May is National Bike Month

May is the perfect month to make strides towards a healthier lifestyle by biking and walking more. In Alameda County, the month is filled with events, opportunities to win prizes, free bike safety classes, and many chances to conveniently fit biking and walking into your life.

Bike to Work Day

Find out how easy it can be to bike, plus get your daily exercise and a breath of fresh air. Hop on your bike on May 12—Bike to Work Day. Energizer stations will be set up in the morning around the county to provide food and goodies to cyclists. Register for the Bike to Work Day raffle and you’ll be eligible to win a new bike and other prizes!

The East Bay Bicycle Coalition (EBBC) is planning many other events around the county for Bike Month, including a Bike Away from Work Party in downtown Oakland, bike rodeos for kids, and the second annual Bike to Market Day on Saturday, May 21.

Safe Routes to School

Schools and kids can participate in Bike Month too. The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Partnership is coordinating Bike to School Days from May 9—May 20. Visit TransForm’s website to find resources for your child’s school, and to learn more about this program.

Safe Routes to Schools is offered at over 90 schools around the county, through a major grant from the Alameda CTC.

Other Bike Related Programs Sponsored by the Alameda CTC

Convenience and safety are two of the top concerns for people who don’t normally bike, and the Alameda CTC is funding programs and projects to address these issues. Bike Safety classes provide a way to be safe and comfortable riding on city streets. One participant said: “I enjoy riding more and I feel safer since I understand the rules of the road.” These free classes, offered throughout the county, are supported by the East Bay Bicycle Coalition through a grant from the Alameda CTC. The program is wrapping up its fourth year, and the Commission will consider allocating funds for another year of classes at its May meeting.

If you’re concerned about getting home quickly due to a medical emergency or unscheduled overtime on a day you’ve biked or walked to work, you can ask your

continued on next page
Organizational improvements are also underway in an effort to streamline agency operations. As always, we encourage public involvement at our many public meetings and through various contracting opportunities. See our business section for how we continue to support local businesses in our contracting. We hope this is the month that you give healthy commuting a try and join in with the thousands of local cyclists who celebrate National Bike Month and active transportation!

Art Dao
Executive Director

Bicycle and Pedestrian Capital Project Networks

The Alameda CTC continues to make progress on the updates to the 2006 Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans. With input from its Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans Working Group, the Commission is in the process of revising and mapping the bicycle and pedestrian countywide capital project networks, along with prioritizing all projects.

Local BPACs have scheduled meetings around the county, and interested community members are invited to provide input regarding these important networks and capital project priorities. To find out more about the updates process, visit the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Updates page.

Building on local plans, the updated bicycle and pedestrian plans will become a part of the larger Alameda County Countywide Transportation Plan (CWTP) that rolls up into the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

Public Involvement in Countywide Transportation Plan Update

In February and March 2011, the Alameda CTC conducted five workshops throughout the county to educate Alameda County residents, business members and elected officials about the CWTP update and Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) development, and to encourage input regarding transportation project and program needs. The public will have more opportunities to review and comment on the draft plans at workshops given in Fall 2011.

In April, local jurisdictions and public agencies submitted project and program lists to the Alameda CTC, as part of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Call for Projects. The Commission evaluated, approved and submitted a draft projects and programs list to MTC on April 29, and Alameda CTC advisory committees and working groups will review the final draft list in May. A public hearing is scheduled for May 26, 2011, with anticipated adoption thereafter by the Alameda CTC.

employer to sign up for the Alameda CTC Guaranteed Ride Home program. This free program gives you the peace of mind to know that you’ll have a way to get home in an emergency, even without your car.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Alameda CTC and the EBBC are jointly promoting everyday bicycling through a countywide marketing effort, coordinated with Bike to Work Day. Look around and you’ll see Ride into Life! ads on street poles, in BART stations, and on buses around the county. Visit RideStrideArrive.org, our one-stop-shop for biking and walking resources in Alameda County.
A telephone survey of 813 Alameda County voters shows continued support for public transit and the transportation half-cent sales tax. Of those surveyed:

- Fifty-six percent agree that having high-quality roads and public transit is crucial, even if it means raising taxes.
- Seventy-one percent would take public transit more often if it were faster and more reliable.
- Eighty-nine percent believe that transporting more cargo by train, instead of by truck, can reduce congestion and improve air quality.

