



Regional Transportation Planning Agency - Local Transportation Commission
Monterey County Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways
Monterey County Regional Development Impact Fee Joint Powers Agency
Email: info@tamcmonterey.org

REVISED AGENDA

Rail Policy Committee

Monday, October 2, 2023

****3:00 PM****

MEETING LOCATION

Voting members must attend a physical meeting location to count towards quorum

*55B Plaza Circle, Salinas, California 93901
Transportation Agency Conference Room*

Alternate Locations with Zoom Connection Open to the Public

*2616 1st Avenue, Marina, California 93933
Supervisor Askew's Office*

*11140 Speegle St., Castroville CA, 95012
Supervisor Church's Office*

*168 West Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901
Supervisor Alejo's Office*

Members of the public & non-voting members may join meeting online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/654778900?pwd=L2daellZTW5NSDZMQ2RSY1hJVlpGZz09>

OR

By teleconference at: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 654 778 900

Password: 506977

Please note: If all committee members are present in person, public participation by Zoom is for convenience only and is not required by law. If the Zoom feed is lost for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted, but the meeting may continue at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Please see all the special meeting instructions at the end of this agenda

Complete agenda packets are on display at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County office and at these public libraries: Carmel, Monterey, Salinas Steinbeck Branch, Seaside, Prunedale, and King City. Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call the Agency

Secretary to make an inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Please recycle this agenda.

1. Quorum Check, Call to Order and Introductions

A quorum is 7 of the following members: Adams, Askew, Alejo, Chavez, Church, Hawthorne, LeBarre, Medina-Dirksen, Oglesby, Potter, Sandoval and Smith.

If you are unable to attend, please make sure that one of your alternates attends the meeting. Your courtesy to the other members to assure a quorum is appreciated.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any member of the public may address the Committee on any item not on the agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Board. Under this item, each member of the public is allowed three minutes to address concerns. Comments in items on this agenda may be given when that agenda item is discussed. Persons who wish to address the Board for public comment or on an item on the agenda are encouraged to submit comments in writing to Maria at maria@tamcmonterey.org by 5:00 pm the Monday before the meeting, and such comments will be distributed to the Board before the meeting.

Alternative Agenda Format and Auxiliary Aids: If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals requesting a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may contact Transportation Agency staff at 831-775-0903. Auxiliary aids or services include wheelchair accessible facilities, sign language interpreters, Spanish language interpreters, and printed materials in large print, Braille or on disk. These requests may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting and should be made at least 72 hours before the meeting. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the request.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the staff recommendations for items listed below by majority vote with one motion. Any member may pull an item off the Consent Agenda to be moved to the end of the **CONSENT AGENDA** for discussion and action.

3.1. APPROVE the draft Rail Policy Committee Minutes for September 11, 2023.

- Maria Montiel

The draft minutes of the September 11, 2023 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

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

- Christina Watson, Michael Zeller

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in August

include operations scenario discussions and design coordination efforts with key stakeholders on Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy track connections).

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

- Christina Watson

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee is scheduled to meet on October 20 in Santa Barbara, and the working group met virtually on September 15.

- 3.4. **RECEIVE** media clippings attached online.

- Christina Watson

- 3.5. **RECEIVE** correspondence.

- Christina Watson

4. **DISCUSS** project candidates for state transit and zero emission funding and **RECOMMEND** projects to the Board of Directors.

- Christina Watson, Alissa Guther

On July 10, 2023, the Governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 125 into law, which included new formula funding through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and created a new Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP). TAMC is slated to receive \$44.5 million over two years in TIRCP formula funds and \$8 million over four years for the ZETCP. All funds need to be programmed and received by TAMC by June 30, 2028.

5. **RECEIVE** an update on the Pajaro Multimodal Station Project.

- Alissa Guther

Activities on the Pajaro Multimodal Station project since the last report to this Committee include submittal of allocation request paperwork to the December California Transportation Commission.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** and/or **COMMENTS**

7. **ADJOURN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Committee meeting
Monday, November 6, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas CA 93901

A quorum of voting members is required to be present to hold this meeting.

There will be a zoom link for hybrid participation.

