This spring, Alameda CTC is busy with a range of planning activities to expand transportation opportunities and address the mobility needs of our diverse communities. Recent progress on the Countywide Transportation Plan and Transportation Expenditure Plan development includes engaging community members in a host of public workshops throughout Alameda County to get input on transportation project and program priorities. (See “Transportation Planning Updates” and “Outreach & Events.”)

The week of March 28, I will travel with Alameda CTC Chair, Union City Mayor Mark Green, Vice-Chair Supervisor Haggerty and Programs and Public Affairs Manager Tess Lengyel to Washington, D.C. to garner support for Alameda CTC’s 2011 Legislative Program. High priorities in 2011: Participate in the federal transportation bill reauthorization, address the challenges resulting from declining revenues or modified revenue.

Environmental studies for I-580 eastbound High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane conversion to an express lane facility and I-580 eastbound auxiliary lanes construction between Isabel Avenue and First Street are underway. Since the I-580 eastbound High Occupancy Toll (HOT) and auxiliary lane projects are being combined, the environmental studies are being updated. Final design of the I-580 westbound HOV lane project will be complete in fall 2011. In February 2011, the Alameda CTC released a Project Study Report request for proposals for the conversion of the planned westbound HOV to an express lane. The southbound HOV lane extension from Hegenberger Road to Marina Boulevard is in the final design stage; construction will begin in 2012 under two contracts.

The I-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility Project will install new active traffic management features to both I-80 and the San Pablo Avenue corridor. The first of six construction sub-projects will begin in spring 2011. In January, the California Transportation Commission approved funds for construction of the San Pablo Corridor Improvements and the Traffic Operations System Projects.

For more information, click on the project fact sheets on the back page.
Executive Director's Message (cont’d)

allocation structures and implement climate-change legislative mandates. My aim is to effectively work at the state and federal levels to foster relationships with the leadership and staff.

Alameda CTC is also making an effort to expand business opportunities within Alameda County and recently released four requests for proposals. Due dates are as follows:
- March 22 – Information Technology Support Services
- March 22 – Media and Public Relations Services
- March 25 – Project Management/Projects Controls Services
- March 29 – Interstate 80 Traffic Operations System in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties Project

Other activities moving full-speed ahead:
- Continuing updates to the Alameda Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans that will roll into the Countywide Transportation Plan.
- Facilitating the development and operation of express lanes in the I-880 and I-580 corridors, as well as high-occupancy vehicle lanes on I-880.
- Beginning to implement the Vehicle Registration Fee Program, based on guidelines approved by the Commission this spring.

I also want to highlight the City of Oakland Coliseum BART Pedestrian Improvements Project that the Commission recently extended to the end of 2011, to make use of the $885,000 in State Transportation Improvement Program funds programmed for the construction phase. This project has wide community support and is an example of how Alameda CTC is helping to make Alameda County more pedestrian friendly.

Here at Alameda CTC, merger progress continues, and I’m pleased to have the Commission support for the Agency Strategic Business Plan and Organizational Structure that I proposed last month. As the organization evolves, I already see progress in reaching our objectives of solid transportation planning, funding and programs and projects delivery efforts.

It’s an exciting time for the Commission, and I will keep you posted. As always, I welcome your questions, comments and feedback.

Sincerely,

Arthur L. Dao
Executive Director, Alameda CTC

Programming Updates

Project Monitoring: Alameda CTC project monitoring activities are a key component of the agency’s programming approach. Many federal, state and local funding sources have required project milestones that ensure timely project implementation and completion. These deadlines are often referred to as Timely Use of Funds (TUF) provisions.

For fund sources with TUF provisions, failure to meet these deadlines may result in the deprogramming, or removal, of funds from a project and a loss of these funds to the county. According to Alameda CTC’s policy, any Alameda County project sponsor that fails to meet a TUF milestone, which results in a loss of programmed funds to Alameda County, will be penalized in a future funding cycle in an amount equal to the lost funds.

To ensure projects programmed by Alameda CTC meet various TUF provisions, the Alameda CTC prepares periodic “At Risk” monitoring reports that highlight upcoming project deadlines and provides assistance to project sponsors as they navigate through the funding process with numerous federal, state and local funding requirements. The most recent Alameda CTC At Risk Reports for Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, State Transportation Improvement Program, Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Fund for Clean Air funded projects are available on the website.

Program Updates

Program Compliance: Staff is continuing development of a full compliance report based on an analysis of the annual audits and reports submitted by 19 local transportation agencies/jurisdictions. The summary describes fiscal year 2009-2010 pass-through fund expenditures (Alameda CTC allocated over $51.4 million that year).

