



ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JUNE 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,

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Project Updates
- 2 Planning and Program Updates
- Policy News
- 3 Programming Updates
- Finance Updates
- 4 Agency Activities
- Committee Activities

## Project Updates

### I-880 Corridor Projects

Alameda CTC is working to deliver three projects along the heavily congested Interstate 880 (I-880) corridor that are moving toward the completion of a draft or final environmental document by the end of the 2021 calendar year.

The [Oakland Alameda Access Project](#) proposes to improve traffic operations, safety, accessibility and connectivity

between I-880, Interstate 980 and the Posey and Webster Street Tubes, connecting the cities of Oakland and Alameda, by



reducing conflicts between local and regional traffic, as well as improving conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. The [Draft Environmental Document](#) (DED) was released for public review in September 2020, followed by a virtual public meeting in October 2020. Final environmental clearances are anticipated in fall 2021.

In May 2021, the Commission approved the allocation of \$15.9 million in Measure BB funds, allowing the project to move forward to the Right-of-Way

and Final Design phases. Design is anticipated to begin late 2021 with a completion date of fall 2022.



### The [I-880 Interchange Improvements \(Whipple Road/Industrial Parkway Southwest and Industrial Parkway West\)](#) project aims to improve traffic operations and safety across the I-880 interchanges by improving accessibility and enhancing mobility.

Improvements are needed at both interchanges to address current and future congestion, and to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and connectivity. In cooperation with the cities of Hayward and Union City, the [DED](#) was released for public review in January 2021, and a virtual public meeting was held in February 2021. Final environmental clearances are anticipated in summer 2021 with final design work beginning by late 2021.

The [I-880 Interchange Improvements \(Winton Avenue and A Street\)](#) project proposes to improve operations at two interchanges, as well as the I-880

*Project Updates cont'd on page 4*

## Planning and Program Updates

### Alameda County Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction Estimator Tool

In June 2021, Alameda CTC will release the Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction Estimator Tool (VMT Tool) for Alameda County. The VMT Tool is intended as a resource for member agencies to comply with the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 743 (Steinberg, 2013). Although use of the tool is discretionary, it can be used as part of the development review and transportation analysis process under CEQA and as part of local government planning efforts. The VMT Tool helps jurisdictions identify and evaluate implementation impacts of certain mobility management strategies as part of development projects and planning efforts, such as implementation of general and community plans, transportation demand management (TDM) ordinances and climate action plans.

The Alameda County VMT Tool was modeled after the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) VMT Reduction Calculator Tool and has been customized for application in Alameda County. Development of the VMT Tool was guided by the Alameda County Senate Bill (SB) 743 Working Group, a body formed by partner agency staff with experience in evaluating projects under CEQA. The working group included Alameda County jurisdictions, Caltrans, AC Transit and the Port of Oakland.

At June's Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee meeting, the project team demonstrated use of the Alameda County VMT Tool. The final

tool will be available as a resource on [Alameda CTC's website](#) this summer.



## Policy News

### Update on transportation policy and the 2021 IWC Annual Report

#### Federal update

During the month of May, the Biden Administration had several meetings with Republicans to discuss proposals for a bipartisan infrastructure package. Discussions focused on defining infrastructure, identifying priority projects, and how to fund the package. If a bipartisan agreement cannot be reached, Democrats may decide to abandon negotiations and move forward with a bill of their own through budget reconciliation.

As for surface transportation reauthorization, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee unanimously advanced the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act (STRA) of 2021 to the Senate floor during the last week of May. Committee leaders introduced the five-year \$303.5 billion measure, which would authorize funding for road, bridge, and highway programs administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). In early June, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee passed the Investing in a

New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) Act. The INVEST Act proposes a \$547 billion program for roads, bridges, transit and safety. Congressional and Senate Committees will hold hearings on the proposed legislation in June, and significant negotiations are anticipated throughout the summer as the larger overall infrastructure discussions advance.

