



Aerial view of AirBART Shuttle and Coliseum BART stations in Oakland



ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

APRIL 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,

Tess

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Project Updates

Improving Rail Safety Throughout Alameda County

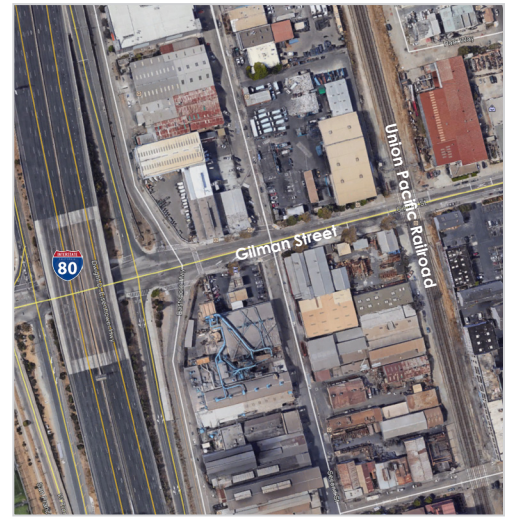
Since 2016, 22 fatalities and 17 injuries have occurred along rail corridors in Alameda County. Alameda CTC is addressing rail safety head-on through its Rail Safety Enhancement Program (RSEP).

With initial funding by Measure BB, RSEP will ultimately improve 45 of the 133 at-grade rail crossings in the County. Prioritization of these improvements was based on the impacts to safety, vehicle delay, emissions and noise impacts, as well as whether or not the crossing lies within a high-growth Priority Development Area or low-income communities of color. The environmental and design phases of a smaller set of 28 crossings and trespass areas are advancing concurrently, with completion of environmental work anticipated in January 2022 and design work by the middle of 2023. Remaining RSEP crossings will be part of Phase 2.

Rail safety is also an important component of the following major capital Measure BB projects:

- Interstate 80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement Project: At the Gilman Street Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing, Phase 2 of this project includes rail safety elements, such as pedestrian gates, signalization, queue cutters

and signage. The project also closes the crossing at Camelia Street, which will eliminate potential safety conflicts at this crossing.



Aerial view of the Interstate 80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement project at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing.

- 7th Street Grade Separation East: This GoPort Program project reconstructs the existing railroad underpass and multi-use path along 7th Street between the area west of Interstate 880 (I-880) and Maritime Street to current industry standards, increasing vertical and horizontal clearances for trucks and improving the shared pedestrian/bicycle pathway.



Existing railroad underpass and multi-use path along 7th Street between west of Interstate 880 and Maritime Street. Project Updates cont'd on page 2

Projects Updates cont'd from page 1

- **East Bay Greenway: Lake Merritt to South Hayward BART:** This segment of the East Bay Greenway proposes to construct a 16-mile regional trail facility along the BART alignment from Oakland to Hayward. Much of the project corridor contains an active Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) line. The project proposes Class I multi-use pathways and Class IV protected bikeways, as well as lighting, fencing, railings, intersection improvements and crossing treatments, and other features needed to ensure user safety and security.

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



Planning and Program Updates

An Update on Student Transportation Programs

The Student Transit Pass Program (STPP) expanded to serve 84 schools in 14 districts across Alameda County in August 2020.

In response to COVID-19 impacts on school districts and transit agencies, the STPP team worked closely with transit agency and school partners to move to an online registration system so students could still access passes for essential trips, and information regarding transit operating procedures due to COVID-19 were distributed to families. As schools reopen for in-person learning, the STPP team will work closely with transit agency

and school partners to support students and families as well as transit agencies, which are operating under capacity constraints due to COVID-19.

Comprehensive outreach at all STPP schools will continue through fall 2021 and the STPP team will coordinate with school districts and transit agency partners to ensure processes are seamless as students return to in-person learning.

2021 Golden Sneaker Contest

At Alameda CTC's March Commission meeting, the City of Livermore's Sunset Elementary School was celebrated as winner of the 2021 Golden Sneaker Contest Platinum Sneaker.

