Transportation Planning Updates

Board approves Alameda County Transportation Expenditure Plan for the November ballot: On June 5, 2012, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted to place the Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) on the November 6, 2012 ballot. If approved by Alameda County voters, the TEP will extend and augment the half-cent sales tax. Investing these local dollars will provide and maintain an efficient transportation system in Alameda County while adding more opportunities to provide key transportation links where people live and work. This is a critical step in providing $7.8 billion to fund transportation in Alameda County over the next 30 years. Local funding is instrumental in providing and maintaining a quality transportation system in Alameda County while federal and state funds for transportation have declined.

Guaranteed Ride Home Program takes cars off roads: Alameda County employees are eligible to register in Alameda CTC’s Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) Program in exchange for making a commitment to travel to work without driving alone. By making this commitment, they are eligible for a free ride home in the event of an emergency or unscheduled overtime. In 2011, over 4,700 employees were enrolled in the GRH Program. Together, they saved over 202,000 one-way car trips between home and work, 11.7 million miles, over $1 million in gas and 3,300 tons of carbon dioxide air emissions.

Since 1998, the GRH Program has reduced vehicle trips on Alameda County roads. The program encourages people to travel by bus, train, ferry, carpool, vanpool, bike or on foot, rather than to commute alone by car. Out of 4,700 employees enrolled in the program, approximately 1 percent, or 55 people, received assurance through the program and took a guaranteed ride home in 2011.

The Alameda County GRH program is administered by the Alameda CTC and funded by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District through its Transportation Fund for Clean Air. For more information about the GRH Program and to review the most recent annual evaluation report, see the website at www.alamedactc.org/grh.

Program and Policy Updates

Annual Mobility Workshop: On Monday, July 16 at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley, come hear the latest on planning for sustainability in the Bay Area’s paratransit systems as well as other hot topics from around the country on transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. Sponsored by the Alameda CTC and the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO), the 9th Annual Alameda CTC Senior and Disabled Mobility Workshop, Paratransit at a Crossroads: Looking into the Future of Paratransit in Alameda County, provides information on ACCESS Transportation Systems in Pittsburgh, PA; the final recommendations of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s Transit Sustainability Project; and the latest accessible vehicles at a vehicle “show-and-tell.”

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans: The update of the 2006 Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans is coming to a close. The draft plans are scheduled for a late June release and will be available online.

(continued on page 2)
Executive Director’s Message (cont’d)

common understanding of the Complete Streets requirement and initiate a dialogue on policies. (Read more in “Program and Policy Updates.”)

Programming and project news: Alameda CTC staff has performed the annual review of the paratransit plan and budget for all paratransit programs that receive Measure B pass-through funds for the coming fiscal year (FY 12-13). Staff has also developed the FY 12-13 Vehicle Registration Fee Strategic Plan, which includes specific projects and programming cycles for the upcoming year. In addition, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments have adopted the One Bay Area Grant Program, which will invest roughly $800 million regionwide, $67 million for Alameda County. Staff expects Alameda CTC to adopt the FY 12-13 Measure B Program Strategic Plan in June. (Read more in “Programming and Project Updates.”)

The Alameda CTC Finance department has been preparing the budget and contracting requirements for fiscal year 2012-2013 and performing audit preparation work and closing activities for the termination of the ACCMA and ACTIA on February 29, 2012. (See “Finance Updates” for more information.)

Last month, I mentioned I’d share the results of the Team Bike Challenge. As part of the company challenge, Alameda CTC came in 15th place out of 23 small companies in Alameda County. During the month of May, Alameda CTC’s two teams (five participating members):

- Biked 482 miles
- Saved 482 pounds of CO₂
- Burned 21,000 calories
- Took 142 (one-way) trips by bike

Now that summer is here, I hope to see you at other upcoming activities and events (see pages 3 and 4 for details). I would also like to invite you to join us at the 9th Annual Senior and Disabled Mobility Workshop on July 16 at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley.

Sincerely,

Arthur L. Dao
Executive Director, Alameda CTC

Programming & Project Updates

Approval of Measure B Paratransit Pass-Through Program: Staff has performed the annual review of the paratransit plan and budget for all paratransit programs that receive Measure B pass-through funds for the coming fiscal year (FY 12-13). The Alameda CTC provides estimated annual revenues to each paratransit program. The Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) reviews and provides a recommendation for all Measure B Paratransit Program Claims for funding. PAPCO also reviews and provides a recommendation for the distribution of up to $100,000 in Minimum Service Level Grants. Through the presentation and review process, PAPCO encourages the best overall service in the county through coordination, a focus on cost effectiveness, ensuring consumer involvement and offering their own experiences for making programs more responsive to consumer needs. The Commission will review the overall program in June; 13 recipients in Alameda County will receive about $9.4 million.

OneBayArea Grant (OBAG) update: The OneBayArea Grant (OBAG) program is a new funding approach that integrates the region’s federal transportation program with California’s climate law (State Bill 375, Steinberg, 2008) and the Sustainable Communities Strategy. The OBAG Program establishes program commitments and policies for investing roughly $800 million regionwide over a four-year period (FYs 12-13 through 15-16), funded through continuations of the current surface transportation program. On May 17, 2012, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments adopted the program.

The OBAG guidelines require recipient jurisdictions to meet Complete Streets standards by January 31, 2013. The guidelines also require jurisdictions to have a general plan housing element adopted and certified by the state prior to January 31, 2013. Total funding available for Alameda County through OBAG is approximately $67 million, and will be a large part of the agency workplan over the coming year.

