



Meeting Minutes

2022 Measure T Renewal Investment Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #6

Date: February 10, 2022

Time: 1:30 – 3:30 P.M.

Place: Zoom Meeting

To review the meeting in its entirety, please use the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/ZOabG3-qTpOKKeON6I2QlfWxvyuts7Hg9drNDOX9RVLY3oIjicdhG3N6_6OnFAoy.QwsKK0iVU88baoUn

IN ATTENDANCE:

Steering Committee Members: Supervisor Robert Poythress (Co-Chair), Madera County Board of Supervisors; Supervisor Brett Frazier (Co-Chair), Madera County Board of Supervisors; Geoffrey Wheeler, Active Transportation Advocate; Michael Prandini, Building Industry Association of Fresno and Madera Counties; David Padilla, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans); Nichole Mosqueda, Camarena Health Center; Derek Robinson, Community Advocate; Council Member Diana Palmer, City of Chowchilla; Rod Pruet, City of Chowchilla; Jason Rogers, City of Chowchilla; Ellen Bitter, City of Madera; Keith Helmuth, City of Madera; David Huff, City of Madera; Arnolando Rodriguez, City of Madera; Council Member Jose Rodriguez, City of Madera; Sara Bosse, County of Madera; Jared Carter, County of Madera; Matt Treber, County of Madera; Jay Varney, County of Madera; Davinder Mahil, Creekside Farming; Madeline Harris, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability; Leticia Casillas Luquin, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability; Bobby Kahn, Madera County Economic Development Commission (EDC); Christina Beckstead, Madera County Farm Bureau; Patricia Taylor, Madera County Transportation Commission/Madera County Transportation Authority (MCTC/MCTA); Frank Simonis, Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC); Tim Curley, Valley Children’s Hospital; Rhonda Salisbury, Visit Yosemite | Madera County

Members of the Public: Amalia Bernardo, Maria Garcia, Veronica Garibay, Kevin Hall, Holly Houston, Andrew Russell

Madera County Transportation Commission/Madera County Transportation Authority Staff and Consultants: Troy McNeil, MCTC/MCTA; Dylan Stone, MCTC/MCTA; Jeff Findley, MCTC/MCTA; Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies, Inc. (VRPA); Rose Willems, VRPA; Richard Lee, VRPA; Dena Graham, VRPA; Hector Guerra, VRPA; Charles Heath, TBWBH Props & Measures; Alex Wara-Macapinlac, TBWBH Props & Measures; Ellen Moy, Moy & Associates



I. Introductions and January 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Robert Poythress welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance and participation. Dena Graham, VRPA, then took roll call.

Supervisor Poythress then asked the group if there were any needed corrections to the meeting minutes.

It was requested that future minutes include a more detail around themes of the conversations related to the different agenda items.

It was also requested that an email submitted prior to the previous meeting by Geoffrey Wheeler, Active Transportation Advocate, be included in the minutes for the meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Supervisor Brett Frazier, and seconded by Tim Curley, Valley Children's Hospital. Supervisor Poythress asked if there was anyone who would not be in support of approving the minutes. There were none. Motion approved by consensus.

II. Public Comment Related to Items on the Agenda

Comment received during the item generally included:

- ✓ Public comment should be provided on each item that is going to be discussed.
- ✓ Discussion regarding investment plan priorities and the Measure T Renewal Plan Programs should be presented to the public first.
- ✓ It is not clear how air quality and environmental justice are being prioritized based on these priorities.
- ✓ Seems like a lot of funding is going to create additional capacity on streets and roads.
- ✓ Electric vehicle infrastructure feels like an afterthought to mitigate the air quality.
- ✓ Measure T proceeds are allocated to new growth areas vs what residents want.
- ✓ Madera County has the highest asthma related emergencies, but it appears a lot of emphasis is being placed on highways
- ✓ Projects should be identified that address public health.
- ✓ There are no opportunities for people to give input during the meetings.
- ✓ There is a lack of transportation services to and from La Vina including Dial-A-Ride services.
- ✓ Fresno has a law stating that the Measure C Renewal cannot be "until ended by voters" - it has to be 20 to 30 years. Does that apply to Madera measure? No, Madera County falls under Public Utilities Code 180000.
- ✓ The Steering Committee should reconsider its recommendation related to the duration of Measure T Renewal or "until ended by voter" given where the voters are located in the County.
- ✓ There is need for public comments, but this a Steering Committee also needs to make some serious decisions and requires time to insure that its members are fully informed.