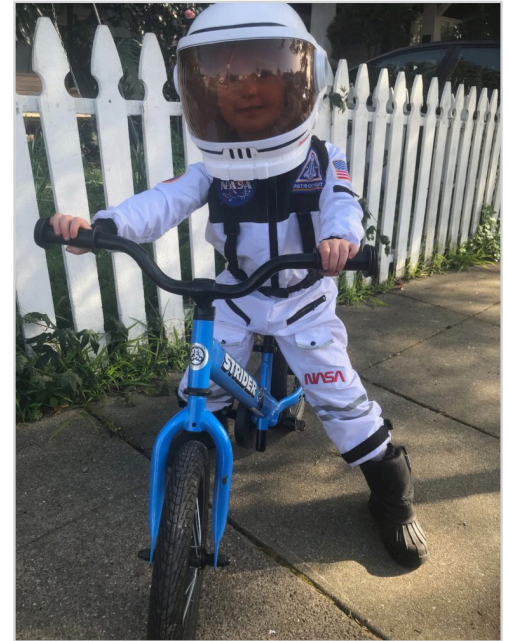


Sunset Elementary School was one of 62 Alameda County schools where over 7,575 students tallied activities during the contest week of March 1-5. Teachers supported students' active travel, including walking and biking and more. The classroom at each school with the most physical activities tallied won the Golden Sneaker title. Of those schools with the Golden Sneaker title, the countywide Platinum Sneaker award went to the school that tallied the most physical activity overall. *Congratulations, Sunset Elementary School!*

Celebrating Bike Month

As part of Alameda CTC's Bike Month celebration, the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program is planning an exciting remote encouragement event entitled Bike to the Moon Week. Under the banner of "I Play," the event will encourage students and families to track their physical activity, which are

to be converted into "moon miles". All moon miles will be added up to help us collectively "travel" the 238,000 miles to the moon through imaginative play.



Policy News

The American Rescue Plan

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan. Specific highlights of note for the Commission include over \$30 billion in much-needed aid for transit providers, as well as \$362.5 billion in direct state and local assistance.

Biden's American Jobs Plan

On March 31, President Biden released his American Jobs Plan. This plan calls for an eight-year, \$2.25 trillion spending bill of one-time capital investments with a 15-year mechanism to pay for it. The American Jobs Plan calls for increased investment in, among other things, our nation's transportation infrastructure, domestic manufacturing sector, commercial and residential buildings, schools, water systems, broadband internet, research and development into innovative technologies, and modernizing the electric grid.

Programming Updates

Safe and Seamless Mobility Quick-Strike Program

Alameda CTC is examining projects submitted to its 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan for potential candidates for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Safe and Seamless Mobility Quick-Strike Program. This program is a one-time, competitive grant program within the One Bay Area Grant program (OBAG 2) framework. Federal funding is available to support local and regional projects that can be implemented quickly to benefit communities responding and adapting to the COVID-19 environment. Available funding includes a mix of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) and Federal Highway Infrastructure Program (FHIP) funds, with FHIP funds exchanged with STP/CMAQ funds to the extent possible to meet federal funding deadlines and requirements. CMAQ funds will be used for eligible projects that demonstrate air quality benefits and implement Plan Bay Area's climate initiative goals and priorities. Alameda CTC is responsible for submitting project nominations for Alameda County that meet these requirements.

Later in May, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission will make the final determination of Quick-Strike program recommendations based on Alameda CTC's nominations for a program that best reflect regional and multi-county priorities, local priorities within each county, and conformance with the program guidance and timelines.



Finance Updates

FY 2021-22 budget development

During the month of March, the Finance team provided standard quarterly financial and investment reports for the quarter ended December 31, 2020. Both the Commission and the Sunol Smart Carpool Lane (Sunol JPA) board of directors approved updates to their respective FY 2020-21 budgets, which included updates to the beginning fund balances, rolling forward unutilized capital revenue and expenditure budgets from FY 2019-20, and accounting for the change in project, program, operational and administrative needs since the original budgets were adopted in May 2020.

Also, during March, development of proposed Alameda CTC and Sunol JPA budgets for FY 2021-22 began based on project, program, operational, and administrative needs submitted by staff from all departments of the agency and the revenues available to fund those needs as outlined in the Comprehensive Investment Plan. This budget development process is expected to continue throughout the month of April with the final proposed budgets going before the Finance and Administration Committee and Commission and the Sunol JPA board, respectively, for approval in May 2021.

