



December 12, 2024

Traffic and Transportation Commission
City of Salinas
200 Lincoln Avenue
Salinas, CA 93901

**RE: Item ID 24-695. Draft Alisal
Streetscape Master Plan**

Dear Traffic and Transportation Commission:

Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) provides public transportation throughout Monterey County and operates an extensive bus network and transit hub in the City of Salinas. MST is happy to see the City advancing its Alisal Streetscape Master Plan. We look forward to being a community asset that will support the City's vision of establishing a connected, equitable, and safe multi-modal transportation network in the Alisal.

MST has reviewed Item ID 24-695 regarding the Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan and would like to make the following comments for your consideration:

MST operates transit service within the four primary commercial corridors within the Alisal District: East Alisal Street, East Market Street, Sanborn Road, and Williams Road. The East Alisal Street and Williams Road corridors have some of the highest ridership in MST's network. The E Alisal / Sanborn (Stop ID: 3413) bus stop has an average of 53 boardings per day and the E Alisal / Towt (Stop ID: 3416) bus stop has an average of 49 boardings a day. Along the Williams Road corridor, the highest ridership occurs at the Williams / Bardin (Stop ID: 3390 and Stop ID: 3125) bus stops with an average of 55 inbound boardings per day and an average of 39 outbound boardings per day.

It is imperative that all streetscape designs proposed in the Draft are consistent with MST's Designing for Transit Guidelines (2020) to ensure safe access for everyone using the street including bus riders, pedestrians, drivers, and bicyclists.

Due to the high transit-dependent population in the study area, MST is in the early stages of planning bus rapid transit service in the Alisal District. MST has concerns that the Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan will preclude these much-needed transit improvements. MST will be providing a comment letter on the complete Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan by the December 20, 2024 deadline. As the Draft Alisal Streetscape Master Plan moves forward, we ask that city staff collaborate with MST to ensure adequate transit services are available to the four primary commercial corridors within the Alisal District.

Advocating and delivering quality public transportation as a leader within our community and industry.

Transit District Members Monterey County • Carmel-by-the-Sea • Del Rey Oaks • Gonzales • Greenfield • King City • Marina • Monterey
Pacific Grove • Salinas • Sand City • Seaside • Soledad **Administrative Offices** 19 Upper Ragsdale Drive, Suite 200 Monterey, CA 93940

PH 1-888-MST-BUS1 (1-888-678-2871) • FAX (831) 899-3954 • WEB mst.org

If you have any questions about the above comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at epatel@mst.org or 831-264-9288.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emma Patel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Emma Patel
Planning Manager

CC: Tony Barrera, Councilmember