III. Measure T Renewal Investment Plan Development and Approval Process

Georgiena Vivian, VRPA, reviewed flow chart information referencing how the Measure T Renewal Investment Plan will be developed, as well as the Measure T Renewal Planning Process. The Committee discussed the information. Comment received during the item generally included:

- ✓ Is Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) outreach also Measure T outreach? Staff responded yes. Measure T is one of many funding sources that is being considered during development of the RTP/SCS. MCTC generally takes advantage of every opportunity to receive feedback related to all transportation planning processes. In addition, Public Utilities Code Public Utilities Code 180000 authorizes that MCTA coordinate the planning of all Federal, State, and other revenue sources. The RTP/SCS captures the financing of the transportation system including Measure T funding.
- ✓ Provide a status of the regional transportation project listing. MCTC has not started preparing a list of regional transportation projects. The list will be developed as the RTP/SCS is prepared. Once the list of projects is available, it will be forwarded to the Steering Committee for review and consideration as part of the Regional Program.

IV. Public Engagement Status/Update

Alex Wara-Macapinlac, TBWBH Props & Measures, provided a recap of public engagement activities, including stakeholder interviews, collaboration with outreach efforts for the RTP/SCS, and emailing questionnaires to groups that had not been interviewed. Ms. Wara-Macapinlac said that upcoming outreach activities will include sending a mailer to all registered voters in Madera County, which will provide an update on Measure T and will include a tear off survey that can be submitted by residents. Additional upcoming outreach activities include developing a Measure T tracking poll related to residents' issues and priorities, and continued outreach with key stakeholders to seek their advice and suggestions on Measure T and the future Investment Plan. Comment received during the item generally included:

- ✓ The mailer should be mailed out to every household and not just registered voters.
- ✓ What is the status of polling and the results? A poll was conducted last year, and staff provided a presentation on that item at a previous meeting.
- ✓ Where are the polls being taken? The polling is conducted among a representative sample of voters considering past voter participation in Madera County. Demographic categories (such as party affiliation, voter age) and geographic categories (such as by Supervisorial district and by City or Community) are addressed during application of the survey to provide for a scientifically based survey and results.
- ✓ When will the Steering Committee be consulted about the contents of future polling efforts? At the next scheduled meeting of the Steering Committee (February 17, 2022).
- ✓ How can the community be sure that their feedback from the RTP outreach process is being taken consideration during development of the Measure T Investment Plan? MCTC is in the process of developing its RTP and is working on the project list now to address all the various different modes of transportation, and the primary needs within the County.

V. Measure T Renewal Programs, Subprograms, and Eligible Projects

Ms. Vivian and Ellen Moy, Moy & Associates, provided an overview of the Draft Measure T Renewal Programs, Subprograms, and Eligible Projects. Comment received during the item generally included:

