



# Press Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Contract Awarded for Key Port of Oakland Gateway Upgrade

*Project brings benefits for West Oakland air quality, multimodal transportation, and goods movement throughout Northern California*

**ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif.** – The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) voted yesterday to award the contract to upgrade a primary gateway to the Port of Oakland for truck and vehicle access to Ghilotti Construction Company, Inc. The 7th Street Grade Separation East Project will reconstruct and improve a primary trucking and access route into the Port, relieving truck and vehicle congestion, increasing safety and air quality, and providing additional flexibility for seaport cargo operations.

Forty percent of trucks access the Port of Oakland through 7th Street, making it a primary Port entrance. The 7th Street Grade Separation East Project will upgrade and widen the roadway to current design standards, while also upgrading the current bike and pedestrian pathway to connect with the Bay Trail and Middle Harbor Shoreline Park and meet today's ADA and design standards. Among the other improvements, the project will reconstruct a more than 90-year old underpass that Union Pacific Railroad trains rely on to pass over 7th Street by increasing both vertical and horizontal clearances for trucks. State of the art information technology will also be added to improve traffic flow and goods movement including changeable message signs for trucks and other vehicles arriving at the Port, smart signals and radio frequency identification devices.

"The 7th Street Grade Separation East Project is bringing critical improvements to the local community as well as to the larger region," noted Alameda CTC Chair John J. Bauters. "The project will increase the safety and efficiency of truck and rail access at the busiest port in Northern California. At the same time, the project is delivering a high-quality modern bicycle and pedestrian pathway that connects to the waterfront. That bike path, along with improved air quality from more efficient Port operations and the project greening elements requested by West Oakland residents can lead to better environmental and public health outcomes for neighboring communities."

"Thank you to Alameda CTC for leading the development and construction of our Seaport Gateway project known as 7th Street, which is a key entry point to the Oakland maritime area," said Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan. "This important infrastructure modernization project will improve traffic flow while helping to reduce greenhouse emissions by shortening drayage truck travel time."

Alameda CTC will manage the project with financial and engineering support from the Port of Oakland. Other project partners include the Federal Highway Administration, the California Transportation Commission, the California Department of Transportation, Union Pacific Railroad, BART, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the City of Oakland and several utility agencies.

“Alameda CTC is proud to be the lead agency on this project,” remarked Alameda CTC Executive Director Tess Lengyel.

“Our thanks go to our government and agency partners and the community members in West Oakland for their collaboration in bringing this project to the construction phase. Our great appreciation to the California Transportation Commission, CalSTA, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and to Alameda County voters for funding this project so we can deliver on our promises.”



**Map of 7th Street Grade Separation East Project in relationship to the Port and City of Oakland**

The contract awardee, Ghilotti Construction Company, Inc., is based in the Bay Area, has a local office in Alameda County and is employee-owned. The project will now move into the construction phase, with work anticipated to begin this summer. Additional information about the project can be found at: [https://www.alamedactc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/1442001\\_7SGSE\\_FS\\_20230519.pdf](https://www.alamedactc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/1442001_7SGSE_FS_20230519.pdf).

### About the Alameda County Transportation Commission

The mission of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is to plan, fund and deliver transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility to foster a vibrant and livable Alameda County. Governed by a 22-member Commission, Alameda CTC manages the county's one-cent transportation sales tax and serves as the county's congestion management agency. The agency delivers more than \$200 million each year in transportation improvements that create jobs, enhance mobility and enrich communities.

Learn about current transportation [projects and programs](#) and learn about [Measure BB](#), which voters passed in November 2014. Visit [Alameda CTC's website](#) to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).