

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Watchdog Committee's 10th Annual Report Highlights Review of Transportation Sales Tax Activities

In its watchdog role, the committee monitors and reports on expenditures. This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> report of a clean agency audit.

*Alameda County - California.* On August 30, 2012, the Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) released its 10th Annual Report to the Public. The report describes the committee's activities and provides an update on the delivery of programs and projects funded by Measure B, Alameda County's voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements. The Alameda CTC is responsible for allocating Measure B tax dollars for a wide range of transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility, and the CWC is responsible for providing independent oversight of Alameda County's half-cent sales tax expenditures.

The CWC Annual Report notes that audited income and expenditures were in compliance with specific caps, and that the auditors did not identify any accounting concerns. The report also provides an update on the progress of transportation programs and projects.

The annual report prepared by the CWC covers fiscal year 2010-2011 reporting as well as recent activities undertaken by the committee. In fiscal year 2010-2011, Alameda CTC received \$105.4 million in revenue, and expended \$140.8 million as follows:

- \$54.4 million for public transit, including operations, capital investments and special transportation for seniors and people with disabilities.
- \$52.4 million for highway and streets projects.

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- \$28.7 million for cities and the County for local transportation improvements, including local streets and roads, and bike and pedestrian projects.
- \$3.6 million for general administration.
- \$1.7 million for direct program and project management and oversight.

The Citizens Watchdog Committee was created in 2002, after reauthorization of the local sales tax measure in 2000, to review agency financial audits and reports as well as the deadlines for program and project completion. Approximately 60 percent of the sales tax revenues, minus administrative costs, funds programs, and approximately 40 percent funds capital projects. Part of the committee's responsibility is to issue an annual report to voters and taxpayers to report on the sales tax fund expenditures.

Citizens Watchdog Committee Chair James Paxson notes, "The ongoing work of the CWC is an important part of regularly demonstrating to the residents and businesses of Alameda County that Measure B will deliver on its original promise. The reviews and analytical work done by the CWC play a key role in making sure that Measure B funds are spent in accordance with the provisions of the measure passed by Alameda County voters; a role made all the more important given the wide support that Measure B originally garnered."

The CWC has kept watch on all projects, programs, and administrative costs. The CWC Annual Report is available to the public on the Alameda CTC website, [http://www.alamedactc.org/files/managed/Document/8712/CWC\\_10th\\_Annual\\_Report\\_Aug2012.pdf](http://www.alamedactc.org/files/managed/Document/8712/CWC_10th_Annual_Report_Aug2012.pdf). Copies of the report, the Expenditure Plan and audits for each agency receiving Measure B funds are available on the website and at Alameda CTC offices at 1333 Broadway, Suites 220 and 300, Oakland, CA 94612, telephone 510.208.7400.

#### **About 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 percent of county voters in 2000. For more information, visit [www.alamedactc.org](http://www.alamedactc.org).

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