



TAB 96

May 14, 2018

Susan Bransen
Executive Director
California Transportation Commission (CTC)
1120 N Street, Room 2233 (MS-52)
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Rail Extension to Monterey County Project: Status Update

Susan
Dear Ms. Bransen:

On the May 16th California Transportation Commission agenda, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) is requesting a State Transportation Improvement Program time extension and a re-allocation of Traffic Congestion Relief Program funds for the Rail Extension to Monterey County project. With Commission consideration and approval of these two requests, the Transportation Agency will be prepared to begin construction on this transformative multimodal project by spring 2019.

To provide a brief background, Phase 1 of the Rail Extension to Monterey County project, known as the "Kick Start" Project, is focused on the improvements required to accommodate new passenger rail service from Santa Clara County to Salinas in Monterey County. The Kick Start Project includes improvements at the Salinas train station, such as new direct access via Lincoln Avenue, accommodation for transit, bike lanes and lockers, expanded commuter parking, a train layover facility, and track improvements. The Kick Start phase is fully-funded, and TAMC was recently awarded an additional \$10 million from a Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) grant to include new elements in the project, such as positive train control and four more tracks at the layover facility.

The Kick Start Package 1 (Lincoln Avenue extension) is at 100% design and TAMC has possession of all properties needed to move forward with construction. Package 2 (layover facility) is at 75% design, pending comments from UPRR. However, the aforementioned time extension requests are needed due to the extended amount of time the City of Salinas and PG&E have negotiated the relocation of utilities, and with delays in UPRR reviewing our 75% designs for Package 2. The City of Salinas has provided a letter indicating their commitment to resolve the conflicts related to the relocation of utilities and their commitment to meet the deadlines for the 100% project designs and construction schedule. In addition, TAMC met with Union Pacific last month to request their consideration of the project, and UPRR indicated they would be available to perform a capacity analysis on the project this summer. Following the capacity analysis, UPRR would be able to initiate design review and track rights agreement negotiations.

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The Transportation Agency is continuing to advance the project towards construction, and activities currently underway include a competitive solicitation to select a building demolition contractor, procurement of a right-of-way acquisition team for the Package 2 properties, negotiations with the City of Salinas and utility owners regarding utility relocation, and negotiations with Caltrain and UPRR regarding operations scenarios and track rights. TAMC has already hired HDR Engineering to complete the final design and MNS Engineers to perform the construction management work. Demolition of structures will begin this fall, followed by utility relocation, and rapidly moving to construction in spring 2019.

Thank you for consideration of our time extension requests, and for your continued support of extending rail service to Monterey County. Our Agency appreciates our strong partnership with the California Transportation Commission and is excited to begin demolition and break ground on this important multimodal project for our region. Please contact Christina Watson, Principal Transportation Planner, of my staff at (831) 775-4406 with any questions.

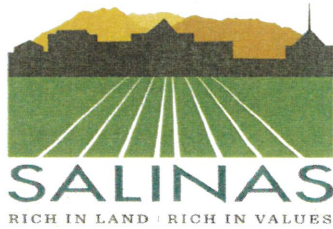
Sincerely,



Debra L. Hale
Executive Director

Thank you, Susan!

Encl.: City of Salinas Letter of Commitment



City of Salinas

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March 16, 2018

Debra L. Hale
Executive Director
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
55-B Plaza Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
debbie@tamcmonterey.org

RE: Salinas Intermodal Transportation Center: Utility Relocation

Dear Ms. Hale:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Salinas, to confirm the City's intent to relocate utilities currently in Station Place and/or the adjacent parking lot into the new Lincoln Avenue extension. Our intention is to relocate the utilities, concurrent with TAMC's *Rail Extension to Monterey County Project* (Project) utility relocation.

In preparation for new passenger train service to Salinas, the City of Salinas and TAMC have been collaborating and coordinating on improvements to the Salinas Train Station area. In February 2017, this collaboration was memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) jointly adopted by both entities. Now that we are closer to the construction of the Project, some details are coming to light that were not fully addressed in that MOU.

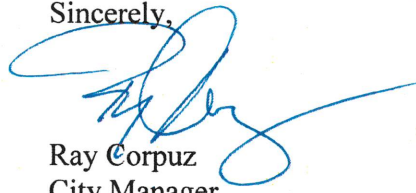
We understand from your staff that California Water Service (Cal Water) utilities will be relocated as part of Package 1 of the Project's plans, specification, and estimates, and Comcast will abandon its services to the existing properties to be demolished. Your staff has also indicated that the design and investigations on the existing PG&E gas, PG&E electric, AT&T, Cal Water and Comcast utilities have resulted in the finding that PG&E gas, PG&E electric, and AT&T will not be impacted by Project construction and do not need to be relocated to allow the Project to proceed.

Nonetheless, the City would like all utilities, including PG&E gas, PG&E electric and AT&T, to be relocated to Lincoln Avenue at this time, to facilitate future City developments. As this is not required by the Rail Extension Project, the City will take the lead on working with these utilities to develop relocation plans and utility relocation agreements, and the City will be responsible for the costs of these relocations. Our plan is to relocate them after the Project's demolition of structures, and before the Project's construction of improvements at the station, and in coordination with the Project's relocation of Cal Water utilities to Lincoln Avenue. If for some reason we are unable to have PG&E and/or AT&T relocate their utilities within this timeframe, we will either defer the work to a later date after the Project is complete, or work with TAMC on options to integrate the utility relocations into the Project at the City's cost.

Ms. Debra Hale
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Thank you for your continued cooperation and support of the City's efforts to improve the Salinas downtown and City Center.

Sincerely,



Ray Corpuz
City Manager

cc: Mayor
City Council
City Attorney
Public Works Director
City Engineer