VRF Strategic Plan approval: The Measure F Alameda County Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) Program was approved by the voters in November 2010. The fee will generate about $10.7 million per year from a $10 per year vehicle registration fee. The fee collection started in the first week of May 2011.

The FY 2012-13 VRF Strategic Plan, which staff is presenting to the Commission in June, will:

- Establish a one-year implementation plan that will include the approval of specific projects and programming cycles.
- Establish the beginning programmed balance for each program.
- Estimate the cash flow over the next five fiscal years of the VRF to assess the financial capacity to deliver the various VRF Programs.

FY 12-13 Measure B Capital Program Strategic Plan: The Alameda CTC is scheduled to adopt the final FY 12-13 Measure B Capital Program Strategic Plan Update in June 2012. The Strategic Plan Update confirms the total Measure B commitment to each of the 27 capital projects included in the 2000 Measure B Transportation Expenditure Plan along with the remaining capital projects from the 1986 Measure B Transportation Expenditure Plan.
The Alameda CTC finance department has been preparing the budget and contracting requirements for fiscal year 2012-2013 and performing audit preparation work and closing activities for the termination of the ACCMA and ACTIA on February 29, 2012.

Budgeting activities include determining the required expenditure levels to accomplish the Alameda CTC’s mission and evaluating the revenue sources available to fund work to meet the Commission’s goals. Staff completed this process for all activities from capital projects to general administration.

Contracting activities for the coming fiscal year include negotiating annually renewed contracts, having the Commission approve the new negotiated rates and beginning the process of preparing the contracts for execution. Having this all accomplished before the end of the current fiscal year helps staff prepare the budget and allows work to continue seamlessly into the new fiscal year.

Preparing for the audit involves reconciling all balance sheet accounts, ensuring data accuracy and preparing required documents as requested by the external financial auditors.

Closing activities require finalizing all general ledger accounts and recognizing items that may occur on an annual basis only, such as posting the depreciation on equipment and the market valuation of portfolio investments.

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

- **June 5** – The [Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee](#) approved the final Vehicle Registration Fee Fiscal Year 2012-2013 (FY 12-13) Strategic Plan, the Congestion Management Agency Exchange Program quarterly report, as well as the draft FY 12-13 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program. They also received an update on policy, planning and programs activities in FY12-13.

- **June 11** – The [Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC)](#) elected officers for FY 12-13, reviewed the CWC Bylaws and reviewed the draft CWC 10th Annual Report to the Public.

- **June 12** – The [Paratransit Technical Advisory Committee](#) received an update on the PAPCO Program Plan and Gap Grant funding recommendations and discussed the Senior Helpline Services Volunteer Driver Program.

- **June 21** – The [Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)](#) elected officers for FY 12-13, reviewed the CAC Bylaws and discussed the members’ outreach plan for the next fiscal year.

- **June 25** – The [Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO)](#) elected officers for FY 12-13, reviewed the PAPCO Bylaws and received an update on the 2012 Annual Mobility Workshop.

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### Join Us at the Transportation Forum on July 26

On Thursday, July 26 at 6:30 p.m., the Alameda CTC and its Citizens Advisory Committee will host the South County Transportation Forum, *Best Value for Public Funds*, at Union City City Hall. Attendees will meet project sponsors and hear about the new Alameda County Transportation Expenditure Plan on the ballot that provides $7.8 billion in investments and key South County projects and programs:

- Safe Routes to Schools, the BikeMobile,
- Tri-City Senior Mobility Programs, BART Warm Springs Extension, BART Irvington Station, Union City Intermodal Station, Dumbarton Rail Corridor and I-680 Express Lanes.
In June and July, the Alameda CTC is hosting or participating in these outreach events:

- June 16 – Afghan Community Health Fair at Fremont Senior Center
- June 20 – Roundtable Discussion with the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) in Oakland
- June 20 – Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) Webinar at Alameda CTC: Resolving Conflicts at Complex Intersections
- June 21 – Hayward Street Festival
- June 21, 28, July 5 – Alameda County Fair Senior Days in Pleasanton
- June 22 – Hayward Chamber of Commerce’s Latino Business Roundtable in Oakland
- June 24 – Measure B Informational Discussion with the Sierra Club Executive Committee in Oakland
- June 28 – Breakfast of Champions in Oakland
- July 16 – Alameda CTC’s Annual Mobility Workshop at Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley
- July 18 – APBP Webinar at Alameda CTC: The Greener Side of Green Streets: Reducing Pavement Footprints
- July 19 – Healthy Living Festival at the Oakland Zoo
- July 26 – South County Transportation Forum at Union City City Hall
- July 28, 29 – Alameda Park Street Art & Wine Faire

East Bay Greenway Initial Study:
Alameda CTC has prepared an Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the East Bay Greenway, a 12-mile long, Class I Multi-Use Bike Path, Class II Bike Lane and Class III Bike Route from 19th Avenue in Oakland to the Hayward Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Station. The East Bay Greenway IS/MND is now available for public review online or at the Alameda CTC offices. See the public notice and project location map for more information. Comments are due July 12, 2012.

Other News

Alameda CTC launches Facebook and Twitter: On June 4, 2012, Alameda CTC entered the world of social media and launched a Facebook page and a Twitter feed. Alameda CTC will use social media to promote transparency, inclusiveness and public education regarding our work to plan, fund and deliver transportation in Alameda County. Staff has developed a social media policy, and Alameda CTC will use these sites to inform the public about the Transportation Expenditure Plan, upcoming events and meetings, and current and future programs and projects.

www.facebook.com/AlamedaCTC
@AlamedaCTC