Alameda CTC Executive Director's Report

Executive Director's Message



Alameda CTC reached another planning milestone on January 26, 2012, when the Commission approved the <u>Final Draft Transportation Expenditure</u> <u>Plan</u>. The plan, if approved by voters, will keep necessary transportation services in place, restore service cuts for many providers and provide focused investments to meet the needs of Alameda County's growing population. I want to extend a special thanks to the Commissioners and staff for working together with a broad array of partners to create a plan that will serve Alameda County residents and businesses both now and in the future.

In late February, I will travel to Washington, D.C. with Mayor Mark Green, Supervisor Haggerty, and Tess Lengyel to advance our 2012 Legislative Program in relation to the federal surface transportation bill and to garner support for Alameda County's new mobility plan for the 21st century–the TEP. In the next few months, staff is doing additional outreach to actively seek support from city councils throughout the county and the Board of Supervisors on reauthorization of the TEP for placement on the ballot in June for the November 2012 election.

The accounting team has worked closely with our auditors, and I am pleased to announce clean audit statements for both ACTIA and ACCMA. Staff has also been finalizing detailed actual financial and investment reports through December 31, 2011 (refer to "Finance Updates" for more information).

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Transportation Planning Updates

Bike to Work Day supports transportation choices and clean air: The <u>Bike to Work Day/</u> <u>Get Rolling/Ride into Life Assessment Report</u>, which reviews how effective the Bike to Work Day Program and advertising campaign are in encouraging people to bike to work and for other purposes, is now available. Supporting Bike to Work Day is one of the ways Alameda CTC encourages people to find alternatives to driving alone and helps reduce traffic congestion and air pollution emissions from cars.

The report, funded by Transportation Fund for Clean Air, provides information about who is biking in Alameda County, who may be willing to bike more often and what encourages people to ride their bicycles. Based on a two-year survey and a comparison to other programs throughout the U.S., the report shows that one in four Alameda County residents who drive say it would not be difficult to replace at least one car trip per week with bicycling.

Program Updates.

Compliance reporting: The audit reports for fiscal year 2010-2011 were due to Alameda CTC on December 27, 2011, and the compliance reports were due on December 31, 2011. Of the 20 organizations that receive funding, 17 submitted their audits and reports on time. These reports are <u>available online</u>. In January, staff and Citizens Watchdog Committee members reviewed the reports, and submitted requests for clarification in February.

Annual Mobility Workshop: The newsletter from the July 2011 Annual Mobility Workshop for seniors and people with disabilities is now available online. In February, the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee and Paratransit Technical Advisory Committee began planning for the 2012 summer workshop.

TravelChoice New Residents: This Measure B Countywide Discretionary Fund Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant project provides personalized outreach, exclusive transportation concierge Current and potential bicyclists are most concerned about the safety of riding a bicycle, particularly with cars on roadways. Improvements like adding more bike lanes that are separate from traffic would also encourage more people to bike. The survey confirms that people are inspired to bike by advertising messages about health, recreation and protecting the environment.

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The report concludes that the Bike to Work Day Program is effective in getting people to ride their bikes to work. Counts at energizer stations during Bike to Work Day show that the number of bicyclists participating in Bike to Work Day in Alameda County doubled to over 11,000 cyclists since ACTIA began contributing funding to the program in 2007, and counts increased by 13 percent in the past year.

Alameda CTC is gearing up for Bike to Work Day in 2012 and sponsored \$20,000 in January to support the effort.

services and other transportation information to new residents of developments in walkable, transit-rich areas. The primary goal of <u>TravelChoice</u> is to encourage residents to maximize the use of walking, bicycling, public transit and other non-drive-alone transportation modes. The Measure B grant recipient TransForm also received a Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Managers grant for this program.

Program Updates continued on page 2

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Executive Director's Message (cont'd)

Alameda CTC has also begun to shape a new Student Transit Pass Program, to make transit more accessible to youth and students. Staff met recently with community members, transit planners, school district representatives and a health and legislative policy analyst to discuss this plan. This group will continue to meet in March and April.

Updates to the <u>Alameda Countywide Bicycle and</u>. <u>Pedestrian Plans</u> are still in the works, which tie into the Countywide Transportation Plan and TEP, and offer a range of choices that allow more people to safely walk, bike and use transit. In fact, our <u>Bike to</u>. <u>Work Day Assessment Report</u> states the number of bicyclists participating in Bike to Work Day in Alameda County has doubled to over 11,000 cyclists since ACTIA began contributing funding to the program in 2007. (Read more in "Transportation Planning Updates.")

Programming news: Alameda CTC staff presented our proposed 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program at a hearing on February 8, and received concurrence on our project list from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Alameda CTC also recently released a <u>Lifeline</u> <u>Transportation Program call for projects</u> with \$9.5 million available for projects in the county that improve mobility for low-income communities.

Other planning and project initiatives in process that will be reported on in future months:

- Transit oriented development guidelines for local projects
- Complete Streets policy and guidelines
- Major additional corridor, transit and freight planning efforts
- Delivery of major capital projects including CMA bond-funded projects on I-80, I-580, and I-880.

For additional information on a number of outreach opportunities and upcoming events to participate in, see "Outreach & Events."

I look forward to busy and productive months ahead.

Sincerely,

Arthur L. Dao Executive Director, Alameda CTC

Programming & Project Updates

2012 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): The STIP is a five-year programming document that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) updates and adopts every two years. The 2012 STIP, scheduled to receive approval in the next few months, will cover fiscal years 2012-2013 through 2016-2017.

Alameda County has a 2012 STIP fund estimate share of about \$35.4 million. The Alameda CTC Board approved a proposed list of projects and existing commitments last October. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) subsequently approved the list as part of a regional program and submitted it to the CTC for consideration in December.

Since then, Alameda CTC adjusted the list of projects, which the Alameda CTC Board approved at its January 2012 meeting. The Alameda CTC presented its proposed 2012 STIP to the CTC at the Northern California STIP Hearing on February 8, and recevied concurrence from MTC for the adjustments. The CTC will publish its staff recommendations on March 8, and adopt the 2012 STIP on March 28.

Dumbarton Rail Corridor: Now in the environmental phase, this project will provide a transit connection from the Caltrain corridor on the San Francisco Peninsula to the Union City Intermodal Station. Alameda CTC expects the California Department of Transportation to release the Draft Environmental Impact



Dumbarton Rail Corridor (APN 625.0) Statement/Environmental Impact Report in spring 2012. The current capital cost ranges between \$700 to \$800 million dollars, and about \$300 million in funding has been identified, including \$19.4 million in Measure B funds. The 2012 TEP includes funding for this project.

To provide more immediate benefits to the corridor, there is also a plan to restructure and expand bus service in spring 2012. After holding a public hearing on January 11, MTC approved modifying the Regional Measure 2 project description to use the annual operating funds of \$5.5 million on bus operations instead of rail.

Telegraph Ave Corridor Bus Rapid Transit

(**BRT**): This project will enhance bus reliability and reduce travel time along Telegraph Avenue, Broadway, International Boulevard and East 14th Street in the cities of Oakland and San Leandro. The planned improvements include dedicated bus lanes, efficient boarding platforms and traffic-signal priority.



Telegraph Avenue Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (APN 607.0)

The public release of the Draft Final Environmental Impact Statement/Final Enviromental Impact Report is targeted for early February 2012, with seven public meetings scheduled in Oakland and San Leandro in late February and March. The AC Transit Board of Directors will hold a public hearing in May 2012, and the Federal Transit Administration is expected to issue its Record of Decision by late summer 2012.

The Alameda CTC Board recently allocated \$3.1 million in Measure B funds to AC Transit toward completion of the Preliminary Engineering/Environmental phase through December 31, 2012. Measure B funds account for \$10.4 million of the \$21 million budgeted for the phase.

Program Updates continued from page 1 Learn BART: Funded through a Measure B Paratransit Gap Grant, Learn BART! A Picture Guide to Riding BART was recently completed by the project sponsor San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART). Using entertaining drawings, the sponsor developed this guide to illustrate a person successfully learning to ride BART. The <u>Learn BART! booklet</u> shows how a rider gets on the correct train, buys a ticket, finds the correct platform and completes his or her ride.



At the January Commission meeting, the Board approved a comprehensive salaries and benefits program for staff. The adoption of the salaries and benefits program brings the Alameda CTC one step closer to the final consolidation of the agencies. Staff's goal in developing the program was to provide essentially equivalent benefits to those of the predecessor agencies, which was accomplished at a savings to the Alameda CTC.

Staff also presented the Commission with the audited financial statements for year-end June 30, 2011, for both ACCMA and ACTIA. In relation to Measure B funds, staff also reported in January on the expense limitation ratio caps. The report shows the ratio of administrative salaries and benefits to net sales tax revenues

Finance Updates

at 0.74 percent and the ratio of administration costs to net sales tax revenues at 2.64 percent, both well within the 1 percent and 4.5 percent limits, respectively. Both agencies received a clean audit opinion from independent auditors.

During the month of January, staff worked to prepare detailed actual financial and investment reports through December 31. Staff will present these to the Commission on February 23. The investment report reveals that investment returns are down as compared to the prior year. The financial report demonstrates that sales tax revenues are out-performing revenue projections by 6 percent, and expenditures have remained within budget.

Committee Activities

In February, the following community advisory committees met. Highlights include:

- February 7 The Alameda County <u>Technical Advisory Committee</u> approved two funding opportunities: a Lifeline Mobility Management project to compete for \$700,000 in federal Job Access and Reverse Commute funding and a Priority Development Area planning program to compete for \$4 million in federal Surface Transportation Program funds.
- February 14 The <u>Paratransit Technical</u> <u>Advisory Committee (TAC)</u> made a Gap Grant Policy recommendation to the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO), and began to discuss the Annual Mobility Workshop for seniors and people with disabilities.



8th Annual Mobility Workshop

 February 27 – <u>PAPCO</u> and TAC held a a joint meeting and made a recommendation to the Commission on the Gap Grant Policy. PAPCO also discussed transit accessible seat signage as well as conflicts of interest and ethics.

Join Us at the Next Free Bike/Ped Webinar



On the third Wednesday of each month, Alameda CTC hosts the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) webinar. This event is free and open to all. Watch for upcoming topics on the <u>meetings calendar</u>, and bring your lunch if you like. The next webinar on March 21 will cover Best Practices for Maintenance Programs.



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Outreach & Events

In February and March, the Alameda CTC is hosting or participating in these outreach events:

- February 1 Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Pleasanton: Environment and Transportation Day
- February 7 Transportation Expenditure Plan Presentation to the City of Fremont's City Council
- February 12 the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce's Leadership East Bay
- February 13 Transportation Expenditure Plan Presentation to the City of Livermore's City Council
- February 14 Transportation Expenditure Plan Presentation to the City of Union City's City Council
- February 15 Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) Webinar at Alameda CTC: Land Use Planning: Routine Inclusion of Bicycling and Walking in New Developments
- February 21 Transportation Expenditure Plan Presentation to the City of Hayward's City Council
- February 21 Transportation Expenditure Plan Presentation to the City of Emeryville's City Council
- February 24 United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County 21st Annual Convention at the Cathedral of Christ the Light
- March 16 Senior Transit Fair at Pleasanton Senior Center
- March 17-18 St. Patrick's Day Festival in the City of Dublin
- March 21 APBP Webinar at Alameda CTC: Best Practices for Maintenance Programs
- March 23 Breakfast of Champions at Alameda County Public Works Department
- March 24 Oakland Running Festival

Public outreach: Alameda CTC is continuing to lead Countywide Transportation Plan and Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) development, and the Commission approved the <u>Final Draft TEP</u> on January 26, 2012. Visit the website to find out more about Alameda CTC's <u>planning efforts</u>.

Alameda CTC Capital Projects

Fact sheets are updated as projects progress or, at a minimum, quarterly.

- <u>APN 501.0 I-880/Mission Boulevard</u> (Route 262) Interchange Reconstruction
- <u>APN 505.0 I-880 to Mission Boulevard</u> <u>East-West Connector</u>
- <u>APN 506.0 Route 238/Mission-Foothill-</u> Jackson-Corridor Improvements
- APN 508.0 Central Alameda County Freeway System Operational Analysis
- APN 509.0 Castro Valley Local Area Traffic Circulation Improvement
- <u>APN 601.0 Altamont Commuter Express Rail</u>
- APN 602.0 BART Warm Springs Extension
- APN 603.0 BART Oakland Airport Connector
- <u>APN 604.0 Downtown Oakland</u>
 <u>Streetscape Improvement</u>
- APN 606.0 Union City Intermodal Station
- <u>APN 607.0 Telegraph Avenue Corridor Bus</u> <u>Rapid Transit</u>
- APN 609.0 Iron Horse Transit Route
- APN 610.0 I-880/Broadway Jackson
 Interchange Improvements

Other News

Adoption of Title VI Compliant Procedure:

In January 2012, the Commission adopted a formal procedure for handling and tracking complaints regarding the application of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act (49 CFR part 21) as well as the Department of Transportation Order on Environmental Justice (Order 5610.2). Alameda CTC staff also documented the steps that the Commission takes to

ensure all people and communities have meaningful access to our programs via accessible public meetings, translated documents, community outreach and other accommodations. More information about the <u>Title VI complaint</u> <u>procedure</u> is available on the website.



Column Construction on I-580

- APN 612.0 I-580/Castro Valley Interchange Improvements
- APN 613.0 Lewelling/ East Lewelling Boulevard Widening
- <u>APN 614.2 I-580 WB Auxiliary Lane</u> (Airway Boulevard to Fallon Road)
- <u>APN 614.3 I-580 EB Auxiliary Lane</u> (El Charro Road to Airway Boulevard)
- <u>APN 615.0 Route 92/Clawiter-Whitesell</u> Interchange and Reliever Route
- APN 617.1 Hesperian Boulevard/Lewelling Boulevard Intersection Improvement
- APN 618.1 Westgate Parkway Extension
- APN 619.0 E. 14th Street/Hesperian Boulevard/ 150th Street Intersection Improvements
- <u>APN 621.0 I-238 Widening</u>
- APN 623.0 Route 84/I-580 Interchange
- <u>APN 624.0 Route 84 Expressway</u>
- APN 625.0 Dumbarton Rail Corridor
- <u>APN 626.0 I-580 Corridor/BART to</u> Livermore Studies
- APN 710.4A I-680 Sunol Express Lanes -Southbound
- APN 710.4B I-680 Sunol Express Lanes -Northbound
- APN 717.0 I-880 North Safety and Operational Improvements at 23rd and 29th Avenues
- APN 720.3 I-580 Corridor Environmental <u>Mitigation</u>
- APN 720.4 I-580 Eastbound Express (HOT) Lane
- APN 720.5 I-580 Eastbound Auxiliary (AUX) Lane
- APN 723.0 I-580 Corridor Right of Way
 Preservation
- APN 724.0 I-580 Westbound HOV Lane
- <u>APN 724.1 I-580 Westbound Express (HOT) Lane</u>
- APN 730.0 I-880 Southbound HOV Lane
- APN 740.2 Webster Street SMART Corridor
- <u>APN 764.0 I-580 Landscape Project -</u> <u>San Leandro</u>
- <u>APN 765.0 I-80/Gilman Interchange (Study)</u>
- APN 770.0 I-680/I-880 Cross Connector Studies
- APN 791.0 I-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (ICM)

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 <u>APN 945.0 - Smart Corridors Operation</u> and Management

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