#### State update

In mid-May, Governor Newsom issued the FY 2021-22 May Revision to the Governor's budget. With a now projected \$75.7 billion surplus, the May Revision proposes over \$11 billion of state investment in transportation infrastructure. The adopted budget contains proposed investments, including a focus on rail and transit, bicycle and pedestrian access, safety, zero-emissions technologies, and maintaining the state's commitment to "fix-it-first" projects on the state's highways and bridges. Budget trailer bills will address how many of these funds will be programmed.

#### Independent Watchdog Committee's 19th Annual Report

In July of this year, Alameda CTC's Independent Watchdog Committee (IWC) will convene to receive approval of the draft 19th Annual IWC Report, approve its proposed publication costs and distribution, and review the final press release for the report.

The IWC is made up of 17 members, all of whom must be an Alameda County resident, reports directly to the public on the agency's Measure B and Measure BB expenditures and performance measures to ensure open and transparent public processes with regard to the allocation of funding. To learn more about the IWC visit the [Committees webpage](#).

## Programming Updates

### An update on the Safe and Seamless Mobility Quick-Strike Program

Earlier this year, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) released a call for project nominations for the Safe and Seamless Mobility Quick-Strike Program, a one-time competitive grant program within its One Bay Area Grant Cycle 2 (OBAG 2) program framework. The initial program included approximately \$54.4 million for the Quick-Strike program, and was recently augmented by \$34.6 million in federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) highway infrastructure funds, for a program total of \$89 million. This program is available to all of the Bay Area counties.

In response, Alameda CTC submitted 12 project nominations from local jurisdictions and transit agencies requesting a total of \$15.1 million from the Quick-Strike Program. This month, initial recommendations from MTC indicate Alameda County jurisdictions are tentatively set to receive approximately \$12 million for 11 of the project nominations. MTC's Commission will be approving their final program recommendations at the end of this month.

### Oakland's citywide Bicycle/Pedestrian Rapid Response Enhancement Projects

The City of Oakland recently completed a \$75,000 Measure B Bicycle/Pedestrian COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant Program grant aimed at building on Oakland's Slow Streets "Essential Places" and "Rapid Response" programs. The investment provided enhancement of existing, temporary safety installations

[Programming Updates cont'd on page 4](#)

## Finance Updates

### Alameda CTC's interim audit to begin

The Finance team is gearing up for the financial year-end and preparing to engage in the first stage of the FY2020-21 audit process in the coming month as the interim phase of the audit begins. During the interim phase, auditors will meet with the Alameda CTC Audit Committee and the Independent Watchdog Committee. Auditors will also begin their review of policies and procedures and perform initial testing for both Alameda CTC and the Sunol Smart Carpool Lane Joint Powers Authority (Sunol JPA). Through this initial work, they will develop an audit plan to guide their work throughout the auditing process, which will include a risk assessment and establishment of materiality levels.

During May, the Finance team brought many significant items to the Commission and Sunol JPA Board for approval. Some of the most significant items included an update to the FY 2020-21 sales tax revenue budgets and Alameda CTC and Sunol JPA budgets for FY 2021-22, which will guide the agencies' spending throughout FY 2021-22.



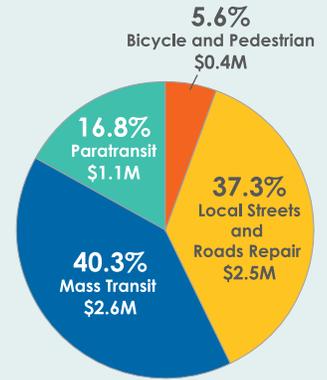
Interstate 680 express lanes.

[Finance Updates cont'd on page 4](#)

## Transportation Investments

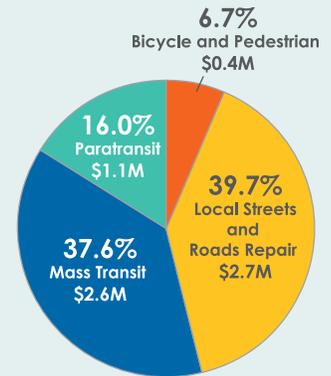
### Measure BB Program Distributions

Measure BB direct local distributions began in April 2015 and total over \$459.7 million; over \$6.6 million was distributed in March 2021.



