



TRANSIT DISTRICT MEMBERS:

City of Carmel-by-the-Sea • City of Del Rey Oaks • City of Gonzales • City of Greenfield
City of King • City of Marina • City of Monterey • City of Pacific Grove • City of Salinas
City of San Jose • City of Seaside • City of Soledad • County of Monterey

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Monday, January 9, 2012

MST Conference Room
One Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey

9:30 a.m.

TRANSPORTATION: Ride Line 8 Ryan Ranch-Edgewater to MST Office

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1-1. Roll call.
- 1-2. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 2-1. Review highlights of Agenda. (Carl Sedoryk)

These items will be approved by a single motion. Anyone may request that an item be discussed and considered separately.

- 2-2. Adopt Resolution 2012-14 recognizing Margarita Silva, Coach Operator, as Employee of the Month for January, 2012. (Robert Weber) (pg. 1)
- 2-3. Adopt Resolution 2012-15 recognizing Steven Colburn, Coach Operator, as Employee of the Year. (Robert Weber) (pg. 3)
- 2-4. Minutes of the regular meeting of December 12, 2011. (Deanna Smith) (pg. 5)
- 2-5. Claim Rejection – Bautch, Meri and Kipka, Jenny. (Ben Newman) (pg. 11)
- 2-6. Claim Rejection – Kolonics, Imre and Helen. (Ben Newman) (pg. 13)
- 2-7. Appoint Melissa McKenzie to the CTSA Advisory Committee. (Tom Hicks) (pg. 15)
- 2-8. Approve Resolution 2012-16 authorizing the use of PTMISEA Bond program funds for the purchase of bus and bus-related equipment and

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) upgrade. (Michelle Overmeyer)
(pg. 17)

- 2-9. Memorandum of Agreement – MST contracting commuter bus service
(Line 83) to San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (SLO RTA)
(pg. 21)

End of Consent Agenda

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- 3-1. January Employee of the Month – Margarita Silva, Coach Operator. (Robert Weber)
- 3-2. Employee of the Year 2011 - Steven Colburn, Coach Operator. (Carl Sedoryk)
- 3-3. General Manager's Excellence Award - Angela Dawson, Accountant. (Carl Sedoryk)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Members of the public may address the Board on any matter related to the jurisdiction of MST but not on the agenda. There is a time limit of not more than three minutes for each speaker. The Board will not take action or respond immediately to any public comments presented, but may choose to follow-up at a later time, either individually, through staff, or on a subsequent agenda.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No action required unless specifically noted.

- 5-1 Facilities Committee Minutes – December 5, 2011. (Deanna Smith)
(pg. 23)

6. BIDS/PROPOSALS

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9-1. Authorize the Purchase of Four Hybrid Buses. (Michael Hernandez)
(pg. 25)
- 9-2 Strategic Plan Update. (Carl Sedoryk) (pg. 27)

10. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS

10-1 Correspondence. (pg. 45)

The Board will receive and file these reports, which do not require any action by the Board.

11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

11-1. Reports on meetings attended by Board members at MST expense (AB1234).

12. ATTACHMENTS

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

14. CLOSED SESSION

As permitted by Government Code §64956 et seq. of the State of California, the Board of Directors may adjourn to Closed Session to consider specific matters dealing with personnel and/or pending possible litigation and/or conferring with the Board's Meyers-Milias-Brown Act representative.

14-1 Conference with property negotiators, Gov. Code § 54956.8. (Parcel # APN 032-171-005, L.2.3, L.2.4.1, L.2.4.2, APN 031-011-056-000) Agency negotiator, Carl Sedoryk. Negotiating party, Monterey County Redevelopment Agency. (No enclosure) (Carl Sedoryk)

14-2 Conference with Legal Counsel-Litigation, Existing Litigation, Gov. Code § 54956.9(a). Landwatch v. County of Monterey. (Monterey Superior Court Case No. M113552) (No enclosure) (Carl Sedoryk)

15. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

15-1. Report on Closed Session and possible action.

16. ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 13, 2012 in MST Conference Room.

NEXT AGENDA DEADLINE: January 31, 2012

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Monterey-Salinas Transit Administration office at 1 Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, CA during normal business hours.

Upon request, MST will provide written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in public meetings. Please send a written request, including your name, mailing address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least 5 days before the meeting. Requests should be sent to Deanna Smith, MST, One Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, CA 93940 or dsmith@mst.org.

**MARGARITA SILVA
JANUARY 2012
EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

WHEREAS, each month Monterey-Salinas Transit recognizes an outstanding employee as Employee of the Month; and

WHEREAS, the Employee of the Month is recognized for their positive contribution to MST and to the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Margarita began her career as a Coach Operator in July of 2000 and returned after a brief absence as Limited Duty Coach Operator in April of 2011. During her career she was previously recognized as Employee of the Month in March of 2006 and January 2003 for her outstanding performance and customer service to our passengers; and

WHEREAS, Margarita Silva has been the recipient of several commendations and Safety Awards during her career with MST; and

WHEREAS, Margarita Silva assisted the Senior Operations Supervisor with the safe evacuation and re-routing of passengers to the City of Monterey's parking garage at Tyler and Franklin on December 1, 2011. She remained at the Transit Plaza with the Senior Operations Supervisor until the situation was completely resolved and all services were fully restored; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Monterey-Salinas Transit recognizes Margarita Silva as Employee of the Month for January 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Margarita Silva is to be congratulated for her excellent work at Monterey-Salinas Transit.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT
PASSED AND ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2012-14 this 9th day of January 2012.



Fernando Armenta
Chairman



Carl G. Sedoryk
Secretary

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**STEVEN COLBURN
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
2011**

WHEREAS, each month Monterey-Salinas Transit recognizes an outstanding employee as Employee of the Month; and

WHEREAS, the Employee of the Year is recognized for their positive contribution to MST and to the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Steve Colburn began his career as a Coach Operator in September 1989. He has served as a Line Instructor and a Department of Transportation (DOT) certified Instructor since January of 2000. Last August, he was the recipient of an 19 Year Safe Driving Award; and

WHEREAS, Steve Colburn has previously been Employee of the Month three other times for his outstanding contribution during multiple projects, special events and substantial training efforts; and

WHEREAS, Steve Colburn provided valuable input and assistance during the development of the new fare structure, coordinated a major training effort of all MST's Coach Operators, and worked long hours providing final testing and inspection of the new fareboxes prior to their deployment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Monterey-Salinas Transit recognizes Steve Colburn as Employee of the Year for 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Steve Colburn is to be congratulated for his excellent work at Monterey-Salinas Transit.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT
PASSED AND ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2012-15 this 9th day of January 2012.



