



Press Release

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Transfer of Sunol I-680 Express Lane Governance Approved, Projecting Significant Cost Savings for Alameda County

Move to dissolve authority that operates I-680 Express Lanes and consolidate operations under Alameda County Transportation Commission estimated to save close to half a million dollars annually

ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif. – Yesterday, the Sunol Smart Carpool Lane Joint Powers Authority (Sunol JPA), the governing board for the I-680 Sunol Express Lanes, voted to dissolve and transfer all contracts and assets to the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC), a move anticipated to save close to \$500,000 in government finances each year. Alameda CTC has served as the managing agency on behalf of the Sunol JPA since the Sunol JPA was established and also operates the I-580 Express Lanes under the governance of the Commission. Consolidating operations for both express lane facilities will result in a more efficient governance and administrative structure.

“Dissolving the I-680 Sunol, JPA and bringing the facility’s management under Alameda CTC’s operations is fundamentally good governance,” remarked Mayor of Dublin and Sunol Smart Carpool Lane Joint Powers Authority Chair Melissa Hernandez. “Saving almost half a million dollars each year while we continue to deliver an express lane facility that prioritizes safety and access is another example of how the Commission delivers on its promise of fiscal stewardship. I thank the JPA members for their service and trust in the Commission’s ongoing management.

“Alameda County voters gave Alameda CTC the highest level of trust possible when they passed sales tax Measure BB in 2014,” observed Alameda CTC Chair and Emeryville Council Member John J. Bauters. “By continuing to look for ways to more efficiently operate agencies and cut costs such as through the consolidation of the I-680 and I-580 Express Lanes operations, the Commission is continuing to prioritize financial and governmental accountability. Thank you to the I-680 Sunol JPA Chair Melissa Hernandez for your leadership on government streamlining and efficiency.”

The I-680 Sunol Southbound Express Lane opened in 2010 and was the first express lane to operate in Northern California. Today, it is part of the planned 600-mile network of Bay Area Express Lanes that incorporate technology-based solutions to manage congestion and further trip reliability in this region. In March 2023, express lane operations were reactivated on southbound I-680 and initiated in the northbound direction, and since then more than 3.4 million trips have been taken in the Express Lanes.

Up until yesterday, Alameda CTC managed express lanes on I-580 and I-680 under the oversight of two separate governing boards: Alameda CTC and the Sunol JPA. That meant significant duplication of activities and expenses including for mandatory government activities such as noticing, agendaing, and conducting separate public meetings for the Sunol JPA, and conducting separate budgeting, financial recordkeeping, and audits. The Sunol JPA's dissolution means I-680 Express Lane management will be consolidated under Alameda CTC. Transfer of I-680 Express Lane contracts and assets is expected to be complete by late spring or early summer of this year.

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 [X, formally known as Twitter](#).

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