Meeting Notice

1111 Broadway, Suite 800, Oakland, CA 94607 • 510.208.7400 • www.AlamedaCTC.org

I-580 Express Lane Policy Committee
Monday, June 9, 2014, 10:00 a.m.
1111 Broadway, Suite 800
Oakland, CA 94607

Mission Statement

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.

Public Comments

Public comments are limited to 3 minutes. Items not on the agenda are covered during the Public Comment section of the meeting, and items specific to an agenda item are covered during that agenda item discussion. If you wish to make a comment, fill out a speaker card, hand it to the clerk of the Commission, and wait until the chair calls your name. When you are summoned, come to the microphone and give your name and comment.

Recording of Public Meetings

The executive director or designee may designate one or more locations from which members of the public may broadcast, photograph, video record, or tape record open and public meetings without causing a distraction. If the Commission or any committee reasonably finds that noise, illumination, or obstruction of view related to these activities would persistently disrupt the proceedings, these activities must be discontinued or restricted as determined by the Commission or such committee (CA Government Code Sections 54953.5-54953.6).

Reminder

Please turn off your cell phones during the meeting. Please do not wear scented products so individuals with environmental sensitivities may attend the meeting.

Glossary of Acronyms

A glossary that includes frequently used acronyms is available on the Alameda CTC website at www.AlamedaCTC.org/app_pages/view/8081.
Location Map

Alameda CTC
1111 Broadway, Suite 800
Oakland, CA  94607

Alameda CTC is accessible by multiple transportation modes. The office is conveniently located near the 12th Street/City Center BART station and many AC Transit bus lines. Bicycle parking is available on the street and in the BART station as well as in electronic lockers at 14th Street and Broadway near Frank Ogawa Plaza (requires purchase of key card from bikelink.org).

Garage parking is located beneath City Center, accessible via entrances on 14th Street between 1300 Clay Street and 505 14th Street buildings, or via 11th Street just past Clay Street.
To plan your trip to Alameda CTC visit www.511.org.

Accessibility

Public meetings at Alameda CTC are wheelchair accessible under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Guide and assistance dogs are welcome. Call 510-893-3347 (Voice) or 510-834-6754 (TTD) five days in advance to request a sign-language interpreter.

Meeting Schedule

The Alameda CTC meeting calendar lists all public meetings and is available at www.AlamedaCTC.org/events/upcoming/now.

Paperless Policy

On March 28, 2013, the Alameda CTC Commission approved the implementation of paperless meeting packet distribution. Hard copies are available by request only. Agendas and all accompanying staff reports are available electronically on the Alameda CTC website at www.AlamedaCTC.org/events/month/now.

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@AlamedaCTC  youtube.com/user/AlamedaCTC
1. Roll Call

2. Public Comment

3. Consent Calendar

   3.1. May 12, 2014 I-580 Express Lane PC Meeting Minutes
       Recommendation: Approve the May 12, 2014 meeting minutes.

4. Regular Matters

   4.1. I-580 Corridor High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Projects (PN 720.5/724.4/724.5): Monthly Progress Report
   4.2. I-580 Express Lane Projects (PN 720.4/724.1): Monthly Progress Report

5. Committee Member Reports (Verbal)

6. Staff Reports (Verbal)

7. Adjournment

Next Meeting: July 14, 2014

All items on the agenda are subject to action and/or change by the Commission.
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1. **Roll Call**
   The Clerk conducted a roll call. All committee members were present.

2. **Public Comment**
   There were no public comments.

3. **Consent Calendar**
   3.1 **April 14, 2014 I-580 Express Lane PC Meeting Minutes**
   Commissioner Haggerty motioned to approve the consent calendar. Commissioner Thorne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Regular Matters**
   4.1 **I-580 Corridor High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Projects (PN 720.5/724.4/724.5): Monthly Progress Report**
   Stefan Garcia presented the I-580 Corridor High Occupancy Vehicle lane projects monthly progress report. He provided an update on the status of the construction of all projects as well as providing financial highlights and a schedule for completion.

   This Item was for information only.