Fernando Armenta
Chairman



Carl G. Sedoryk
Secretary

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT
December 12, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Armenta called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in the MST Conference Room and Director Downey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:	Fernando Armenta	County of Monterey
	Alan Cohen	City of Pacific Grove
	Libby Downey	City of Monterey
	Alvin Edwards	City of Seaside
	Susan Kleber	City of King
	Frank O'Connell	City of Marina
	David Pendergrass	City of Sand City
	Sergio Sanchez	City of Salinas
	Karen Sharp	City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
	Patricia Stephens	City of Soledad
Absent:	Kristin Clark	City of Del Rey Oaks
	John Huerta, Jr.	City of Greenfield
	Maria Orozco	City of Gonzales
Staff:	Sonia Bannister	Office Administrator/Marketing & Sales Specialist
	Kelly Halcon	Director of Human Resources
	Hunter Harvath	Asst. General Manager/Finance & Administration
	Michael Hernandez	Asst. General Manager/COO
	Carl Sedoryk	General Manager/CEO
	Deanna Smith	Executive Assistant to the GM/CEO
	Robert Weber	Director of Transportation Services
	Tom Hicks	Mobility Manager
	Mark Eccles	Director of IT
	Michelle Overmeyer	Grants & Compliance Analyst
	Kathy Williams	General Budget & Accounting Manager
	Carl Wulf	Facilities Manager
Others:	John Arriaga	JEA & Associates
	Don Gilchrest	Thomas Walters, Inc.
	Dave Laredo	De Lay & Laredo
	Ron Hughes	CalVans

Apology is made for any misspelling of a name.

Director Sanchez arrived at 9:02 a.m.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 2-1. Review highlights of Agenda.
- 2-2. Adopt Resolution 2012-10 recognizing Michelle Overmeyer, Grants and Compliance Analyst, as Employee of the Month for December, 2011.
- 2-3. Disposal of property left aboard buses.
- 2-4. Minutes of the regular meeting of November 14, 2011.
- 2-5. Financial Report – October, 2011.
- 2-6. Claim Rejection – Iida Rodriguez.
- 2-7. Approve Resolution 2012-11 authorizing the filing of a grant application with the California Emergency Management Agency (formerly the Governor's Office of Homeland Security).
- 2-8. Adopt Resolution 2012-12 recognizing Robert Pagan, Coach Operator, for 31 years of service.
- 2-9. Minutes from Public Hearing, November 1, 2011.
- 2-10. Minutes from Public Hearing, November 10, 2011.
- 2-11. Authorize staff to schedule public hearings for service reductions anticipated for spring 2012.
- 2-12. Approve Resolution 2012-13 (Attachment 1) authorizing the filing of a grant application with the Community Foundation for Monterey County.
- 2-13. Authorize the GM/CEO to sign a letter of agreement with AMBAG for participation in CalVANS Joint Powers Agreement.

End of Consent Agenda

Mr. Sedoryk read the highlights of the agenda.

Public Comment – none.

Director Downey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Director Kleber. The motion carried unanimously.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- 3-1. December Employee of the Month – Michelle Overmeyer, Grants and Compliance Analyst.

Mr. Harvath introduced Michelle Overmeyer and recognized her value to MST in managing and increasing the number of grants applied for each year; she currently manages approximately thirty grants. Her efforts recently resulted in a \$788,000 grant to purchase four hybrid diesel electronic minibuses.

- 3-2. Retirement-Robert Pagan, Coach Operator.

Mr. Pagan was not present.

Public Comment – none.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 5-1 Finance Committee minutes from November 14, 2011.

6. BIDS/PROPOSALS

- 6-1 Approve using FTA Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) grant funds for a contract with United Way Monterey County (UWMC) for the continuation of 211 information and referral services in Monterey County.

Mr. Sedoryk stated that CalTrans has advised that no action be taken on this item until issues with the Department of Transportation are resolved. The item will be brought back to the Board for consideration when all issues are resolved.

Director Downey made a motion to pull Item 6-1 from the agenda and was seconded by Director Kleber. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – none.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9-1 Receive update on state and federal legislative issues and adopt MST 2012 Legislative Program.

Mr. Harvath introduced Mr. Arriaga, MST's state lobbyist. Mr. Arriaga passed out a Legislative Report and discussed current and future state budget issues. Positive news included congressional approval of the gas tax swap. Possible negative issues include a projected state budget shortfall of \$3.5 billion that call for automatic budget cut triggers that could affect transportation funding.

Mr. Sedoryk referred the Board to the attached Draft MST 2012 Legislative Program that was reviewed by the Legislative Committee. Of particular importance is Item 2Sa of the state program that details legislation that would allow MST to use all forms of revenues and other income to pay for capital projects funded by bonds.

Mr. Sedoryk announced Mr. Gilchrest, MST's federal lobbyist. Mr. Gilchrest discussed current and future federal budget issues. Mr. Gilchrest stated that a new short term Transportation Appropriations Bill was signed by Congress, but that he is hopeful that members of Congress are now eager to support a bipartisan 2 year reauthorization transportation and infrastructure bill. Congressman Boehner is proposing a six-seven year bill that will fund at current levels plus inflation increases. Mr. Gilchrest also recommended that staff meet with congressional staff in January to have a better opportunity to affect legislation.

Chair Armenta asked that opportunities to work with the Veterans Administration be explored. Mr. Sedoryk stated that Congressman Farr was going to explore funding opportunities and that he would follow up on the issue.

Mr. Sedoryk requested input from the Board regarding attendance at the March APTA Legislative Conference.

Director Downey stated that the March meeting seemed to be an unnecessary expense if it is not seen as beneficial.

