

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)
Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee**

Final Minutes of May 3, 2023
Held at Sand City Council Chambers
1 Pendergrass Way, Sand City, CA 93955

Voting Members	OCT 22	NOV 22	DEC 22	JAN 23	FEB 23	MAR 23	APR 23	MAY 23
Eric Petersen, District 1	P	P	N	C	P	P	P	-
Victor Tafoya– District 2 <i>(David Tavarez)</i>	P	P	O	A	P	E	P	P
Mike Novo – District 3, Chair	P	P		N	P	P	P	P
Jeff Wriedt, District 4 <i>(Frank Henderson)</i>	P	P	M	C	P	P(A)	P	E
Martin Wegenstein, District 5, Vice Chair <i>(Jeff Lindenthal)</i>	P	P(A)	E	E	P	E	E	P
D. L. Johnson, Carmel-By-The Sea	P	-	E	L	P	P	E	P
Celine Pinet, Del Rey Oaks	P	P	T	L	-	-	P	P
Gonzales - Vacant	-	-	I	E	-	-	-	-
Ernest Gallardo, Greenfield	P	P	N	D		P	P	P
King City – vacant	P	P	G		P		-	-
Marina - Vacant	-	-			P		-	-
Gino Garcia, Monterey <i>(Abby Ostovar)</i>	P	P			P	P	P	P
Katie Stern, Pacific Grove <i>(Jung Hwa Kim)</i>	P	P			E	P	P	P
Chris Flescher, Salinas <i>(Mark Lasnik)</i>	P	P			P	P	P	P
Elizabeth (Libby) Sofer, Sand City	P	E			-	P	E	P
Ralph Wege, Seaside <i>(Jan Valencia)</i>	P	P			P	-	P	P
Soledad - Vacant	-	-			-	-	-	-
Marzette Henderson, Monterey Salinas Transit	P	P			E	P	P	P
Mark Chaffey, Velo Club of Monterey <i>(Alex Capelli)</i>	E	P			P	P	-	P
N. County Recreation & Park District - Vacant	-	-			-	-	-	-
Salinas Public Works - Vacant	-	-			-	-	-	-
Monterey County Public Works – Vacant	-	-			-	-	-	-
Caltrans - District 5 - Vacant	-	-			-	-	-	-
Miranda Taylor, AMBAG <i>(Will Condon)</i>	P	P			P	P	P	P
CSUMB -vacant	P	E			P	-	-	-

E – Excused
P(A) – Alternate
A - Absent

VC – Video Conference
TC – Teleconference

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY STAFF	OCT 22	NOV 22	DEC 22	JAN 23	FEB 23	MAR 23	APR 23	MAY 23
Todd Muck, Executive Director	P	P			P	E	-	E
Ariana Green, Principal Transportation Planner	P	E			-	P	-	-
Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant	P	P			P	P(VC)	P	P
Mike Zeller, Director of Programing and Project Delivery	E	P			-	P	-	-
Laurie Williamson, Senior Engineer	-	P			-	-	-	-
Christina Watson, Director of Planning	P	P			-	P	P (VC)	P
Janneke Strause, Transportation Planner	P	P			P	E	P	P
Aaron Hernandez, Assistant Transportation Planner	-	-			-	-	P (VC)	-
Alissa Guthier, Assistant Transportation Planner	P	-			P	-	P	-
Doug Bilse, Principal Engineer	-	-			P	-	P	P (VC)
Jeff Kise, Director of Finance & Administration						P (VC)	-	-
OTHERS PRESENT:								
	Hans Hoffman	Public		Vickie	Public			
	Robin Lee	Public		Jasmine Mejia	Monterey County			
	Andrew Easterling	City of Salinas		Mike Iswalt	Kimley-Horn			
	Michell Overmeyer	Monterey-Salinas Transit		Eric Petersen	Public			

1. Chair Novo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established, and Maria Montiel took roll call.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tom McCornwell announced that July 23 is the Sand City Criterium Race and encouraged members to participate or volunteer and mentioned there are cash prizes you can win. For more information and to sign up, contact Sand City Committee Member Elizabeth (Libby) Sofer.

3. **BEGINNING OF CONSENT AGENDA**

M/S/C Garcia /Sofer /unanimous

Abstained: Martin Wegenstein, DL Johnson, Marzette Henderson

3.1 Approved minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee meeting of April 5, 2023.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING STUDY

The Committee received a presentation from the Monterey-Salinas Transit District regarding the Transit Oriented Development Planning Study.

Michelle Overmeyer, Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST), reported that MST is leading a planning study to identify opportunities to increase transit-oriented development (TOD) viability by enhancing multimodal connections within the SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit project corridor through the implementation of enhanced bicycle, transit, and pedestrian facilities; and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies.

Mike Iswalt, Kimley-Horn, reported that they have completed a comprehensive Background Conditions report, which reviewed land use policies and transportation plans within the study area and identified opportunity areas and constraints for TOD and transit-supportive projects.