   4.2 **I-580 Express (HOT) Lane Projects (PN 720.4/724.1): Monthly Progress Report**
   Gary Sidhu presented the I-580 Express Lane Projects Monthly Progress report. He covered completed and upcoming activities, continuous access implementation as well as the express lane schedule. He also covered the overall I-580 corridor schedule, as well as the funding plan for the corridor.

   This Item was for information only.

5. **Committee Member Reports**
   There were no committee member reports.

7. **Staff Reports**
   There were no staff reports.

8. **Adjournment/ Next Meeting**
   The next meeting is:

   **Date/Time:** Monday, June 9, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m.
   **Location:** Alameda CTC Offices, 1111 Broadway, Suite 800, Oakland, CA  94607
Attested by: [Signature]

Vanessa Lee, Clerk of the Commission
DATE:       June 2, 2014

SUBJECT:    I-580 Corridor High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Projects (PN 720.5 / 724.4 / 724.5): Monthly Progress Report

RECOMMENDATION: Receive a monthly status update on the I-580 Corridor High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Projects.

Summary

The Alameda CTC is sponsoring the I-580 Corridor High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane Projects along the I-580 corridor in the Tri-Valley. This monthly progress report provides a status update of the various projects currently underway in the corridor. This item is for information only.

Background

The Alameda CTC is the sponsor for the I-580 Corridor High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane Projects which include HOV lanes in the Eastbound and Westbound directions between Pleasanton and Livermore. The projects provide increased capacity, safety and efficiency for commuters and freight along the primary corridor connecting the Bay Area with the Central Valley. In its role as project sponsor, the Alameda CTC has been working in partnership with Caltrans, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Alameda County, and the cities of Livermore, Dublin, and Pleasanton to deliver the projects.

The I-580 Corridor HOV Lane Projects will be completed with the construction of three final projects in the Livermore Valley (two westbound HOV segments and one eastbound auxiliary (AUX) lanes project). All of these projects are currently in construction and are being administered by Caltrans. Construction activity began in March 2013 and the project partners held a groundbreaking ceremony in June 2013.

Attached for the Committee’s review are the May 2014 progress reports for the I-580 Eastbound HOV Lane Project (Segment 3 Aux Lanes) and the I-580 Westbound HOV Lane Project (Segments 1 and 2).

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact.

Page 3
Attachments

A. I-580 Eastbound HOV Lane Project Monthly Progress Report (PN 720.5)
B. I-580 Westbound HOV Lane Projects Monthly Progress Report (PN 724.4/724.5)
C. I-580 Corridor HOV Lane Projects - Location Map

Staff Contact

Stewart Ng, Deputy Director of Programming and Projects
Stefan Garcia, Project Controls Team
ATTACHMENT A
I-580 Eastbound HOV Lane Project (PN 720.5)
Monthly Progress Report
May 2014

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Eastbound I-580 HOV Lane Project is completing one final construction segment, Segment 3 Auxiliary (AUX) Lanes, between Hacienda Drive and Greenville Road. The Project scope includes:

- Construction of auxiliary lanes from Isabel Avenue to First Street;
- Pavement width necessary for a double express (high occupancy toll lane facility);
- Final lift of asphalt concrete (AC) pavement and striping for entire eastbound project limits from Hacienda Drive to Portola Avenue;
- The soundwall that was deleted from the I-580/Isabel Avenue Interchange Project; and
- The widening of two bridges at Arroyo Las Positas in the eastbound direction.

CONSTRUCTION STATUS

Traffic Handling & Night Work

Construction activities include both day and night work. Significant work is involved in rehabilitating the existing pavement which requires closing traffic lanes; however, no complete freeway closures are anticipated. Due to heavy daytime traffic volumes, closing traffic lanes in the daytime is not feasible. For this reason, pavement rehabilitation work can only be done during nighttime hours. Night work will include setting lane closures and shifting traffic lanes (placement of safety barrier (k-rail) and striping work), existing pavement rehabilitation work (crack and seat, slab replacement and overlay) and electrical work. Caltrans lane closure charts permit the contractor to perform this work at night between 9pm and 4am. Work behind k-rail and all bridge work is expected to occur during daytime hours.

