

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: January 21, 2026

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Madera County Transportation Commission
In person and Zoom

Members Present: Commissioner Robert Poythress, Vice Chair
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed
Commissioner Robert Macaulay
Commissioner David Rogers

Member Appearing Remotely: Commissioner Jose Rodriguez, Chair

Member Absent: Commissioner Rohi Zacharia

Policy Advisory Committee: Above Members
Shane Gunn, Caltrans District 06

MCTC Staff: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Troy McNeil, Deputy Director/Fiscal Supervisor
Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner
Jeff Findley, Principal Regional Planner
Evelyn Espinosa, Senior Regional Planner
Natalia Austin, Senior Regional Planner
Sandy Ebersole, Administrative Analyst
Samantha Saldivar, Accounting Technician

1. CALL TO ORDER by Chair Rodriguez

Action: Approval of Commissioner Rodriguez attending remotely under just cause circumstances due to travel on behalf of a public agency.

Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, Seconded by Commissioner Ahmed, to acknowledge remote attendance of Chair Rodriguez.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

This time is made available for comments from the public on matters within the Board's jurisdiction that are not on the agenda. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes. Attention is called to the fact that the Board is prohibited by law from taking any substantive action on matters discussed that are not on the agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Board does not respond to the public comment at this time. It is requested that no comments be made during this period on items that are on today's agenda. Members of the public may comment on any item that is on today's agenda when the item is called and should notify the Chair of their desire to address the Board when that agenda item is called.

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. The following public comment was received:

Vanessa Barraza, Field Representative of Assemblywoman Esmeralda Soria, provided legislative updates.

MCTC SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

4. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by MCTC staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will

be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

4-A. California Transportation Commission (CTC) 2025 Annual Report to the California Legislature

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-B. FY 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-C. Community Planning and Capacity Building Grants: 2025 Request for Applications (RFA)

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-D. Senate Bill 1 Funding Program Update - Program Guidelines Development Workshops for Local Partnership Program (LPP), Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), and Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP)

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-E. Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Cycle 8 Draft Guidelines

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-F. SB 125 Transit Transformation Task Force Final Report

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-G. State of Good Repair (SGR) Funds Project Revision

Action: Approve Resolution 22-11 Amendment No. 3; Resolution 23-11 Amendment No. 2; Resolution 24-11 Amendment No. 2; Resolution 25-09 Amendment No. 1; and Resolution 25-10 Amendment No. 1, adopting a Revised SGR Project List

4-H. MCTC 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 13 – (Type 1 – Administrative Modification)

Action: Ratify

4-I. California Freight Mobility Plan 2027

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-J. MCTC State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Comment Letter and Public Hearings

Action: Information and Discussion Only

4-K. 2026 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Public Hearings

Action: Information and Discussion Only

Transportation Consent Calendar Action on Items 4A-4K

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Ahmed, to approve the Transportation Consent Items 4A-4K. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

5. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5-A. State Legislative Update – 2026 State Legislative Program Draft Summary and Draft MCTC 2026 State Legislative Platform

Action: Approve MCTC 2026 State Legislative Platform

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Macaulay, to approve the MCTC 2026 State Legislative Platform. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

5-B. Social Service Transportation Advisory Council's (SSTAC) FY 2026-27 Unmet Transit Needs Recommendations – Resolution No. 26-01

Action: MCTC Staff recommends the MCTC Policy Board approve the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council's (SSTAC) FY 2026-27 Unmet Transit Needs findings by Resolution No. 26-01

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Macaulay, to approve the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council's (SSTAC) FY 2026-27 Unmet Transit Needs findings by Resolution 26-01. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

5-C. Award Contract – Regional Climate Adaptation and Resilience Framework for Madera County

Action: Authorize staff to negotiate and enter a contract with Mark Thomas for an amount not to exceed \$575,000 to provide services for a Regional Climate Adaptation and Resilience Framework for Madera County

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Macaulay, to authorize staff to negotiate and enter a contract with Mark Thomas for an amount not to exceed \$575,000 to provide services for a Regional Climate Adaptation and Resilience Framework for Madera County. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

MCTC SITTING AS THE MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

6. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

6-A. Reaffirm all Actions Taken While Sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, to reaffirm all actions taken while sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

7. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by MCTC staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

7-A. Executive Minutes – November 19, 2025

Action: Approve November 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was received.

Administrative Consent Action on Items 7A

Upon motion by Commissioner Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Macaulay, to approve the Administrative Consent Item 7A. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

NONE

MCTC SITTING AS THE MADERA COUNTY 2006 TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

9. AUTHORITY – ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by MCTC staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Authority or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the items will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Authority concerning the item before action is taken.

NONE

10. AUTHORITY – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

10-A. Measure T Regional Program – Programming of Available Funds

Action: Approve Programming of Available Regional and Flexible Program Funds for the SR 99/233 Chowchilla Multimodal Interchange Improvement Project

Chair Rodriguez opened the floor for public comment. The following public comments were received:

Rod Pruett, City Administrator, City of Chowchilla, provided the following comment: The City of Chowchilla will be applying for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant and submitting an additional Local Partnership Program (LPP) grant application. The project delay has increased costs and continues to impact public safety and traffic flow. The City is hopeful that the additional Measure T funding will be committed to the project.

Mr. Pruett stated that Flexible Funds from all entities have historically been used for regional projects, and that not using Flexible Funds for a regional project would represent a departure from past practice. Chowchilla's Flexible Funds have consistently been allocated to regional projects.