Alameda CTC Merger Advancements and Financial Outlook

As part of the merger between the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA) and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA), the Alameda CTC has put together a new staffing plan, along with updated policies and procedures, all based on reducing redundancies and streamlining operations.

The Alameda CTC is also in the process of consolidating financial accounting systems, fiscal year 2011—2012 budgets, cost allocation plans and the CalPERS retirement system, along with payroll and accounts payable processing.

These changes are timely, since the Alameda CTC revised its Measure B budget projections in March 2011 from $90 million to $102 million, due to increased sales tax revenues. With more tax dollars coming in and updated processes in place, the outlook is good for Alameda CTC projects and programs that improve mobility and ensure a vibrant, livable Alameda County.

Eighth Annual Mobility Workshop

Annually, the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) hosts an annual mobility workshop for seniors and people with disabilities. The workshop gives attendees a chance to learn about current transportation options, discuss transportation challenges and come together to coordinate efforts and devise solutions to improve transportation throughout the area.

Participants include specialized transportation consumers and providers, social service agency staff and advocates. They gather to learn about and share approaches to addressing the full range of mobility needs for seniors and disabled individuals in Alameda County.

For more information about the Eighth Annual Senior & Disabled Mobility Workshop, visit the Alameda CTC website.
Transportation Forums in Local Communities

The Alameda CTC hosted the East County Transportation Forum at Dublin City Hall on April 21, 2011. Attendees participated in an open house and heard updates on projects and programs. They were also able to ask specific questions regarding Alameda Countywide Transportation Planning and a variety of project updates, including the Route 84 Expressway, the I-580 Corridor, the Alamo Canal Trail and WHEELS transit advancements. The presentations can be viewed online here.

The next transportation forum will be held on July 21, 2011 in South County at the Ruggieri Senior Center in Union City. The South County Transportation Forum is free and open to the public.

For more information, visit the Alameda CTC website.

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I-880 North Safety and Operational Improvement Project

**Project Sponsor:** Alameda CTC

**Measure B Contribution:** Over $700,000 toward total cost of $100 million project.

**Project Description:** Construction of operational and safety improvements on Interstate 880 (I-880) at the existing overcrossings of 29th Avenue and 23rd Avenue in the City of Oakland include replacing three freeway overcrossing structures to allow the widening of the mainline lanes to standard width and lengthening of the auxiliary lanes. The project will also improve the northbound on and off ramps.

**Benefits:** The project will increase the flow of vehicles along the mainline and will reduce the occurrence of congestion-related accidents in the area.

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I-680 Express Lane Project

**Project Sponsor:** Alameda CTC

**Measure B Contribution:** Over $15 million toward total cost of $36 million project.

**Project Description:** Conversion of the High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane, or “carpool” lane, to an Express Lane from Route 84 south of Pleasanton to Route 237 in Milpitas.

**Benefits:** Express Lanes have successfully helped ease southbound commute congestion in the corridor and have been consistently increasing in revenue generation since the opening in September 2010. Ultimately, the I-680 Express Lane will connect with an Express Lane network for the entire Bay Area.

