Executive Director’s Report
January 2021

Keeping Our Promises
Alameda CTC is keeping our promises of delivering projects and programs while supporting jobs and the economy. I am ensuring that the agency continues to perform strategic planning, develop projects and implement programs, move projects into construction, and process payments to our cities, the county, transit agencies and business partners during this pandemic. Our work is an important part of the economic recovery.

Thank you,
Tess

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Project Updates

$25 million in Senate Bill 1 funds for Interstate 680 project

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) has awarded $25 million in Senate Bill 1 Local Partnership Program funds to the Interstate 680 Express (I-680) Lanes from State Route 84 (SR-84) to Alcosta Boulevard (Gap Closure) project.

This project is the final segment needed to close a nine-mile gap in the southbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/express lane system through Alameda and Contra Costa counties, completing an approximately 50-mile continuous southbound express lane from Walnut Creek to Milpitas.

These CTC-awarded funds bring Alameda CTC one step closer to closing the funding gap for this regionally-significant project. These funds, in addition to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s (MTC) commitment of $90 million in regional funds is another example of how early investments of 2014 Measure BB funds have helped to leverage external grant funds.

I-680 Express Lanes.

The project is scheduled to go into construction by spring 2022 and will reduce congestion, improve travel time reliability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase throughput, and improve safety and accessibility.

Delivery of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane is currently being coordinated with an upcoming project. Project Updates cont’d on page 4
Planning and Program Updates

2020 CTP implementation efforts

Late last year, the Commission adopted Alameda County’s next long-range transportation plan. The 2020 Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP) charts the course for transportation policy, planning and project development for the next 30 years and presents a clear path forward for the next 10 years for projects, programs and broad-ranging strategies.

Over the next four years, staff will work to implement the CTP through capital project development, funding programs and focused planning initiatives. For example, the 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan (CIP) has already incorporated the CTP’s goals as scoring criteria and will prioritize those projects identified in the CTP’s 10-year list of projects. Staff looks forward to working with the Commission and Alameda CTC’s partner agencies on a broad suite of implementation efforts for the 2020 CTP.

Alameda County has been developing CTPs since 1994. And starting with the 2012 CTP, these plans have become increasingly multimodal and integrate land use planning. The 2020 CTP expands upon this trend, advancing goals related to access and affordability, safety and health, high-quality infrastructure and economic vitality. Developed largely during the COVID-19 pandemic, this CTP establishes a framework for equitable recovery through community-serving investments and transit support. Two companion reports, the Community-Based Transportation Plan and the New Mobility Roadmap, identify priorities in low-income communities and communities of color, and how to advance new mobility technologies, respectively. The final CTP, the Community-Based Transportation Plan and the New Mobility Roadmap, can be found on the agency’s Countywide Transportation Plan webpage.

The 2021 program retains many of the 2020 priorities and is divided into five issue areas:

- Transportation Funding
- Multimodal Transportation, Land Use, Safety and Equity
- Project Delivery and Operations
- Climate Change and Technology
- Partnerships

Approved by both the Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee and the Planning, Policy and Legislation Committee, staff anticipates approval of the 2021 Alameda CTC Legislative Program by the Commission in January of this year. Details of the program can be found in the program table.

Policy News

2021 Legislative Priorities

Every year, Alameda CTC adopts a new legislative program to facilitate the advancement of transportation projects and programs that will maintain and improve the County’s multimodal system. It provides direction for agency legislative and policy activities through the establishment of funding, regulatory and administrative principles to guide legislative advocacy.

The 2021 California legislative session began on January 11, 2021. COVID-19 continues to be the priority for this year’s session, therefore members are limited to the number of bills they can introduce. The deadline for introducing bills is February 19.

Virtual visits with members of the state delegation will be scheduled during February 2021.

