



Monterey-Salinas Transit

19 Upper Ragsdale, Suite 200, Monterey, CA 93940

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMUNITY PLANNING MEETINGS AND INTENT TO ADOPT CEQA EXEMPTIONS

Project Exemptions under SB 922 for SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit Project

Publication Date: January 17, 2023
To: Interested Parties
Subject: Notice of Public Community Planning Meetings and Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting on MST's Adoption of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Exemptions pursuant to Pub. Res. Code §21080.25(b) [Senate Bill (SB) 922 (2022)] for MST's SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit Project

This notice is to advise that **Monterey-Salinas Transit District (MST)**, as the Lead Agency, will consider adoption on March 13, 2023, of **California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Exemptions for the SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit Project ("Project")**, including the exemptions identified under SB 922 [2022] (Pub. Res. Code §21080.25(b), "Exemption").¹ This includes a combination of the individual exemptions, as allowed by subsection (b)(8), including, but not limited to subsections (b)(1) [Pedestrian/Bike Facilities], (b)(2) [wayfinding], (b)(3) [transit prioritization], (b)(5) [Bus rapid transit, bus, or light rail service, including stations, terminals, or existing operation facilities], (b)(6) [Charging stations], and (b)(7) [Infrastructure]. MST previously provided CEQA clearance for the SURF! Project in 2021, which included the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), as well as other CEQA statutory and categorical exemptions. However, after these actions, the California State Legislature adopted amendments to Pub. Res. Code §21080.25 in Senate Bill 922 [2022].

Prior to any action by the Board of Directors on this matter, MST will hold three public community planning meetings to hear and respond to public comments solely related to the SB 922 Exemptions for the Project (Pub. Res. Code §21080.25). A detailed Project Description with information about the project is available on MST's website: <https://mst.org/wp-content/media/Appendix-03-MST-Busway-Proj-Desc-Final-1-12-2023.pdf>. This Project Description has been revised to include minor clarifications related to public rights-of-way, the Project's inclusion of infrastructure and facilities to charge, refuel, and/or maintain zero-emission public transit buses, inclusion of customer information and wayfinding, clarification about bus service frequency and span of service, and estimated project costs. Additional Project information is also available at: <https://mst.org/about-mst/planning-development/surf/>.

¹ SB922 and Pub. Res. Code § 21080.25 are available at:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB922

Public Community Planning Meetings (“Meetings”) will be held on the following days, times, and locations:

Monday, February 13, 2023, 5:00 p.m., Marina Library, 190 Seaside Circle, Marina, CA 93933

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 5:00 p.m., Boys and Girls Club Seaside Clubhouse, 1332 La Salle Avenue, Seaside, CA 93955

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 5:00 p.m., Boys and Girls Club Seaside Clubhouse, 1332 La Salle Avenue Seaside, CA 93955

Public Review and Comment: During these Public Community Planning Meetings, MST will accept public comments on the SB 922 Exemptions for the MST SURF! Project. To receive a response, written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2023 and must be submitted in writing to MST at the physical or email addresses listed below. MST will also provide responses to oral comments made during a commenter’s allocated time at the Public Community Planning Meetings, or written comments submitted to MST staff at those Meetings. Before determining whether the Project is exempt pursuant to SB922, MST will consider and respond to these comments.

Board Consideration: The MST Board of Directors will consider approving CEQA exemptions pursuant to SB922 and Project conditions at a regularly scheduled Board meeting which will be held on March 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. located at 19 Upper Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100, Monterey, CA 93940.

To receive a response, written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2023 at the addresses identified below:

Michelle Overmeyer, Director of Planning and Innovation

Monterey-Salinas Transit, 19 Upper Ragsdale, Suite 200, Monterey, CA 93940

Phone: (831) 264-5877

Email: movermeyer@mst.org

An agenda for the regularly scheduled MST Board of Directors meeting on March 13, 2023 will be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Upon request, Monterey-Salinas Transit will provide written materials in appropriate alternative formats, including disability-related modifications or accommodations, 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, description of the requested materials, and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least three working days prior to the meeting at the address below.

After February 17, 2023, public comments on the Board’s March 13, 2023 meeting may be submitted for any item under consideration by contacting MST (however to receive a response, please comply with the “Public Review and Comment” procedures identified above):

Mail: MST, Attn: Clerk to the Board, 19 Upper Ragsdale Dr., Suite 200, Monterey, CA 93940

Website: <https://mst.org/contact-us/> • **Email:** clerk@mst.org • **Phone:** (888) 678-2871

TTY/TDD: 831-393-8111 • 711 Relay



888-678-2871 / Free language assistance / Asistencia de Lenguaje Gratuito / Libreng tulong para sa wika / Hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí / 무료 언어 지원