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calendar of events

**May 2011—July 2011**

*Note: Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be held at Alameda CTC offices, 1333 Broadway, Suite 300, Oakland. Listings are shown in alphabetical order.*

Alameda CTC Board Meeting
2:30—4:30 p.m.
May 26
June 23

Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee Meeting (ACTAC)
1:30—4:30 p.m.
June 7

Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals Webinar
12:00—1:00 p.m.
Topic: Using Social Media to Improve Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
May 18

12:00—1:30 p.m.
Topic: Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Design within a Constrained Right-of-Way
June 15, 2011

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting
5:30—7:30 p.m.
June 9

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans Working Group Meeting
1:30—3:30 p.m.
June 8

Bike to Work Day
All Day—Countywide
May 12

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
5:30—6:30 p.m.
June 16

Citizens Watchdog Committee Meeting
6:30—8:30 p.m.
June 13

continued on next page
Alameda CTC’s Strong Commitment to Local Business

As the Alameda CTC continues to streamline operations, it also continues to deliver real opportunities for local businesses. The Alameda CTC partners with other transportation and public agencies throughout the county and region to provide opportunities and engage small, local and disadvantaged businesses. The Commission is an active member of the Bay Area Business Outreach Committee, and regularly partners with other member agencies, such as:

- BART
- AC Transit
- Caltrans
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
- San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
- San Mateo County Transit District
- Golden Gate Bridge Transportation District

Earlier this year, the Alameda CTC took the lead in presenting a highly successful professional services networking event which took place at MTC. Over 350 Bay Area business people gathered to network and hear about upcoming work in transportation.

Alameda CTC partnered with Caltrans and participated in the CalMentor mentor-protégé program. Over 100 attendees convened at the CalMentor Quarterly meeting to hear about the newly-formed Agency, as well as upcoming projects.

The Alameda CTC also joined with the City of Hayward in hosting a “Doing Business with Public Agencies” event for local businesses.
Alameda CTC hosted tables at both the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Vendor Fair and the Oakland Black Board of Trade and Commerce “Meet the Estimators” events, meeting business representatives and getting the word out about upcoming contracting opportunities.

During the first quarter of 2011, the Commission released Requests for Proposals for:

- Information Technology Services
- Project Control Services
- Media and Public Relations Services
- Preparation of the Project Study Report for the I-580 Express Hot Lane Project

Sixty-one percent of all firms attending the mandatory pre-bid meetings for these opportunities were Alameda County firms. The Alameda CTC has an excellent track record of local and small business participation. Reports show that for the second half of 2010 alone, over $18.7 million in contract awards and payments went to Alameda County firms.

The Commission continues to engage and certify businesses under the Local Business Contract Equity program. Nearly 500 Alameda County firms are certified under the program.

Certified firms qualify to meet local participation goals on Alameda CTC contracts. Visit the Commission’s website for information regarding certification and contracting opportunities. The Commission encourages the participation of local firms and staff is available to address questions.

Community Involvement

Taking Your Life in Strides

Frances Hilliard has driven all of her adult life. “I would get up, jump in the car, and off I would go,” she says energetically. No stranger to transportation matters, Frances has served on the Alameda CTC’s Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), acting as a liaison between the agency and the public since 2002, when she was first appointed by former Alameda County Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker.

Back in 2005, doctors told Frances that she needed to improve her physical health. But with no specific ailment to cure, the only recommendation they could offer was for her to try exercise. Taking matters seriously, Frances started with her two feet. “Before,” she explains, “I would always use the car. I got very little exercise.” As a result of retirement and her doctor’s advice, Frances decided to make some changes. As she puts it, she stepped out of her car and onto the pavement, now walking at least 3.5 miles per day, six days a week.

Frances has transformed her quality of life. In place of the hurried, impromptu car trips, she plans her activities each day very carefully around walking. “Now I may walk to the post office, the bank and the grocery store. Before, I would have made three trips in the car, rather than just one. Walking helps me to sit down, plot out the day and it really forces me to manage my time.” Removing the rush from her days and shrinking her carbon footprint, she has also shrunk her beltline: Frances has lost a staggering 91 pounds.

Bicycle Commuter of the Year Announced

Jason Hollick of Berkeley, a sixth grade student, is Alameda County’s 2011 Bike Commuter of the Year! The award is given by the East Bay Bicycle Coalition for the individual who has demonstrated a commitment to bicycling as a means of everyday transportation. Jason will receive recognition at the Bike Away From Work Party in Old Oakland on the evening of Bike to Work Day, May 12.
The transition to walking has been a rejuvenating and rewarding experience for Frances. "It’s a health thing," she says noting the tremendous health benefits she has experienced. An Oakland resident, Frances frequently walks around the City’s Lake Merritt for exercise. “I don’t even have to go into a gym,” she laughs. “Some days, I’ll head out and just end up at Jack London Square in Oakland.” Now that walking has become her routine, Frances loves to explore her native Oakland. “Many places are within walking distance,” she says. “I can see how the city is changing. Walking allows me to reconnect with the city I live in.”

**Supporting Small, Local Businesses**

The Alameda CTC is committed to spending Measure B funds for goods and services within the County. This locally-focused approach recycles tax dollars back into the local community through vendor and contracting partnerships that get the work done.

Small and local businesses stimulate economic vitality and job creation in our communities. Local businesswoman Laura Luster is a shining example of how this value is applied at the Alameda CTC, and why it works. Her firm, **L. Luster & Associates**, is based in Alameda County and was hired by the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority in 2008 to administer the agency’s Local Business Contract Equity program, and to manage certification and outreach efforts related to small and local businesses.

Luster says, “My work with [the Alameda CTC] has been important for sustaining and growing my business within the transportation industry. It has also connected me with a larger arena of businesses and public officials in Alameda County.”

**Measure B Funds Making a Difference for Local Jurisdictions and Transit Agencies**

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<td>Transportation for Sporting/Adventures and Outings Programs</td>
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<td>City of Alameda</td>
<td>Bike Plan Updates</td>
<td>Shuttle providing estuary crossing, connecting City and Alameda and City of Oakland.</td>
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AC Transit

East Bay Paratransit Advances Technology Using Measure B Funds

East Bay Paratransit riders continue to benefit from the funding provided to the ADA transportation program through voter approved Alameda County Measure B funds. The cost of this service is budgeted at $33 million, of which 15% is funded through Measure B funds. All paratransit riders have disabilities or conditions that prevent them from traveling on AC Transit buses or the BART system.

Mobile Data Terminals

In addition to operational funding, Measure B has provided special grant funds for two projects that are nearing completion. Two grants were given to AC Transit, one of the partners operating East Bay Paratransit, for installation of Mobile Data Terminals (MDC) in the fleet. These are small computers located on the vehicles that can communicate with the scheduling software. They provide for a higher level of data collection and communication and also allow dispatchers to view where the vehicles are on a map. MDC’s have been installed in over 200 vehicles and over 300 drivers and dispatchers have been trained on their use.

BART

Learn BART!

BART, the other East Bay Paratransit partner, is putting the finishing touches on a new brochure called Learn BART!

The intended user of this guide is a person who has difficulty using written materials. It is designed like a comic book and will show potential riders how to take a ride on BART.

Learn BART! will include pictures illustrating how to use the BART map and to find a station; how to buy a ticket; how to enter or exit the station; and where to wait for an approaching BART train. The guide is scheduled for release in Summer 2011.

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<td>Bike Lane Installations at Shoreline Drive and Westline Drive.</td>
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<td>City of Hayward</td>
<td>Paratransit Program</td>
<td>Safe, customized, door-to-door transport options for paratransit users.</td>
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<td>City of Hayward</td>
<td>Road Rehabilitation and Pedestrian Facility Improvements</td>
<td>Increased pedestrian safety through new sidewalk construction, ADA improvements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Oakland</td>
<td>Bicycle Wayfinding Signage</td>
<td>Increased bicycle and pedestrian maneuverability and safety through wayfinding signage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Oakland</td>
<td>Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program</td>
<td>Traffic control and traffic calming solutions.</td>
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"Projections in FY 2010/11 indicate that 750,000 passengers will be transported in East Bay Paratransit’s fleet of lift-accessible vans and sedans.”
Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program North County Youth/Adults with Disabilities Group Trip Project

Overview
This project provides accessible group trip transportation in North County for children, youth, and adults with disabilities who participate in sports and recreational programs.

Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program (BORP) received a Federal Transportation Administration grant for a 21-passenger, accessible vehicle with the capacity to accommodate at least seven riders in wheelchairs, or more if riders can transfer and use portable chairs. In addition, BORP operates a five-to-eight-passenger mini-bus (capacity dependent on wheelchair ridership) and a fifteen passenger van.

This grant funds vehicle modification and provides a start-up service, including hiring vehicle drivers and a transportation coordinator. It also funds management and evaluation of the program, which aims to serve over 1,000 riders.

New Bus
BORP’s new bus was purchased in part with Measure B funds to close transportation gaps, specifically with the intent of transporting disabled athletes and recreation participants on round trip outings originating in Northern Alameda County. BORP’s transportation capacity doubled from 22 to 41 individuals per trip utilizing all vehicles, and they transport approximately 300 individuals, from a pool of 620, on 1,400 round trips annually.

BORP’s new bus closes transportation gaps encountered by BORP’s disabled participants and youth who otherwise would not be able to participate in BORP’s sporting programs by providing transit linking Paratransit districts and access to destinations not covered by Paratransit.

The testimony from visually impaired participant Lauri Van Allen is telling: “I enjoy nature, walking in the sunshine, and the sense of freedom it gives me. Without BORP, I would not have access to those activities since I am on a limited income. I really enjoy the new bus, which is a great improvement over our previous vehicles!”

Founded in 1976, BORP works to improve the health, independence and social integration of people with physical disabilities, through sports, fitness and recreation programs, to provide a path to greater achievement. For more information, visit www.borp.org.

City of Alameda Implements Bike Plan Updates
In the City of Alameda, people like to bike! With last year’s completion of the Bike Plan Update, the City already has won two grant applications that are helping to implement the Plan. The grants include:

Estuary Crossing Bike/College Shuttle
The shuttle will travel between the Cities of Alameda and Oakland stopping at the College of Alameda and Lake Merritt BART (near Laney College). The targeted shuttle users are bicyclists and students, faculty and staff from the College of Alameda and Laney College, as well as the general public. The City obtained Air
City of Hayward—East Bay Paratransit

Paratransit Connects Riders with the Great Outdoors

Spending time outdoors is healthy! Lake Chabot, the Hayward Plunge, restaurants in the downtown area—these places are all served by AC Transit and/or BART. But what if you—or someone you care about—can’t ride public transportation, due to advancing age or a disabling condition? Yes—there are options!

East Bay Paratransit is an ADA-mandated service, provided by BART and AC Transit, and serves most areas in Hayward and mid-county. In addition, the City of Hayward’s Paratransit Program offers affordable, accessible, door-to-door transportation to-and-from places where East Bay Paratransit’s service does not extend, using safe, comfortable, lift-equipped vans.

The City’s service area includes all of Hayward, Castro Valley, San Lorenzo and the unincorporated areas of San Leandro. Hours of operation are 8:00 am—6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information or to receive an application, please call 510-583-4230.

Hayward’s Streets, Roads, and Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities Continue to Benefit from Measure B Funding

Measure B continues to play an integral part in the City’s efforts to improve its roadways and pedestrian facilities. The City was very active during Fiscal Year 2011 in completing projects associated with pavement rehabilitation and reconstruction. Approximately $1.8 million was spent on rehabilitating pavement on over 30 streets generally located in the north and central sections of the City. One smaller pavement rehabilitation project improved 9 streets at a cost of approximately $700,000. A final project reconstructed portions of Lilac, Havana, Grove, Portsmouth, Rockford, and Sorenson for about $760,000.