Mr. Iswalt announced the Transit Fair and Family Fun Day Event would be held on June 10 at the Marina Transit Exchange.

The Committee had the following comments and input on the Monterey-Salinas Transit District Transit Oriented Development Planning Study:

- Consider future connections between Monterey-Salinas Transit and the nearby cities.
- Consider advertising the Monterey-Salinas Transit bus routes to the community as a different way to travel and not worry about parking.
- Consider “Friday night special bus” to different cities each week.
- Consider looking into expanding the bus schedule times to get more users that work late and unusual times.
- Consider community engagement at in-person pop-ups, farmers markets, and the First Friday art events.
- Consider “social housing” instead of “affordable housing” (the Netherlands have a successful strategy of mixing different incomes in housing developments).
- Consider service improvements on Alisal Street in Salinas; they have the highest ridership and getting through the industrial area is challenging.

5. **SALINAS VISION ZERO UPDATE**

The Committee received a presentation on the Salinas Vision Zero program.

Andrew Easterling, Salinas City Traffic Engineer, reported that the Salinas City Council passed a Resolution adopting a Vision Zero Policy, and directing city staff to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan. “Vision Zero” is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all. Mr. Easterling noted that to develop the Vision Zero Action Plan, City staff compiled 10 years of collision data, and created maps to help illustrate spatial patterns and trends and identify a High Injury Network (HIN) that identified roadway segments where high frequencies of fatal or severe injury collisions occur. Following the adoption of the Action Plan in August 2021, the city began working to implement safety improvement projects. In conclusion, Mr. Easterling noted that the Vision Zero Action Plan is intended to be a living document which will be updated every 4 to 5 years.

The Committee had the following comments and input on the Salinas Vision Zero program:

- Consider purchasing a small sweeper to clean the narrow bike lanes with delineators.
- Due to damaged sidewalks, pedestrians sometimes walk in the bike lanes.
- Consider educating pedestrians and bicyclists on safety issues.
- Consider creating barriers to get vehicles to stop driving through the bike lane.
- Consider looking at the Caltrans Highway Design Manual on the chip seal due to the dangerous rough surface that has caused bike accidents.
- Consider getting the cities to clean-up the gravel after a chip seal on the bike lanes and gutters for safety.

6. COMPETITIVE GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Committee nominated up to three members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee to serve on the TAMC Competitive Grant Application Review Committee.

Janneke Strause, Transportation Planner, reported that the Transportation Agency Board approved a new cycle of competitive grants at its March 2023 meeting. She noted that the grant applications for projects proposed for funding are due June 1, 2023. In conclusion, Ms. Strause noted that Agency staff are seeking to establish an ad hoc committee to review and rank the applications and provide funding recommendations.

Andrew Easterling suggested that TAMC staff pair up a Technical Advisory Committee member and a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee member to come up with a grant application score together.

The following committee members volunteered to serve on the Competitive Grant Application Review Committee:

1. DL Johnson
2. Katie Stern
3. Martin Wegenstein

7. ASSEMBLY BILL 825 BRYAN – BICYCLES ON SIDEWALKS

M/S/C Wegenstein /Johnson

Abstained: Celine Pinet, Miranda Taylor, Marzette Henderson

No: Gino Garcia

Committee Member Wegestein moved, and Committee Member Johnson seconded to recommend the TAMC Board take an “oppose” position on Assembly Bill 825: Bicycle on sidewalks.

The committee received information and provided feedback to staff on a proposed state bill related to bicycles on sidewalks.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reported that Assembly Bill 825 (Bryan): “Bicycles on Sidewalks” would prohibit local authorities from prohibiting bicycles on sidewalks adjacent to highway or corridor that does not include a bikeway. She noted that TAMC currently has a “watch” position on this bill.

The Committee had the following comments and input on AB 825:

- Allowing bicyclists to use the sidewalks would be dangerous to pedestrians, especially those with disabilities.

- It is important to educate the community that the bicycle has the same rights to a road as any other vehicle.
- The key issue is local governmental control; this bill presents a one-size-fits-all solution to a problem that is not consistent across the state.
- The author's reasons for this bill, questionable law enforcement tactics, is not solved by this bill, which introduces two new rules for bicyclists using sidewalks, so the police could still use these new infractions in the same way they currently use local prohibitions of biking on sidewalks, to target minorities.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS

Committee Member Johnson announced that the City of Carmel-By-the-Sea has been having highway issues and has been in contact with Transportation Agency staff and Caltrans.

Committee Member Petersen commented that the City of Carmel should consider looking into installing bicycle boulevards such as those found in Palo Alto.

Chair Novo announced that the road to the Pinnacles has been chip sealed and has some serious loose gravel that can be a bicyclist's nightmare when riding downhill.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Novo adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.