Ellen Bitter, Deputy City Engineer, City of Madera, provided the following comment: The City of Madera supports the project and does not oppose the allocation of regional funds; however, Ms. Bitter raised concern regarding the recommended use of \$3.5 million in Measure T Flexible Funds, which under the 2021 Strategic Plan require Authority approval when used to finance another agency's project and may impact the County of Madera and the City of Madera, as these funds could be used for maintenance, rehabilitation, transit, or bicycle projects. Ms. Bitter asked the Board to consider separate actions for the \$4.7 million in Regional Funds and the \$3.5 million in Flexible Funds.

Administrative Action/Discussion on Item 10A

Upon motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Macaulay, to approve Item 10A. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez

Abstain

Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent
Vote passed 4-0	

OTHER ITEMS

11. MISCELLANEOUS

11-A. Election of Officers: Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for Calendar Year 2026

Action: Elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for the 2026 calendar year

Election of Officers Action on Item 11A

Upon motion by Commissioner Macaulay, seconded by Commissioner Ahmed, to appoint Commissioner Poythress as Policy Board Chair. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

Upon motion by Commissioner Macaulay, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to appoint Commissioner Ahmed as Policy Board Vice Chair. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes:

Commissioner Rodriguez	Yes
Commissioner Poythress	Yes
Commissioner Ahmed	Yes
Commissioner Macaulay	Yes
Commissioner Rogers	Yes
Commissioner Zacharia	Absent

Vote passed 5-0

11-B. Items from Staff

Patricia Taylor, Executive Director, provided the following comments:

- Thanked Chair Rodriguez for his service as the 2025 MCTC Policy Board Chair.
- Extended New Year's greetings to the Board.
- Thanked the Commissioners for attending the meeting and noted that staff will be sending calendar placeholders to Commissioners for the upcoming 2026 Policy Board Meetings.

Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner, provided the following comment:

- Provided an update regarding the Clean Air Act rescission for California, an item previously discussed in 2025. MCTC has presented several reports on the potential impacts of this action.

During 2025, particularly in the fall, California Air Resources Board (CARB) technical staff completed significant revisions to the Emission Factor (EMFAC) Model and submitted the updated model to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval. EPA approved the model in a notably short timeframe, completing its review in approximately one month, compared to prior instances where approvals took years.

With EPA approval, the updated EMFAC model is now available for use in 2026 for testing and application in amending or approving plans, including the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and for conducting federal air quality conformity analyses.

The updated model reflects more stringent assumptions and no longer includes certain benefits associated with California's Clean Air Act waiver. Testing is underway to evaluate how these changes affect Madera County, partner agencies within the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, and other MPOs statewide. Agencies are assessing whether they are positioned to amend or approve new plans under the updated model.

Staff will continue analyzing the new data sets and will provide additional updates as RTP/SCS scenarios are developed and evaluated in relation to air quality conformity requirements.

11-C. Items from Caltrans

Shane Gunn, Acting Deputy Director, Caltrans District 06 provided the following comments:

- Staffing updates: Braden Duran has been appointed Office Chief of Multimodal Transportation Planning.
- The Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant program applications are currently under review at the District and Headquarters. Awards are expected to be announced in May or June. District 06 received 10 grant applications for a total of \$3.8 million. Two requests came from Madera: the Madera County Transit

Masterplan 2047, and the Madera County Short Range and Coordinated Transit Plans.

- The proposed 2026 SHOPP for FYs 2026/2027 through 2029/2030 was released in December. The California Transportation Commission will hold public hearings regarding SHOPP in February 2026.
- The South Madera Six Lane Project construction is scheduled for Spring 2027. The project is set to achieve Right-of-Way (ROW) certification and Ready-to-List (RTL) within a month and seek allocation at the August 2026 California Transportation Commission meeting, which is the earliest possibility for funding in the 2026/27 fiscal year.
- The North Madera Six Lane Project is in the environmental phase. Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) completion is targeted for April 2028, with Read-to-List (RTL) in 2031.
- The Downtown Madera Capital Preventative Maintenance Project will begin construction in mid-2026 following the City of Madera's water project. Bid opening occurred on January 13, 2026.
- The Madera South Expressway Project was advertised for construction on January 12, 2026. Construction anticipated in May 2026.
- The Chowchilla Capital Preventative Maintenance Project is in the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) and Right-of-Way (ROW) phases and is expected to be Ready-to-List (RTL) in June 2026.
- The State Route 41 at Road 416 Curve Improvement Project is Ready-to-List (RTL) pending right of way. Construction anticipated December 2026.
- The Highway 49 Junction Drive ADA Improvement Project will be Ready-to-List (RTL) Fall 2026, construction anticipated Spring 2027.
- The State Route 41 Capital Preventative Maintenance Project is in the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) phase and is expected to be Ready-to-List (RTL) in Summer 2027.

11-D. Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Rodriguez made the following comments:

- Suggested a future agenda item to consider downsizing the MCTC office space due to amount of remote work. Director Taylor offered to meet with Commissioner Rodriguez to discuss his concerns.
- Thanked the Board for the opportunity to Chair in 2025.

Commissioner Macaulay made the following comment:

- Commissioner Macaulay is also interested in reviewing the information regarding remote working and office space. Director Taylor noted that the information will be provided.

Commissioner Poythress made the following comment:

- MCTC Policy Board meeting dates are posted on the calendar. As the 2026 Chair, at the conclusion of each meeting Commissioner Poythress will ask Commissioners whether they anticipate any conflicts with attendance at the next meeting. If a Commissioner is unable to attend, they are expected to notify and arrange for their alternate to attend.
- Commissioner Poythress noted that he departed the Rural County Representatives of California meeting and returned to Madera to establish a quorum for today's MCTC meeting.

12. CLOSED SESSION

NONE

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "PST", is positioned above the printed name of Patricia S. Taylor.

Patricia S. Taylor
Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission