

FINAL MINUTES

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES AND MONTEREY COUNTY
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE JOINT POWERS AGENCY**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

*Members: Chris Lopez (Chair), Dave Potter (1st Vice Chair),
Wendy Root Askew (2nd Vice Chair), Michael LeBarre (Past Chair),
Luis Alejo (County representative), Chaps Poduri (City representative)*

Wednesday, January 13, 2025

*** 3:30 p.m. ***

Transportation Agency Conference Room, 55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas CA

Alternate locations:

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

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

599 El Camino Real, Greenfield, CA 93927, Supervisor Lopez's Office

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	FEB 24	MAR 24	APR 24	MAY 24	JUN 24	AUG 24	SEP 24	OCT 24	NOV 24	JAN 25
Chris Lopez, Chair Supr. Dist. 3 (P. Barba)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P	E	P(A) (VC)
Dave Potter, 1st Vice Chair Carmel-By-The-Sea (J. Baron)	P	A	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	A
Wendy Root Askew, 2nd Vice Chair Supr. Dist. 4 (Y. Anderson)	P (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P(A) (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P
Michael LeBarre, Past Chair King City (C. DeLeon)	P	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P (VC)	P
Luis Alejo, County Representative Supr. Dist. 1 (L. Gonzales; J. Gomez)	P*	P(A) (VC)	P	P	P(A) (VC)	P	P	P(A) (VC)	P	P(A) (VC)
Chaps Poduri, City Representative (Joe Amelio)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

TC: via teleconference; VC: via video conference

P = Present

A = Absent

P(A) = alternate present

E = Excused

P(VC) Video Conference

P*= New Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

2nd Vice Chair Askew called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was confirmed.

Staff present: Guther, Kise, Muck, Park, Rodriguez, Sambrano, Watson, Wright, and Zeller.

Others present: Shane Strong, TAMC Counsel; Mitch Weiss, Khouri Consulting; Jasmine Mejia Cortez, District 1; Steve Ish, Taylor Farms.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Committee Member Poduri and seconded by Committee Member LeBarre, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the consent agenda:

1. Approved the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of November 6, 2024.
2. Reviewed and recommended the Board of Directors approve changes to the Employment Agreement with Todd Muck.
3. Approved “sustained superior performance” step increase from Transportation Planner Step 2 to Step 3 for Alissa Guther.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE & FINAL 2025 PROGRAM

On a motion by Committee Member Poduri and seconded by Committee Member LeBarre, the Committee voted 5-0 to recommend the TAMC Board of Directors adopt the final 2025 legislative program.

Mitch Weiss, Khouri Consulting, reported that the draft budget submitted on January 10 includes a \$4.5 billion surplus and no major changes to transportation funding. He highlighted the erosion of gas tax funding, the state’s primary source of funding for local streets and roads, will likely be a big topic this year to consider alternative revenue options such as a per mile road charge and/or a vehicle registration fee.

Director Muck commented that it is important to start the conversation about options and suggested taking the subject to the Board at a future meeting. Committee Member LeBarre noted that a vehicle miles traveled fee would not be good for rural residents.

Christina Watson, Director of Planning, reviewed federal legislative activities, noting that the transportation appropriations bill is currently in a continuing resolution through March 14 and that the current authorizing legislation expires on September 30, 2026.

Ms. Watson highlighted changes to the draft 2025 legislative program, including wordsmithing of the items pertaining to automated air mobility as requested by the Committee.

5. 2024 TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

On a motion by Committee Member LeBarre and seconded by Committee Member Poduri, the Committee voted 5-0 to recommend the 2024 Transportation Excellence Awards to honor individuals, businesses, groups, or projects for their efforts to improve the transportation network in Monterey County and selected four awards recipients for the 23rd annual awards ceremony to be held during the January 2025 Transportation Agency Board meeting.

Theresa Wright, Community Outreach Coordinator, reported that the Transportation Agency released a call for nominations for the "23rd Annual Transportation Excellence Awards" in October 2024 to encourage and appreciate the efforts made by Monterey County residents, businesses and employees to improve the transportation network in Monterey County. Seven nominations were submitted to the Agency in December 2024 for consideration for the awards ceremony scheduled during the January 2025 Transportation Agency Board meeting.

6. NEW TAMC OFFICE

The Committee received information and provided direction on the next steps to develop options for TAMC's new office location. The Committee directed staff to move forward with hiring an architectural firm to evaluate space; Director Muck noted that the adopted Agency budget includes \$50,000 for this purpose.

Director Muck reported that the lease on TAMC's current office space expires in January 2028. The current lease specifies there is not an option to extend the lease beyond this date. The agency is considering whether to rent new office space, purchase an existing building, or build a new building on TAMC property in Marina.

Public comment

Steve Ish, Taylor Farms, reported that the site of the former Greyhound building in downtown Salinas is being renovated to include over 13,000 square feet on 3 stories and an underground parking structure, noting that it will be ready in 2-years.

7. REVIEW BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

The Committee provided direction and guidance to staff on assumptions for the three-year budget for fiscal years 25/26, 26/27, 27/28.

Jeff Kise, Director of Finance & Administration, reported that there are several items on which staff is seeking guidance:

1. Cost of living adjustment
2. Exploring new accounting, grant management, and payroll software
3. Continuing the evaluation process for new office space

Director Kise noted that a salary study is currently being done and hopefully will be done when the final budget is presented to the TAMC Board in May 2025.

8. TAMC BOARD DRAFT AGENDA

Todd Muck, Executive Director, reviewed the draft regular and consent agenda for the TAMC Board meeting of January 22, 2025. After Executive Committee discussion, directions were provided to staff to place the following items for consideration on the regular agenda:

- Election of 2025 Officers
- 2024 Transportation Excellence Awards
- Toro Park Cut-Through Traffic Pilot Project Study

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

2nd Vice Chair Askew adjourned the meeting at 5:14 p.m.