Construction Challenges

Alameda CTC staff is working in close coordination with Caltrans to implement the project within limited funding. Challenges and managed risks for this project include:

- Bird Nesting on structures and in adjacent field areas
- Installation of future express Lane components to facilitate express lane completion. Project staff is working to combine HOV and express lane construction work in a manner that will keep the single HOV lane open until the double lane HOT/HOV express facility is completed

Completed Activities – 52% of the contract work was completed as of 4/21/14

Construction activities began in April 2013. Work completed to date includes:

- Las Positas Creek (EB and WB) bridge widening
- Widening of major box culvert at Arroyo Seco and modification of drainage facilities. Creek diversion is removed and area restored.
- Several retaining walls on the outside edges of the freeway corridor
**Ongoing & Upcoming Activities**
Caltrans maintains a project website ([http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects/i580wbhov/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects/i580wbhov/)) and conducts public information and outreach efforts in cooperation with Alameda CTC. Ongoing and upcoming work activities include:

- Construct and backfill remaining retaining walls
- Install Lighting and Traffic Operation Systems
- Install infrastructure to support express lane operations
- Complete Subgrade preparation and cement treated soil
- Paving activities will occur between Hacienda Drive and Greenville Road from May to October 2014

**FUNDING AND FINANCIAL STATUS**

The I-580 Eastbound HOV Project is funded through federal, state and local funds.

**Funding Plan – SEGMENT 3**

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**Total Project Cost: $39.7M**

**SCHEDULE STATUS**

The Eastbound AUX Lane project between Hacienda Drive and Greenville Road was advertised on July 9, 2012; bids were opened on October 5, 2012. Caltrans awarded the contract to OC Jones & Sons (with a bid 6.33 percent below the Engineer’s Estimate) on November 16, 2012. With the inclusion of infrastructure to support express lane operations, construction is now planned to complete in late 2015.

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<td>End Construction</td>
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ATTACHMENT B

I-580 Westbound HOV Lane Projects (PN 724.4/724.5)
Monthly Progress Report
May 2014

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Westbound I-580 HOV Lane Project includes three segments:

- **SEGMENT 1** – WB HOV Eastern Segment from Greenville Road to Isabel Avenue
- **SEGMENT 2** – WB HOV Western Segment from Isabel Avenue to San Ramon Road
- **SEGMENT 3** – Bridge widening at Arroyo Las Positas Creek. This work is included in the construction contract for the EB HOV Lane Project (see Attachment A).

CONSTRUCTION STATUS – SEGMENTS 1 & 2

**Traffic Handling & Night Work**

Construction activities include both day and night work. Significant work is involved in rehabilitating the existing pavement which requires closing traffic lanes; however, no complete freeway closures are anticipated. Due to heavy daytime traffic volumes, closing traffic lanes in the daytime is not feasible. For this reason, pavement rehabilitation work can only be done during nighttime hours. Night work will include setting lane closures and shifting traffic lanes (placement of safety barrier (k-rail) and striping work), existing pavement rehabilitation work (crack and seat, slab replacement and overlay) and electrical work. Caltrans lane closure charts permit the contractor to perform this work at night between 9pm and 4am. Work behind k-rail and all bridge work is expected to occur during daytime hours.

**Construction Challenges**

Alameda CTC staff is working in close coordination with Caltrans to implement the project within limited funding. Challenges and managed risks for the project include:

**SEGMENT 1 (Eastern Segment)**

- Installation of future express Lane components to facilitate express lane completion. Project staff is working to combine HOV and express lane construction work in a manner that will allow the HOV/express lane facility to be opened concurrently.
- Additional widening of the North Livermore Avenue structure to accommodate express lane width requirements.
- New retaining wall to account for recent, accelerated erosion within the Arroyo Seco Creek adjacent to the widening necessary for westbound lanes.
- Coordination with concurrent Caltrans projects in the area to reduce cost.
- Bird Nesting on structures and in adjacent field areas.
- Revision of pavement slab replacements to prioritize in areas most in need.

**SEGMENT 2 (Western Segment)**

- Installation of future express lane components to facilitate express lane completion. Project staff is working to combine HOV and express lane...
construction work in a manner that will allow the HOV/express lane facility to be opened concurrently

- Elimination of a retaining wall to reduce project cost
- Changes to the pavement cross section to reduce project cost
- Bird Nesting on structures and in adjacent field areas
- Revision of pavement slab replacements to prioritize in areas most in need

**Completed Activities**

Construction activities began in March 2013. Work completed to date includes:

**SEGMENT 1 (Eastern Segment) – 45% of the contract work was completed as of 4/22/14**

- North Livermore Ave bridge widening
- Bridge widening at Arroyo Las Positas (2 locations)
- Arroyo Seco RCB culvert extension
- Construct major drainage facilities (e.g., double box culvert)
- Concrete pavement slab replacements
- Temporary striping, shift traffic lanes and placement of k-rail on outside shoulder from Greenville to Airway

**SEGMENT 2 (Western Segment – 44% of the contract work was completed as of 4/18/14**

- Stage 1 median widening from Airway to Hacienda
- BART Barrier modifications
- Temporary striping, shift traffic lanes and placement of safety barrier (k-rail) to allow for Stage 2 outside widening
- Bridge widening at Dougherty Undercrossing near Dublin BART station
- Bridge widening at Tassajara Creek
- Precast slab pavement replacements
- K-rail placed for Stage 2 from Airway to just east of Tassajara Creek

**Ongoing & Upcoming Activities**

Caltrans maintains a project website ([http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects/i580wbhov/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects/i580wbhov/)) and conducts public information and outreach efforts in cooperation with Alameda CTC. Ongoing and upcoming work activities include:

**SEGMENT 1 (Eastern Segment)**

- Excavate and construct retaining walls and soil nail walls
- Soundwall construction at Vasco Road
- Install Lighting and Traffic Operation Systems
- Install infrastructure to support express lane operations
- Median widening for HOV lane
- Paving of ramps and conform areas will begin at Greenville and progress westward starting in May 2014

**SEGMENT 2 (Western Segment)**

- Completion of Stage 2 outside widening
- Installation of drainage systems
- Median barrier reconfiguration
- Install Lighting and Traffic Operation Systems
- Install infrastructure to support express lane operations
- Final paving and striping of westbound I-580 will occur between Airway Boulevard and Hacienda Drive from May to October 2014

FUNDING AND FINANCIAL STATUS

The I-580 Westbound HOV Lane Project is funded through federal, state and local funds available for the I-580 Corridor. The total project cost is $143.9M, comprised of programmed (committed) funding from federal, state and local sources.

Funding Plan – SEGMENT 1 (Eastern Segment)

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Total Project Cost: $82.9M

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Total Project Cost: $61.0M
SCHEDULE STATUS

SEGMENT 1 (Eastern Segment):
The Westbound HOV Eastern Segment from Greenville Road to Isabel Avenue was advertised on July 16, 2012 and bids were opened on September 19, 2012. Caltrans awarded the contract to Ghilotti Construction Company, Inc. (with a bid 16.33 percent below Engineer’s Estimate) on November 20, 2012. With the inclusion of infrastructure to support express lane operations, construction is now planned to complete in late 2015.

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SEGMENT 2 (Western Segment):
The Westbound HOV Western Segment from Isabel Avenue to San Ramon Road was advertised on June 25, 2012 and bids were opened on August 29, 2012. Caltrans awarded the contract to DeSilva Gates Construction (with a bid 23.32 percent below Engineer’s Estimate) on October 29, 2012. With the inclusion of infrastructure to support express lane operations, construction is now planned to complete in mid 2015.