Mr. Gilchrest suggested the March APTA Legislative Conference would not be a beneficial meeting for Board members, but that they try instead to meet with legislators when they are in the Monterey area.

Director Sanchez stated that he thought one or two members of staff should attend the conference.

Chair Armenta confirmed that the MST Board would pass on this year's APTA conference.

Public Comment – none.

Mr. Harvath requested adoption of the 2012 MST Legislative Program.

Director Downey made a motion to approve the MST 2012 Legislative Program and was seconded by Director Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.

10. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS

- 10-1 General Manager/CEO Report.
- 10-2 TAMC Highlights – October, 2011.
- 10-3 Washington D. C. Lobbyist report – November, 2011.
- 10-4 State Lobbyist report – November, 2011.
- 10-5 Staff trip reports.
- 10-6 Correspondence – Article: Alameda County commission proposes ballot measure to increase sales tax for transportation.

Mr. Sedoryk noted that the Board was provided with corrections to pages 73-84 of the General Manager/CEO report. Original reports reflected a 6% decrease in ridership during the month of October; the reports were corrected to reflect a 2% decrease in ridership. Annual ridership is still showing a 2.2% increase overall, which is in line with national ridership levels as discussed in the article provided in Item 10-6.

Director Downey requested that future changes to reports highlight the new information.

11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

- 11-1 Reports on meetings attended by Board members at MST expense (AB 1234).

Director Sanchez mentioned the recent Monterey Herald article regarding MST's possible service cuts for spring 2012 that provided suggestions for mitigating some of the cuts. He requested that MST meet with local colleges to discuss transportation opportunities.

12. ATTACHMENTS

- 12-1 Disbursement Journal for October, 2011 Financial Report.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sedoryk announced that Ms. Smith has 2012 MST badge stickers for Board members who have not yet received them.

14. CLOSED SESSION

Chair Armenta called a three minute recess at 10:23 a.m. before moving to Closed Session.

- 14-1 Conference with property negotiators, Gov. Code § 54956.8. (Parcel # APN 032-171-005, L.2.3, L.2.4.1, L.2.4.2, APN 031-011-056-000). Agency

negotiator, Carl Sedoryk. Negotiating party, Monterey County
Redevelopment Agency. (No enclosure)

14-2 Conference with Legal Counsel-Litigation, Existing Litigation, Gov. Code §
54956.9(a). Landwatch v. County of Monterey. (Monterey Superior Court
Case No. M113552) (No enclosure)

14-3. General Manager Performance Evaluation, Gov. Code § 54957 (b) - (No
enclosure)

15. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

15-1. Report on Closed Session and possible action.

No reportable action taken.

16. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Armenta adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Prepared by: 
Deanna Smith, Deputy Secretary

To: Board of Directors
From: Ben Newman, Risk & Security Manager
Subject: Liability Claim Rejections

RECOMMENDATION:

Reject claim by the claimant below.

FISCAL IMPACT:

1. Exceeds \$10,000
2. Exceeds \$10,000

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

None.

DISCUSSION:

1. MST received a claim from Ms. Meri Bautch, who alleges to have been shaken back and forth causing neck pain with headaches due to abrupt braking.
2. MST received a claim from Jenny Kipka who alleges to have been shaken back and forth causing neck and back pain with soreness due to abrupt braking.

After conducting a preliminary investigation into this matter, it is recommended that these claims be rejected in their entirety.

If any Board member desires further information on this claim, they may request it be discussed in closed session.

PREPARED BY:  Ben Newman
APPROVED BY:  Carl Sedoryk

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To: Board of Directors
From: Ben Newman, Risk & Security Manager
Subject: Liability Claim Rejection

RECOMMENDATION:

Reject claim by the claimant below.

FISCAL IMPACT:

1. Exceeds 50,000.00.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

None.

DISCUSSION:

MST received a claim from Spencer Pahlke, Walkup Law Offices. Mr Pahlke is representing Imre Kolonics and Helen Kolonics. Mr Kolonics alleges to have fractured his hip while on an MST bus between July 10, 2011 and July 14, 2011. No further information or details were provided in the claim.

After conducting a preliminary investigation into this matter, it is recommended that the claim be rejected in its entirety.

If any Board member desires further information on this claim, they may request it be discussed in closed session.

PREPARED BY:


Ben Newman

APPROVED BY:


Carl Sedoryk

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To: Board of Directors
From: Tom Hicks, Consolidated Transportation Services Agency Manager
Subject: Mobility Advisory Committee (aka CTSA Advisory Committee)

RECOMMENDATION:

Appoint Melissa McKenzie to the CTSA Advisory Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Your board appoints members to the MST Mobility Advisory Committee.

DISCUSSION:

The Mobility Advisory Committee (MAC) is a standing committee of the MST Board of Directors. It makes recommendations to the Board regarding the transit needs of, and possible solutions for, persons with disabilities, seniors, low income, and youth populations. The Committee acts as a liaison between MST and these communities and assures their members have input into the MST service planning process. There is currently a vacancy on the MAC. The MAC members have nominated Melissa McKenzie, Director of Program and Volunteer Services for the Carmel Foundation, to fill this vacancy.

Pursuant to the MAC by-laws (3.4: Vacancies/Removal), the members submit this nomination for your approval.

PREPARED BY: 
Tom Hicks

REVIEWED BY: 
Carl G. Sedoryk

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To: Board of Directors

From: Michelle Overmeyer, Grants & Compliance Analyst

Subject: Resolution 2012-16 Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement, and Service Enhancement Account (PTMISEA) Bond Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution 2012-16 authorizing the use of PTMISEA Bond program funds for the purchase of bus and bus-related equipment and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) upgrade.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Up to \$800,000 in PTMISEA Bond program funds to pay for MST projects.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Your Board must authorize the re-programming of PTMISEA program funds.

DISCUSSION:

In November of 2006, the voters of the State of California approved a series of bond measures that are now providing capital funds for several categories of projects, including public transit projects. MST is eligible for PTMISEA funds, and has two active projects that are funded through the program: The Frank J. Lichtanski (FJL) Monterey Bay Operations Center, and the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. Staff requests authorization from your Board to create two additional projects to meet immediate capital needs. Both of these proposed projects would be eligible for the PTMISEA Bond Program fund: 1) Bus Replacement and Bus-Related Equipment, and 2) ITS Upgrade.

