridor: The planned project will accommodate high quality transit service via a dedicated busway or priority at signals, as well as improvements to improve safety and access for bicyclists and pedestrians along an alignment through the former Fort Ord, and alongside California State University, Monterey Bay. The study alignment for this project connects downtown Salinas Intermodal Rail and Transit Center with the Monterey Branch Line at 8th Street. The project also includes widening of Imjin Road to four lanes between Reservation Road and Imjin Parkway, and separately, will widen Davis and Reservation Roads between Blanco Road and the existing four lane section of Reservation Road at Intergarrison Road.

C. State Route 68 Safety and Traffic Flow: This project will construct safety, congestion relief, and wildlife connectivity projects along State Route 68 between Blanco Road in Salinas and State Route 1 in Monterey.

Map 3: Salinas – Monterey Corridor



Corridor 4: Coastal Corridor/State Route 1

State Route 1 between Castroville and Carmel serves as a commute corridor for work trips between Salinas and Marina during weekdays, and is the primary route between Santa Cruz and Monterey and provides interregional access to the Monterey Peninsula and coast from the San Francisco Bay Area and Northern California on weekends, holidays and peak travel periods. The 2018 Regional Transportation Plan accommodates travel needs in this corridor through a combination of transit and roadway improvements.

A. MST Rapid Bus Corridor: To improve travel times and on-time performance for regional transit between Salinas and Monterey, this project will construct bus improvements along the State Route 1 corridor either through bus improvements on the State Route 1 shoulder, or by constructing a dedicated busway parallel to the existing freeway, or a combination of the two. Monterey-Salinas Transit is currently conducting a multimodal feasibility study of the corridor.

B. State Route 1 Monterey Road Interchange: This project will construct a new interchange on SR 1 north of the existing Fremont Boulevard interchange, connecting to Monterey Road, to serve future development on the former Fort Ord.

C. State Route 1 Sand City Widening: This project will widen State Route 1 to 6 lanes between Fremont Boulevard and State Route 218/Canyon Del Rey with intersection improvements at State Route 1 and Fremont Boulevard. This Regional Transportation Plan includes only the interchange components of the project – the roadway widening is assumed to be beyond the time horizon of this plan based on the Regional Development Impact Fee program.

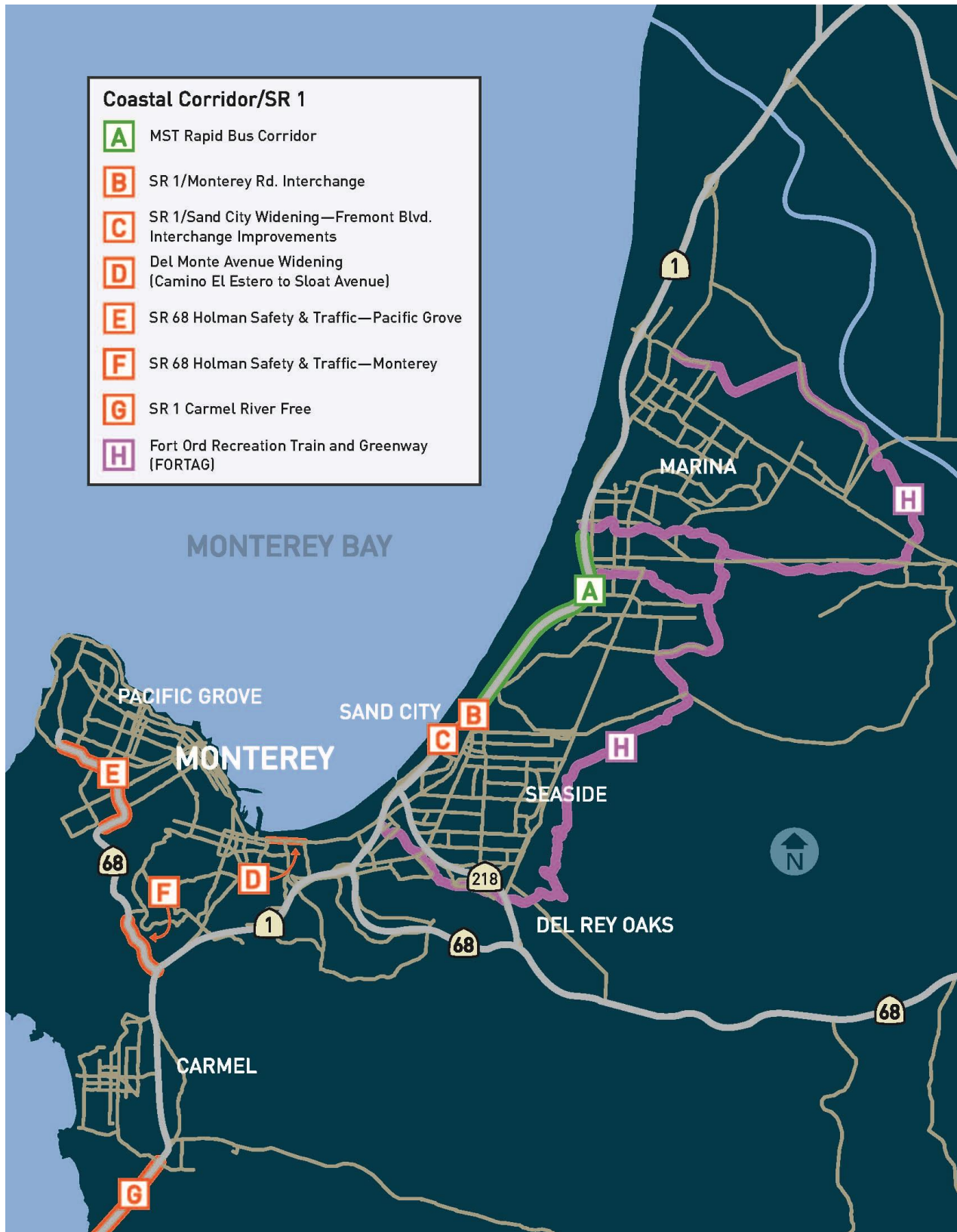
D. Del Monte Avenue Widening (Camino El Estero to Sloat Avenue): This project, sponsored by the City of Monterey, will widen Del Monte Avenue by adding an additional eastbound lane between Camino El Estero and Sloat Avenue to support future Bus Rapid Transit Service.

E. State Route 68 Holman Safety and Traffic Flow - Pacific Grove: This project will make safety and operational improvements to Holman Highway in Pacific Grove, including bicycle, pedestrian, and ADA improvements.

F. State Route 68 Holman Safety and Traffic Flow - Monterey: This project will widen Holman Highway to four lanes near the entrance to the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula and replace the existing signalized intersection with a roundabout; improvements to Highway 68 at Skyline Forest Drive are a phase of this project.

G. Carmel River FREE: This project is a flood control, habitat restoration and transportation improvement project that will replace a portion of the elevated State Route 1 roadway embankment with a causeway, realign and re-profile the existing highway to improve stormwater flows, and construct new southbound left turn lane to serve the Palo Corona Regional Park. New trails and habitat preservation are also a key feature of this project.

Map 4: Coastal Corridor/State Route 1



H. Fort Ord Recreational Trail and Greenway (FORTAG): The Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway Project is a 30-mile paved active transportation facility that will provide a safe, separated route connecting the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail with local parks, schools, shopping and the new Fort Ord National Monument. The project will also connect residents in the cities Marina, Monterey, Del Rey Oaks, and Seaside with jobs, events and classes at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB).

I. State Route 1 Carmel Operational Improvements: This project, sponsored by the County of Monterey, will construct a northbound climbing lane on State Route 1 between Rio Road and Carmel Valley Road to relieve congestion on this facility.

The Multi-Modal Transportation System:

Non-Regional Investments

The Regional Transportation Plan serves as the first step toward securing state and federal funding for transportation projects. As such, the plan includes an estimate of all transportation revenues forecasted to be available over the life of the plan, and a listing of all non-regional transportation costs proposed by municipalities and public transit operators.

The 2018 Regional Transportation Plan is also an important component of the process to plan for healthy, sustainable communities through the Sustainable Communities Strategy. As such, the plan must identify all proposed transportation projects in the county because the local and regional road, highway, rail and transit networks function as a system. The plan is used to identify all projects that can be included in the AMBAG Regional Travel Demand Model for evaluation relative to the goals and objectives identified in Chapter 2. The Regional Transportation Plan serves as an important mechanism for ensuring that plans for transportation projects are integrated and different modes of transportation are effectively coordinated.

Non-Regional Transportation Costs

The local, or non-regional transportation costs included in the Regional Transportation Plan are summarized in **Appendix C**.

These costs represent hundreds of relatively minor transportation improvements that the Transportation Agency may be directly involved with and which are being planned, developed and prioritized by member jurisdictions. Projects may be modified or eliminated, and represent ongoing needs (street and road maintenance or operating costs are examples) that are difficult to predict over the twenty-year planning horizon. Costs for these minor projects, although important for planning and funding purposes, are therefore accounted-for in grouped categories. This method best reflects the priorities of member jurisdictions and eliminates the need to amend the long-range plan for modifications to minor projects between regional plan updates.

The current Federal Transportation Act also mandates that all project costs be escalated to show to "year of expenditure" dollars and matched to escalated projected revenues. Some projects could be constructed significantly sooner or later than the years shown. Escalated project costs in the Regional Transportation Plan do not reflect a commitment to construct projects in a certain timeframe, but rather demonstrate how much projects could cost if projects were constructed in these years.

Highway Operations, Maintenance and Rehabilitation

Costs to operate, maintain, repair or upgrade the State Highway system are included in the Regional Transportation Plan. These costs include projects planned and funded by Caltrans through the State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP). Since Caltrans is directly responsible for planning and initiating these minor projects in cycles, All SHOPP projects are included in the group listings in **Appendix C**. Costs in this category are based on the level of funding estimated over the twenty-year planning period and included as a funding category in this plan.

Local Streets and Roads

Local streets and roads connect people to homes, employment, recreation and the regional transportation system. These facilities do not just provide access for automobiles; improvements to local streets and roads are important for accommodating walking, bicycling and access to public transit services. Investments in local streets and roads are an important part of the strategy for planning sustainable communities. The 2018 Regional Transportation Plan attempts to maximize funding for local streets and roads and incorporate other transportation needs that support the Sustainable Communities Strategy when local streets and roads are maintained or constructed.

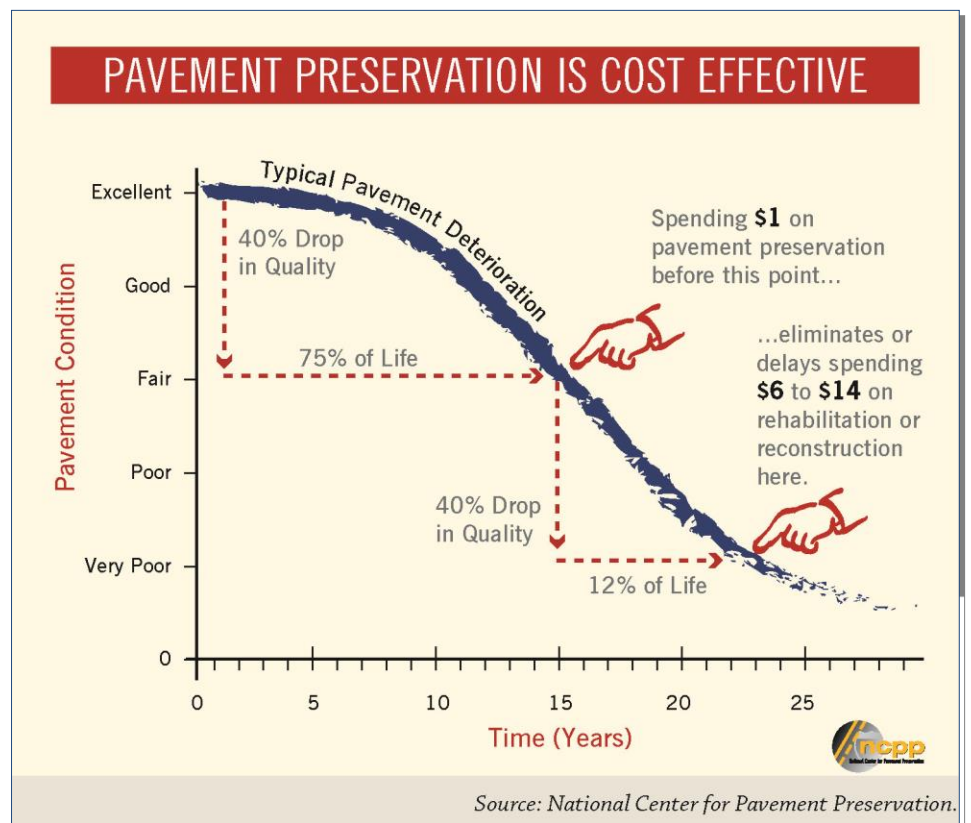
Local street and road costs in the Regional Transportation Plan are divided between new facilities and costs to operate, maintain and rehabilitate existing infrastructure.

New Facilities

Costs for new street and road facilities include new streets and roads, as well as projects to widen existing facilities. Costs for new facilities in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan are targeted at serving planned growth in priority areas, including the City of Salinas, and the South Monterey County cities. New local facilities identified in the Fort Ord Base Reuse Plan and the Capital Improvement Program prepared by the Fort Ord Reuse Authority are included in this funding category. New facilities can be constructed as Complete Streets that accommodate all forms of transportation, as discussed in the section that follows.

Operations, Maintenance and Rehabilitation

This funding category includes costs to construct operational and intersection improvements on roadways that improve safety, rehabilitate failing streets and roads, as well as maintain and resurface existing facilities on an ongoing basis. The 2018 Regional Transportation Plan supports increased investment in street and road operations, maintenance and rehabilitation over the existing plan, but assumes that funding will continue to fall far short of the level needed to meet these needs and maintain local streets and roads in a state of good repair. The *California Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment*, sponsored in



part by the League of California Cities and California Association of Counties, has surveyed municipalities and evaluated the condition of facilities across the state since 2008 using a scoring system based on a 100-point scale. A score of 71-80 is considered to be good, and a range where best management practices can be employed. Between 2008 and 2016, the condition of Monterey County roadways deteriorated from a score of 63, which is considered at risk in the assessment, to a score of 50, which is on the cusp of failing. As part of Measure X, all of the cities and the County are required to participate in a comprehensive pavement management program.

This plan identifies a total of \$3.71 billion in costs needed to improve and maintain the system in a state of good repair, of which only 11.8% is assumed to be funded in the plan. As described in Chapter 3, even if all the transportation funding forecast for the plan were discretionary, these costs would consume most of the county's transportation funding capacity, and other important goals of the plan would not be met.

Costs included in the regional plan, however, do present an important opportunity to implement complete streets projects whenever improvements are proposed and funded, which can improve access for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit at a relatively low cost.

Complete Streets

Complete Streets projects are an important component of the strategy to develop sustainable communities in Monterey County and to achieve greenhouse gas targets. California Assembly Bill 1358 requires that policies supporting the implementation of complete streets be incorporated into municipal general plans whenever those plans are updated. As part of the coordinated process to prepare the Sustainable Communities Strategy, the Transportation Agency completed a Complete Streets Needs Assessment of Monterey County to identify gaps in priority development areas where complete streets projects are needed to accommodate pedestrian, bicycle and transit access appropriate to the type of street and location. Projects identified for these locations are included in the Regional Transportation Plan as operations, maintenance and rehabilitation costs.

To facilitate the implementation of Complete Streets projects, the Agency also prepared a *Complete Streets Guidebook*, which contains resources that member jurisdictions can use to evaluate street projects to ensure that Complete Streets features are considered during planning and design. The Guidebook, and links to other online Complete Streets resources, is available on the Transportation Agency website.

Roundabouts

Complementary to the complete streets policy approach described above, consideration and implementation of roundabouts at intersections is an important strategy for achieving the goals of the 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan. Roundabouts at intersections allow for free movement of



Source: City of Marina, CA

vehicles at intersections, which reduces vehicle emissions. Roundabout intersections are a proven to be safer than signalized intersections given low design speeds, simplified turn movements and the reduced number of conflicts through intersections. Roundabouts also incorporate pedestrian and bicycle friendly accommodations that make these types of intersections safer and easier to navigate for all users.

Roundabouts are increasingly supported by state and federal policy and technical guidance. Specifically, Intersection Control Evaluation is a framework adopted by the Caltrans that includes consideration of roundabouts for intersection improvements. The Transportation Agency recommends that member jurisdictions utilize the Intersection Control Evaluation guidance available through Caltrans whenever considering intersection improvements.

Several projects in the plan will use the intersection control evaluation to determine whether roundabouts are a cost-effective strategy, most notably the SR 68 Scenic Corridor project.

Public Transit

Public transit provides an important alternative to travel by car and represents another set of investments needed to achieve regional sustainability goals. Regionally significant transit improvements, which accommodate interregional travel and travel options for commuters, were described for the regional transportation corridors above. This section describes the public transit system supported by funding in the Regional Transportation Plan.

The 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan supports expansion of public transit service and improvements to meet the county's long-term transit needs. The ability of MST and the Transportation Agency to expand service or implement service improvements have either been hampered by the lack of a stable fund source for public transit and an overall lack of funding beginning in 2008 with the onset of the economic downturn. Rising costs, particularly for Americans with Disabilities Act service provided through a largely unfunded mandate, also have played a role. Although local and state revenues for transit are recovering, the total amount of traditional state support for transit has been capped by structural changes.

Federal operating support is another critical funding component to delivering quality transit service. MST has been successful at securing competitive grants through the Federal Transit Administration for new services, but these fund sources are relatively short-term or one-time revenues. Changes to these programs in the most recent MAP-21 and FASTACT transportation bills consolidate programs and will most likely limit the amount of funding that will be secured.

As described in Chapter 3, the 2014 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan identifies new sources of discretionary funding to address these issues and implement service improvements that can help the County meet greenhouse gas targets and other sustainability goals.

The significant public, private and non-profit transportation services provided in Monterey County are listed below.

Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST): MST is the sole public transit service provider in Monterey County. MST is a public transit district established in 2010 that operates fixed route transit services across a 293.9 square mile service area stretching between Templeton in San Luis Obispo County, and San Jose in Santa Clara County. MST also operates an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant paratransit service fleet of 29 vehicles for service to the population within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of MST scheduled routes in the unincorporated County, as well as special transit services and mobility management programs. Membership in the MST District includes each city in Monterey County, as well as representation from the County of Monterey.

Regional Vanpools: A regional vanpool program is administered in Monterey County through the California Vanpool Authority, which provides vans and organizes both traditional vanpools and vanpools serving agricultural workers in rural areas.