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I-580 Corridor HOV Lane Projects - Location map

- I-580 Eastbound HOV Lane (Complete)
- I-580 Eastbound AUX Lane (PN 720.5)
- I-580 Westbound HOV Lane (West - PN 724.4)
- I-580 Westbound HOV Lane (East - PN 724.5)
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DATE: June 2, 2014


RECOMMENDATION: Receive a monthly status update on the I-580 Express Lane Projects.

Summary

The Alameda CTC is sponsoring the Express Lane Projects along the I-580 corridor in the Tri-Valley. The Eastbound I-580 Express Lane Project will convert the newly constructed eastbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane (HOV) lane, from Hacienda Drive to Greenville Road, to a double express lane facility. The I-580 Westbound Express Lane Project will convert the westbound HOV lane (currently under construction) to a single express lane facility from west of Greenville Road to west of the San Ramon Road/Foothill Road Overcrossing in Dublin/Pleasanton.

A Categorical Exemption/Exclusion (CE/CE) for the westbound direction was approved on August 2, 2013. An Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) for the eastbound direction was approved on March 18, 2014. Civil design has been completed for the eastbound and westbound components as a one contract package. Civil construction is being implemented through multiple contract change orders (CCO’s) to the on-going construction contracts. The I-580 Eastbound and Westbound Express Lane civil construction work will construct the necessary infrastructure, such as signing, sign gantries for dynamic messaging and toll reading, electrical conduit for connecting power and communication sources, and striping to accommodate the express lanes. The System Integrator contractor will install the required communication equipment and software. The express lane facility is scheduled to open for use in 2015.

For detailed information on project funding, schedule and status of the Eastbound I-580 Express Lane Project, Westbound I-580 Express Lane Project and System Integration activities, see Attachments A, B and C of this report. This item is for information only.
Background

Delivery Strategy

I-580 Eastbound Express and I-580 Westbound Express Projects have been combined into one project for the civil construction phase. The civil construction is being implemented via multiple CCO’s under the on-going construction contracts.

In October 2013, Staff issued four CCO’s to the on-going construction contracts (I-580 Westbound HOV, I-580 Eastbound Auxiliary Lane and Freeway Performance Project) along I-580 to incorporate some scope elements (Tier 1 CCOs) for the express lane project. These CCOs are currently under construction. Staff has also recently issued additional CCO’s (Tier 2 & 3 CCOs) to the above mentioned contracts to construct remaining civil scope elements of the express lanes. The benefit of implementing CCO’s is to avoid working in the environmentally sensitive area, minimize additional traffic disruptions to the traveling public, reduce or eliminate re-work and potentially finish construction sooner. Items included in already issued CCOs and under consideration to be included in the potential future CCOs include:

- Electrical Conduit – across and along I-580
- Service and controller cabinets
- Striping – stripe to final express lane configuration
- Install K-rail along median at sign locations
- Median concrete barrier
- Fiber Optics Cable
- Sign structures including tolling gantries, dynamic messaging signs, lighting standards and other sign structures.

“Near Continuous” Access Configuration Status

Staff is currently moving forward with the concept of a “near continuous” (aka “more open”) access configuration in lieu of “limited” access for the express lanes on the I-580 corridor. The “near continuous” access configuration would eliminate the two foot buffer between the express lane and the general purpose lanes except at “hot spots” or “safety zones” such as between Hacienda and Fallon Road (eastbound) and Hacienda and I-680 (westbound). To support the implementation of near continuous access, zone tolling and automated toll violation enforcement strategies have been incorporated in project design.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact.
Attachments

A. I-580 Eastbound Express Lane Project Monthly Progress Report
B. I-580 Westbound Express Lane Project Monthly Progress Report
C. I-580 Express Lanes System Integration Monthly Progress Report
D. I-580 Corridor Express Lane Projects – Location Map

Staff Contact

Stewart Ng, Deputy Director of Programming and Projects
Gary Sidhu, Project Controls Team
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ATTACHMENT A
I-580 Eastbound Express Lane Project
Monthly Progress Report
June 2014

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Eastbound I-580 Express Lane Project will convert the newly constructed eastbound HOV lane, from Hacienda Drive in Dublin/Pleasanton to Greenville Road in Livermore, to a double express lane facility, a distance of approximately 11 miles.

PROJECT DELIVERY STATUS

- The Initial Study and Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) was approved on March 18, 2014 and the Project Study Report/Project Report (PSR/PR) was approved on March 21, 2014.
- Civil design is complete and combined with the westbound component as a one contract package. The civil construction is being implemented through CCO’s under the three I-580 HOV lane projects currently in construction (I-580 Westbound HOV Lane - West Segment, I-580 Westbound HOV Lane - East Segment and I-580 Eastbound HOV Lane - Segment 3 with Auxiliary Lanes). All the CCOs have been issued to the contractors.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Negotiated CCO prices with the contractors.
- Construction cooperative agreement amendments executed to implement tier 2 and 3 CCO work.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Negotiate and Execute Operations & Maintenance Agreement with Caltrans to delineate roles and responsibilities for operations and maintenance of the high facilities within the express lanes limits
- Process URS Contract Amendment for additional environmental work
- Negotiate and process ETCC CCOs related to Vehicle Enforcement System and newer mobile enforcement tools

POTENTIAL ISSUES/RISKS

The civil construction has to be completed by early March 2015 to allow ETCC to start the electronic toll system equipment so that express lanes can be opened by November 2015. This schedule is very aggressive. Staff will work closely with Caltrans and ETCC to monitor progress and take appropriate actions as necessary.
FUNDING AND FINANCIAL STATUS

See Attachment C for combined project funding and financial status.

SCHEDULE STATUS

I-580 Eastbound Express Lane Project Schedule:

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<tr>
<td>End Construction (Civil and System Integrator)</td>
<td>November 2015</td>
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The I-580 Westbound Lane Project will convert the planned westbound HOV lane to a single express lane facility from west of the Greenville Road Undercrossing in Livermore to west of the San Ramon Road / Foothill Road Overcrossing in Dublin / Pleasanton, a distance of approximately 14 miles.

PROJECT DELIVERY STATUS

- The environmental document, a Categorical Exemption (CE), has been approved
- Civil design is complete and combined with the eastbound component as one contract package. The civil construction is being implemented through CCO’s under the three I-580 HOV lane projects currently in construction (I-580 Westbound HOV Lane - West Segment, I-580 Westbound HOV Lane - East Segment and I-580 Eastbound HOV Lane - Segment 3 with Auxiliary Lanes). All the CCOs have been issued to the contractors.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Issued Tier 2 and 3 CCO packages to the contractors
- Construction cooperative agreement amendments executed to implement tier 2 and 3 CCO work.
- Negotiated CCOs prices with the contractors

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Negotiate and execute Operations & Maintenance Agreement with Caltrans to delineate roles and responsibilities for operations and maintenance of the high facilities within the express lanes limits
- Process URS Contract Amendment for additional design work and design services during construction
- Negotiate and process ETCC CCOs related to Vehicle Enforcement System

POTENTIAL ISSUES/RISKS

The civil construction has to be completed by early March 2015 to allow ETCC to start installation of the electronic toll system equipment so that express lanes can be opened by November 2015. This schedule is very aggressive. Staff will work closely with Caltrans and ETCC to monitor progress and take appropriate actions as necessary.
FUNDING AND FINANCIAL STATUS

See Attachment C for combined project funding and financial status.

SCHEDULE STATUS

I-580 Westbound Express Lane Project Schedule:

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ATTACHMENT C
I-580 Express Lanes Systems Integration
Monthly Progress Report
June 2014

SYSTEM INTEGRATION SCOPE DESCRIPTION

The I-580 Express Lane civil contract will construct the necessary infrastructure, such as signing, sign gantries for dynamic messaging and toll reading, electrical conduit for connecting power and communication sources and pavement striping to accommodate express lanes. The System Integrator will include tolling hardware design and software development, factory testing of design, equipment and system installation and road geometry and toll system integration. It will also consist of field testing of the toll equipment and all subsystems including the interfaces to the Bay Area Toll Authority Regional Customer Service Center and Caltrans prior to implementing the new express lanes.