If you have any items for the next agenda, please submit them to:
Christina Watson, Rail Program Coordinator
Christina@tamcmonterey.org

Important Meeting Information

Agenda Packet and Documents: Any person who has a question concerning an item on this agenda may call or email the Agency office to make inquiry concerning the nature of the item described on the agenda. Complete agenda packets are on display online at the Transportation Agency for Monterey County website. Documents relating to an item on the open session that are distributed to the Committee less than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public review at the Agency website. Agency contact information is as follows:

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
www.tamcmonterey.org
55B Plaza Circle, Salinas, CA 93901
TEL: 831-775-0903
EMAIL: info@tamcmonterey.org

Agenda Items: The agenda will be prepared by Agency staff and will close at noon nine (9) working days before the regular meeting. Any member of the Board may request in writing an item to appear on the agenda. The request shall be made by the agenda deadline and any support papers must be furnished by that time or be readily available.

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Maria Montiel
Meeting Date: October 2, 2023
Subject: Draft September RPC Minutes

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE the draft Rail Policy Committee Minutes for September 11, 2023.

SUMMARY:

The draft minutes of the September 11, 2023 Rail Policy Committee meeting are attached for review.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft_RPC_Minutes_September_2023_Meeting

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC)

RAIL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Draft Minutes of September 11, 2023

55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas, California 93901 - Transportation Agency Conference Room
 Alternate location: 2616 1st Avenue, Marina, California 93933 - Supervisor Askew's Office and
 11140 Speegle Street, Castroville CA, 95012 Supervisor Church's Office

	OCT 22	NOV 22	DEC 22	JAN 23	FEB 23	MAR 23	APR 23	MAY 23	JUN 23	JUL 23	AUG 23	SEP 23
L. Alejo, Dist. 1 (L. Gonzalez, J. Gomez)	C	P(A)	N	P(A)	P	C	P	P	C	N	P	P
G. Church, Dist. 2 (M. Vierra , L. Gray)	A	A	O	A	P	A	P(A)	P(A)	A	O	P(A)	P(A) (VC)
W. Askew, Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson, E. Mora)	N	P(A)		P(A)	P(A)	N	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	N		P(A)	P(A) (VC)
M. Adams, Dist. 5, (C. Courtney)	C	P(A)	M	E	A	C	P(A) (VC)	E	C	M	E	A
M. LeBarre, King City, Chair (C. DeLeon)	E	P	E	A	P	E	P	P	E	E	P	P
C. Medina Dirksen, Marina (B. Delgado)	L	P	E	P	P	L	A	A	L	E	A	A
E. Smith, Monterey (K. Barber, M. Garcia, A. Renny)	L	A	T	P	A	L	P	A	L	T	P	A
A. Sandoval, Salinas, (A. Rocha)	E	P	I	P	P	E	E	P	E	I	A	P
G. Hawthorne, Sand City (J. Blackwelder, K. Cruz)	D	P(A)	N	A	A	D	A	A	D	N	A	A
I. Oglesby, Seaside (D. Pacheco)		P	G	P	P		P	P		G	P	P
A. Chavez, Soledad (F. Cabera, D. Wilcox)		A		P	P		P	P			P	P
D. Potter, At Large Member, Vice Chair (J. Barron)		P		P	P		E	P			E	A
M. Twomey, AMBAG (H. Adamson , P. Hierling)		P(A)		A	P(A)		P(A)	P(A) (VC)			P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)
A. Lopez, Caltrans District 5		P		P	P		A	P (VC)			A	A
C. Sedoryk, MST (L. Rheinheimer/ M. Overmeyer)		P(A)		E	P(A)		P(A)	P (VC)			P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)
STAFF												
T. Muck, Executive Director		P		P	P		E	P			E	P
C. Watson, Director of Planning		P		P	P		P	P			P	P
M. Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery		P		E	P		P	P (VC)			P (VC)	E

M. Montiel Admin Assistant		P		P	P		P	P			P	P
L. Williamson, Senior Engineer		P		P	P		P	P (VC)			P (VC)	P (VC)
D. Bilse, Principal Engineer		P		A	P		P	P (VC)			P (VC)	A
A. Guthrie, Assis. Transp. Planner		P		P	P		P	E			P	P
T. Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator		P		A	P		E	A			A	A
J. Strause, Transportation Planner		A		A	A		A	A			P	P (VC)
A. Hernandez Transp. Planner					P		A	A			A	A
A. Sambrano Transp. Planner												P (VC)

P = Present A = Absent P(A) = Alternate Present E = Excused (VC) = Video Conference

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. A quorum was established.