MST has several buses reaching either the age or mileage at which the Federal Transit Administration recommends replacement. In addition, the Global Positioning System (GPS)-based communications system that tracks all MST buses and that enables MST dispatch and operations supervisory staff to communicate with coach operators while they are driving buses out in the field, is approximately 10 years old and represents technology that is over 20 years old.

As such, the system's manufacturer is strongly recommending an upgrade to the software and hardware so that it can maintain its functionality into the coming years. In total, up to \$800,000 would be re-programmed from the FJL project to these two new projects. To reprogram these funds, your Board must approve the attached resolution authorizing the purchase of buses, bus-related equipment, and ITS software and equipment.

ATTACHMENT: Resolution 2012-16

PREPARED BY  REVIEWED BY 
Michelle Overmeyer Carl G. Sedoryk

RESOLUTION 2012-16

**AUTHORIZING THE USE OF FUNDS UNDER THE PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION MODERNIZATION, IMPROVEMENT AND SERVICE
ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT BOND PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) is an eligible project sponsor and may receive state funding from the Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement, and Service Enhancement Account (PTMISEA) now or sometime in the future for transit projects;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 88 (2007) named the Department of Transportation (Department) as the administrative agency for the PTMISEA; and

WHEREAS, MST needs to purchase new buses and bus-related equipment to ensure its fleet is in a state of good repair; and

WHEREAS, MST needs to update its outdated Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) with current software and hardware to maintain its operability and functionality into the future;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Monterey-Salinas Transit that the General Manager/CEO be authorized to spend up to \$600,000 of PTMISEA funds on bus replacement and bus-related equipment such as, but not limited to, urban transit buses, suburban-style motorcoaches, medium buses, fareboxes, destination signage, onboard security cameras, and communications radios.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager/CEO be authorized to spend up to \$200,000 of PTMISEA funds on the ITS upgrade software and equipment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT this 9th day of January 2012 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Fernando Armenta
Chairman

Carl Sedoryk
Secretary

To: Board of Directors

From: Mike Gallant, Planning Manager

Subject: Memorandum of Agreement – MST contracting commuter bus service (Line 83) to San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (SLO RTA)

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the MST General Manager / CEO to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (SLO RTA) for contracting commuter bus service (Line 83) to SLO RTA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no adverse fiscal impact. The cost of the contracted commuter bus service will be \$96,163 per year to be paid by MST to SLO RTA in monthly installments of \$8,013.58.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Your Board approves all contracts that are valued at or above \$25,000.

DISCUSSION:

In early 2011, MST had contracted some military commuter bus service (two roundtrips per weekday on Line 83-Fort Hunter Liggett-Paso Robles Express) to SLO RTA. These commuter bus trips were contracted to SLO RTA because MST did not have a sufficient number of over-the-road commuter buses to operate both Lines 82 and 83 in South Monterey County. With the future expansion of commuter bus service in South Monterey County, Fort Hunter Liggett, and Paso Robles, SLO RTA will continue to be instrumental in providing supplemental service on those commuter bus trips that MST is unable to operate with its own equipment at this time.

The annual cost of the service provided by SLO RTA on Line 83 will be \$96,163. The duration of the contract is three years with a clause stating either party may elect to terminate the contract before the end of the three year period. This service is fully funded by the US Army via a special federal transit benefit program (Mass Transit Benefit / Transportation Incentive Program) through the Department of Transportation as well as a Federal Transit Administration 5311 (F) Intercity Bus grant.

PREPARED BY:  Michael Gallant
REVIEWED BY:  Carl G. Sedoryk

Facilities Committee

December 5, 2011
Minutes

Group: **Facilities Committee**
Directors: Armenta, Downey, Edwards, Huerta, O'Connell, and Sanchez

Place: MST Office, One Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, CA
Conference Room

Present: Directors Armenta, Downey, Edwards, O'Connell, Sanchez (arrived at 9:51 a.m.)

Absent: Director Huerta

Staff: Carl Sedoryk, GM/CEO; Michael Hernandez, AGM/COO; Hunter Harvath, AGM/Director Finance & Administration; Carl Wulf, Facilities Manager; Deanna Smith, Deputy Secretary

Others: Dave Laredo, General Counsel

1. Call to order.

Director Downey called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Public comment on matters not on the agenda.

None.

3. Facility status and current projects – Carl Wulf

Mr. Wulf provided a handout summarizing work completed in 2011, work in progress, and necessary future improvements. Committee members requested a timeline and budget for future improvements given current budget constraints and the anticipated postponement of the new FJL facility. Mr. Sedoryk stated that more detail would be provided during closed session of the December 12, 2011 Board meeting.

It was noted that the benefits of leasing versus selling the current TDA facility would also be a consideration in implementing the necessary upgrades to TDA.

4. Project status Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) shelters – Michael Hernandez/Carl Wulf

Mr. Hernandez provided a photo handout of the Jazz Shelter displayed at this year's Jazz festival. A request for Board approval to purchase and award construction for the remaining shelters to be used along the new BRT Jazz line will be agendaized for the February Board Meeting. The project is paid for by a Very Small Starts grant and Prop. 1B funds.

Director Downey asked if the shelters could display more about "historical Monterey." Mr. Harvath and Mr. Sedoryk stated that the Jazz line is designated to promote a museum-quality history of the Monterey Jazz Festival, but future BRT lines could be designated for other local highlights, including the Monterey Bay Aquarium or a pictorial history of Old Monterey.

Mr. Wulf stated that the original quote for the shelters might come in lower than anticipated now that one shelter has been built and a more accurate quote to produce can be obtained.

5. Closed Session

As permitted by Government Code §64956 et seq. of the State of California, The Board of Directors may adjourn to Closed Session to consider specific matters dealing with personnel and/or pending possible litigation and/or conferring with the Board's Meyers-Milias-Brown Act representative.

- 5-1 Conference with property negotiators, Gov. Code § 54956.8. (Parcel # APN 032-171-005, L.2.3, L.2.4.1, L.2.4.2, APN 031-011-056-000) Agency negotiator, Carl Sedoryk. Negotiating party, Monterey County Redevelopment Agency. (No enclosure) (Carl Sedoryk)
- 5-2 Conference with Legal Counsel-Litigation, Existing Litigation, Gov. Code § 54956.9(a). Landwatch v. County of Monterey. (Monterey Superior Court Case No. M113552) (No enclosure) (Carl Sedoryk)

No reportable action taken.

6. Adjourn

There being no further business, Director Downey adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

Prepared by: 
Deanna Smith, Deputy Secretary

To: Board of Directors

From: Michael Hernandez, Assistant General Manager/COO

Subject: Authorize the Purchase of Four Hybrid Buses

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Authorize the purchase of four hybrid buses from Creative Bus Sales.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not to exceed \$925,088, or \$231,272 per vehicle. These vehicles will be fully funded through the following grant programs: the Federal Clean Fuels Grant Program \$788,000; the California's Air Quality Improvement Program, the Bus Voucher Incentive Program: \$80,000; and the State of California Proposition 1B funds: up to \$57,088.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Your Board approves all purchases that exceed \$25,000. The purchase of these hybrid buses also supports MST's strategic goal to conserve natural resources.

DISCUSSION:

MST was one of only two transit agencies in the state and 28 nationwide selected as recipients of a Federal Clean Fuels Grant to purchase vehicles with clean fuel and advanced technologies to replace obsolete vehicles that have exceeded their useful life. The hybrid feature comprises almost 30% of the cost of the vehicle and this purchase would not have been possible without the Federal Clean Fuels Grant.

While approximately 50% of MST's non-revenue fleet is hybrid vehicles, these 32ft, 24 passenger medium size buses will be MST's first experience with hybrid buses. MST currently has 25 medium size buses used in fixed route/demand service. These four hybrid buses will replace some of the oldest, high mileage vehicles and will provide greater flexibility to use slightly larger vehicles on routes requiring more seating capacity than the standard 24 foot "mini-buses."

MST is approved to purchase buses through the CalAct/ Morongo Basin Transit Authority vehicle purchasing cooperative. The cooperative has previously solicited competitive pricing from vehicle manufacturers and has established itself as a one-stop shopping option for purchasing a wide range of buses. The use of the cooperative

eliminates the need for MST to develop our own vehicle specifications and manage the bidding process.

PREPARED BY: Michael Hernandez REVIEWED BY: Carl Sedoryk
Michael Hernandez Carl Sedoryk

To: Board of Directors
From: C. Sedoryk, General Manager/CEO
Subject: Strategic Plan Update

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive update on progress made to date on MST strategic goals and objectives and provide direction as needed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Your Board adopts a strategic plan every 3 years and receives an annual update on progress made to date. Your Board provides direction to staff regarding the allocation of resources towards achievement of strategic goals and objectives.

DISCUSSION:

Each year, your Board has devoted a significant amount at the January Board meeting to receive an update from staff regarding progress to date in achieving the goals and objectives of the 3 year strategic plan adopted by your Board in July 2010 (Attachment 1).

At your January 9, 2012 Board meeting, senior staff will provide brief updates on accomplishments to date and near-term goals for the remainder of the year. Also, the General Manager/CEO will provide an update on progress made to date in achievement of district goals and objectives and a review of how MST compares to peer transit operators of similar size and scope. Staff will also provide a brief presentation on a variety of local funding options that may be available to MST in order to continue providing transit to the communities we serve.

PREPARED BY:


Carl G. Sedoryk

Attachment: Monterey-Salinas Transit Strategic Plan FY 2011-2013

Attachment: MST Action Plan FY 2011/2012 Update

Strategic Plan

ATTACHMENT 1

MONTEREY-SALINAS
TRANSIT DISTRICT
STRATEGIC PLAN
FY 2011 -2013

About The Plan

This plan represents the collaboration of the Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) Board of Directors and staff to develop a long-term vision and identify strategic priorities to focus MST resources and energies.

MST services focus on moving people from where they are to where they need and choose to be. The MST Board of Directors focuses on a similar concept but on a different scale – developing policy to move the Joint Powers Agency to where it needs to be to effectively serve our communities and constituencies.

A review of MST strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) revealed several important facts. The availability of federal and state sources of operating funds continues to shrink. Traffic congestion and demand for increased access for public transportation in Monterey County continue to increase. Finally, the lack of adequate facilities continues to limit the ability of MST to grow its service to meet community needs.

The SWOT analysis also revealed that MST's image in the community, growing ridership, as well as its employees and management team, continues to be strong. MST's land holdings and change in governance to a District provide opportunities for revenue growth and increased physical capacity. Upon completion of the SWOT analysis, a list of major challenges and future priorities were identified. After discussion and debate, the three highest priority goals identified were:

- Develop Adequate and Stable Long Term Revenues.
- Provide Quality Transit and Mobility Management Services.
- Implement new Transit District Governance.

Secondary goals identified include:

- Educate the public on MST services through promotion, communication, and advocacy.
- Actively promote organizational values to maintain high quality relationships with MST employees, contractors, vendors, and community stakeholders.
- Research, implement and promote policies and practices that encourage environmental sustainability and resource conservation.

- To attain a position of industry leadership for like-sized agencies within California and the United States.

Monterey-Salinas Transit Mission:

Advocating and delivering quality public transportation as a leader within our community and industry.

Our Vision:

A fully funded public transit system providing quality, value, and affordable mobility and transportation services for the people in Monterey County.

We Value...

- **Using Good Judgment**
- **Achieving Win/Win Outcomes**
- **Mutual Respect**
- **Teamwork**
- **Acting With Dignity, Trust, Cooperation, and Loyalty**
- **Constant Measurable Improvement**
- **Recognizing Results**
- **Meeting and Exceeding Our Customers' Expectations In Providing Safe, On Time, Friendly, Affordable and Convenient Transit Services.**

Strategic Goals

The following are the strategic priorities and goal statements that MST will pursue over the next three years. For each goal there are defined initial objectives, desired outcomes and proposed action plans. Indicators of success are defined to track relative progress towards the objectives and outcomes. Each year with the adoption of the annual budget specific annual action plans will be submitted with progress reported to the Board quarterly.

- **Develop Adequate and Stable Long Term Revenues**

Pursue partnerships, fare-pricing strategies and revenue generation opportunities as a means to supplement the revenue required to construct needed capital facilities, purchase vehicles and sustain current and future transit services.

Through education and advocacy, encourage policy makers and the general public to enact legislation at local, state and federal levels to provide sustained revenue sources that will support the future growth of Monterey County's public transportation system.

- **Provide Quality Transit and Mobility Management Services**

Develop and implement services, infrastructure and technologies to meet and exceed the expectations of customers, reduce subsidies and improve the value of MST in the community. Continue to explore and implement new technologies and practices that enhance the overall customer experience, improve safety and sustainability, reduce costs, attract new customers, retain existing customers, motivate employees and improve the value of MST in the community.

- **Implement New Transit District Governance**

Complete the transition to the transit district governance model in a manner that maximizes full participation and satisfaction of the jurisdictions represented on the MST Board and integrates the incoming members as full participants in the governance and organization of the Board.

- **Research, implement and promote policies and practices that encourage environmental sustainability and resource conservation.**

Implement economically sound and environmentally-friendly resource conservation policies that reduce dependence on scarce natural resources and the potential for negative impacts on our environment.

- **Educate the public on MST services through promotion, communication and advocacy.**

Attract new riders and improve community support for MST by implementing effective marketing, promotion and communication techniques and by applying greater focus in meeting individual community and stakeholder needs.

- **Actively promote organizational values to maintain high quality relationships with MST employees, contractors, vendors, and community stakeholders.**

Act in a manner in all that we do to promote individual and organizational safety, efficiency, effectiveness and enhance the satisfaction of our customers, employees, partners and other key stakeholders.

- **To attain a position of industry leadership for like-sized agencies within California and the United States.**

Develop and implement programs and practices that continue to distinguish Monterey-Salinas Transit as a leader within the public transit industry.

FY 2011 – FY 2013 GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION PLANS

The following are the seven strategic priorities that MST will pursue over the next three years. Each goal includes specific objectives to be met during FY 2011 to support these goals along with tactics to be used to achieve each objective.

1. Develop Adequate and Stable Long Term Revenues

Objectives/Outcomes: Pursue public/private and public/public partnerships, fare-pricing strategies and revenue generation from the use of MST assets as the means to generate the funds required to construct needed capital facilities, purchase vehicles, sustain current and future transit services and reduce the overall subsidy per passenger.

Encourage policymakers and the general public, through education and advocacy, to enact legislation at local, state and federal levels to provide sustained funding sources that will support the future growth of Monterey County's public transportation system.

Indicators of Success:

- Reduced subsidy per passenger.
- Public/private funding agreements executed.
- Adequate funding in place to support operating and capital needs.

- Increased local funding support through partnerships, fees, sales tax and other initiatives.

Action Plan Items:

- a. Adopt and execute annual state and federal legislative programs.
- b. Participate in community outreach and provide public information regarding measures to provide dedicated funding for improved public transportation.
- c. Seek public and private funding partners for development of the Frank J. Lichtanski Monterey Bay Operations Center.
- d. Identify the means to develop MST properties in a manner consistent with local jurisdiction land use guidelines that promotes increased transit use and provides stable long-term funding.

2. Provide Quality Transit and Mobility Management Services

Objectives/Outcomes: Develop and implement services, infrastructure and technologies to meet and exceed the expectations of customers, reduce subsidies and improve the image of MST in the community; continue to explore and implement new technologies and practices that enhance the overall customer experience, improve safety, reduce costs, attract new customers, retain existing customers, motivate employees, and improve the value of MST in the community.

Indicators of Success:

- Passenger boarding growth rate that exceeds board adopted standards
- Increased customer and stakeholder satisfaction
- Business conducted within approved budget and board adopted performance standards for safety, efficiency, effectiveness, on-time performance, employee satisfaction and stakeholder.

Action Plan:

- a. Continue programs that reward safe behavior.
- b. Fine tune existing service to improve convenience and on-time performance.

- c. Monitor operating, maintenance and financial performance statistics on a monthly basis and implement programs to support continuous improvement.
- d. Implement new services, including South County On-Call and other services based on the results of the South County Transit Study.
- e. Begin construction of Monterey Bay Operations and Maintenance Facility.
- f. Implement Fremont/Lighthouse Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service.
- g. Continue planning a comprehensive regional BRT plan and apply for funding, as appropriate.
- h. Identify funding for additional shelters and on-street passenger amenities.
- i. Acquire automated fare collection equipment that provides features to attract additional riders, improve customer convenience and increase fare revenues.
- j. Conduct satisfaction surveys of riders, non riders, and stakeholders.

3. Implement New Transit District Governance

Objectives/Outcomes: Complete the transition to the transit district governance model in a manner that maximizes full participation and satisfaction of the jurisdictions represented on the MST Board.

Indicators of Success:

- A satisfied, involved, active, and fully-integrated Board of Directors.
- Residents of member jurisdictions feeling well represented

Action Plan:

- a. Develop and implement Board member training and orientation programs.
- b. Adopt all necessary resolutions and take actions required to comply with the requirements of AB644 (Caballero).
- c. Adopt bylaws for governance of new transit district.
- d. Implement revised Board committee structures to support decision making.

- e. Effect dissolution of Monterey-Salinas Transit Joint Powers agency and transfer all rights and obligations to the Monterey-Salinas Transit District.
- f. Conduct Board and member satisfaction surveys.

4. Research, Implement and Promote Policies and Practices that Encourage Environmental Sustainability and Resource Conservation

Objective: Implement economically sound and environmentally-friendly resource conservation policies that reduce MST dependence on scarce natural resources and the potential for negative environmental impact without compromising levels or quality of service.

Indicators of Success:

- Compliance with EPA and California Air Resources Board mandates
- Reduced consumption of fossil fuels and related costs of utilities including water, natural gas and electricity.
- Increased use of alternative fuels and emerging green technologies.
- Green initiatives funded without compromising service levels or quality.

Action Plan:

- a. Participate in national, state and regional transit conferences, meetings and groups alternative fuel forums, user groups, etc. that identify and outline changes to federal and California Air Resources Board (CARB) emission requirements.
- b. Maintain a dialogue with CARB staff regarding emission requirements and emission reduction strategies.
- c. Adopt Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) principles as appropriate in the design and construction of MST facilities.
- d. Identify opportunities for energy, water, gas and other resource conservation programs.
- e. Acquire diesel/electric hybrid buses as funding allows.

- f. Monitor emerging technologies and determine cost-effective sustainable technologies and implement as appropriate.

5. Educate and Inform our Community and Stakeholders on the Value of MST Services through Promotion, Communication, and Advocacy

Attract new riders and improve support for MST by utilizing effective marketing, promotion, communication and advocacy techniques meeting individual community and stakeholder needs

Indicators of Success:

- 1. Increased awareness of MST transportation and mobility services and the value they provide.
- 2. Increased patronage and usage of MST website and tools provided.
- 3. Increased number of positive media stories regarding MST and public transit.

Action Plan:

- a. Implement and develop coordinated, multi-media, bilingual media communications and advertising programs.
- b. Improve MST Online, and utilize new and emerging technologies to communicate with new markets.
- c. Encourage transit-friendly land-use planning through further dissemination of the *Designing for Transit* manual.
- d. Implement targeted marketing and promotional efforts designed towards major employers, schools, senior groups, hospitality industry and non-traditional customers.

6. Actively Promote Organizational Values to Maintain High Quality Relationships with MST Employees, Customers, Contractors, Vendors, and Community Stakeholders

Act in manner in all we do to promote individual and organizational safety, efficiency and effectiveness and enhance the satisfaction of those who interact with MST including our customers, employees and other key stakeholders and partners.

Indicators of Success:

1. High levels of employee, customer and stakeholder satisfaction.
2. Continue to improve relationships with represented labor workforce.
3. Increased utilization of employee development programs.
4. Improved safety performance and reductions in injuries.

Action Plan:

- a. Recognize and celebrate individual and group achievements in support of MST's mission, vision, values, goals and objectives.
- b. Conduct attitude and opinion surveys to gauge satisfaction of riders, non-riders, employees and stakeholders.
- c. Improve communication with all employees and the Amalgamated Transit Union leadership.
- d. Complete negotiations of the Amalgamated Transit Union and Monterey-Salinas Transit Employee Association agreements.
- e. Develop and implement targeted marketing and promotional efforts designed towards major employers, schools, senior groups, hospitality industry and non-traditional riders will also assist in growing ridership.
- f. Ensure a proper staff structure is in place that understands and supports the mission, vision and values to meet strategic goals and objectives.

7. To attain industry leadership for like-sized agencies within California and the United States.

Continue developing and implementing programs and practices that continue to distinguish Monterey-Salinas Transit as a leader with the public transit industry.

Indicators of Success:

1. Participate in a leadership role in industry trade associations.
2. Receive recognition and acknowledgement for innovative programs and practices.

Action Plan:

- a. Seek appointment to leadership positions within appropriate national, state, and local trade, business and community associations and committees.
- b. Develop and implement innovative programs that enhance the overall customer experience, improve safety and sustainability, reduce costs, attract new customers, retain existing customers, motivate employees, and reflect well on Monterey-Salinas Transit and the public transit industry.

Acknowledgements:

MST thanks and acknowledges the American Public Transportation Association and California Transit Association for their excellent strategic plans from which several of this document's elements were derived. We also acknowledge the following for their participation in the development of this document:

Monterey Salinas Transit Board Members

Chair, Fernando Armenta, County of Monterey
Vice Chair, Tom Mancini, City of Seaside
Kristin Clark, City of Del Rey Oaks
Karen Sharp, City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
Sergio Sanchez, City of Salinas
Libby Downey, City of Monterey
Alan Cohen, City of Pacific Grove
James Ford, City of Marina
Maria Orozco, City of Gonzales
John Huerta, City of Greenfield
Patricia Stephens, City of Soledad
Michael Powers, City of King
David Pendergrass, Sand City

Monterey Salinas Transit Staff and Associates

Carl Sedoryk, General Manager/CEO
Michael Hernandez, Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer
Hunter Harvath, Assistant General Manager/ Finance & Administration
Lyn Owens, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management
Mark Eccles, Director of Information Technology
David Laredo, MST General Counsel
Heidi Quinn, Legal Counsel

Monterey Salinas Transit Planning Consultant
Steven Alexander, Facilitator

APPENDIX A

Monterey-Salinas Transit 2010 Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Strengths	Weaknesses
Employees and management team	Funding/revenue sources fluctuations
Fiscally responsible	Public transit industry weak
Legislative representatives/governmental relations (FTA, Caltrans)	Extended geographic service area
Well-maintained fleet	Relationships w/ labor leadership
Employee relations	Low urban density
Emergency response planning	Low administrative staffing levels due to cutbacks
Stable ridership base	Lack of physical capacity at transit facilities
Community / stakeholder image	Potential core service cuts
Brand identity	Aging population requiring specialized service
Service planning	Lack of capital replacement funds
Land ownership	Recruitment of skilled trades
Implemented advanced technology	Mixed fuel fleet
No debt	Non-participation of South County cities
Safety culture	Not all County LTF used for transit
Broad community use of services	Demand for trolleys exceeds fleet size
	No cost-effective alternative fuel fleet options
	Technology utilization and maintenance
Opportunities	Threats
Development of MST properties	Safety/security
State bond dollars (Prop 1A – 1E)	Unpredictable fuel cost
Public/private partnerships	Traffic congestion
Changing habits—new customer types	County General Plan
Traffic congestion	CARB/EPA unfunded mandates
Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	Demographics; aging population
Specialized transportation	Medi-Cal trips shift to RIDES
New technology	Increased costs
Ballot initiatives	Prolonged recession
New District status	Roadway congestion
Extended service area	Former Fort Ord development
Untapped customer base	State raids of transit funds
Expanded service hours	Degradation of labor relations
Expanded transit facilities	State financial condition
South County city integration	Sprawling development
Regional partnerships	Flu pandemic
Mixed-use developments	Potential labor work action
Demand for trolley services	CSUMB development concerns
Pending former Fort Ord developments	National Highway Trust Fund deficit
Labor contract negotiations	
University/college transit services	
Federal Authorization bill & Stimulus II	

**MST Action Plan FY 2011/2012 Update
September 2011**

1. Implement options for Contracted transit services and restructure ADA transit service model to decrease costs and increase efficiency.

