EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director’s Message

As 2015 comes to a close, I’m proud of Alameda CTC’s capital project delivery achievements that will improve transportation throughout Alameda County. Considering the year in review, we’ve made excellent progress on the following projects that will reduce highway congestion, improve our roadways and provide better transit access: I-680 Northbound Express Lane, Route 84 Expressway, I-880 Southbound High Occupancy Vehicle Lane, the East Bay Greenway and I-580 Corridor Improvement Projects (read more about each of these projects in “Project Updates”). Measure B and Vehicle Registration Fee program fund recipients also were able to advance many projects in 2015, such as the Christie

Project Updates

A year in review

As 2015 comes to a close, it’s time to celebrate the capital project delivery achievements this year in Alameda County.

I-680 Northbound Express Lane: Environmental approval

Environmental clearance was achieved in July 2015 for the full I-680 Northbound Express Lane Project, which will widen I-680 from SR 237 in Santa Clara County to SR 84 in Alameda County and construct a northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV)/express lane in the corridor. The project will be constructed in segments as funding is identified; the initial phase of the project has begun and includes design and construction of a nine-mile segment between Auto Mall Parkway and SR 84.

East Bay Greenway Project: Dedication ceremony

On November 6, 2015, Alameda CTC and the East Bay Regional Park District hosted a dedication ceremony to celebrate the completion of the first segment of the East Bay Greenway Project. This half-mile link, from the Coliseum/Oakland Airport BART Station to 85th Avenue in Oakland, is the initial phase of an envisioned 15-mile bicycle and pedestrian pathway running roughly parallel to the BART tracks from Oakland to Hayward. It aims to provide access to five BART stations and AC Transit bus service hubs and will encourage the use of alternate modes of transportation as well as create opportunities for recreation and community connections to parks, schools, local businesses and transit.

Route 84 Expressway – South Segment: Construction contract award

Alameda CTC implemented the preliminary engineering and design of this essential widening project along SR 84 in Livermore. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is responsible for the advertisement, award and administration of the $34.7 million construction contract, which it awarded on September 30, 2015. Major construction activities are slated to start by the end of 2015.

I-880 Southbound HOV Lane: Construction complete

In October 2015, Alameda CTC and Caltrans celebrated the opening of the $114 million I-880 Southbound HOV Lane, between Hegenberger Road in Oakland and Marina Boulevard in San Leandro. Construction of this project was made possible with $82 million in Proposition 1B voter-approved funding successfully secured by Alameda CTC through a competitive process with strict accountability and delivery deadlines.

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East Bay Greenway Dedication Ceremony at Oakland’s Coliseum BART station on November 6, 2015
Transportation Planning Updates

Goods Movement Plan update

Goods movement is critical to Alameda County’s economy — about one-third of countywide employment comes from goods movement-dependent industries such as manufacturing, transportation, warehousing, construction, retail and wholesale trade.

Over the course of two years, Alameda CTC has developed a draft Countywide Goods Movement Plan to pursue a strategic vision for improving the efficiency of freight flows, creating jobs and reducing environmental impacts caused by goods movement. The plan reflects in-depth technical analyses and robust stakeholder involvement including more than 60 meetings with stakeholders and interest groups.

The draft plan presents three “opportunity packages” to combine the most effective infrastructure, policy and programmatic strategies:

1. **Sustainable Global Competitiveness Package**: Includes improved internal Port of Oakland circulation, additional warehousing and improved rail access routes to increase Port competitiveness while removing thousands of trucks from roadways per day. Improvements support the types of logistics activity most likely to create middle-wage jobs, coupling job training and workforce development to ensure that local residents can benefit from this activity.

2. **Smart Deliveries and Operations Package**: Includes intelligent transportation systems, near-zero and zero-emission truck demonstrations and incentives, off-peak deliveries and other innovative practices to help manage local traffic and reduce conflicts.

3. **Modernizing Infrastructure Package**: Includes modifications to the road network in industrial corridors, improving safe access to industrial corridors and facilities, reducing land use conflicts along freight corridors and improving last-mile truck routes and rail connections to existing and emerging industries.

