

TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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HIGHLIGHTS

January 27, 2016

TAMC BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

With the start of the New Year, The Board of Directors for the Transportation Agency for Monterey County elected new officers and recognized outgoing Chair, Salinas City Councilmember Kimbley Craig. The newly elected officers are Supervisor Fernando Armenta, Chair, Soledad Mayor Pro Tempore Alejandro Chavez, 1st Vice Chair, Supervisor Dave Potter, 2nd Vice Chair, Councilmember Kimbley Chair, Past Chair, Supervisor John Phillips, County Representative and Pacific Grove Mayor Pro Tempore Robert Huit, City Representative.

TAMC HONORS TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE

For the 14th year in a row, The Transportation Agency for Monterey County recognized excellence in transportation by honoring individuals, groups, programs and projects for their outstanding efforts to improve transportation in Monterey County. This year's honorees include a dedicated Monterey County engineer, a volunteer instructor for at-risk teens, two community safety advocates, two innovative projects and three safety projects.

This year's recipients are:

Transportation Employee:

- **Ryan Chapman, Engineer, Monterey County Public Works:** for being an energetic leader who manages local roadway projects; and with his innovative ideas has contributed to the safety of the traveling public and saved taxpayer dollars.

Individuals:

- **Luciano Rodriguez, Volunteer Instructor, Monterey County Probation, Rancho Cielo:** for being an avid bike commuter and volunteer bike repair/maintenance instructor for the Monterey County Probation Department and Rancho Cielo. Through his leadership and mentorship, he has inspired students to become enthusiastic bicyclists; and some of them helped to create a network of trails designed by Luciano on the Rancho Cielo Campus.
- **Cynthia Suverkrop, Safety Advocate, North Monterey County:** is a tireless leader and advocate of the Oak Hills Community. She has worked with members of her community, elected officials, and public agencies to advocate for safety improvements on Highway 156.
- **Mary Ann Worden, Salinas Traffic and Safety Commission:** has served with distinction on the Salinas Traffic and Transportation Commission for 25 years. While doing so, she has contributed to numerous improvements addressing pedestrian safety and congestion relief in the City of Salinas.

Innovative Projects:

- **Monterey – Salinas Transit Electric Trolley:** California's first wireless power transfer electric bus, was debuted by MST in May 2015. The diesel engine from a 12-year-old trolley was replaced with a state-of-the-art rechargeable battery system and electric drive components to recreate the electric trolley. The revamped trolley gets charged wirelessly throughout the day as it picks up passengers at the Monterey Transit Plaza. These charges keep the vehicle running on smaller, lighter batteries, offering an efficient, zero-emission vehicle.
- **River Road Overlay Project:** The River Road Overlay Project was done by the County of Monterey and Graniterock Company. It involved the repaving of a four mile stretch of River Road utilizing an innovated pavement recycling process called Cold-in Place Recycling (CIR). CIR involves grinding the existing pavement, mixing it with asphalt emulsion oil and cement and then placing it back down all in one process. This process only required 2 truckloads to import in materials for the project. The conventional method would have required 83 truckloads to haul off grindings and bring in new materials.

Safety Projects:

- **Rio Road Repaving Project:** The Rio Road Repaving project was collaboration between the County of Monterey and the City of Carmel to add bicycle lanes along Rio Road between Hwy 1 and Atherton Drive. By narrowing the existing lanes and adding minimal amounts of paved shoulder room was made to add bicycle lanes. The project met community goals to slow traffic to a safer speed and create safer passage for pedestrians walking on the side of the road. Making incremental improvements to accommodate bicycles and pedestrian as part of repaving roads is the most cost effective way to improve safety for all road users.
- **San Juan Road Interchange Project:** The San Juan Road area was a choke point for interregional travel along US 101 for more than 63,000 commuters, visitors and truckers who used the highway each day. The area also had a high crash history. The project improved the area by removing three at-grade intersections at Dunbarton Road, San Juan Road and Cole Road and constructing one interchange near the Red Barn. The completion of the new interchange improves safety, reduces congestion and provides better access to and from the highway.
- **Skyway/East Alisal Street Modern Roundabout Project:** was constructed by the City of Salinas in 2015 to replace the existing two-way stop at the intersection to enhance traffic safety and efficiency for pedestrians, bicyclists, vehicles, and large trucks. The project included improvements to roadway striping, signage, lighting, landscaping and hardscape features. The roundabout now provides decreases in traffic delays and improves safety for all road users.