

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Alameda County Transportation Expenditure Plan Moves onto November 2014 Ballot

## If approved by voters in November, over \$8 billion in funds for essential transportation improvement will stream into Alameda County creating 150,000 new jobs

Alameda County - California. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors' voted unanimously this morning to place the Alameda County Transportation Commission's <u>2014 Transportation Expenditure Plan</u> — and its authorizing measure — onto the November 2014 ballot for voter approval.

The Plan will generate nearly \$8 billion for essential transportation improvements within every city throughout Alameda County over the next 30 years. According to an independent economic analysis (see below) this \$8 billion investment will stimulate a total of \$20 billion in economic activity in the region and create nearly 150,000 local jobs.

"The Transportation Expenditure Plan is the culmination of significant collaboration between our agency, numerous civic organizations, and the general public to develop a plan that improves all forms of transportation throughout Alameda County," said Scott Haggerty, Alameda County Supervisor and Chair of the Alameda County Transportation Commission, at a press conference today.

"A smooth-flowing transportation network is absolutely critical in supporting Alameda County's economic vitality," said Keith Carson, Alameda County Supervisor and Chair of the East Bay Development Alliance. "Better roads and transit will attract businesses and will help the flow of goods and services."

#### Transportation Priorities to be Addressed

Upon approval of the transportation measure in November 2014, transportation funding will:

• **Create good jobs within Alameda County** by requiring local contracting that supports residents and businesses in Alameda County.

- **Provide traffic relief,** including funds to every city in the County to repave streets, fill potholes and upgrade local transportation infrastructure. It also invests in aging highway corridors to upgrade on and off ramps, using modern technology to manage traffic and improve safety.
- Expand BART, bus and commuter rail for reliable, safe and fast services, including BART expansion and improvements within Alameda County, bus service expansion and commuter rail service improvements.
- Keep fares affordable for seniors, youth and people with disabilities, including affordable senior shuttles, vans and services that help keep seniors independent, and critical funding for student transit passes to ensure youth can affordably get to school. It also funds reliable and inexpensive transportation for people with disabilities.
- **Expand bike and pedestrian paths** for greater safety and convenience throughout the county.

For more specific plan highlights and the breakdown of funding see, <u>2014 Alameda</u> <u>County Transportation Expenditure Plan</u>.

## Independent Economic Analysis

A new report, titled "In the Fast Lane: Improving Reliability, Stabilizing Local Funding, and Enabling the Transportation Systems of the Future in Alameda County" by the Bay Area Council Economic Institute, notes that "well-functioning transportation systems are critical to economic competitiveness" and that the Plan invests in current and future transportation needs and will translate into broader economic gains across the region, supporting quality of life and economic competitiveness.

The report is an exploration of Alameda County's transportation system and shows the tremendous role that the Plan will have in creating jobs and expanding economic activity.

"Investing in Alameda County's transportation system means investing in Alameda County's future prosperity," said Jim Wunderman, President and CEO of the Bay Area Council. "The 2014 Transportation Expenditure Plan outlines a bold and necessary vision for Alameda County. With its focus on expanding and modernizing BART, fixing roads and highways, and providing transit programs for youth and seniors, the Transportation Expenditure Plan will help make Alameda County a place where businesses of all shapes and sizes want to start, stay and grow. And it will make it easier for all Alameda County residents to get where they need to go safely and efficiently."

#### Strong Support for Plan

At the press conference today, a number of notable county and transportation leaders – including Scott Haggerty: Alameda County Supervisor & Chair of Alameda County Transportation Commission; Keith Carson: President of Alameda County Board of Supervisors & Chair of East Bay Economic Development Alliance; Elsa Ortiz: AC Transit Board of Directors and Alameda County Transportation Commissioner; Tom Blalock: BART Board of Directors and Alameda CTC Commissioner; and Jim Wunderman: President and CEO of the Bay Area Council – vocalized their strong support for the Transportation Expenditure Plan and its supporting measure.

## About the Alameda County Transportation Commission

<u>Alameda CTC</u> plans, funds and delivers transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility to foster a vibrant and livable Alameda County. Alameda CTC coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers the expenditure plan for the half-cent sales tax approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000. Follow us on <u>www.facebook.com/AlamedaCTC</u> and <u>www.twitter.com/AlamedaCTC</u>.