Grant Programs: To date, Alameda CTC has awarded over $27.2 million to four grant programs. A Cycle 2 Express Bus Service project of note is the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority Express Bus Service. Three vital express bus routes (12V, 20X, 70X) run parallel to major, congested freeways and arterials serving thousands of East County commuters.

Alameda County Travel Training Working Group: Alameda CTC is helping travel trainers to improve their training sessions by hosting a bi-monthly Countywide Travel Training Working Group, led by the Paratransit Coordinator Naomi Armenta. The focus is on sharing best practices to improve travel delivery and ultimately the travel experience for seniors and people with disabilities.

Step into Life Walking Challenge: After the kick-off on February 14, staff and consultants are actively participating in this six-week walking challenge. Several people are leading weekly walks and “slow strolls” — and logging in miles. Visit the website for walking tools and tips or more information on the public walking campaign.

[two images of people walking]
In February, the finance staff at the Alameda CTC produced a consolidated quarterly investment report and revamped many of the financial reports in an effort to provide accurate, timely and transparent information to the standing committees, the Commission and the public. Staff has also begun work on several challenging projects in relation to the consolidation of the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority, including the consolidation of the financial accounting systems, the CalPERS retirement system, the FY2011-12 budgets, the cost allocation plans and accounts payable processing. Each of these projects requires an extensive commitment from the team to develop efficient systems for use by Alameda CTC staff.

As these projects move forward, the team will need to continue to stay current on regular daily tasks and responsibilities, to address other issues that become a priority as the director of finance completes a thorough review of the current systems in place and to participate in agencywide projects.

Finance staff also will soon begin work on the consolidation of the payroll systems, the Other Postemployment Benefit trusts and establishing consolidated policies and procedures in line with current best practices.

In March, several community advisory committees met. Highlights include:

- **March 1** – The Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee approved the Congestion Management Plan update and Transportation Fund for Clean Air guidelines.

- **March 3** – The Community Advisory Working Group (CAWG) discussed a call for projects, performance measures and transportation programs for Countywide Transportation Plan and Transportation Expenditure Plan (CWTP-TEP) development.

- **March 10** – The Technical Advisory Working Group (TAWG) discussed the same items as CAWG.

- **March 14** – The Citizens Watchdog Committee formed a subcommittee to begin development of the 9th Annual Report to the Public.

- **March 24** – The CWTP-TEP Steering Committee discussed CAWG/TAWG items, land-use scenarios, transportation white papers and best practices, the call for projects and results of the first countywide poll.

- **March 28** – The Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee discussed supplemental funding for the gap grant projects and developed program plan review and finance subcommittees.

### Countywide Coordination and Mobility Management Planning

On March 8, the Alameda CTC led a Coordination and Mobility Management Planning meeting in South County to discuss potential coordination strategies to facilitate more seamless transportation for seniors and people with disabilities.
Outreach & Events

Public outreach: Alameda CTC Chair, Union City Mayor Mark Green recently invited Alameda County elected officials, city and county managers and representatives from several government and transportation agencies to Initial Vision Scenario (IVS) meetings, as part of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) development. Alameda CTC is also hosting public workshops to get input on the Countywide Transportation Plan and Transportation Expenditure Plan (CWTP-TEP) development, which supports the RFP/SCS.

Workshops held in March invited elected officials and community members into discussions about the plans, and the projects and programs needed to support a transportation vision that fosters a vibrant and livable Alameda County:

- March 9 – Hayward City Hall, Conference Room 2A, 777 B Street (CWTP-TEP)
- March 16 – San Leandro Library, 300 Estudillo Avenue (IVS and CWTP-TEP)
- March 19 – Newark Hilton, 39900 Balentine Drive, SCS including IVS hosted by Supervisor Lockyer
- March 24 – Alameda CTC, 1333 Broadway, Suite 300 (IVS and CWTP-TEP)
- March 24 - Dublin Public Library, 200 Civic Plaza (CWTP-TEP)

For meeting times click here.

Business outreach: On March 2, Alameda CTC staff performed outreach at an open house in Hayward - How to Do Business with Public Agencies in Hayward.

Other News

In February 2011, the Alameda CTC unveiled its new logo and mission statement (see right). The Commission also has a new phone number — (510) 208-7400 — and new staff email addresses. Visit the Alameda CTC Staff web page to access the new contact information.

The newly created Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is a joint powers authority, resulting from the merger of the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA) and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA). Members include the 14 cities in Alameda County, the County of Alameda, AC Transit, BART, ACCMA and ACTIA. Our mission is to plan, fund and deliver transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility to foster a vibrant and livable Alameda County. Read more about Alameda CTC, its Members, and its Advisory Committees.