Over the course of Fiscal Year 2012, the City will continue to address streets that are in need of improvement. Pavement rehabilitation will commence along Henderson, Broadmore, Orchard, Calaroga, Canyon View, Lucia Street, and Lucia Court at an approximate cost of $1 million. Darwin, Hohener, Chisholm, Sparling, Kirkwood, and Ward are scheduled to be reconstructed at a cost of about $850,000. The reconstruction of pavement will bring those streets up to acceptable pavement standards.

District Transportation Fund for Clean Air monies for this shuttle service, and aims to start the service this summer.

Shoreline Drive and Westline Drive Bike Lane Installations

This project will restripe Shoreline Drive and Westline Drive to install bike lanes, thereby reducing travel lanes and providing enhanced parking. The City obtained Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program monies for this project, and expects to begin the associated environmental review work this summer.

In addition to capital improvements, the Bike Plan Update also includes programmatic activities such as education and enforcement to support and enhance bicycling. The Bicycle Plan Update was funded by Measure B.
In addition, the City will continue a project to install more speed monitoring devices along key roadways throughout Hayward.

The City applied almost $500,000 in Measure B bicycle and pedestrian facility funding towards the construction of new sidewalks along portions of D Street, Cypress Street, Western Boulevard, and Huntwood Avenue/Sandoval Way. During Fiscal Year 2012, new sidewalks will be constructed along Bellina Street at a cost of approximately $350,000. The City is also utilizing $200,000 in Measure B funding to relocate a pedestrian bridge between Industrial Parkway SW and Huntwood Avenue. The relocated bridge will be fitted with ADA-compliant ramps and adjacent asphalt pavement trails will be reinstalled. In addition, work will continue towards upgrading the City’s network of pedestrian traffic signals. For more information, contact Todd Strojny at 510-583-4733.

City of Oakland
Bicycle Wayfinding Signage
The City of Oakland published Guidelines for Bicycle Wayfinding Signage in July 2009. Since then, Oakland staff has received numerous queries from bicycle planners around the country on implementing the guidelines. The Measure B bicycle/pedestrian program has funded Oakland’s development of signage plans based on these guidelines. There are several steps involved, all of which rely on GIS and database assets and the work of some talented interns! These steps include:

- Creating an overview map that allows staff to select supported destinations for each route
- Drafting a sign plan that places the signs at likely intersections
- Populating a database with this information
- Field checking the proposed locations for suitability and feasibility

Public works crews then fabricate and install the signs. Bicycle wayfinding projects completed to date include:

- 40th Street/41st Street
- Fruitvale Avenue
- Genoa Street/West Street
- Market Street
- Tunnel Road
- A portion of Webster Street/Shafter Avenue

City of Oakland—Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program
Bulb-outs, Traffic Circles and Signage Help Enforce Safety
The City of Oakland uses Measure B local streets and roads funds to install traffic control devices and traffic calming projects throughout the City. Projects are initiated by staff based on known existing deficiencies, as well as by the request of community members. Design solutions vary by location, but can include traffic circles, bulb-outs, traffic islands and signage. The overall goal is to slow traffic while providing safer areas for pedestrians. Wherever possible, these projects also try to beautify neighborhoods through landscaping and design features.

“Measure B is the voter-approved half-cent sales tax measure that funds operations, maintenance, safety and access improvements, gap closures and transportation system efficiencies.”
Bulb-outs at Vernon and Lee Street slow traffic by narrowing the roadway, forcing cars to reduce speed during turns, while providing more room for pedestrians and space for plants.

A new landscaped traffic circle at Redding and Pierson in the Maxwell Park neighborhood provides better defined traffic lanes for autos, with the purpose of decreasing speeding and the potential for auto collisions.

Where physical barriers are not practical or required, signage can also improve pedestrian safety. Yield-to-pedestrian signs installed in the centerline are an affordable tool the City uses to alert drivers of pedestrians in mid-block crosswalks, school crosswalks and other crosswalks where advance warning to drivers is necessary.