Status: Completed. New contract call for MV to begin utilizing more taxi service for MST RIDES trips.

2. Complete Monterey Bay Operations and Maintenance Building Finance Plan and complete Construction Bid as funding allows.

Status: Delayed. Staff has been directed to research additional alternative sites.

3. Research and identify local transit revenue generating opportunities.

Status: Ongoing. Staff has attended conferences on developing sales tax and other revenue streams to support transit operations.

4. Complete Fremont/Lighthouse Bus Rapid Transit Construction.

Status: Ongoing. Plans are nearing completion with construction to begin in 2012.

5. Apply for grants to design Del Monte Bus Rapid Transit Corridor.

Status: Completed. AB2766 grant awarded to City of Monterey for planning purposes.

6. Implement South County Study Recommendations as funding allows.

Status: Completed. South County On-Call routes established.

7. Complete Trolley Vehicle Refurbishment and implement new services.

Status: Completed with refurbished trolleys in service.

8. Complete AssetWorks Fleet Maintenance system upgrade.

Status: Ongoing. Training occurred in October 2011 and completion estimated for early 2012.

9. Replace/Upgrade TransitMaster ITS systems.

Status: Delayed, as MST did not receive State of Good Repair grant needed to fund replacement of systems.

10. Complete MSTE A MOU negotiation.

Status: Completed. Pending Board ratification in November 2011.

11. Develop adequate staffing and organizational structure for MST and RTA.

Ongoing.

12. Conduct and implement compensation survey.

Status: Ongoing. Surveys completed with implementation to occur in January 2012.

13. Implement midday service on Presidio.

Status: Delayed pending contract from Presidio of Monterey.

14. Implement CSUMB on-campus service, if requested and funded.

Status: Completed. Otter Trolley and University Pass system in place.

15. Conduct Legal Services Request for Proposals.

Status: Ongoing with RFP anticipated in early 2012.

16. Evaluate and update transit insurance coverage options.

Status: Ongoing. Estimate completion by May 2012.

17. Update email and document retention policy.

Status: Ongoing. Estimate completion by June 2012.

18. Conduct Salinas Area Service Analysis and implement recommendations as funding allows.

Status: Ongoing. Estimate completion by March 2012.

19. Research paperless” Board agenda and implement “as appropriate.

Status: Completed. Conducted survey of board agenda recipients and have implemented paperless agenda preparation process.

20. Implement upgrades to Financial and Human Resources software.

Status: Ongoing. Estimate completion by February 2012.

21. Conduct customer, employee, and stakeholder satisfaction surveys.

Status: Ongoing. Estimate completion by June 2012.

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City of Carmel-by-the-Sea

POST OFFICE BOX CC
CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA, CA 93921
(831) 620-2000

16 December 2011

Monterey-Salinas Transit District
1 Ryan Ranch Road
Monterey, CA 93940

Attn: Hunter Harvath

Re: Proposed modification to the Grapevine Express

Dear Hunter,

The City Council of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea would like to officially request the addition of downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea to the Line 24 Carmel Valley Grapevine Express bus route.

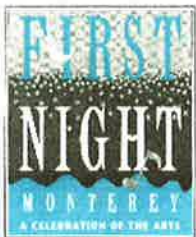
With the recent addition of a number of wine-tasting venues in the City, integrating Carmel-by-the-Sea stops into the route of the Grapevine Express would provide riders with a unique opportunity to experience a variety of wines all within walking distance of one another. Alternately, oenophiles who begin their wine-tasting in the City of Carmel can extend their adventure by catching Line 24 to explore Carmel Valley wineries.

We appreciate your consideration of our request. If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jason Stilwell
City Administrator
Carmel-by-the-Sea
(831) 620-2000
jstilwell@ci.carmel.ca.us



First Night Monterey
P.O. Box 185
Monterey, CA 93942

Ph: 831-373-4778
Fax: 831-373-4782
firstnightmonterey.org

December 12, 2011
Ms. Zoe Shoats
Monterey-Salinas Transit
One Ryan Ranch Road
Monterey, CA 93940

Dear Zoe,

Thank you to MST –for the collaboration with FNM, it is a wonderful community service which provides a ride to FNM for the residents of Monterey County on New Year's Eve every year. The Ride the Bus for Free collaboration with First Night Monterey and Park and Shuttle programs provide a valuable service to the City of Monterey and to the County.

Taking people off the roads and providing them access to a nonalcoholic and family oriented event on New Year's Eve certainly reduces the opportunities for fatalities and to the most vulnerable of our citizens. And it provides the community with opportunity to celebrate new beginnings in the New Year.

Once again, First Night Monterey is proud to present an amazing group of performers and visual artists who truly represent the richness of Monterey County's cultural landscape. Our celebration features longtime audience favorites like the Black Irish Band, the creation of the resolution sculpture; the Mardi Gras style Twilight Parade, and the midnight finale.

Our community spirit is certainly best exemplified by the First Night ArtWorks!, a year round arts and education and outreach program that culminates on New Year's Eve. This year hundreds of young people and families from all around Monterey County participated with professional artists in hands-on creative workshops in the visual arts, poetry and more, at community sites all around the county. Their work is everywhere you look tonight – from the cultural trail murals depicting the cityscapes of our county, to the folkloric dancers on stage at Colton Lawn, to the puppets featured in the Parade, to the fishes that you see hung in the ocean vortex installation and much more. Monterey County's youth are at the heart of First Night!

In addition, we appreciate MST support, it means so much to FNM and to the community, I have enclosed the buttons for MST- and hospitality tickets. Please do not hesitate to call me should you need additional buttons or have any questions about the program.

Sincerely,



Ellen Martin
Executive Director