Greyhound Bus Lines: Greyhound operates inter-county service linking Monterey County with adjacent counties. Greyhound also provides limited service between Gilroy, Salinas and King City via the Highway 101 Corridor.

Amtrak California: Amtrak California operates daily intercity *Thruway* bus service between Santa Barbara and Oakland with scheduled stops in Salinas and King City. This service operates

as a bus bridge connecting Pacific Surfliner service in Southern California with the Amtrak Capitol Corridor and Bay Area destinations.

Monterey Airbus: Main Event Transportation of Monterey operates daily scheduled airport shuttle service between downtown Monterey, San Jose Mineta International Airport, and San Francisco International Airport.

Taxi Operators: Private taxis are an important link in the transportation system, providing flexible transportation based on demand. Taxis are also important for serving the needs of residents without access to automobiles, including the elderly and people with disabilities. Taxi operations in Monterey County are regulated through the Monterey County Regional Taxi Authority. MST staff support the daily operation of the taxi authority.

Independent Transportation Network Monterey County: This Monterey County affiliate of the Independent Network America Program coordinates rides for enrolled seniors and adults with visual impairments in Salinas and on the Monterey Peninsula using volunteer drivers.

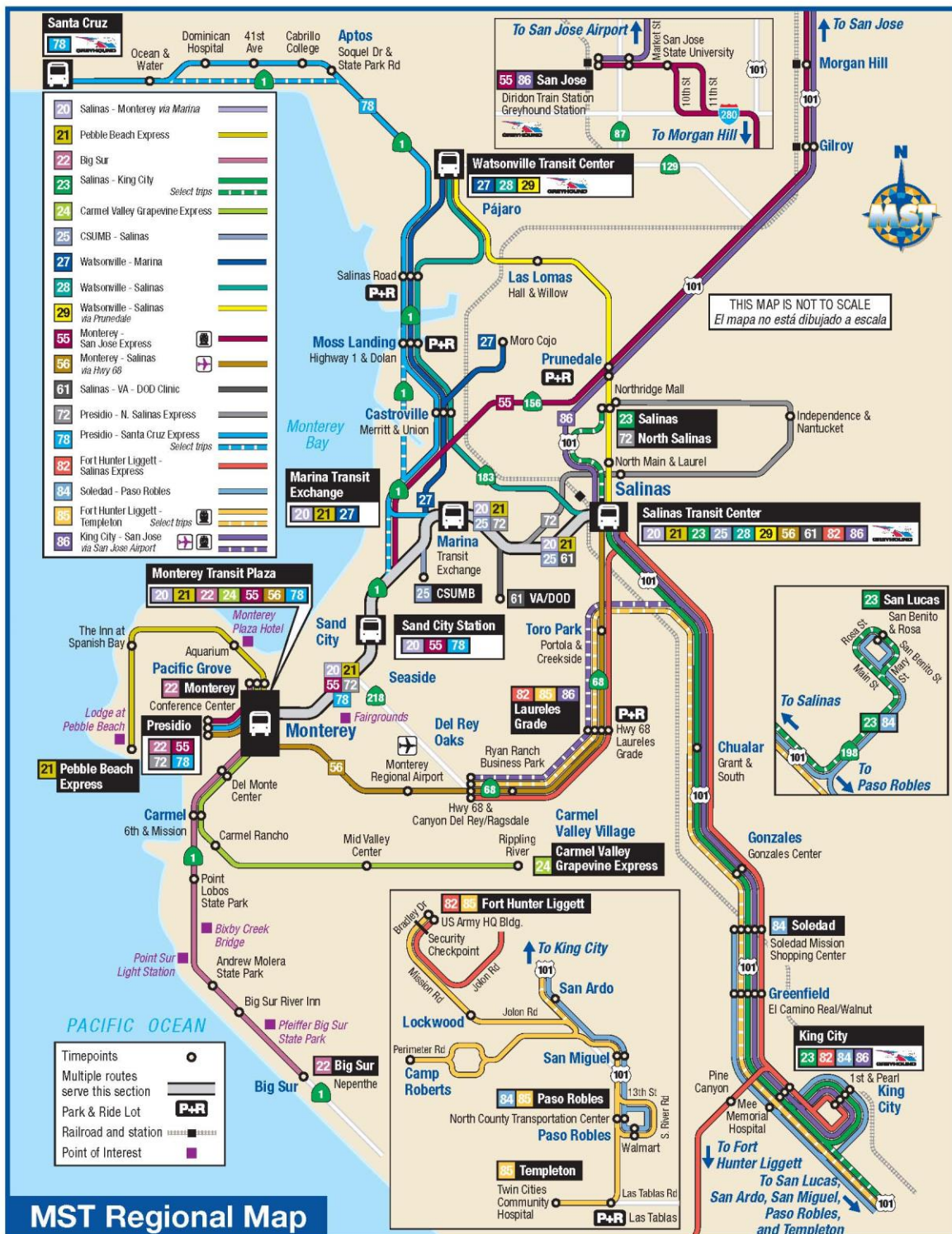
Given that MST is the sole public transit operator, investments in the MST system supported by this plan are described in more detail in the sections that follow.

Public Transit Operations

Operating funds included in the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan support the services operated by MST. The MST system, as of September 2017, operates 56 fixed route lines with a fleet of 123 vehicles. **Figure 4-2** illustrates the existing MST system.

Significant new services established since adoption of the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan, including services receiving state and federal grant support, are highlighted below.

Figure 4-2: MST Regional Service (2017)



Service to Military Installations: MST partners with the Department of Defense to fund and operate transit service for employees and personnel of military installations in Monterey County, including the Presidio of Monterey Defense Language Institute, the Naval Postgraduate School, Camp Roberts, and Fort Hunter Liggett in South Monterey County. This service, also open to the general public, provides interregional connections that fill service gaps.



- Presidio of Monterey** services connect this facility with the following destinations:

–Salinas-VA-DOD Clinic	Presidio - Marshall Park (Seaside)
Presidio - Del Monte Center (Monterey)	Presidio - Stillwell Park (Seaside)
Presidio - La Mesa (Monterey)	Presidio – N. Salinas
Presidio - Marina	Presidio - Santa Cruz
Presidio - Toro Park	
- Naval Postgraduate School** service is provided between this major facility and employer with the La Mesa Housing complex in Monterey and the Ord Military Community in Seaside as well as the Dunes Shopping Center in Marina.
- Fort Hunter Liggett** service provides interregional connections for base personnel and employees between Salinas and Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County, with stops in Salinas, Soledad, Greenfield, King City, Fort Hunter Liggett, Camp Roberts, Paso Robles, and Templeton.
- Camp Roberts** service is provided between this installation and Fort Hunter Liggett as well as Paso Robles and Templeton.

MST Trolley: MST operates free seasonal trolley service oriented towards visitors on the Monterey Peninsula between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The Trolley operates between Downtown Monterey and the Monterey Bay Aquarium/Cannery Row to reduce congestion on the impacted Lighthouse Avenue corridor. It also operates on weekends Labor Day through Memorial Day.

MST On Call: MST operates demand-responsive public transit service in the City of Marina, and the south Monterey County cities of Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City. On Call service replaced the municipal dial-a-ride services formerly operated by Soledad, Greenfield and King City in response to recommendations made in past service studies and triennial transit performance audits.

MST Line 55 San Jose Express: MST operates daily scheduled service between Downtown Monterey and San Jose Diridon Station in Downtown San Jose, which also serves as the Amtrak California Thruway bus connection to the Monterey Peninsula. This service provides bus access from the Monterey Peninsula to the Bay Area, with connections to Amtrak California Capitol Corridor Service and Caltrain in San Jose, Greyhound at Gilroy and San Jose, as well as stops serving San Jose State University.

MST Line 86 King City – San Jose/San Jose Airport: MST operates daily scheduled service between King City and San Jose/San Jose Airport with stops in Greenfield, Soledad, Gonzales, Salinas, and Gilroy, which also serves as an Amtrak Thruway Bus. The service provides bus access from the Salinas Valley to San Jose, the Bay Area, and the Mineta San Jose International Airport with connections to Greyhound bus service, Amtrak California Capitol Corridor service, and Caltrain in San Jose.

Service Improvements and Unmet Public Transit Needs

The 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan supports expansion of public transit service and improvements to meet the county's long-term transit needs.

As described in Chapter 3, the 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan identifies new sources of discretionary funding to address these issues and implement service improvements that can help the County meet greenhouse gas targets and other sustainability goals.

MST periodically analyzes its service improvement needs in a Short Range Transit Plan and area service studies. The most recent studies were completed for the Salinas Area in the 2012 *Salinas Area Service Study* and for South Monterey County in the 2010 *South County Area Service Analysis*. Key recommendations of these studies include:

- Simplification or realignment of routes in Salinas
- Extension/restoration of service hours
- Expansion of service to East Salinas
- Improved intercity transfers for South Monterey County passengers
- Establishment of an intercity circulator between South Monterey County cities
- Provision of shelters and amenities in South Monterey County

Major regional improvements included in the 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan, including Bus on Shoulder/Branch Line Rapid Transit and South County Regional Transit Improvements, partly address these issues. This plan would also support reestablishment of MST Line 42 service between Downtown Salinas and the Westridge Shopping Center via East Alisal Street and Laurel Avenue.

