From: Steve Ferrari
To: TAMC Info

Subject: Public comment on Wednesday's TAMC Board meeting agenda item 3.3.1

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024 10:12:01 PM

To TAMC Board:

It is important that TAMC does not ask for legislation to change the use of Proposition 116 funds. This really is not going to realistically happen where Monterey is going to change the rules for the whole state. Those funds are only for a rail line and not a busway expressly. It is pretty clear in that legislation. Citizens of Monterey really want a rail line even if it will not happen right away.

If you have to go forward with a busway it can be done without tearing out the rail line. If you say it can't be done, that is not very honest and you aren't trying hard enough. Marin and Sonoma County have a multi use corridor for a rail line and a trail. It works. Santa Cruz County is making room for a rail line and a trail. It works. Monterey can have a busway and a rail line. Do not EVER take away or cover up the rail tracks. It can be done in Monterey County also. This has to be deferred until this is figured out so that the rail line is not removed. If the rail is removed, it is lost and the Monterey County residents are cheated. The Board has a legal responsibility to its residents so that nothing is done to hurt or remove the rail line. Many will be watching closely to see what happens. It would be a shame to have the Board make a bad mistake and then have to pay much in legal fees or having to pay a large refund of funds to the State of California for making such a mistake. Whatever you do, please do not tear up ANY of the Rail line. it would be so wrong for so many reasons.

Steve Ferrari