OTHERS PRESENT

Tarah Gatten Caltrans Barry Scott Friends of the Rail & Trail
 Roland Lebrun Public Javier Fernandez Aguera UC Santa Cruz

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Roland Lebrun announced the 4th train to Gilroy would start soon. Roland noted the battery electric train requires conversion of a passenger car into a battery car.

Barry Scott announced that he appreciates TAMC’s leadership on the Pajaro Station.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Sandoval/Chavez/unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the August 7, 2023, Rail Policy Committee meeting.

3.2 Received media clippings attached online.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. PAJARO MULTIMODAL STATION PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on Pajaro Multimodal Station Project.

Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner, reported that TAMC received \$2.3 million in Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) funds for the environmental review of the Pajaro station. Ms. Guther mentioned that on July 10, 2023, the Governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 125 into law, which included new formula funding through TIRCP and created a new Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP). She noted a discussion of project candidates would be brought back to the Committee in October.

Ms. Guther also reported on a proposed October 13, 2023, lunch meeting with the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC). Ms. Guther will send out a save-the-date and will need a headcount soon.

The Committee made the following suggestions for the meeting with the SCCRTC:

- Presentations from staff on relevant projects for coordination and mutual support.
- Staff should consider preparing a memorandum of agreement template or similar document laying out mutual goals.
- Consider organizing a meeting quarterly or twice a year.
- Consider reserving the Watsonville community room and bringing in lunch.

5. COAST CORRIDOR RAIL PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the planned increase in passenger rail service along the coast corridor between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner, reported that Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) Policy Committee met on August 18 in Santa Cruz; they discussed issues such as the new Transit & Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) formula funds, a significant source of new funds that could be used for projects to support the implementation of new rail service on the Coast corridor. Ms. Guther noted that the next Policy meeting is planned for October 20 in Santa Barbara.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

8. ADJOURN

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee

From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning, Michael Zeller, Director of Programming & Project Delivery

Meeting Date: October 2, 2023

Subject: **Salinas Rail Kick Start Project Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project.

SUMMARY:

Activities on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project since the last update in August include operations scenario discussions and design coordination efforts with key stakeholders on Packages 2 (Salinas layover facility) and 3 (Gilroy track connections).

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The capital cost of the Monterey County Rail Extension project, Phase 1, Salinas Kick Start project (the Salinas station and improvements in Santa Clara County), is estimated at \$81 million. The Kick Start project is proceeding with secured state funding under the adopted state environmental clearance.

DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Rail Extension Project will extend passenger rail service from Santa Clara County south to Salinas. TAMC is pursuing a phased implementation of the Project. Phase 1, known as the Kick Start Project, includes Salinas train station circulation improvements, a train layover facility in Salinas, and track improvements at the Gilroy station and between Salinas and Gilroy. The Kick Start Project has wrapped up construction of Package 1, improvements at the Salinas train station. The layover facility (Package 2) and track improvements (Package 3) are now in final design.

Property Acquisition for Package 2: Salinas Layover Facility

On December 4, 2019, the Transportation Agency Board approved Resolutions of Necessity on portions of four parcels and one full parcel needed for the Salinas layover facility. All of these property acquisitions have been completed. TAMC staff continues to oversee the team of Bender Rosenthal and Nossaman for Union Pacific property rights negotiations, however this work is on hold pending Union Pacific's review of the design plans.

Final Design for Package 2 and Package 3: Gilroy Station & Track Improvements

HDR Engineering prepared the 100% plans, specifications and estimates for stakeholder review on September 1, 2022, and has gathered stakeholder input on those plans. The current design schedule anticipates Union Pacific review of the designs - which includes the California Public Utilities Commission permit for changes to grade crossings in Gilroy - wrapping up in the fall of 2024. The schedule shows utility relocation concluding in spring 2024, property acquisition concluding with a

Right-of-Way certification in early 2025, and going out to bid in early 2025. Construction of the two packages is expected to overlap starting early 2025, ending in fall 2026. As usual, the project schedule is dependent on partner agencies, in particular Union Pacific as the owner of the tracks and Caltrain as the operator of the service.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: October 2, 2023
Subject: **Coast Corridor Rail Project Update**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

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

SUMMARY:

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council Policy Committee is scheduled to meet on October 20 in Santa Barbara, and the working group met virtually on September 15.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

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

DISCUSSION:

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) is a multi-agency advisory and planning organization focused on improving the rail corridor between Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area along the California Central Coast. Members of the Council include all Regional Transportation Planning Agencies along the Central Coast – all of which have a strong interest in improving rail service and the rail infrastructure along the Central Coast's portion of the California Coast Passenger Rail Corridor.

The next Policy Committee meeting is planned for October 20 in Santa Barbara. The working group met virtually on September 15. **Web attachment 2** is the updated meeting schedule.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

[Coast Rail Coordinating Council meeting schedule](#)

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: October 2, 2023
Subject: Media Clippings

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE media clippings attached online.

SUMMARY:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION:

ATTACHMENTS:

None

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [September 12, 2023 News Release from Caltrain, "More Weekday Caltrain Service from Gilroy/Morgan Hill to San Francisco"](#)

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning
Meeting Date: October 2, 2023
Subject: **Correspondence**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE correspondence.

SUMMARY:**FINANCIAL IMPACT:****DISCUSSION:**

- September 9, 2023 email entitled "Situational Awareness urged"

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2023-09-09 Email Situational Awareness Urged

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

From: Gunnar L Henriouille <ahenriouille43@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2023 12:15 PM
To: Alissa Guther <alissa@tamcmonterey.org>
Cc: info@doj.ca.gov <info@doj.ca.gov>
Subject: Situational Awareness urged

TAMC Monterey & connecting rail lines
C/O Alissa

FOR THE RECORD/Read At Transportation Agency Meeting Please

Hello participants:

Gunnar Henriouille here; I am a member of the Board Of Directors, Railway & Locomotive Historical Society. I am very familiar with California railway history, 20th century operations and reach. I study railway imperatives during WWII years record production & manpower mobilization

Members of R & LHS understand strategic value of the American Railroad network, although much reduced in mileage from mid-Twentieth Century mileage and reach. As we proceed into an ever more serious "Cuban Missile Crisis II" scenario, it is important to enhance rail mode with all due haste. See railway as "Second Dimension Surface Transport Logistics Platform"...

A Biblical Phrase: 'A Lending Not A Borrowing Nation' was descriptive of America during the Century we had a rail based continental transport economic system. Wagons then trucks functioned as pick up & delivery to railhead; bulk food distribution from agriculture and breadbasket regions, through food processing and packaging facilities all rail linked.

Discussion of "Just In Time" effects on Branch Line dismemberment is for another time. Please expedite your rail line repairs and enhancements with all due haste. Follow Geopolitics, please.

Cordially

Gunnar Henriouille
P.O. Box 2020
Colfax CA 95713
(530-846-8156) cell

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee

From: Christina Watson, Director of Planning, Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner

Meeting Date: October 2, 2023

Subject: **State Transit and Zero Emission Funding Project Candidates**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

DISCUSS project candidates for state transit and zero emission funding and **RECOMMEND** projects to the Board of Directors.

SUMMARY:

On July 10, 2023, the Governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 125 into law, which included new formula funding through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and created a new Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP). TAMC is slated to receive \$44.5 million over two years in TIRCP formula funds and \$8 million over four years for the ZETCP. All funds need to be programmed and received by TAMC by June 30, 2028.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

TAMC will be responsible for programming \$44,492,239 over two years and \$7,983,565 over four years for ZETCP by June 30, 2028. There is no deadline for expenditure of funds once TAMC has received the funds.