The Short Range Transit Plan and Service studies for the Peninsula Area were last completed in 2006; however, if there were the capacity to expand service, MST would propose re-establishment of the following:

- **Line 20 – Salinas-Monterey:** 15 minute headways during peak periods and 30 minute headways on Sunday.
- **Line 23 Salinas-King City:** hourly service throughout the weekday.
- **Line 41 Northridge – Salinas:** 15 minute headways during peak commute periods.

A *Marina Area Service Study* was also completed in 2009. Improvements identified in that study for service to California State University Monterey Bay and major origins and destinations in Marina have largely been implemented, albeit in modified form.

Unmet Public Transit Needs

The Transportation Agency also conducts a public outreach process on an annual basis to determine whether or not there are unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Monterey County.

An unmet transit need is a public transportation need that the public transportation system is not currently meeting and would be expected to generate sufficient ridership to meet the required 15% farebox recovery ratio, as set by the TAMC Resolution 2004-19 pursuant to TDA law.

Unmet transit needs are placed into the following categories:

1. Transit service improvement requests that would improve an existing service.
2. Transit service expansion requests that extend a transit route beyond its current limits and fill a gap in service.
3. Capital improvement projects that would enhance existing public transit facilities.

TAMC shares the list of unmet transit needs comments with Monterey-Salinas Transit, the only public transportation provider in the county. The unmet transit needs comments list serves as a public input tool for MST's short and long term transit service planning and improvements. TAMC works with MST to evaluate comments based on the time frame in which unmet transit needs can be met:

- Short term transit improvements are those that can be implemented in the current service year within MST's funding limits and without negatively impacting existing services.
- Long term transit improvements are those that would require additional funding beyond MST's current funding limits. Long term improvement comments remain on the unmet transit needs comment list until additional funding becomes available.

MST's Mobility Advisory Committee provides input on the categorized unmet transit needs comments list. This input serves to prioritize needs in the region, and is used to assist prioritizing transit projects as funds become available. The TAMC Board of Directors will receive the final list.

Transit Capital, Rehabilitation and Replacement

This funding category includes costs for capital facilities and vehicle replacement needs. This section includes a description of existing facilities, future facility needs and vehicle replacement needs.

Existing Transit Facilities

Monterey-Salinas Transit operates from five key transit centers. Each of these centers operates on a time-transfer pulse schedule, providing easy connections and quick transfers among multiple routes. MST is supported by two maintenance and operations facilities.

- **Monterey Transit Plaza:** This center occupies a triangular city park formed by the intersection of Munras, Pearl, and Tyler Streets in downtown Monterey. The plaza can

accommodate eight coaches simultaneously, with a ninth bus stop located on Pearl Street and a tenth bus located on Tyler Street across from the Transit Plaza. It is a transfer center for all routes serving the Monterey Peninsula. Amtrak also uses this facility for its bus connection between Carmel/Monterey and Salinas, which is timed to meet the Amtrak Coast Starlight arrivals.

- **Sand City Station (formerly known as Edgewater Transit Exchange):** Located in Sand City between the Edgewater and Sand Dollar Shopping Centers adjacent to Highway 1, this exchange provides a key regional transit hub to Seaside and Sand City with linkages to employment, residential, and shopping in Monterey, Marina, and Salinas. It is also used to provide direct daily bus service to the regional employment center at Ryan Ranch in Monterey. This station has been improved to serve as a terminus for the MST JAZZ Bus Rapid Transit service and rechristened “Sand City Station.”
- **Marina Transit Exchange:** This center is a hub for both local and high frequency transit lines and links directly with California State University at Monterey Bay, University of California MBEST Center, residential and commercial redevelopment for Marina and Seaside at the former Fort Ord military base, Watsonville and the Monterey Peninsula. The exchange facility was completed in 2008. MST is working with the City of Marina to redevelop property adjacent to the new transit exchange as a transit-oriented development.
- **Salinas Transit Center:** The Salinas Transit Center, located between Salinas and Lincoln Streets in the 100-block of “Old Town” Salinas, was constructed in April 1989 and serves most of Salinas and the north and south county routes. The transit center operates from nine departure gates which may allow some transfers between Salinas and inter-city routes. MST is planning to retain this transit center following construction of the Salinas Intermodal Transit Center at the existing Amtrak station, which will be used as a stop for MST buses.
- **Watsonville Transit Center:** The Watsonville Transit Center, serving North Monterey and Santa Cruz County, is located at the corner of West Lake and Rodriguez Streets and is the transfer point between Monterey-Salinas Transit and the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO). This center serves MST routes between Salinas and Watsonville.
- **Maintenance and Operations Facilities:** Monterey-Salinas Transit owns two operations facilities, the Thomas D. Albert (TDA) Operations Facility in Monterey, and the Clarence “Jack” Wright, Jr. (CJW) Operations Facility in Salinas. MST’s administrative offices moved to Ryan Ranch Business Park in 2016. Also during 2016-17, the Albert Division on Ryan Ranch Road in Monterey underwent a \$20 million renovation and expansion project. The Wright Division houses maintenance and operations facilities for Salinas area services and provides a backup dispatcher location.

Future Facility Needs

The following capital improvements are envisioned within the 22-year time horizon of the 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan:

- **Maintenance and Operations Facility Expansion and Replacement:** MST has outgrown its existing maintenance and operations facilities, which are a barrier to expanding and improving service. MST's plans to design and construct a new facility on the former Fort Ord were ultimately not approved by the County of Monterey. MST is in the process of considering alternatives for accommodating its future support needs, through multiple satellite facilities. The 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan includes long-term funding for these future facilities:
 - **Clarence J. Wright Maintenance and Operations Facility Renovation:** The Clarence “Jack” Wright, Jr. (CJW) Operations Facility in Salinas is in need of renovating and expanding to meet the existing and future needs of Salinas service. Of note, MST will receive its first two battery electric vehicles in 2018 and will need to charge these vehicles for routes in Salinas.
 - **South County Operations and Maintenance Facility:** MST is proposing to construct an operations and maintenance facility within King City to support public transit which primarily serves southern Monterey County. This project will support service improvements planned for line 23 to hourly service when the facility has been constructed. The proposed South County Operations and Maintenance Facility Project is located on a 4.8-acre, vacant parcel within the East Ranch Business Park Specific Plan.

Monterey Transit Exchange: The existing Monterey Transit Exchange location is not adequate to meet existing and projected operating needs. MST is coordinating with the City of Monterey to plan a replacement exchange, which may be located somewhere else in the downtown area. Reviews of several sites have been conducted; however, community consensus has not formed around a particular downtown location for a transit exchange.

Municipal Facilities - Designing for Transit

Support from city and county governments and private developers with the installation of bus stops, bus pull-outs, and transit amenities are important for improving public transit access. Appropriate accommodation for transit should be considered and designed into new streets and development projects from the outset. *Designing for Transit* is a manual created by Monterey-Salinas Transit for integrating public transportation and land use in Monterey County. The manual discusses ten ways to design more transit-friendly communities and encourages the inclusion of transit-related improvements early in the design of a development project. The manual includes a set of design standards (bus stops, pavement requirements, turning radii, etc.) that can be used in designing new roadways and developments, smart growth and livable community incentives, as well as specific policy and implementation language for use in local general plans, zoning ordinances, building and public works permit process. That document is available electronically on the Monterey-Salinas Transit website – www.mst.org.

Vehicle Replacements

Replacement of aging vehicles is a costly, ongoing and significant capital need for MST. The MST service area is vast due to its regional intercity travel routes, so MST vehicles accumulate

mileage rapidly. MST vehicles should be replaced after they have reached their useful life according to the following FTA schedules:

- **Transit coaches:** Every 12 years or 500,000 miles
- **MST RIDES and other minibuses:** 5 years or 150,000 miles
- **MST Trolley coaches:** Every 10 years or 350,000 miles.
- **Accessible taxis:** Every 4 years or 100,000 miles.

This plan accommodates scheduled MST vehicle replacements over the planning horizon.

Americans with Disabilities Act – Mobility Management

Meeting the goal of improving access and mobility in the transportation plan requires that investments be made to serve the needs of the elderly, people with disabilities, and other transit-dependent individuals. The elderly population is expected to grow considerably over the planning horizon, which will place unique demands on Monterey County communities and the transportation system. The Regional Transportation Plan includes the costs of supporting programs and services that meet these needs.

In 2006, the Transportation Agency designated MST to serve as the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency for Monterey County, which is responsible for planning and coordinating transportation services for specialized needs groups. MST has since been successful at securing grant funding, primarily through the Federal Transit Administration, to initiate new mobility management programs and services. A dedicated source of funding was approved by the voters of Monterey County in November 2014 – Measure Q (a 1/8% sales tax). These ongoing transit operating costs are supported in the 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan, and are described in more detail below.

- **MST RIDES Program:** The RIDES program is an accessible, demand-responsive service operated by MST to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Eligible riders within ¼ mile of MST routes can enroll in the program and schedule trips a day in advance. MST also maintains an agreement with the County of Monterey to operate Special Transit Service which is also provided to the population within a mile of MST routes in much of the populated unincorporated areas, as well as within the US 101 Corridor south of King City.
- **MST Senior Shuttles:** MST secured funding through the former New Freedom grant program administered by the Federal Transit Administration to establish transit routes planned by and tailored to the needs of elderly residents on the Monterey Peninsula and Salinas. Funding to continue these routes is provided by Measure Q.
- **Accessible Taxi Program:** Wheelchair-accessible taxis are critical for meeting the mobility needs of people with disabilities. MST secured grant funds to purchase nine accessible taxis and coordinated with taxi operators to put these vehicles into service. While they were initially leased to local taxi operators, they have now been sold outright to these entities and continue to provide wheelchair accessible taxi service in Monterey County.

- **Senior Taxi Voucher Program:** MST secured funding through Measure Q to distribute discount taxi vouchers for seniors in participating communities. The program currently serves the Monterey Peninsula and Salinas. Rides using a voucher require a \$3.00 co-pay and are good for trips up to \$17.00 (which accounts for most trips in the areas served).
- **Senior Travel Training Program:** MST offers a travel training program to show seniors how to use public transportation, which enhances mobility for this vulnerable population, but also is used to reduce demands placed on the RIDES program and associated costs.
- **MST Navigator Program:** MST recruits and trains volunteers to assist customers at transit exchanges. This program is targeted at serving the elderly and persons with disabilities and complements the Senior Travel Training Program.
- **Monterey Mobility Management Center:** This center, located at the Bus Stop Shop in Downtown Monterey, is staffed to serve as a one-stop source of information about services to the elderly and people with disabilities. The Mobility Management Programs described above are administered from this facility. MST also operates a satellite Mobility Management Center in Salinas, which is planned to be relocated to a larger facility that is closer to both the Train Station and the Salinas Transit Center.

Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan: Meeting Future Needs

AMBAG adopted a Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (or Coordinated Plan) in 2013 to serve as a plan for coordinating and funding projects meeting the specialized needs of the elderly, people with disabilities and the transit-dependent. Any project applying for Section 5310 grants through the Federal Transit Administration must be derived from or consistent with this plan. The document also serves as a resource for identifying long-term strategies and actions for meeting specialized mobility needs, which are supported by the Regional Transportation Plan.

The Coordinated Plan identifies the following long-term projects which are included here to identify long term needs in the 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan.

- Ongoing replacement of aging RIDES vehicles
- Expansion of the RIDES program to provide door to door or door through door service
- Maintenance and expansion of MST Mobility Management Programs
- Maintenance of the MST Taxi Voucher program
- Expansion of the accessible taxi program
- Expansion of the Independent Transportation Network service in Monterey County
- Expansion of the regional vanpool program to serve the needs of agricultural workers and to serve rural areas.

Active Transportation: Bicycle and Pedestrian Investments

Bike and pedestrian facilities are integral components of Monterey County's multi-modal transportation system. The region's mild climate and relatively flat topology make biking and walking a viable mode of travel for many living in the county. The close proximity between housing and jobs in the older communities of Monterey County also support the use of bicycles and walking as a transportation alternative, although key gaps in the network currently exist.



The Regional Transportation Plan includes policies for maximizing the transportation system to promote walking and bicycle travel, including development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, safety programs and promotional events, improved access and safety provisions, and improved linkages to bikeways and recreational trail system.

Bicycle Facilities

Monterey County's regional bikeways system, and the Agency's regional bicycle planning activities are described in more detail below.

Bikeways and Planning in Monterey County – Existing Conditions

Monterey County has approximately 246 miles of maintained bikeways on state, county and local roads. Bikeways in the county are classified as Class I, II, and III. These classifications generally follow design standards established by Caltrans. Classifications are described as follows:

- **Class I: Bicycle Paths** are bikeways separated from vehicle traffic.
- **Class II: Bicycle Lanes** provide cyclists a marked area of the roadway that is part of the roadway also used by motor vehicles. Bicycle lanes have identification signage, pavement stencils, striping, and minimum width requirements.
- **Class III: Bicycle Routes** are recommended roadways that bicycles share with motor vehicles without a marked bike lane. Bicycle Route signs are placed periodically along the route and at changes of direction.
- **Class IV: Cycle Tracks** are increasingly recommended to provide additional safety and comfort, particularly along busy arterials.

The majority of bikeways in Monterey County are Class II and III, however a large Class I facility exists along the Monterey Peninsula coastline. The Monterey Bay Coastal Trail extends from Lovers Point in Pacific Grove to Del Monte Boulevard, north of Marina, providing a scenic and highly traveled recreational opportunity as well as an important bicycle and pedestrian commuter link in the Monterey peninsula. It is anticipated that the Monterey Bay Coastal Trail

will become an important link in the proposed Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (described later in this chapter) and larger California Coastal Trail.

Recreational Bicycling

Many of the bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Monterey County also serve recreational users. The need for recreational facilities in the area is also supported by the county's tourism economy. Cycling events held at Laguna Seca each year draw visitors to Monterey County seeking recreational opportunities, which contributes to the need for quality facilities.

Intermodal Transportation Links

Bicycle riders may connect with other transportation modes if the proper facilities are available. These modes include transit, carpools, rail, and air transportation. Bike racks are now available on all MST buses. MST now carries more than 2,200 bikes on buses every month.

State and federal rail services are required to offer accommodations to store bicycles during short trips. Presently, interstate Amtrak service still requires bicycles to be boxed and stored in the baggage compartment; however, intercity and commuter trains within California do provide for unboxed bicycle storage. Amtrak stations are not equipped with secure bicycle locking facilities for either employees or passengers. Local jurisdictions may apply for funding for such facilities near or at the stations. Improvements to the area's rail system will also benefit bicycle usage, as future rail facilities will include bicycle storage to promote multi-modal travel.

Policy Considerations for Bicycle Facility Design

The Transportation Agency has adopted two policies at the recommendation of its Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee to guide planning for bicycle facilities in Monterey County and direct input provided by the Agency on plans and designs developed by member jurisdictions. In order to facilitate regional travel by bicycle, TAMC encourages its member agencies to construct bicycle facilities on new roadways as follows:



- In coordination with state, regional, and local bikeways plans;
- According to the specifications in Chapter 1000 of the Caltrans Highway Design Manual;
- With consideration of bicycle lanes (Class 2 facilities) on all new major arterials and on new collectors with an Average Daily Traffic (ADT) greater than 3,000, or with a speed limit in excess of 30 miles per hour;
- With special attention to safe design where bicycle paths intersect with streets; and

- With consideration of sharrows in plans and projects proposed by the Agency and member jurisdictions, consistent with the Monterey County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and the California Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Bicycle Programs

The Transportation Agency administers several programs to promote and facilitate bicycle travel in Monterey County, which include:

- **Monterey County Bikeways Map:** In 1997, TAMC published the first Monterey County Bikeways Map. The Agency completed the most recent update in 20016, illustrating bikeways, recommended routes, and bicycle facilities throughout Monterey County.
- **Bicycle Service Request Form Program:** In 2001, the Agency initiated a Bicycle Service Request Form Program. Service request forms are available at bike shops and on-line to report roadway hazards to bicyclists. The Agency distributes these request forms to local public works departments for their response and action.
- **Bicycle Protection Program:** Between 2001 and 2012, the Agency received funding through the Monterey Bay Air Pollution Control District to help increase the number of bike racks and lockers in the county. In 2015, the Agency restarted the program using the Agency’s share of Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds, with an annual budget of \$30,000. Through the Bike Protection Program, the Agency provides bike racks, lockers, repair stations, and skateboard racks in the locations most heavily used by bicyclists and skateboarders. Public bicycle and skateboard storage and repair stations continue to be a pressing need in Monterey County.
- **Bicycling Public Education:** Public education is important for increasing knowledge about bicycling as a form of transportation. The Transportation Agency helps plan and coordinate a Monterey County Bike Week public awareness campaign each May in coordination with National Bike Month. The Agency also sponsors Cyclovia, an annual open streets event on East Alisal in Salinas. The Agency plans to continue supporting future campaigns and events as a sponsor and work with its Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee to organize activities.

Bicycle Sharing

In 2012, the Transportation Agency prepared a study that examined the feasibility of establishing a bicycle sharing program in Monterey County. The concept of bicycle sharing originated in Europe and has been gaining popularity in the United States. Bicycle sharing is a form of public transportation that allows riders to rent bicycles from automated docking stations and return the bicycles to any station in the network. Similar to car sharing, bicycle sharing systems are membership-based. Membership fees typically pay for the first half hour of use, at which point additional charges are assessed in half-hour intervals. The pricing structure of these systems therefore incentivizes short trips. Benefits of bike sharing systems identified in published research include traffic congestion and emissions reductions by providing an alternative to short automobile trips, increased public awareness and enthusiasm for bicycling, economic benefits around bike sharing stations, and possible public health benefits.



The *Bicycle Sharing Feasibility Study and Implementation Plan* identified a system of stations on the Monterey Peninsula and in Salinas that would form the basis of a viable program. The study identified strategies for partnering with local bicycle rental business to establish a program, as well as a concept of operations document to serve as a roadmap for implementing a system.

Monterey County has a relatively small population with unique conditions that pose challenges for establishing a bicycle sharing program. The County has a robust tourist economy and established local business serving the local visitor rental market; although the program is targeted toward residents and commuters for short trips, a bicycle sharing program was seen during the outreach process as a competitor for visitor business.

As of December 2017, the cities of Salinas and Monterey are pursuing implementing Bikesharing programs in their communities.

Pedestrian Facilities

Walking is a viable, inexpensive, non-polluting, and healthy way to travel. Walking also serves as intermediary trips between other transportation modes, such as work-bus stop, shop-car, and school-bike trips. The Sustainable Communities Strategy calls for increased investment in improvements for pedestrian access as a means to encourage more walking trips.

As described above, pedestrian investments can be incorporated into local streets and roads projects as Complete Streets components. Pedestrian-specific enhancements can include sidewalks, intersection improvements incorporating bulb-outs and pavement treatments, as well as streetscape improvements



that enhance the attractiveness and comfort of the pedestrian environment. The Complete Streets Needs Assessment identifies regionally significant gaps in the existing pedestrian circulation system. Improvements identified in Safe Routes to School Plans are included in lists of local projects upon which the Active Transportation group funding category is based.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), passed in 1990, is a comprehensive law prohibiting discrimination against people with disabilities. ADA requires access to public transportation systems for people with disabilities equal to the service available to the able-bodied. Problems commonly associated with sidewalks and pathways for the disabled are driveway cuts, lack of curb cuts, sign posts, benches, and rough and severely cracked sidewalk surfaces. **Future Needs: The Monterey County Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan**

The Transportation Agency has worked closely with its Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee and 13 member jurisdictions to identify gaps in the countywide road and highway network where bicycle and pedestrian improvements are needed. In 2011, the Agency adopted the *Monterey County Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan* to provide a basis for the allocation of state and federal funds for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

The Plan serves to accomplish two main purposes. First, the plan lists all existing and proposed projects and facilities of jurisdictions within Monterey County and satisfies the General Bikeways Plan requirements set by the California Department of Transportation (California Streets and Highways Code Section 891.2). Local jurisdictions may choose to adopt the plan or submit an equally qualified plan to ensure eligibility for state and federal bicycle-funding sources.

Second, the plan establishes a countywide list of projects. This list assists the Agency in the allocation of various funds for regional bicycle and pedestrian projects. The plan identifies over 500 bicycle and pedestrian projects to accommodate non-motorized travel, which are reflected in the active transportation costs included in the Regional Transportation Plan.

In 2017, the Agency began the process of updating the plan, and adapting it to better align with goals and funding criteria of the new state's new Active Transportation Program. That updated is anticipated to be completed in Summer of 2018.

Detailed information on planned bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Monterey County can be found in the *Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan*.

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail

One of the most important planned regional bicycle facilities in Monterey County is the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail. The Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail is a collaborative effort among public agencies, non-profit organizations and the public to construct a trail that would span Monterey Bay from the city of Pacific Grove to Santa Cruz County line. The primary purpose of the Trail is to enhance appreciation and protection of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary as well as provide a safe, accessible scenic trail for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other users free of automobile traffic. The Sanctuary Scenic Trail originally was a project of the Santa Cruz County Inter-Agency Task Force, a Santa Cruz Committee that formed in 1993.

The Transportation Agency completed the Monterey County



portion of the Sanctuary Scenic Trail Master Plan in 2008. That plan lists the various components needed to complete the trail. There are 17 planned trail segments with a total length of 33 miles in Monterey County. With parts of the trail already constructed, the plan is oriented around gaps, improvements to existing sections, and installation of wayfinding and interpretive elements.

Figure 4-3 depicts the phased segments of the Sanctuary Scenic Trail, as well as priorities in the corridor that will connect surrounding communities to the trail. Segments are assigned to one of the three phasing categories: short term (1-5 years), mid-term (5-10 years) and long term (10-20 years). The cost for the entire trail network is estimated to be \$28.5 million.

The Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail incorporates the California Coastal Trail and includes coordination with the State Coastal Conservancy and Coastal Commission to implement the California Coastal Trail in Monterey County. Future development of the trail will be significantly constrained by the coastal geography or topography south of the Monterey Peninsula. The Agency will continue to coordinate with coastal partner agencies to develop and accommodate the California Coastal Trail in the regional plan.

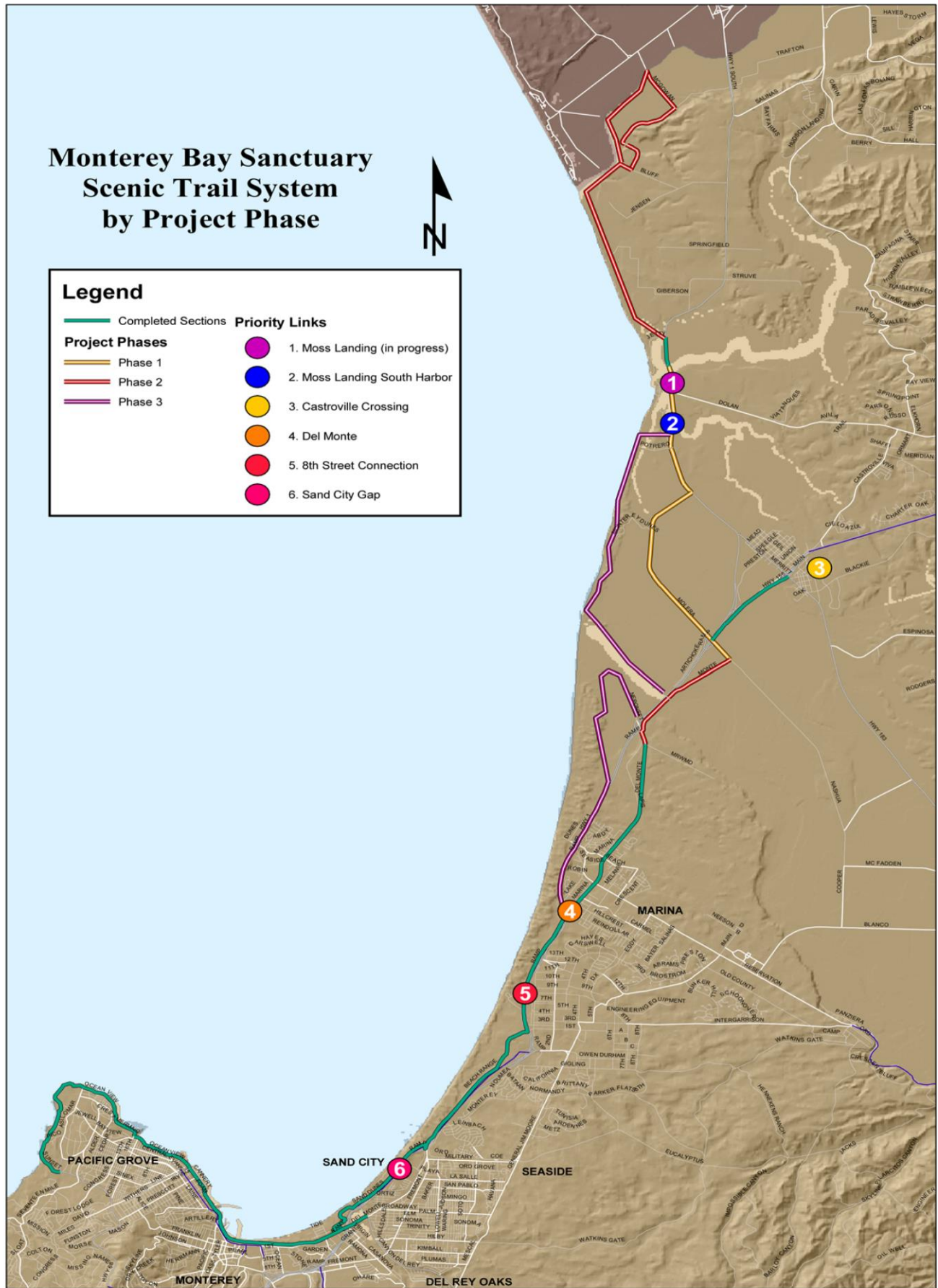
Work to Date

The Agency is currently coordinating with county jurisdictions and congressional representatives to fund and construct trail segments identified in the Master Plan, which will be incorporated in a larger California Coastal Trail project being developed statewide.

Planning for the Moss Landing segment from Moss Landing Road to the existing highway bridge on State Route 1, including a new bicycle and pedestrian bridge over the entrance to Elkhorn Slough, is ongoing. Construction is expected to take place in 2020.

Former congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel) worked to provide federal funding for the trail construction effort, delivering \$4.5 million to Monterey County. In 2017, Monterey County received an additional \$7.5 million in state funding to completed the Moss Landing Segment over the Elkhorn Slough, demonstrating the continued importance of this trail project.

Figure 4-3: Sanctuary Scenic Trail Segment Map



Transportation System Management

The existing and projected need for capital improvements to Monterey County's regional transportation infrastructure to serve planned growth across the county is substantial, relative to the resources that the Transportation Agency and its regional planning partners have available to fund and deliver projects. Given the number of capital improvement needs, the Agency has identified a corresponding need for strategies and measures that can be implemented, to maximize use of existing regional infrastructure and resources, including:

- **511 Traveler Information Program** to provide current information to the traveling public;
- **Rideshare Programs** to promote carpooling and travel alternatives;
- **Safety Programs** that support the safe use of existing regional roadways to eliminate congestion due to traffic accidents; and
- **Intelligent Transportation Systems** involving the application of technology that maximizes the efficiency of the existing system.

The following discussion addresses the Transportation Agency's efforts to manage the existing transportation system and reduce the county's long-term transportation costs and need for expensive capital infrastructure projects.

511 Traveler Information System

A 511 Traveler Information System generally provides a wide range of travel information, from vehicle travel times, to transit schedules, rideshare and carpooling information and weather and tourism information. By making travel information easy to access, it is expected that people can make more informed choices about when to travel, what type of transportation to use, and what route to take.

A Monterey Bay Area 511 System will be an effective strategy for simultaneously addressing numerous transportation challenges in both the short and long-term, at a low cost, and with significant benefits for multiple modes. The system would be designed to maximize the opportunities to build upon existing local transportation resources.

