



TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

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HIGHLIGHTS

March 27, 2024

TAMC Board Adopts Policy Objectives for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan

The Board of Directors of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County adopted goals and policy objectives for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan for Monterey County. The document is a long-range (20+ year) plan, updated every four years, pursuant to state and federal transportation planning requirements. The adoption of the goals and policy objectives by the Board is a necessary step in the development of the 2026 Transportation Plan, which will inform transportation decisions and investments for the 20-year vision for Monterey County.

The guideline policies of the Regional Transportation Plan include:

- Describe the region's transportation issues.
- Identify and quantify regional needs, both short and long-range planning horizons.
- Maintain internal consistency with financial elements and fund estimates.

The 2026 Regional Transportation Plan goals include: economic benefits to support a sustainable and productive economy that protects the environment and provides communities with economic benefit and opportunity; sustainability and environmental benefits to protect and enhance Monterey County's built and natural environment and promote energy efficiency; safety and health benefits to create a safe transportation system that fosters county-wide health and well-being through promoting active lifestyles; and access and mobility benefits to deliver a reliable and accessible transportation system that promotes viable transportation alternatives for all users.

The next steps in the development of the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan will include the Board's adoption of the Plan's performance measures; adoption of a final project list in early 2025, public review and comment period in December 2025; and the Board's approval of the Final Regional Transportation Plan in June 2026.

FORTAG Canyon Del Rey Project Plans and Construction Contract

The TAMC Board of Directors approved the project plans for the Canyon Del Rey segment of the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway (FORTAG) project. The Board also approved and authorized the Transportation Agency to execute a contract with Granite Rock Company for the construction of the Canyon Del Rey segment of the regional trail.

The execution of the contract is subject to the approval of Agency Counsel, the Independent Office of Audits and Investigations, and the Office of Civil Rights; and is subject to the and the clearance of any protests related to the bid. The contingent contract award is based upon the Agency's advertised construction bid documents, which included a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 22%. Granite Rock Company was the apparent low bidder, with a DBE commitment of 10%. Since Granite Rock Company did not meet the project's DBE goal of 22%, Agency staff has submitted documentation to the Caltrans Office of Civil Rights detailing the good faith efforts made by Granite Rock Company to include DBE firms in their bid. After reviewing the submitted information, the Office of Civil Rights will make a determination if the contractor demonstrated a sufficient good faith effort to meet the DBE participation goal.

The Canyon Del Rey segment is the first segment of the FORTAG project to go into construction. The project will construct the trail through the City of Del Rey Oaks from Fremont Boulevard to Del Rey Woods Elementary School in the City of Seaside. The project includes an underpass under Canyon Del Rey Boulevard between Del Rey Oaks City Hall and the Frog Pond Wetland Preserve. A 12-foot-wide raised pathway will be constructed to connect trail users from the underpass to Carlton Drive at an accessible grade. Along Carlton Drive, the trail will consist of a new 12-foot-wide multi-use sidewalk with a 5-foot-wide buffer on the west side of the road and will continue along the south side of Plumas Avenue to Del Rey Woods Elementary School.

The vision for the FORTAG project is to create a multimodal route designated to accommodate people of all ages and abilities to connect communities in and around the former Fort Ord to each other and to education, employment, community, and recreation centers. It will serve as a safe pedestrian and bicycle corridor connecting the cities of Seaside, Marina, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, and unincorporated county community residents to California State University Monterey Bay, the Fort Ord National Monument, and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail.