



ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MARCH 2023

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 support our cities, the County, transit agencies and business partners. Our work is an important part of supporting local communities, equity, safety, clean transportation and the economy.

Thank you,

Tess

Project Updates

Alameda CTC Delivers as Promised to Voters

Alameda CTC is delivering projects in all areas of the County as promised to voters. This year, there are six separate construction projects underway for over \$775 million creating jobs, improving safety and expanding mobility.

GoPort Program

7th Street Grade Separation East and Freight Intelligent Transportation Systems (FITS)

These two construction projects will improve access and operations for trucks and rail at the Port of Oakland to reduce emissions and provide safe bicycle and pedestrian access to the Bay Trail. FITS will complete construction this year and the 7th Street project will begin construction this summer.

Interstate 80/Gilman Street Interchange Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge and Roundabouts

These two construction contracts will build roundabouts and a bicycle/

pedestrian overcrossing to improve mobility, traffic operations and safety for all users. The project will also close a gap in the San Francisco Bay Trail network.

Express Lanes Extension and Gap Closure

This 9-mile project from State Route 84 (SR-84) to Alcosta Boulevard closes the gap on a 48-mile continuous express lane on Interstate 680 (I-680) from Martinez to Fremont between the existing and in-progress high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/express lane project, relieving congestion on one of the area's top 10 most congested highways.

Interchange Modernization at SR-84 and I-680

Modernization of SR-84 and modifications to the SR-84/I-680 interchange bring the existing highway and interchange up to expressway standards. Work will improve regional and interregional connectivity, provide bike and pedestrian improvements through the interchange and ultimately improve overall safety.

More information about these and other Alameda CTC projects can be found on the agency's [Projects webpage](#).

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Planning Updates

Vehicle Travel Up, Congestion Rising

Last month, Alameda CTC staff presented an assessment of 2022 travel trends and roadway performance that illuminated the potentially lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Alameda County's transportation network, how people travel and when they travel. After significant drops, congestion increased substantially as of spring 2022, but has not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels. However, overall driving increased, with countywide vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on freeways surpassing pre-pandemic levels. VMT in Alameda County increased seven percent between 2019 and 2022, outpacing the typical one-to-two percent annual increase in countywide VMT that was observed prior to the pandemic.

Workers in Alameda County and the Bay Area are working from home at higher rates than the rest of the country, suggesting that the VMT increase is at least partially the result of increases in non-commute trips. This situation creates unique challenges for Alameda County's seven transit agencies. Staff will return to the Commission later this spring with an update on transit performance.



Photograph courtesy of Freepik

Interstate 580 Transit and Multimodal Strategy Outreach Underway

To help shape the future of the Interstate 580 (I-580) corridor for Alameda CTC's I-580 Transit and Multimodal Strategy, there will be three in-person outreach events in late March and April. These events will be held within some of the county's designated equity communities which have a high concentration of low-income residents and people of color.

All events will be hosted in partnership with community-based organizations in Alameda County.

Policy News

Legislative updates

Federal Update

The Administration submitted the President's Budget to Congress on March 9, officially kicking off the fiscal year (FY) 2024 budget and appropriations process. The Administration's request is unlikely to be enacted, but it will certainly inform lawmakers' approaches.

In the transportation sector, the President's budget seeks to increase funding for transportation by \$1.8 billion, which would be a 6.7 percent increase above the last fiscal year and includes \$76.1 billion for highway, highway safety and transit formula programs. The Administration intends to focus on supporting the repair and upgrade of highways and bridges, the buildout of a national network of electric vehicle chargers, and transit capital, planning, research and technical assistance.

State Update

The deadline to introduce legislation for the 2023 legislative session was

February 17, 2023. Over 2,600 bills have been introduced, the highest number of bill introductions in over a decade. However, almost 40 percent of the measures introduced are spot bills, meaning the bills contain non-substantive changes or only legislative intent language. With all these spot bills, a round of "new" bills should be in print starting in mid-March as these spot bills are amended. Staff is currently reviewing the bills and will bring recommendations to the Commission related to advancing the agency's legislative program. Safety, climate and transit appear to be key focus areas of the legislature this session, which are priorities for Alameda CTC pursuant to the adopted Alameda CTC 2023 Legislative Program and as related to questions and comments raised in previous Planning, Policy and Legislation Committee meetings.

