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Currently, there is heavy afternoon congestion on I-680 Northbound from Scotts Creek Boulevard to Andrade Road. Traffic studies have confirmed that it is caused by two bottleneck locations affecting northbound I-680 between SR 237 and SR 84 during weekday evening commutes between 2pm and 7pm. The bottlenecks occur: 1) near Washington Boulevard and 2) at the lane drop at the truck scales (located between Sheridan Road and Andrade Road). The Phase 1 project will provide an initial 9-mile segment of new HOV/Express Lane from south of Auto Mall Parkway to SR 84 to eliminate the bottlenecks and alleviate much of the daily traffic congestion.

The I-680 Southbound Express Lane was opened to traffic in September 2010 as a controlled access facility. To be consistent with the new northbound express lane and provide enhanced accessibility for users, the southbound direction will be converted to an open access configuration in conjunction with the Phase 1 project.

The Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) for the overall project was completed in July 2015. In December 2015, WMH Corporation was selected to prepare the civil design and will continue to provide design support during construction (DSDC). In June 2016, Kapsch TrafficCom Transportation NA, Inc. was selected to provide Toll System Integration Services. In November 2017, Bay Cities Paving & Grading Inc. was awarded the civil construction contract. The following is a detailed discussion of work in progress and/or upcoming major tasks.

### ***Project Implementation Approach***

Alameda CTC, in partnership with Caltrans, is the implementing agency for preliminary engineering, environmental studies, design, right-of-way acquisition, and utility relocation. For the construction phase, Alameda CTC is the project sponsor and Caltrans is the implementing agency to administer the construction of the Phase 1 project. Attachment A, I-680 Sunol Express Lanes Progress Update, provides the current implementation schedule and delivery milestones.

The approved Environmental Document and Project Report (PA&ED documents) included studies and analysis for construction of both the full project limits (SR 237 to SR 84) and an initial segment (south of Auto Mall Parkway to SR 84). The initial segment (Phase 1 project) is focused on providing immediate operational benefits within currently available funding. During development of the Phase 1 project, staff identified and implemented several geometric refinements to reduce costs and minimize environmental impacts.

In the interest of expediting important improvements for the public, Alameda CTC and Caltrans have agreed to incorporate a pavement rehabilitation project into the Phase 1 project.

### **Project activities already completed and anticipated over the next three months:**

- Removal of trees conflicting with the project was substantially completed in February. A short delay is being resolved at a location where a native wood rat nest interfered temporarily with tree removal.
- Civil construction will begin in March 2018 after approval of required initial submittals.
- Visible work activities for the three months ahead will include:
  - Placement of temporary barrier (K-rail) along the inside and outside shoulders of northbound I-680 to allow for median work and outside widening work
  - Clearing and grubbing of outside widening areas
  - Structure and retaining wall work will begin at both the Sheridan Road and Calaveras Road interchanges
  - Overhead tolling and sign gantries will begin to be constructed in the median, starting from the southern end of the project and proceeding northerly
- Schedule milestones will be refined after approval of the contractor's baseline Critical Path Method (CPM) schedule, anticipated by April 2018. Opportunities to improve the delivery milestones will be re-evaluated after approval and subsequent partnering discussions with the contractor.
- Preliminary tolling zone configuration and associated signing locations determined. Continue to finalize configuration of tolling facility (on-going).
- Continue preliminary toll system design and coordinate with civil design for construction staging/sequencing (on-going).
- Continue to coordinate with PG&E, AT&T and Comcast regarding power and communication service connection needs (on-going).
- A project groundbreaking event is tentatively planned for April 2018.

**Fiscal Impact:** There is no fiscal impact.

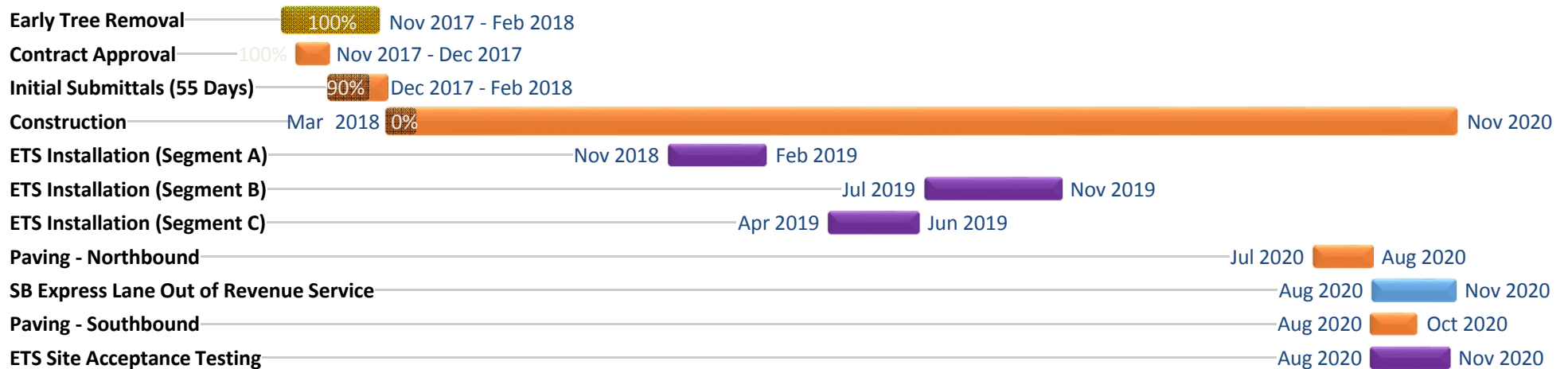
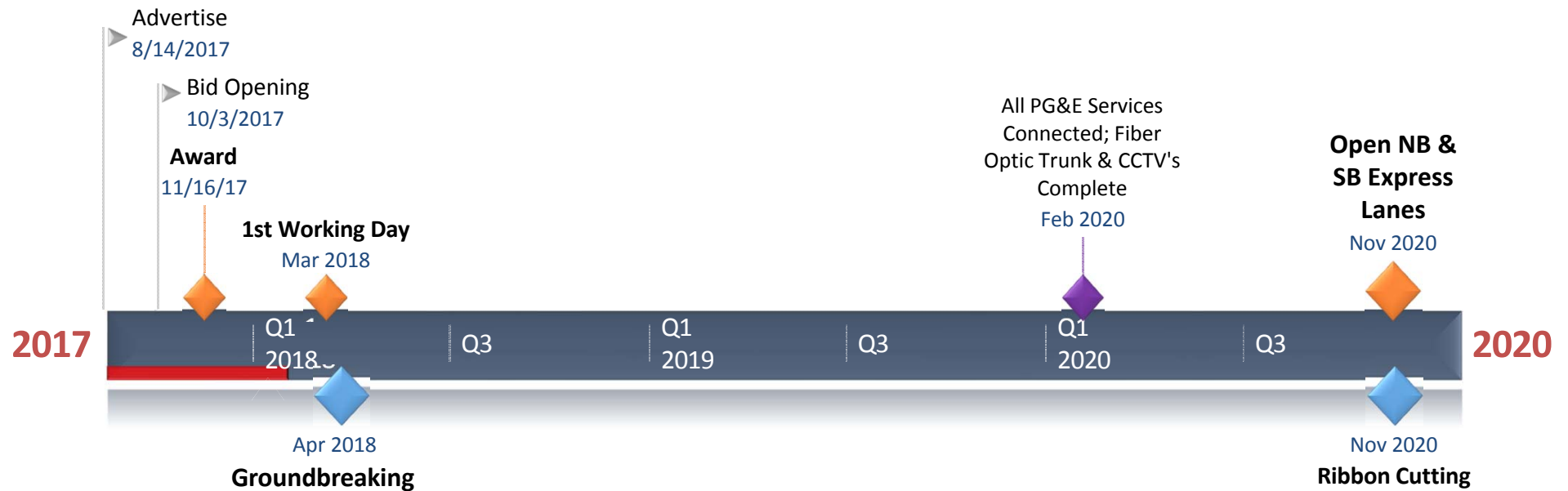
### **Attachment**

- A. I-680 Sunol Express Lanes Progress Update

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# I-680 Sunol Express Lanes

Progress Update: March 2018



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