Federal Update

Late last year, Congress passed a more than over $900 billion COVID relief package that includes critical funding for transit operations. This package includes $14 billion in aid for public transportation systems nationwide, $975 million of which is expected to go to the Bay Area. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission
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Programming Updates
Direct Local Distribution Programs compliance update
Alameda CTC is reviewing the Measure B, Measure BB and Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) reported expenditures from local jurisdictions for fiscal year (FY) 2019-20. Each year, Alameda CTC requires recipients of Measure B/BB and VRF direct local distribution (DLD) funds to submit Audited Financial Statements and Program Compliance Reports, which summarize revenues and expenditures that support local street and roads, bicycle and pedestrian, paratransit and transit investments. These compliance reports inform the public with detailed information, including recipient use of funds, fund balances and information about specific improvements and programs funded by the sales tax and revenue programs.

Alameda CTC, in conjunction with the Independent Watchdog Committee, will review submitted reports for the FY 2019-20 reporting year to determine program compliance and note any discrepancies to the Commission. Program compliance information is available on the Alameda CTC Compliance Reports webpage.

2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan Call for Projects
Last month, Alameda CTC released a call for projects for the 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan (CIP).
This funding opportunity includes approximately $26 million in combined 2000 Measure B, VRF and Transportation Fund for Clean Air discretionary program funds for bicycle/pedestrian and transit-related improvements. Eligible applicants are required to submit their projects and funding requests to Alameda CTC by the

Finance Updates
Financial audits and the FY 2020-21 mid-year budget kick-off
During November, auditors from Maze & Associates presented Alameda CTC’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended June 30, 2020 to the Commission, for which they provided a clean, or unmodified, opinion. The Commission unanimously approved this CAFR, which demonstrates that the agency is in a strong financial position as of June 30, 2020. This CAFR has been submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for consideration of the award for excellence in financial reporting.
Alameda CTC has received the award for excellence in financial reporting from the GFOA for the past seven years in a row, since Alameda CTC’s first annual financial report was prepared in CAFR form. Also, in November, finance staff brought the FY 2020-21 first quarter financial and investment reports to the Commission for approval.

In December, staff began the mid-year budget update process. This process requires the finance team to work with all agency departments to ensure all requisite adjustments are made to the FY 2020-21 budget. The mid-year budget update is anticipated to go to the Commission for approval in March 2021.

Contracting opportunities
Alameda CTC anticipates upcoming solicitation of bids and/or proposals for the following contracts:

Professional Services contracts
• I-880 Interchanges
• Oakland Alameda Access Project
• State Route 262 Cross Connector

Transportation Investments
Measure BB Program Distributions
Measure BB direct local distributions began in April 2015 and total over $425.5 million; over $6.8 million was distributed in October 2020.

Vehicle Registration Fee
Since 2011, Alameda CTC has distributed more than $68.2 million for local road repair; over $1.0 million was collected in October 2020.

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In January, the following committees met. Highlights include:

- January 7 – Focus of the Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee (ACTAC) meeting was to approve the 2021 Legislative Program, a program that provides direction for Alameda CTC’s legislative and policy activities, not only locally and regionally, but also statewide and federally. The committee approved this year’s program.

- January 11 – The Independent Watchdog Committee (IWC) received updates on Measure B and Measure BB projects and programs, as well as an update on the FY 2019-20 Measure B/BB Program Compliance and Audit Reports. Audit reports are available on the website at https://www.alamedactc.org/funding/reporting-and-grant-forms/. Committee bylaws were reviewed, and IWC members and staff reported on activities.

- January 12 – The Paratransit Technical Advisory Committee (ParaTAC) received updates on the FY 2021-22 Program Plan application and process as well as information on the FY 2021-22 Paratransit Direct Local Distribution (DLD) funding projections. Committee members also received updates on Covid-19 impacts on programs, Transportation Network Company (TNCs) partnerships, mobility management, emergency preparedness, and the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) activities. Additionally, members received their meeting calendar for FY 2020-21.

Caltrans pavement rehabilitation project along the same section of I-680. Coordination of these two projects will lead to a significant cost savings of approximately $18 million and will minimize inconvenience and reduce impacts to the traveling public during the months of construction.

For more information on these and other Alameda CTC projects, visit the Projects webpage.