

1. QUORUM CHECK AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair LeBarre called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. A quorum was established.

OTHERS PRESENT

Ryan Park	AECOM	Ginger Dykaar	SCCRTC
Tarah Brady	Caltrans	Alan C. Miller	Caltrans
Benson Kwong	Caltrans		

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Christina Watson announced that she forwarded an email from Orchid Monroy-Ochoa at Caltrans. They are having an outreach meeting on May 27, 2021 about the US 101 Business Plan. For more information, please see the document via email or contact Orchid.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Potter/Craig /unanimous

3.1 Approved minutes of the April 5, 2021 Rail Policy Committee meeting.

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. SANTA CRUZ COUNTY RAIL LINE UPDATE

The Committee received an update from the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission on their rail corridor studies.

Ginger Dykaar, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, presented an overview of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail line. She noted that at its February 4, 2021 meeting, the RTC accepted the Transit Corridor Alternatives Analysis and Rail Network Integrations Study (TCAA/RNIS) that selected Electric Passenger Rail as the locally preferred alternative. The final component of the TCAA/RNIS was a 25-year Strategic Business Plan for Electric Passenger Rail. Ms. Dykaar noted that at its April 1, 2021 meeting, the RTC vote was split 6/6 to accept the business plan and direct staff to seek funding. The Commissioners requested staff to bring back the item on May 6 with options for how to meet the Caltrans grant requirements. It was noted that TAMC sent a letter of support for the Business Plan.

5. RAIL NETWORK INTEGRATION STUDY UPDATE

M/S/C Craig/Potter/unanimous

The Committee received an update, provided input on the Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study, and recommended the Board of Directors approve making the draft Study available for public review.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, introduced Ryan Park, AECOM, who presented the draft Monterey Bay Area Rail Network Integration Study. He noted that the team would host an online “open house” on the draft study upon Board approval.

Christina Watson noted that ridership questions raised at the April meeting have been answered and the team will amend draft Network Integration Study accordingly. She noted that Caltrans approved a deadline extension for this study, so staff will bring a time extension for the AECOM contract to the June Board meeting. She noted that the outreach effort will be extended as a result, and staff now plans to bring the final draft study to the August Rail Policy Committee and TAMC Board.

The Committee provided the following input on the draft Network Integration Study:

- Highlight population analysis with a five-mile radius around stations.
- Emphasize that cost estimates are discrete by phase.

6. SALINAS RAIL KICK START PROJECT UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the Salinas Rail Kick Start project and provided direction to staff regarding the transfer of the land for package 1 to the City of Salinas.

Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that requests to extend funding for the Monterey County Rail Extension project will be going to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) in May.

Laurie Williamson, Senior Engineer, reported that the construction team continues to work towards project completion. She noted that the construction team is working on closing out permits.

Christina Watson noted that staff continues to coordinate with the City of Salinas on the land transfer which would likely go to the August TAMC Board meeting. She noted that the City needs to submit a map showing where replacement parking would be accessible for transit riders to the CTC for approval of the property transfer.

Mike Zeller, Principal Transportation Planner, reported that staff and consultants continue to further negotiations on properties. He noted that a closed session was held at the April TAMC Board meeting.

Ms. Watson reported that design meetings are going well. She noted that the team will discuss platform furniture design at a City of Salinas meeting on Wednesday.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Christina Watson announced the next Committee meeting is on June 7, 2021 at 2pm and at that meeting, the Committee will discuss the start time of the meeting.

Committee member Mike LeBarre noted that King City staff met with Amtrak and discussed the feasibility study for a future stop at King City.

Committee member Yuri Anderson mentioned that the Herald a story on the handcar project on the Monterey Branch line in Marina received positive social buzz.

8. ADJOURN

Chair LeBarre adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.