Rideshare Programs

The Transportation Agency began administering the Commute Alternatives Program for Monterey County in 2014, which is intended to promote carpooling and alternatives to driving. This program provides resources and information about travel alternatives, and assistance with organizing commuter carpools. The program includes direct outreach to employers to develop and implement alternative commute programs and offer financial incentives to participants.

Specific programs that have been offered include:

- **Guaranteed Ride Home Program:** Registered participants can be reimbursed for taxi fares or rental car costs should an employee carpool or ride transit to work and be stranded without of means of returning home.
- **Commuter Choice Programs:** IRS offers tax benefits that commuters and employers can take advantage of for commute benefits.

- **Park & Ride Lots:** Park-and-Ride Lots serve as convenient pick-up points for your carpool, vanpool, or bus.
- **Rideshare Month:** This statewide initiative in the month of October is designed to increase awareness about the benefits of using sustainable transportation such as carpooling, vanpooling, riding the bus, bicycling, walking, and telecommuting. Commuters are asked to make a commitment to use a sustainable form of transportation at least one day during Rideshare Week.

In 2018 the Transportation Agency is scheduled to launch a new program blending traveler information and trip reduction features. The new program will feature an interactive web-based platform that allows individuals and businesses to access traveler information and services, locate potential carpool partners, and enable participation in trip reduction challenges and other interactive features.

State Highway Safety Programs

The Transportation Agency is involved in, or administers, several programs to enhance safe use of regional infrastructure and reduce travel delays associated with accidents on regional roadways.

SAFE Call Box Program

The Transportation Agency is the designated Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (SAFE) for Monterey County. The SAFE is a countywide motorist aid program that is funded with a one dollar-per-vehicle annual registration surcharge assessed by the state Department of Motor Vehicles to Monterey County residents. The program, cosponsored by the CHP and Caltrans, supports the installation and service of the emergency dispatch phones on the major roadways. The call boxes are designed to be used by motorists in emergency situations to summon assistance. Roadside call boxes can assist and expedite the clearing of accidents and other incidents that contribute to traffic congestion.



TAMC adopted the Monterey County Call Box Implementation Plan in February 1999. As of 2001, call box units had been installed along Route 101 between Salinas and San Luis Obispo County (at 2 mile increments) and Salinas and San Benito county lines (at 1 mile increments), along Route 156 (at 2 mile increments), along Route 1 between the Monterey Peninsula and the northern county line (at 2 mile increments), and along Route 68. Phase III of the call box program included the installation of eight call boxes along Highway 1 in the Big Sur area which was completed in 2007. The Agency, in coordination with Monterey County Public Works, the

Fire Protection District and CalFire, selected twelve new call box locations along Jolon Road, Carmel Valley Road and Arroyo Seco Road for installation. These locations include areas that have historically seen accidents and fires, and that have limited cell phone coverage and are far from residences or businesses.

The Monterey County call box system has been installed as fully accessible to the mobility and hearing impaired in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by being equipped with TTY technology. The system has also been upgraded to use digital technology.

In 2017, the Agency completed a multi-year usage analysis to determine if reducing the size of the call box system was warranted. The analysis showed a considerable decline in usage along routes 101, 156, 68, and 1 north of Carmel. The decline corresponds to an increase in cell phone reception along these routes, as well as the continued proliferation of cell phone ownership. Based on this analysis, a large majority, approximately 80%, of the call box system in Monterey County could be considered for removal because of increased cell phone coverage and declining usage. Similar removal strategies are being considered or implemented by nearly all SAFE programs across California as increasing cell phone coverage is resulting in a statewide decline in call box use. Given these considerations, the Agency is beginning the process of establishing a call box Removal Plan with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol. The plan is expected to be finalized in the spring of 2018 and implemented shortly after approval by Caltrans, the California Highway Patrol, and the Agency Board of Directors.

Freeway Service Patrol

The Freeway Service Patrol was initiated by the Transportation Agency in 2000 with state funds to provide motorists with emergency roadside assistance from roving tow truck services through a contractual arrangement with tow truck operators. Since congestion often occurs as the result of stranded vehicles, the patrol qualifies as a Traffic Demand Management project for air quality evaluation purposes.



The Freeway Service Patrol operates on Route 101, from Sanborn Road in Salinas to the San Benito County line, Monday through Friday, during the AM and PM commute periods and on Sunday afternoons during peak travel months and holiday/special event weekends. It also operates along Route 1, between Reservation Road in Marina and Carpenter Road in Carmel, on Monday through Friday during AM and PM commute periods and special event weekends. This service could be expanded if additional needs are identified and the state approves additional funding.

Intelligent Transportation Systems

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) enable people and goods to move more safely and efficiently through a state-of-the-art, inter-modal transportation system utilizing advanced sensor, computer, and communication technologies and management strategies.

The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) is an organization founded by a congressional mandate to coordinate the development and deployment of intelligent transportation systems in the United States. Their mission is to foster public/private partnerships to increase the safety and efficiency of surface transportation through the application of advanced technologies.

According to ITS America, intelligent transportation system technologies are currently used to:

- Collect and transmit information on traffic conditions and transit schedules for travelers before and during their trips. Alerted to hazards and delays, travelers can change their plans to minimize inconvenience and additional strain on the system.
- Decrease congestion by reducing the number of traffic incidents, clearing them more quickly when they occur, rerouting traffic flow around them, and automatically collecting tolls.
- Improve the productivity of commercial, transit, and public safety fleets by using automated tracking, dispatch and weigh-in-motion systems that speed vehicles through much of the red tape associated with interstate commerce.
- Assist drivers in reaching a desired destination with navigation systems enhanced with pathfinding, or route guidance.

Public agencies such as the Transportation Agency also stand to derive enormous benefits from the deployment of these technologies. For government agencies at all levels, the innovative application of advanced technologies means lower costs, enhanced services, and a healthier environment for the constituents these agencies serve. Intelligent transportation systems encompass all transportation modes, and this regional plan includes these systems within several areas of the action element including roadway, transit, and commercial vehicle projects.

Central Coast Strategic Deployment Plan

The Central Coast Intelligent Transportation Systems group, comprised of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Caltrans, and the transportation planning agencies of Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara Counties, authored the *Central Coast Region ITS Strategic Deployment Plan* in 2000. The Central Coast ITS Strategic Deployment Plan is a road map to implement an integrated system of technology-based transportation strategies. The plan is designed to meet current federal and state regulations and to include all the intelligent transportation system-related projects in the counties.

The key to making intelligent transportation systems work at the regional level is integration: agencies working together, sharing information, and coordinating activities. One of the main elements of the Central Coast ITS Strategic Plan is a centralized Transportation Management Center. A center located in San Luis Obispo that is jointly managed by Caltrans District 5 and California Highway Patrol staff has been operational since October 2001. It uses a computer-aided dispatching system to more efficiently manage California Highway Patrol and Caltrans vehicles/resources and serves as the central clearinghouse facility to manage incidents and/or special events, monitor freeway conditions using closed-circuit television, issue SigAlerts via e-mail, and post messages on changeable message signs.

Examples of Intelligent Transportation Systems currently in use or proposed for use in Monterey County include:

- Ramp meters to more effectively control the flow of traffic on major freeways;
- Dynamic speed and curve warning systems to alert motorists to unsafe driving or road conditions;
- Interactive website to display traffic volumes during peak and off-peak driving seasons;

- Use of transit vehicle tracking systems to support transit operations;
- Advanced traffic signal control systems;
- Closed circuit television cameras on state routes to help monitor congestion and respond to incidents and blockages more quickly;
- Temporary changeable message signs on major roadways to advise motorists of local traffic conditions during special events; and,
- Emergency vehicle signal pre-emption.

The Central Coast ITS Strategic Plan lists several priorities for Monterey County. These are:

- Traveler information systems (changeable message signs, highway advisory radio) along US 101, SR 1, SR 68 and SR 156;
- Upgrades to traffic signal systems to improve signal coordination;
- Safety applications on rural highways; and
- A 511 telephone call-in system

The Central Coast ITS Strategic Plan provides an architecture, or map, of the implementation strategy. Also, the Plan notes the steps that need to occur to implement the Plan. One of those steps is integrating intelligent transportation systems in to mainstream transportation planning efforts, such as the Regional Transportation Plan. As such, intelligent transportation system projects have been included in the regional plan project list, and will be implemented either as separate safety projects, or as part of new capacity projects.

Intelligent Transportation Systems and Transit

As part of the deployment plan, Monterey-Salinas Transit has installed several intelligent transportation system projects:

- ***Signal Priority***

In cooperation with the City of Monterey and with a grant from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, MST and the City installed signal priority equipment on key commuter routes at selected intersections to speed bus and traffic flow in commute hours. This technology has been installed on the MST JAZZ Bus Rapid Transit Route described earlier in the Chapter. MST hopes to further expand signal priority to the Cities of Salinas, Seaside, Marina, and selected state highway intersections.

- ***Advance Communication System***

MST is installing the latest radio, dispatch, and vehicle locator systems. They are connected to Global Positioning Satellites (GPS) that allow for a wide variety of technological advances. These systems will assist to speed buses and transfer connections, aid in bus scheduling, provide passenger counting and loading data thus helping to reduce overcrowding. ITS will provide a higher level of customer service such as buses enunciators and real-time bus arrival times and system conditions.



Airports

Airports in Monterey County provide interregional connections to and from the County. Airport projects from the adopted capital improvement programs are included in the plan’s project list. Publicly-owned civil aviation airports are discussed below.

Regional Airport System Plan

Aviation forecasts in this plan are based on the *Regional Airport System Plan* prepared by AMBAG most recently in 2006, which provides a basis for assisting airport sponsors and local communities with general aviation, commercial aviation, and military airports.

Table 4-1 below describes airport forecasts for Monterey County. The *Regional Airport System Plan* provides forecasts to the year 2025. Both the number of total based aircraft in the county and annual operations are projected to increase over this forecast period. No major deficiencies to aviation services are identified in the *Regional Airport System Plan*.

Table 4-1: **Aviation Forecasts - Based Aircraft and General Aviation Operations**

Total Based Aircraft	2005	2020	2025
Marina Municipal	74	98	108
Salinas Municipal	224	258	273
Monterey Regional	143	172	184
Mesa Del Rey (King City)	33	50	55
Monterey County Total	474	578	620
Annual Aviation Operations	2005	2010	2015
Marina Municipal	31,800	47,530	55,080
Salinas Municipal	78,400	94,170	101,010
Monterey Regional	78,565	92,890	98,850
Mesa Del Rey (King City)	13,860	24,000	27,000
Monterey County Total	202,625	258,590	281,940

Based on the airport service areas, population growth, aviation trends, and the character and nature of aviation facilities within the Monterey County and Santa Cruz County region, the plan forecasts the following developments:

- **Moderate increase in demand:** The growth of population in the region will moderately increase commercial and general aviation demand;
- **Capital Upgrades Needed:** Facilities are needed to support increased business travel demand. Runway extensions, minor land acquisition, additions of navigational aids, and development of new aircraft hangars are necessary to meet forecast demand.
- **No new commercial airport development required:** The quality of commercial passenger service at the Monterey Regional airport, and the proximity of San Jose International Airport will allow for airline service without the need for new commercial airport development. With availability for increased operations, the existing general public airports in the region could absorb aircraft from other regions if facilities are closed in those regions.

The roles and configuration of the system in Monterey County is expected to remain the same. Monterey Peninsula Airport will remain the sole commercial facility. Salinas and King City Municipal Airports will continue to provide agricultural operations.

Future airport development depends on the ability of an airport to cover development costs. The primary responsibility for financing rests with each airport. There are many sources of airport development funds, including FAA’s Airport Improvement Program (AIP), the California Department of Transportation, passenger facility charges, private donations, leasebacks, direct revenue loans, certificates of participation, and revenue and general obligation bonds. Capital improvements can also be financed from annual operating and tax revenues.

The county’s publicly owned airports are described in the sections that follow.

Monterey County Airports

There are four publicly-owned airports located in Monterey County:

- **Monterey Regional Airport (MR)**
- **Mesa Del Rey Airport in King City**
- **Marina Municipal Airport**
- **Salinas Municipal Airport**

Passenger and general aviation air services are provided at Monterey Peninsula Airport. The airports at Salinas, King City (Mesa Del Rey), and Marina Municipal Airports are limited to general aviation. Public Airports in Monterey County are described in **Table 4-2** below.

Table 4-2: **Description of Public Airports in Monterey County**

Data	Airport			
	Monterey Regional	Salinas	Marina	King City
Number of Runways	2	4	1	1
Longest Runway (in feet)	7,598	6,000	3,000	4,485
Instrument Landing	yes	yes	no	no
Control Tower	yes	yes	no	no
Scheduled passenger service	yes	no	no	no
Regional airport surveillance radar	no	no	yes	no
Owner/operator	Airport District	City	City	City
Functional Classification	Primary Commercial Service Non-Hub Regional/Business/Corporate	Regional-General Aviation Business/Corporate	Community– General Aviation	Community – General Aviation

Monterey Regional Airport

The Monterey Regional Airport is located in the central coastal area of Monterey County, three miles east of Monterey. The airport is owned and operated by the Monterey Peninsula Airport District, and is the only airport served by certified air carriers in Monterey County. The California Aviation System Plan classifies the Monterey Peninsula Airport as a primary commercial service airport of regional significance. The airport operates 24 hours a day daily. The airport has its own independently elected board of directors.

Facilities and Services

The airport site consists of approximately 498 acres. The airfield operating area occupies the center of the airport and contains two runways; one for commercial jet operations and the other is a general aviation runway. The airport's south area contains the passenger terminal, with related access and parking facilities, and three fixed based operators, serving commercial private jets. The Monterey Regional Airport is currently served by four airlines providing scheduled passenger service to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Phoenix.

Ground Access Network

The regional transportation network that provides access to the Monterey Regional Airport includes US 101, State Route 68 and State Route 1, as well as the Blanco, Davis, Reservation and Imjin Parkway corridor between Salinas and State Route 1 in Marina. Regional access is also provided by Monterey-Salinas Transit. An airport limousine service and taxicabs also serve the airport. Much of the local hospitality industry provides its own shuttle services for guests. Transportation services at the airport are currently sufficient to accommodate demand.

Ground Access Improvement Program

The 2018 Monterey County Regional Transportation Plan supports development of the Monterey Regional Airport by expanding regional access. Strategies for enhancing ground access to this airport as part of the Ground Access Improvement Program include implementation of projects on the regional ground access network, with a focus on State Route 68 between Salinas and Monterey, as well as development of transit service providing airport connections and continual evaluation of transit routes serving the airport.

Specific regional projects to be implemented as part of the Ground Access Improvement Program include the following:

- State Route 68 Commuter Improvements
- US 101 South County Freeway Upgrade
- US 101 Harris Road Interchange
- Marina-Salinas Corridor Widening
- Marina-Salinas Multimodal Corridor

Planning Activities

The Monterey County Airport Land Use Commission adopted a comprehensive land use plan for the Monterey Peninsula Airport influence area in 1987. The Plan serves to alert land use agencies to potential future incompatible land uses in the areas adjacent to the airport.

The most recent master plan for the Monterey Regional Airport was updated in 1993. A new Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan were initiated in 2014 and completed in 2016. The master plan is currently in environmental review, which is expected to be completed in 2018.

Noise Mitigation

The Airport District has adopted the FAR Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Program that mitigates noise intrusion into surrounding communities. The noise program, like the land use plan, is designed to consider future incompatible land uses in the areas adjacent to the airport.

Salinas Municipal Airport

Facilities and Services

The Salinas Municipal Airport, owned by the City of Salinas, is located on the southeastern boundary of Salinas. This general aviation facility occupies 763 acres and has three runways serving single and twin-engine aircraft and helicopters, as well as an increasing number of turboprops and turbine-powered business jets. The airport has an air traffic control tower and a precision instrument approach system serving one of the runways. More than 40 individual buildings serve airport users, including a terminal building with a flight service station.

Planning Activities

An *Airport Master Plan* was prepared for the Salinas Municipal Airport in 1976, and has not been updated since that time.

Mesa Del Rey (King City) Airport

Facilities and Services

Mesa Del Rey Airport is owned and operated by the City of King City, and covers 214 acres on King City's north boundary within the city limits. There is no control tower, so incoming and outgoing flights operate under visual flight rules. Terminal facilities include a service and maintenance hangar for the FBO (Fixed Based Operator), two storage hangars with a capacity for 18 aircraft, and uncovered tie-downs for an additional 58 aircraft. A radio station is used for homing. The airport meets general aviation requirements for the areas extending generally from the town of Greenfield on the north to town of San Lucas on the south.

Planning Activities

An *Airport Master Plan* was prepared for Mesa Del Rey Airport in 1976, and has not been updated since that time.

Marina Municipal Airport

The former Fritzsche Army Airfield was part of the military operations at Fort Ord from the 1950s until the base's closure in 1994. As an army airfield, it was primarily used by rotary-wing aircraft (helicopters). There were some fixed-wing operations by aircraft under 12,500 pounds gross landing weight and the airfield was used for approach training by U.S. Air Force tactical aircraft and U.S. Navy Aircraft.

Facilities and Services

Marina Municipal Airport occupies 845.5 acres of the former Fritzsche Army Airfield within the City limits of Marina. The facility includes approximately 100,000 square feet of hangar space,

70,000 square feet of hangar-related office/shop space, 50,000 square feet of other shop/office and storage area, and other flight-related facilities. The regional Airport Surveillance Radar, which services the major airports in the Monterey Bay region, is located at the airport. Since the departure of the military, private uses such as training, light industrial and recreational activities take place at the airport.

Planning Activities

The City of Marina initiated an update to the airport Master Plan in 2014, and completed it in 2016. The master plan is currently in environmental review and is expected to be completed in 2018.

Maritime Transportation

There are two coastal harbors in Monterey County:

- **City of Monterey Harbor**
- **Moss Landing Harbor**

The harbors primary function is to support activities related to commercial fishing and pleasure vessels. Shipping occurs mainly from seaports in San Francisco and Oakland. Combined, the harbors have 1,145 slips. Each slip may be used by one or more boats, and slips are filled to capacity a majority of the time. Access to the harbors is provided via Route 1.



In addition to these harbors, the Moss Landing Energy Plant maintains an offshore mooring facility for oil tankers located $\frac{3}{4}$ mile offshore. The tankers transport the fuel required to serve the electrical generating plant at Moss Landing. Highway access to the harbors is provided via Route 1.

The Monterey Bay currently does not have maritime passenger transportation services, and no plans are currently in place to study the feasibility of implementing passenger services. The long-term feasibility of ferry service between Santa Cruz, the Monterey Peninsula, and points in between would be limited by the sea conditions and current lack of competitiveness with auto travel times (about 45 to 60 minutes).