- ✓ What the rationale for including highways under Community and Neighborhood Streets and Roads? It is included because the County and its cities/communities are accessed by regional facilities including freeways and other major streets and roads.
- ✓ Under public transit, eliminate “cost-effective” and instead put effective solutions to improve mobility in underserved areas unless the wording as is provides more of an opportunity to receive additional state or federal resources.
- ✓ Where did the list of eligible projects come from and how did you select them if you are still doing outreach? The listing provides a comprehensive listing of projects and programs that are currently in place within Madera County, are projects and programs that have been discussed statewide and that are on the horizon or are projects and programs that have been identified through previous regional transportation planning processes. Additionally, some of these projects exist in other counties or other areas in the State and are working well for the communities in their area.
- ✓ For the Local Road Improvements, there is an implication that there is only going to be local road improvements near freeways because Freeway Service Patrol is listed. Freeway Service Patrol is just another eligible project within that Program/Subprogram. It is a project that can benefit the local street system by relieving congestion caused by disabled vehicles or accidents. The back-up can be along the freeway and onto the local street system at interchanges.
- ✓ Who decides which projects will be funded? It really depends on whether or not the funds will continue to be passed through to the local agencies. If they are passed through to local agencies, then the local agencies will then decide which projects are funded.
- ✓ Cannot support program framework because it is not clear how much the listing is based on Community engagement versus based on the status quo.
- ✓ Would like to see words like cost effective get replaced with equitable.
- ✓ How does Measure T fit among the major funding sources? Measure T is primarily used to match Federal and State funding sources that are received. Leveraging other federal and state funding is important to make project funding go farther.

A motion to approve the Measure T Renewal Programs, Subprograms, and Eligible Projects was made by Supervisor Brett Frazier, and seconded by Derek Robinson, Community Advocate. Supervisor Poythress asked if there was anyone who would like to vote no on approving the list. Leticia Casillas Luquin, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, voted no. The motion was approved.

VI. Policy and Priority Discussions

Vision for the State Highway Systems

Patricia Taylor, MCTC/MCTA, stated that progress has been made on State Highways in Madera County, which include State Route (SR) 99, SR 41, SR 145, SR 49, SR 233, and SR 152. Ms. Taylor added that there is still work that needs to be done and identified some representative projects.

Ms. Taylor also stated that there are regionally significant roads in Madera County that will need maintenance, rehabilitation, or expansion, including but not limited to Avenue 7, Avenue 9, Avenue 12, and Road 26. Ms. Taylor also explained that the State and Federal government is constantly changing when it comes to funding, and that without Measure T, Madera County will not have the funding to match potential State/Federal funding opportunities or fund projects on the State Highway System and on the regionally significant roads system.

General Plan and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Considerations

Dylan Stone, MCTC/MCTA, provided an overview of the RTP/SCS development process, which provides a comprehensive look at transportation needs in Madera County. Mr. Stone explained that developing the RTP/SCS requires a coordinated and collaborative effort involving input from the public, information from local plans and policies, and guidelines from State and Federal partners.

Public Transit Projects/Programs

This item was postponed until the February 17, 2022 Steering Committee meeting.

VII. Next Steps

a. Staff Items

There were none.

b. Renewal Schedule

Ms. Vivian explained that the renewal schedule has not changed significantly since the last time it was shared with the Steering Committee. The schedule will be updated to reflect actions taken during the Steering Committee meetings, and that there will continue to be discussion on policy issues.

c. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is Thursday, February 17, 2022, at 1:30 PM.

VIII. Public Comments Related to Items Not on the Agenda

- ✓ Many in our community do not know about the Measure. Many residents want the Sierra Vista Yosemite school area to be fixed. Will there also be meetings with an interpreter in Spanish for our community? Staff requested that the commenter provide their contact information/phone number so staff could contact them.
- ✓ The State stopped funding capacity expanding projects like the interchange and freeway expansions because of the increase of greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, Measure T should not be used to continue funding these types of projects.
- ✓ Does the State enabling legislation need to be amended this year to allow it to continue “until ended by voters?” No, Madera County falls under Public Utilities Code 180000. See the previous related comment.
- ✓ The Oakhurst Sierra Rotary Club and potentially other organizations would like to invite staff to present the Measure T Renewal effort at one of its meetings.

- ✓ Concerned that there are just four Steering Committee meetings before the MCTA is planning to submit the Investment Plan/Measure Renewal on the ballot.