The Commission will go to Sacramento on March 29, 2023, to meet with the delegation representing Alameda County, as well as key administration officials. The meetings will focus on highlighting key projects in each member's district and discussing how our projects, programs and planning initiatives are consistent with and supportive of state goals.



Programming Updates

Measure B, Measure BB and VRF Programs update

The Measure B (MB) and Measure BB (MBB) sales tax, and Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) programs provide a significant funding stream for transportation improvements throughout Alameda County. Over half of all generated revenues are distributed as direct local distributions (DLD) to be used for locally-identified and prioritized transportation improvements. Alameda CTC has distributed over \$2 billion in DLD funds since the inception of the program through the end of FY 2021-22. The DLD funds are distributed to Alameda County's fourteen incorporated cities, unincorporated areas and the seven transit agencies that operate within the county. Additionally, a portion of the MB/MBB/VRF programs are dispersed through discretionary grant programs. Currently, Alameda CTC is monitoring 93 active projects located throughout Alameda County totaling \$265 million of active MB, MBB, and VRF funds. In spring 2023, Alameda CTC is scheduled to award over \$60 million of discretionary funds through the upcoming 2024 Comprehensive Investment Plan.

One Bay Area Grant, Cycle 3

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) administered federal One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Cycle 3 and Regional Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 6 was approved at MTC's January 25, 2023 meeting. Approximately \$72 million of OBAG 3 was adopted for Alameda County projects. This includes the San Pablo Avenue Bus and Bike Lanes, Parallel Bike Network and Safety/Bus Bulb projects administered directly by Alameda CTC. Additionally, MTC has recommended funding 15 projects

totaling \$143 million under ATP Cycle 6. The recommendation includes \$102 million for projects within Alameda County jurisdictions. The MTC Commission-approved recommendation will be considered by the California Transportation Commission at its June 2023 meeting.

Finance Updates

Mid-year budget update

During the month of February, the finance team finalized the Alameda CTC and the Sunol Smart Carpool Lane JPA's (Sunol JPA) mid-year budget update documents for FY 2022-23. These budget updates include adjustments to the beginning fund balances to reflect ending fund balances from audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2022; roll over capital project funding which was approved, but not used during FY 2021-22; and revised revenue and expenditure projections and needs since the original budgets were adopted in May 2022. The updated Sunol JPA's budget was approved by its board in February. The updated Alameda CTC budget will go to the Commission for approval in March. Finance staff also began work on the Alameda CTC and Sunol JPA's FY 2023-24 budgets.

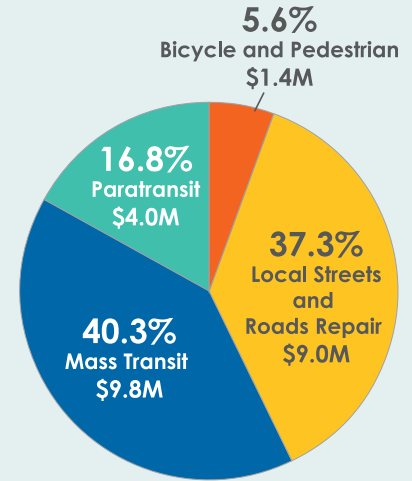
In February, the finance team also completed Alameda CTC's second quarter financial report which is scheduled to go to the Commission for review with a recommendation for approval in March. This report provides revenue and expenditure information for the fiscal year through the second quarter compared to the year-to-date adopted budget by line item.

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 \$712.4 million; over \$24.2 million was distributed in December 2022.

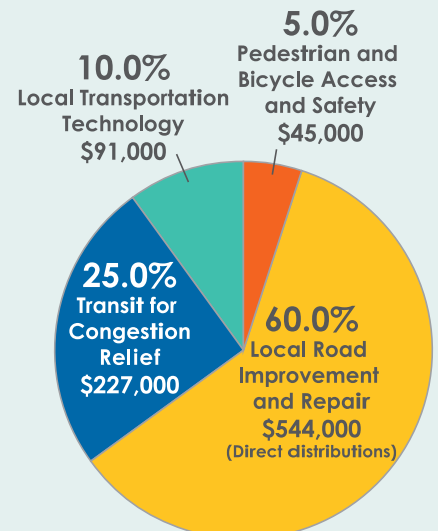


Measure B Program Distributions

Measure B direct local distributions have totaled more than \$1.3 billion since 2002. The measure sunset on March 31, 2022. There are no Measure B Program Distributions after the fiscal year-end of June 30, 2022.

Vehicle Registration Fee

Since 2011, Alameda CTC has distributed more than \$84.0 million for local road repair; over \$0.9 million was collected in December 2022.



Agency Activities

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

- March 8 – Dismantling Barriers for Women of Color in the Workplace - a panel discussion with Executive Director Tess Lengyel sponsored by Women in Transportation (WTS) in San Francisco
- March 18-19 – St. Patrick's Day celebration in the City of Dublin
- March 23 – Farmers' Market in the City of Livermore to promote upcoming I-680 tolling implementation
- March 26 – Irvington Farmers' Market in the City of Fremont to promote upcoming I-680 tolling implementation
- March 29 – State legislative visits by Alameda CTC Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners and staff
- [BikeMobile](#) Outreach Events
 - March 1 – Tom Maloney Elementary, Fremont
 - March 3 – Tennyson High, Hayward
 - March 7 – Livermore High, Livermore
 - March 9 – Southgate Elementary, Hayward
 - March 10 - Valley View Elementary, Pleasanton
 - March 13 - Altamont Creek Elementary, Livermore
 - March 14 - Steven Millard Elementary, Fremont
 - March 15 - Donlon Elementary, Pleasanton; Tom Kitayama Elementary, Union City
 - March 16 - San Leandro High, San Leandro
 - March 17 - Mission Valley Elementary, Fremont
 - March 20 – Niles Elementary, Fremont
 - March 22 - Leo R. Croce Elementary, Livermore
 - March 23 - Fairlands Elementary, Pleasanton
 - March 24 - Itliong-Vera Cruz Middle, Union City
 - March 25 - Washington Elementary, Berkeley
 - March 27 - John Green Elementary, Dublin
 - March 31 - Coyote Hills Elementary School, Newark

Other News

In-person meetings are back!

Last month Alameda CTC held its first in-person Commission meeting since the onset of Covid-19—nearly three years ago. After adjourning, a celebration was in order!



Golden Sneaker contest

The 2023 Golden Sneaker Contest kicked off on February 27 and ran through March 10, 2023. This two-week contest sponsored by Alameda CTC encourages students, parents, teachers and administrators to walk or roll to school, which is healthy for them, or opt for carpooling or taking transit, which is healthy for the environment. The contest encourages teamwork. Classmates work together to track active and shared travel each day with their teachers and family members, giving classrooms and families a special time to share and celebrate together.



At the end of the competition, the classroom at each participating school with the highest percentage of students using active or shared modes receives a Golden Sneaker trophy. And the students of each winning classroom receive a pair of shiny golden shoe laces. The ultimate prize—the Platinum Sneaker Award—will go to the school with the highest participation in all of Alameda County. This school will receive a special celebration to reward them for their teamwork at April's Commission meeting.

Nearly 100 schools throughout Alameda County participated in this year's contest.

Committee Activities

Advisory committee activity highlights

Highlights for March community advisory committees are as follows:

- March 13 – The [Independent Watchdog Committee \(IWC\)](#) held its annual Measure B and Measure BB Audit Report and Program Compliance Report Review orientation/workshop. Committee members approved and established an IWC Annual Report subcommittee and scheduled its first ad hoc subcommittee meeting. The committee discussed the upcoming FY 2023-24 IWC budget and members reviewed the sign-up roster for the Projects and Programs Watchlist, a list designated to watch specific Measure B- and BB-funded projects and programs. A new meeting date and time for the committee was also approved.
- March 14 – [Paratransit Technical Advisory Committee \(ParaTAC\)](#) members received data on and updates about the county's City Paratransit Services application form, COVID-19 impacts on programs and received updates on Transportation Network Companies Partnerships, mobility management and emergency preparedness. Members also received information on Brown Act meeting requirements and protocols that Alameda CTC has put in place.

Please visit [Alameda CTC's Meetings webpage](#) for details on these and other upcoming meetings.

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

- Congestion Management Program—Multimodal Monitoring

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