DISCUSSION:

The TIRCP formula funds can be used for high-priority transit capital projects consistent with the uses allowed in Cycle 6 of TIRCP, which includes existing capital projects, project development for major projects or new TIRCP projects. TIRCP funding can also be used to fund transit operating expenses that prevent service cuts and increase ridership for operators within the TAMC jurisdiction, subject to compliance.

The ZETCP moneys can be used for zero emission transit equipment, including, but not limited to, zero emission vehicles and refueling infrastructure. These funds can also be used to fund transit operating expenditures that prevent service reduction or elimination in order to maintain or increase ridership.

CalSTA will accept project lists for review with a deadline of December 31, 2023. The first year of funding for TIRCP and the ZETCP is already available for distribution once required materials are submitted and must be fully encumbered or expended and liquidated by CalSTA by June 30, 2028. Fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024 funds for TIRCP and the ZETCP must be disbursed to TAMC by this deadline. Once received, there is no deadline for TAMC to expend the funds.

Before December 31, 2023, TAMC must submit compiled transit operator data, then determine

whether funds will be applied to transit operations either in FY 23-24 or prior to the end of FY 26-27. The submission of transit operator data must be consistent with adopted guidelines, but at minimum must include: operator fleet and asset management plans; revenue collection methods and annual collection costs by operator; the existing service plan and planned changes; expenditures on security and safety measures; opportunities for restructuring, eliminating redundancies, and improving coordination amongst transit operators; and schedule data in General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS) format.

If no funds are to be applied to operations in FY23-24, then no other materials need to be submitted. If funds are to be applied to transit operations in FY23-24, then TAMC must submit a regional short-term financial plan. A short-term financial plan should demonstrate how the region will address any operational deficit using all available funds (besides SB125 funds) through FY 2025–26. It should justify how the region’s funding is proposed to be allocated to capital and operational expenses and show how the funding distributed between transit operators and among projects is consistent with program guidelines. The plan should demonstrate mitigating service cuts, fare increases, or layoffs for short-term financial sustainability and ridership improvement strategies. Agencies that do not submit complete information will have until April 30, 2024 to correct their filings.

A maximum of 5% of total multi-year ZETCP funding, or just shy of \$400,000, may be programmed by TAMC for administration of funding and planning expenses related to developing the long-term financial plan.

Staff will present a list of candidate projects for the Committee to consider and recommend to the Board.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

WEB ATTACHMENTS:

- [Senate Bill 125 transit program website](#)

Memorandum

To: Rail Policy Committee
From: Alissa Guther, Assistant Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: October 2, 2023
Subject: Pajaro Multimodal Station Project Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE an update on the Pajaro Multimodal Station Project.

SUMMARY:

Activities on the Pajaro Multimodal Station project since the last report to this Committee include submittal of allocation request paperwork to the December California Transportation Commission.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Pre-construction work will begin in 2024 with secured State funding for environmental review. In April 2023, the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) approved a \$2.3 million grant to cover the cost of California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act documentation. This documentation will allow TAMC to pursue further State and federal funding for next phases of the project. The total estimated cost of pre-construction work for the Pajaro Multimodal Station Project, including environmental review, design, and right of way, is \$19.5 million.

DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Rail Extension Project will extend passenger rail service from Santa Clara County south to Salinas. TAMC is pursuing a phased implementation of the Project. Phase 2 is the Pajaro/Watsonville Multimodal Transit Hub. The proposed Pajaro/Watsonville station will be the connection point for Santa Cruz County to new passenger rail service on the Coast mainline tracks between Salinas and the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as a hub for future round-the-bay service.

After a successful application to the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), TAMC received \$2.3 million to fund environmental review documentation. The schedule for allocation of funds, a request for proposals, and a contract to begin this work is as follows:

Meeting	Proposed Action
California Transportation Commission - December 6th	Approve funding allocation
TAMC Board - December 6th or January 24th	Release Request for Proposals
TAMC Board - March 27th or April 24th	Approve contract

In addition to discussing this process, staff will also provide an update on the proposed October 13, 2023 lunch and tour with the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) in Pajaro/Watsonville.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

WEB ATTACHMENTS: