



ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2024

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

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Project Updates

Interstate 680 Updates Interstate 680 Southbound Express Lanes from State Route 84 to Alcosta Boulevard Construction of the Interstate 680 (I-680) Southbound Express Lanes from State Route 84 (SR-84) to Alcosta Boulevard project began on February 16, 2023 and is well underway, including median work from Alcosta Boulevard to the Interstate 580/680 interchange, improving the outside shoulder from Stoneridge to Bernell, and completing retaining wall work from Sunol to Koopman Road.

This project represents the final piece needed to close a nine-mile gap in the southbound high-occupancy vehicle/ express lane system across Alameda and Contra Costa counties, creating an approximately 50-mile continuous southbound express lane from Walnut Creek through Alameda County to Santa Clara County. The anticipated benefits include reduced congestion, improved travel time reliability, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and enhanced safety, efficiency, and accessibility.

Construction of the I-680 Southbound Express Lane has been strategically combined with Caltrans' pavement rehabilitation project along the same segment of I-680. This coordinated approach is expected to yield substantial cost savings, minimize inconvenience, and reduce impacts on the traveling public. SR-84/I-680 Interchange Improvements Also along I-680, significant progress has been made on the <u>SR-84/I-680</u> <u>Interchange Improvements</u> project on SR-84. This effort extends from south of Ruby Hill Drive to the I-680 interchange and improvements along the SR-84/ I-680 Interchange itself. Initiated in May 2021, this project has made substantial advancements.



Heading into 2024, the project will undergo staged construction to finalize alignments on both SR-84 and I-680 with project completion anticipated for 2025. Key features include extending the I-680 southbound express lane by two miles northward as a highway-occupancy lane. These enhancements directly address traffic congestion, elevate overall operations and safety, and improve bicycle access on SR-84 and across the SR-84/I-680 interchange. The project also aligns SR-84 with expressway standards between I-580 and I-680.

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Rendering showing CHP enforcement along Interstate 680 Southbound Express Lanes from State Route 84 to Alcosta Boulevard.

Funding for the project includes Measure B and Measure BB, which enabled Alameda CTC to leverage significant regional and state funds to complete the project.

More information about these and other Alameda CTC projects can be found on the agency's **<u>Projects webpage</u>**.

Planning Updates Safety and inclusive engagement

This month, Alameda CTC staff brought the first policy discussion of the <u>Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP)</u>

Policy Blueprint to the Commission that focused on safety. The CTP is scheduled to be completed by 2026 to align with the Regional Transportation Plan schedule. Throughout this year, which is the first phase of development of the CTP, staff will bring policy discussions to the Commission for input on a policy and prioritization framework for the next CTP. This work will be organized around three Commission priorities: safety, equity, and climate.

Since the last CTP adoption in 2020, Alameda CTC has made noteworthy progress elevating safety in planning, policy, funding, and project development throughout the county. This next CTP is an opportunity to strengthen commitments to safety, continue to elevate safety in Alameda CTC's workplan, and investigate policies that support further implementation and institutionalization of safety prioritization. At February's Commission meeting, staff will provide an overview of the agency's current safety-focused policy and implementation progress, and present policy ideas and a technical workplan for Commissioner feedback. To continue the agency's data-driven safety approach, staff also initiated work on a technical update to the countywide High Injury Network.

To complement the policy conversations taking place, staff kicked off the first round of inclusive engagement with Community-based Organizations (CBOs) with listening sessions on January 30 and February 1, 2, and 6 to gather community input on the CTP.





Policy News

January state budget released Early in January, Governor Newsom released his January budget proposal which anticipates a \$37.86 billion budget shortfall. The budget deficit figures are challenging to predict this year due to delays in income tax payments that the state granted due to natural disasters.

The governor's proposed budget will be discussed in legislative budget hearings between now and May 14, when the governor will release a revised budget based on updated tax revenue numbers.

Programming Updates

AC Transit's Regional Measure 3 allocation request

This month, the Commission will consider approving a concurrence action in support of AC Transit's request to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for \$4.2 million of Regional Measure 3 (RM 3) funds to be used towards transit-priority projects along Telegraph Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard/International Boulevard.

RM 3 was approved by voters in the nine county San Francisco Bay Area in June 2018 and provides \$4.45 billion in transportation funding, with an estimated \$1 billion eligible for Alameda County projects. The measure includes a plan to build projects that support better goods movement and economic development, highway and express lane improvements, major transit investments in operations and capital projects, and active transportation funded by an increase in bridge tolls on all Bay Area toll bridges except the Golden Gate Bridge.

Alameda CTC and AC Transit are the project sponsors of the AC Transit Rapid Bus Corridor Improvements, which is one of the categories within the RM 3 program and includes \$100 million in toll funds. Since Alameda CTC is listed as the co-sponsor for the AC Transit Rapid Bus Corridor Improvements category, per RM 3 guidance, MTC requires both project sponsors to provide their concurrence and approval for the funding request. The recommendation of RM 3 funding to this project will further the development of transit projects on Telegraph Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard.

