

# Press Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Transportation Projects Support Carpooling and Transit to Improve Commutes in Alameda County

*Improvements to I-80, I-580 and I-880 provide incentive to carpool and take transit*

Alameda County – California. Three transportation projects funded by voter-approved measures will open in the next several months – all aimed at improving commutes in and through Alameda County by making roads more efficient. Opening first is the new Measure B- and Prop 1B-funded I-880 Southbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane, which will open this coming week – extending the existing carpool lane south three miles from Hegenberger Road in Oakland to Marina Boulevard in San Leandro.

“It’s great that we can celebrate National Carpool Month by opening a new carpool lane in Alameda County,” said Alameda CTC Chair Supervisor Scott Haggerty. “Expanding the carpool lane network increases options for motorists by improving travel times for carpoolers and for transit buses, taking cars off the road and reducing traffic congestion. Carpool lane network improvements on I-880, I-580 and I-80 offer more fast, reliable options for motorists.”

The [I-580 Express Lanes](#), opening in early 2016, will provide the first westbound carpool/express lane in the heavily congested Tri-Valley corridor between Livermore and Dublin, and add one new carpool/express lane in the eastbound direction. All I-580 Express Lane users are required to have a [FasTrak toll tag](#) to use the lanes, and carpoolers will need [FasTrak Flex tag](#) to use the lanes toll-free. It only takes two to carpool on the I-580!

These lanes will improve travel time reliability for corridor users and are complemented by the region’s carpool-matching programs, which provide support, matching assistance and incentives for vanpooling and carpooling at [www.rideshare.511.org](http://www.rideshare.511.org).

A third project coming online shortly is the [I-80 SMART Corridor Project](#), between the Carquinez and Bay Bridges. Integrating a network of electronic signs, ramp meters and other state-of-the-art elements, this project will enhance safety and improve travel time reliability in two of the top 10 most-congested locations in the San Francisco Bay Area. Transit and carpooling will be especially supported with carpool- and bus-only lanes on on-ramps throughout the corridor.

Carpooling is also made easier by Alameda County’s [Guaranteed Ride Home Program](#), which provides insurance for those who carpool or take transit – giving a free ride home in an emergency for those who have made the effort to avoid commuting alone in a car. Links to additional transportation resources for commuters and employers are available at Alameda CTC’s [Commute Choices](#) website.

It's Carpool Month, October 15, 2015

**About the Alameda County Transportation Commission**

Alameda CTC coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers essential, voter-supported transportation improvements in every city throughout Alameda County. Funding sources for Alameda CTC's expenditure plans include Measure B, approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000, and Measure BB, approved by more than 70 percent of voters in 2014. Visit [www.alamedactc.org](http://www.alamedactc.org) to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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