Detailed Discussion
The systems integration focuses on the most recent technologies including software, hardware and traffic detection that will be deployed to optimize the existing corridor capacity in order to effectively manage the current and forecasted traffic in the corridor. The system integrator, however, will continue to own the software while the implementing agency will pay for a license to allow for the use of the toll integrator’s software.

ETC Corporation (ETCC), the project toll system integrator, has been revising the system design to support the “near continuous” access configuration in both directions of I-580. The “near continuous” concept provides additional access opportunities while reducing the foot-print required for implementing a shared express/general purpose lane facility. In addition, it looks and feels similar to an HOV facility and, therefore, is expected to provide driver familiarity.

Project Geometry and Electronic Toll System Design
The latest version of the express lanes concept proposes the following:

In the eastbound I-580 direction:
• Buffer separated single-lane HOV/Express Lane will be installed from Hacienda Drive to Fallon Road
• Continuous access dual-lane HOV/Express Lane will be installed from Fallon Road to west of Vasco Road
• Continuous access single-lane HOV/Express Lane will be installed from west of Vasco Road to Greenville Road

In the westbound I-580 direction:
• Continuous access single-lane HOV/Express Lane will be installed from Greenville Road to Hacienda Drive
A buffer separated single-lane HOV/Express Lane will be installed from Hacienda Drive to the I-580/I-680 Interchange

PROJECT STATUS

Software and hardware design
ETCC staff has completed and submitted the Preliminary Detailed Design Document (PDD) based on a “near continuous” access express lane system for Alameda CTC review and approval. Once PDD is approved, ETCC will prepare and submit a Detailed Design Document (DDD) by mid-August for Alameda CTC review and approval. Subsequent DDD approval by Alameda CTC, they will perform a series of factory and field tests and work with the agency staff to validate its hardware and software design, prior to opening the new express lanes facility.

Toll Pricing and Rate Publishing
As discussed in previous meetings, for practical purposes and to curtail toll violation, a zone-based tolling has been included in design to effectively support the “near continuous” access configuration. The zone-based toll rates will be displayed to patrons via the Dynamic Message Signs.

Toll Antennas, Readers and Violation Enforcement Subsystem
The toll gantries will be placed at approximately ¾ mile intervals. Closely spaced toll antennas and readers will help facilitate a “near continuous” access express lane configuration since it will lead to an effective FasTrak® transponder read. It should also support more effective toll violation enforcement.

As discussed previously, the system design includes an automated toll violation enforcement to effectively manage toll violations in this “near continuous” access express lane facility.

Agency staff are also working to deploy a comprehensive public education/outreach program in spring 2014 to support the implementation of a “near continuous” access configuration and the use of switchable transponders, which will be new to Bay Area toll customers.

The Golden Gate Bridge Authority implemented another payment option, payment through pay-by-plate. The user is required to open up an account to pay via their license plate. Our initial assessment indicates that this payment option is likely to encounter challenges since it will be difficult to distinguish the HOV and SOV users in an open/shared express lane facility, unless every vehicle is required to register as either an HOV or SOV vehicle. Staff will continue to evaluate and collaborate with other toll operators and report back to the committee on whether or not the I-580 Express Lanes will employ such payment option.

In summary, even though the “near continuous” access concept provides additional opportunities it is a relatively new concept for implementation in the region. Staff is committed to working closely with other like-minded agencies/industry experts to move forward and implement an effective electronic toll collection system strategy to effectively support a “near continuous” access express lane configuration.
RECENT ACTIVITIES

- Completion of PDD for electronic toll system based on a near continuous access configuration, “zone tolling” and automated violation enforcement

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- ETCC to complete a DDD for accommodating “zone tolling” and automated violation enforcement
- Initiate the public outreach and marketing campaign in spring 2014
- Complete a draft customer services agreement for collecting tolls and processing toll violation enforcement services by spring 2014

FUNDING AND FINANCIAL STATUS

Combined Eastbound & Westbound Funding Plan for “near continuous” access

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Total Project Cost: $54.98M
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