The draft **Alameda County Goods Movement Plan** will be available for review through the winter and is scheduled for adoption by the Commission in February 2016.

**Policy News
2016 Legislative Program**

Alameda CTC’s 2016 Legislative Program will guide legislative actions and policy direction on legislative issues during the upcoming calendar year. The draft 2016 program that goes before the Commission for approval in December 2015 is divided into six sections:

1. Transportation Funding
2. Project Delivery
3. Multimodal Transportation and Land Use
4. Climate Change
5. Goods Movement
6. Partnerships

Some of the highest priorities in 2016 will be to partner at the federal, regional and state level in efforts regarding reauthorization of the federal surface transportation bill and to support other funding sources. Alameda CTC will continue to monitor California transportation infrastructure funding and priorities, and implementation of cap-and-trade programs; implementation of Senate Bill 743 that will affect Alameda County’s transportation and land use activities to support the region’s Sustainable Communities Strategy; and the Road User Charge program.

The agency will also monitor other regional efforts to raise transportation funding such as new revenue from bridge tolls, partner agency funding initiatives and other policies that could affect implementation of Alameda CTC’s projects and programs.

Legislative, policy and funding partnerships throughout the Bay Area and California will be key to the success of the 2016 Legislative Program.
Finance Updates

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

During October 2015, the finance team worked with independent auditors to create the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended June 30, 2015. The CAFR contains new Measure BB funds for special revenues and capital projects as well as information required to be disclosed per bond documents.

The finance team also has worked to create financial reports in the new financial database to report to the Commission quarterly financial information in comparison to the approved budget. The CAFR and the FY2015-16 first quarter financial reports will go to the Commission for approval in December. Once approved, the final CAFR will be submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association to be considered for an award for excellence in financial reporting.

Contracting opportunities

In October 2015, the governing body of Alameda CTC awarded a contract to the top-ranked firm for the Affordable Student Transit Pass Program, and activities are underway to coordinate program planning and implementation. Responses to Alameda CTC’s request for proposals for the toll system integration design and installation services for the I-680 Sunol Express Lanes were due in mid-November.

Alameda CTC is also soliciting monitoring services for elements of the Congestion Management Program. Alameda CTC anticipates issuing an invitation for bids for maintenance services for the East Bay Greenway Project – Segment 7A in early 2016. For more information, visit the Contracting Opportunities web page.

Programming Updates

FY2014-15 Measure B/Measure BB/ VRF compliance reporting

Annually, recipients of Measure B, Measure BB and Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) direct local distribution funds are required to submit Audited Financial Statements and Program Compliance Reports that summarize revenues and expenses used to support local street and roads, bicycle and pedestrian, paratransit and transit investments. The compliance reports fulfill mandatory reporting requirements, while informing the public on the specific improvements and programs funded by the sales tax and revenue programs.

Recipient reports on FY2014-15 activities are due to Alameda CTC at the end of December. In the spring, Alameda CTC in conjunction with the Independent Watchdog Committee will review the submitted materials to determine program compliance. Additional information will be available on the Alameda CTC website.

Emeryville Christie Avenue Bay Trail Gap Closure project nears completion

This December, the City of Emeryville will complete construction on the Christie Avenue Bay Trail Gap Closure project. Alameda CTC allocated $550,000 in Measure B and VRF grant funds to support this improvement. The project consists of the construction of a Class I bike path on the northwest side of Christie Avenue between Shellmound and Powell Streets, closing a gap in the Bay Trail between Frontage Road and the Bay Bridge Trail.

Once complete, the project will redirect bicyclists and pedestrians from the city’s most congested intersections and allow them to safely travel on a continuous Bay Trail. The project will improve routing of the Bay Trail in Emeryville and accommodate future travel demand created by other pedestrian-bicycle paths opening on the Bay Trail.
Outreach and Events
Alameda CTC hosts or participates in the following events during November and December.

- November 4 – “Meet the Primes” at Alameda CTC with the Bay Area Business Outreach Committee
- November 6 – East Bay Greenway ribbon cutting at the Oakland-Coliseum BART Station
- November 12 – Regional Mobility Management Meeting at the OEEd Roberts Campus in Berkeley
- November 18 – Stoneridge Mall workday event at Stoneridge Mall in Pleasanton; Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) webinar at Alameda CTC: Bike Boxies
- December 8 – VF Corporation Employee Event at Stoneridge Mall in Pleasanton; Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals free webinar at Alameda CTC
- December 16 – APBP webinar at Alameda CTC: The Best Guides and Manuals You’ve Never Heard of
- December 24 – Fremont Library Open House

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Other News
What is your vision for Alameda County’s transportation network in 2040?

Do you walk, bike, ride transit or drive in Alameda County? If so, we want to include your perspectives and priorities in the Alameda Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP) 2016 update.

The CTP 2016 update will develop a performance-based, long-range plan through 2040 for Alameda County’s multimodal transportation network that will inform the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s Regional Transportation Plan. The CTP will provide a basis for programming and allocating funds within the purview of Alameda CTC’s decision-making authority, including local, regional, state and federal funds. The CTP is scheduled for adoption by Alameda CTC in June 2016.

Join us at one of the following Transportation Open Houses to provide your input:

1. Saturday, January 10, 2-4 p.m. at Dublin Library: 200 Civic Plaza
2. Thursday, January 14, 5-7 p.m. at Alameda CTC: 1111 Broadway, Oakland
3. Saturday, January 23, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Hayward City Hall: 777 B Street
4. Sunday, January 31, 2-4 p.m. at Fremont Main Library: 2400 Stevenson Boulevard

Visit the Alameda CTC website for more information.

Committee Activities
November advisory committees

Highlights of November advisory committees include:

- November 5 – The Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee (ACTAC) met and approved Alameda CTC’s draft Countywide Goods Movement Plan and the Timely Use of Funds Policies for Direct Local Distributions. ACTAC members also received an update on I-580 Express Lanes outreach efforts and the statewide competitive Cycle 2 of the Active Transportation Program.

- November 9 – The Independent Watchdog Committee (IWC), formerly known as the Citizens Watchdog Committee, met to elect officers for FY2015-16. IWC members received a presentation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY2014-15 and asked questions of the independent auditor.

- November 10 – The ParaTransit Technical Advisory Committee (ParaTAC) received feedback on its quarterly Strategic Planning Workshop on same-day accessible transportation. ParaTAC members discussed draft implementation guidelines and performance measures for FY2016-17 and current city-based needs assessment efforts. The committee also received a presentation from Volunteers in Transportation Advocacy Link.

- November 23 – The ParaTransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) received its updated FY2015-16 calendar, work plan and reports from two ParaTransit Gap Grant Cycle 5 programs and from East Bay Paratransit. The committee discussed draft implementation guidelines and performance measures for FY2016-17. PAPCO members also provided feedback on its quarterly Strategic Planning Workshop on same-day accessible transportation, a joint PAPCO and ParaTAC workshop held in an effort to pinpoint potential strategies and opportunities to enhance and improvement this service, which has faced long-standing availability and reliability challenges in Alameda County. The next quarterly workshop will be at Alameda CTC on February 22, 2016. Visit the meeting calendar for more information.

Project Updates cont’d from page 1

I-580 Corridor Improvement Projects: 220 lane miles of paving complete

Infrastructure to support express lane operations on the I-580 corridor was complete in fall 2015, along with 220 lane miles of paving that had been ongoing for much of the 2015 construction season. System integration is underway and expected to be complete in early 2016 when the new express lanes will open to traffic.

Webinar: The Best Guides and Manuals You’ve Never Heard of

On Wednesday, December 16 from 12 to 1 p.m. (PST), join us for an Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals free webinar at Alameda CTC: 1111 Broadway, Suite 800. The topic is “The Best Guides and Manuals You’ve Never Heard of.” Feel free to bring a brown bag lunch. Alameda CTC hosts the event and covers the registration fee, so attendance is free.