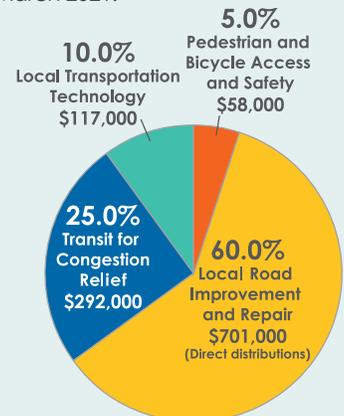
### Measure B Program Distributions

Measure B direct local distributions have totaled more than \$1.2 billion since 2002. In March 2021, over \$6.8 million was distributed for four programs.



### Vehicle Registration Fee

Since 2011, Alameda CTC has distributed more than \$71.3 million for local road repair; over \$1.1 million was collected in March 2021.



## Agency Activities

During June, Alameda CTC hosted, sponsored or participated in the following virtual events:

- **BikeMobile virtual events:**
  - June 1-4 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle, Hayward
  - June 9 – San Leandro Library, San Leandro
- June 4 – A virtual 30th Annual Convention for United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County
- June 24 – Release of a video to press and stakeholders to celebrate having broken ground on the SR-84 from South of Ruby Hill Drive to I-680 and SR-84/I-680 Interchange Improvement project

### Projects Updates cont'd from page 1

mainline by constructing auxiliary lanes between the two interchanges. The project improvements at each interchange also address pedestrian and bicycle connectivity by proposing separated, Class IV bike lanes, wider sidewalks and shared use paths. Alameda CTC is working closely with the City of Hayward, Caltrans, local businesses and community representatives, in anticipation of the DED being released for public review by the end of this year.

For more information on these and other projects, visit Alameda CTC's [Projects webpage](#).



**Winton Avenue off-ramp facing southbound on Interstate 880.**

### Programming Updates cont'd from page 3

with more durable improvements, including signage, striping, safety islands, markers and modular curbs. The project constructed improvements at locations on Oakland's "High Injury Network."



**Safety island and modular curb for the City of Oakland's Slow Streets.**

This project provided safer pedestrian and bicycle access to critical locations within the community, including grocery stores, schools, local businesses, essential social services, transit stops, places of worship and other community centers in high priority communities in Oakland.

### Finance Updates cont'd from page 3

## Contracting opportunities



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

### Professional Services contracts

- General Legal Counsel Services
- I-580 Sustainable Corridor Strategy
- I-680 Express Lanes Southbound Gap Closure
- I-880 Interchange Improvements
- Information Technology Support Services
- Oakland Alameda Access Project
- Transportation Demand Management Program

### Construction

- State Route 84 Plant Establishment

For more information, visit Alameda CTC's [Contracting Opportunities webpage](#).

## Committee Activities

### June advisory committees

Advisory committees met during the month of June. Highlights of those meetings include the following:

- June 10 – The [Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee \(ACTAC\)](#) received updates on the FY 2019-20 Measure B, Measure BB and Vehicle Registration Fee Program Compliance Summary Report. Additionally, the committee received an update on the SB 743 Implementation and Alameda County Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction Estimator Tool.
- June 28 – The [Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee \(PAPCO\)](#) elected its FY 2021-22 officers and approved its FY 2021-22 appointments of PAPCO representatives to the IWC and to the East Bay Paratransit Service Review Advisory Committee (SRAC). The committee also approved its FY 2021-22 meeting calendar and the FY 2021-22 Paratransit Direct Local Distribution Program Plans recommendation. Updates were received regarding the IWC, the SRAC and other Americans with Disabilities Act and transit advisory committees as well as mobility management.