Transportation for Clean Air Program update and Call for Projects

As the designated administering agency for Alameda County's Transportation

for Clean Air (TFCA) County Program, Alameda CTC is required to annually submit a TFCA Expenditure Plan Application to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) to receive the county's share of annual TFCA revenue. Alameda CTC is then required to program the funding identified in the 2014 Transportation Expenditure Plan, consistent with the Air District-adopted TFCA policies by the established annual deadline.

At its February meeting, Alameda CTC's Commission will consider approval of the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 TFCA Expenditure Plan Application, which identifies approximately \$3 million of FY 2024-25 funding available for programming this year. Alameda CTC anticipates releasing a TFCA call for projects in spring 2024 with a Commission-approved FY 2024-25 program of projects due to the Air District by November 15, 2024. Applications will be evaluated based on current Air District TFCA policies and guidance, and must meet the program's eligibility and cost-effectiveness requirements.

Finance Updates

Budget updates and Q2 reports

During January, the finance team gathered updated budget needs information from across the agency for the current fiscal year to prepare budget updates for both the Sunol Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and Alameda CTC. These budget updates will go to the Board and Commission for approval in February and March. Finance staff also began the information gathering process for Alameda CTC's fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 budget to address the agency's needs and projected revenues with the objective of producing a sustainable, balanced budget for FY 2024-25.

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Transportation Investments

Alameda CTC supports the future of Alameda County by equitably investing in projects and programs throughout the county to improve transportation.

Measure BB Program Distributions

Measure BB direct local distributions began in April 2015 and total over \$890.6 million; over \$14.9 million was distributed in November 2023.



Vehicle Registration Fee

Since 2011, Alameda CTC has distributed more than \$90.7 million for local road repair; over \$0.8 million was collected in November 2023.



Agency Activities

During February 2024, Alameda CTC either hosted, sponsored or participated in the following events:

- February 3 Genesis Equity Award presented for Alameda CTC's Student Transit Pass Program, Oakland
- February 7 CALCOG Regional Leadership Forum, Monterey
- February 23 Alameda CTC to host BACTA, Bay Area County Transportation Executive Roundtable, Oakland
- **<u>BikeMobile</u>** Outreach Events
 - February 7 Southgate Elementary, Hayward
 - February 12 Cottonwood Creek
 K-8 School, Dublin
 - February 13 Brookfield Elementary, Oakland
 - February 14 Anthony W. Ochoa Middle, Hayward
 - February 16 The Academy of Alameda, Alameda
 - February 20 Patterson Elementary, Fremont
 - February 24 Coliseum Gardens
 Park, Oakland
 - February 27 Brenkwitz High, Hayward
 - February 29 Encinal Junior and Senior High School, Alameda



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In addition, the finance team produced the Sunol JPA second quarter financial report, which includes revenues and expenses through December 31, 2023, compared to the prior year-to-date expenses. This report was approved at the Sunol JPA Board for approval in February. The team also began work on production of the second quarter financial report for Alameda CTC that is scheduled to go to the Commission for approval in March.

Contracting opportunities

Alameda CTC anticipates upcoming solicitation of proposals for the following Professional Services contracting opportunities:

- East Bay Greenway Multimodal— North Segment (Lake Merritt to Fruitvale BART Segment)
- East Bay Greenway Multimodal— North Segment (Oakland - 54th Avenue to Broadmoor Boulevard)
- Rail Safety Enhancement Program—
 Phase A
- Rail Safety Enhancement Program—
 Phase B

For more information, visit the **Contracting Opportunities webpage**.

Other News

Year of the Dragon



Earlier this month, Alameda CTC participated in celebrating the Lunar New Year. This year, 2024, is the year of the dragon!

Each year, Alameda County, in partnership with the Asian Pacific Islander Community Collaborative, hosts a Lunar New Year Celebration to share Asian and Pacific Islander cultures with all county communities. Alameda CTC is proud to participate in this program that reflects the many different Asian and Pacific Islander cultures in the Bay Area.

The event drew well over 200 community members and students from local schools throughout the county to celebrate by enjoying dragon dancing, cultural performances, and more.

Happy New Year—Gung Hay Fat Choy!

Committee Activities

February advisory committees

In February, the following committees met:

 February 8 –The <u>Alameda County</u> <u>Technical Advisory Committee</u>

(ACTAC) approved the Transportation Fund for Clean Air FY 2024-25 Expenditure Plan Application. The committee also received an overview of the development approach for the safety element of the Policy Blueprint for the 2026 Countywide Transportation Plan. Updates were given on One Bay Area Grant Cycle 2, Cycle 3, and the Alameda County Federal Inactive Projects.

February 8 – The <u>Bicycle and</u>
Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 (BPAC) received an overview of the development approach for the safety element of the Policy Blueprint for the 2026 Countywide Transportation Plan and information on the City of Dublin's Golden Gate Avenue Intersections project. The committee also reviewed its annual calendar and roster.

For detail on these and other meetings, visit Alameda CTC's Meetings webpage.



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