## **Press Release**



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## I-80 Goes High-Tech

I-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility Project Breaks Ground

*Alameda and Contra Costa Counties - California*. The I-80 corridor, one of the most congested in the San Francisco Bay Area, has traffic volumes reaching 290,000 vehicles per day and an average of 7,500 hours of daily traffic delays. However, innovative high-tech solutions to improve highway and transit efficiency throughout the corridor are on the way. On October 19, 2012, <u>Caltrans</u>, the <u>Alameda County Transportation Commission</u> (Alameda CTC) and the <u>Contra Costa Transportation Authority</u> (CCTA), and <u>West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory</u> <u>Committee</u> (WCCTAC), in conjunction with local jurisdictions and transit agency partners throughout the two-county corridor, will officially begin major construction on the final phases of the <u>Interstate 80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (I-80 ICM) project.</u>

<u>The I-80 ICM project</u> will improve traffic flow through the corridor to reduce congestion and travel time, and improve safety by installing a suite of active traffic management (ATM) tools, along with adaptive ramp metering (ARM) at 40 on-ramps. The addition of these leading-edge intelligent transportation technology tools will position this section of I-80, between the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Toll Plaza and the Carquinez Bridge, for 21<sup>st</sup> century vehicle and transit travel.

The San Pablo Avenue corridor and other I-80 connecting arterials are also included in the project, which is the first of its kind in the Bay Area to integrate freeway and arterial operations into a single system. It is also the first project to use variable advisory speed signs for end-of-queue warnings (helping to reduce secondary accidents), and the first installation of lane use signs in California. Transit will get priority at ramps when they enter the freeway.

"Safer and more efficient and reliable traffic flows along I-80 are essential to the current and future vitality of the Bay Area," said Alameda CTC Chair Mark Green. "Alameda CTC is working to ensure that county and regional transportation systems will run as smoothly as possible and keep up with demand as the Bay Area's population grows—using high-tech solutions to increase capacity on our existing roadways. This project means time savings and greater convenience for Bay Area residents and businesses that rely on the I-80 corridor."

"This project will provide our cities the necessary tools to better manage traffic on our streets when things break down on the freeway," said WCCTAC Chair Janet Abelson. "With an investment of \$5 million in Contra Costa Measure J half-cent sales tax, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority has leveraged over \$76 million in State funds to improve traffic flow and safety along one of the most congested corridors in the Bay Area," said CCTA Chair Don Tatzin.

Additional information on the I-80 ICM project, including a <u>video</u>, may be found on the <u>Alameda CTC website</u>, as well as the <u>CCTA website</u>.

The approximately \$80 million I-80 ICM Project is funded largely by the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account and the Traffic Light Synchronization Program—both created by <u>State</u> <u>Proposition 1B</u>. Approximately \$2.8 million of the total project is funded by the <u>Alameda</u> <u>County Measure B</u> half-cent sales tax and \$5 million by Contra Costa Measure J half-cent sales tax.

## The Alameda County Transportation Commission

The mission of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is to plan, fund and deliver 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% of county voters in 2000. For more information, visit <u>www.alamedactc.org</u>.

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## The Contra Costa Transportation Authority

The mission of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority is to deliver a comprehensive transportation system that enhances mobility and accessibility, while promoting a healthy environment and strong economy by:

- Leading a collaborative decision-making process with local, regional and state agencies;
- Establishing partnerships to effectively deliver transportation projects and programs;
- Facilitating a countywide dialog on growth and congestion that discloses and seeks to mitigate the impacts of development while respecting the responsibilities of local jurisdictions;
- Taking into account the diverse character of Contra Costa communities.

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