

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Alameda CTC Wins MTC “Excellence in Motion” Award**

*I-680 Sunol Grade Express Lane Project receives Merit Award.*

*Alameda County - California.* On Wednesday, October 24, Alameda County Transportation Commission ([Alameda CTC](http://www.alamedactc.org)), together with the Caltrans and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, will be honored with an “[Excellence in Motion](#)” award from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission ([MTC](#)). The Merit Award will be presented for the [I-680 Sunol Grade Express Lane Project](#)—the first of its kind in Northern California.

Arthur L. Dao, Executive Director of Alameda CTC, will accept the award at a ceremony in Preservation Park in Oakland.

Alameda CTC is at the forefront of technology applied to transportation, enabling Alameda County to get the most capacity from its existing infrastructure. The I-680 Express Lane allows solo drivers to use the carpool lane (if there is excess capacity) for a fee that is dynamically priced based on traffic conditions. This frees up space in the non-toll lanes for other drivers.

Interstate 680 spans the Sunol Grade linking Highway 84 in Pleasanton to Highway 237 in Milpitas, and is a major commute route connecting the Tri-Valley Area in Alameda County with South Bay business and employment centers. The I-680 was formerly considered as one of the region’s most congested commute corridors. That changed with a 2008 pilot project to convert the southbound I-680 HOV (carpool) lane into an express lane

The southbound I-680 Sunol Express Lane opened to motorists on September 20, 2010. During

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its second year of operation, express lane usage increased by nearly 35 percent, with users experiencing driving speeds of 10-15 mph faster than in the general purpose lanes. Congestion in general purposes lanes also improved. Express lane popularity is increasing because it provides a travel option during periods of traffic congestion and valuable time savings.

Alameda CTC is currently working to implement similar strategies on [northbound I-680](#) and [eastbound](#) and [westbound](#) I-580. A new [transportation expenditure plan](#) on the November ballot (Measure B1) will help fund these improvements, if passed by voters.

The “Excellence in Motion” awards, presented every two years by MTC, recognize individuals, projects and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to transportation in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region.

For more information:

[Fiscal Year 2010-11 I-680 Annual Report](#)  
[I-680 Sunol Express Lane - Northbound Fact Sheet](#)  
[I-680 Sunol Express Lane - Southbound Fact Sheet](#)  
[I-580 Eastbound Express Lane Fact Sheet](#)  
[I-580 Westbound Express Lane Fact Sheet](#)  
[I-880 Southbound Express Lane Fact Sheet](#)  
[Alameda County Transportation Expenditure Plan](#)

#### **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 [www.alamedactc.org](http://www.alamedactc.org).

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