Contracting opportunities

Following are upcoming solicitation of bids and/or proposals:

Professional Services contracts

- Oakland Alameda Access Project
- I-680 Express Lanes Southbound Gap Closure
- I-580 Corridor Strategy
- I-880 Interchanges Improvements
- East Bay Greenway

Construction

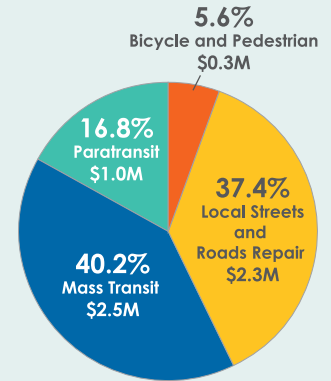
- State Route 84 Plant Establishment

For more information, visit the [Contracting Opportunities webpage](#).

Transportation Investments

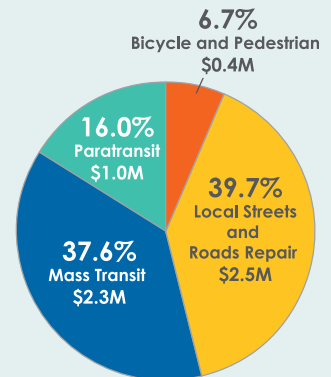
Measure BB Program Distributions

Measure BB direct local distributions began in April 2015 and total over \$446.0 million; over \$6.1 million was distributed in January 2021.



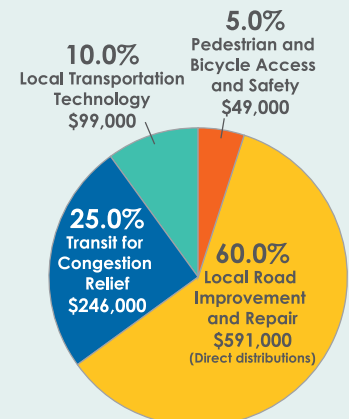
Measure B Program Distributions

Measure B direct local distributions have totaled more than \$1.2 billion since 2002. In January 2021, over \$6.2 million was distributed for four programs.



Vehicle Registration Fee

Since 2011, Alameda CTC has distributed more than \$70.0 million for local road repair; over \$0.9 million was collected in January 2021.



Agency Activities

In April, Alameda CTC was scheduled to host, sponsor or participate in the following virtual events:

- BikeMobile virtual school events:
 - April 1 – Joshua Chadbourne Elementary, Fremont; Will C. Wood Middle, Alameda
 - April 2 – Prescott Elementary, Oakland; Will C. Wood Middle, Alameda
 - April 6 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle, Hayward; San Leandro Library
 - April 7-9 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle, Hayward
 - April 12 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle, Hayward; G. M. Walters Junior High and Joshua Chadbourne Elementary, Fremont
 - April 13 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle, Hayward; Bridges Academy, Oakland; G. M. Walters Junior High and Joshua Chadbourne Elementary, Fremont
 - April 14 – G. M. Walters Junior High, James Leitch Elementary and Joshua Chadbourne Elementary, Fremont
 - April 15 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle and Cesar Chavez Middle, Hayward; Bridges Academy, Oakland; G. M. Walters Junior High, James Leitch Elementary and Joshua Chadbourne Elementary, Fremont
 - April 16 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle and Cesar Chavez Middle, Hayward; Bridges Academy, Oakland; G. M. Walters Junior High and Joshua Chadbourne Elementary, Fremont
 - April 19 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle and Cesar Chavez Middle, Hayward; G. M. Walters Junior High, Fremont
 - April 20 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle and Cesar Chavez Middle, Hayward; Bridges Academy, Oakland; G. M. Walters Junior High, Fremont; San Leandro Library
 - April 21 – G. M. Walters Junior High, Fremont
 - April 22-23 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle and Cesar Chavez Middle, Hayward; G. M. Walters Junior High, Fremont
 - April 26-27 – Anthony W. Ochoa Middle and Cesar Chavez Middle, Hayward
 - April 28, 30 – G. M. Walters Junior High, Fremont
- Legislative Visits:
 - April 14 – CA State Senator Lena Gonzalez, D-33
 - April 14 – CA State Assemblywoman Laura Friedman, D-43
- April 15 – East Bay Forward Land Use and Infrastructure meeting, East Bay Economic Development Alliance; Economic Summit 2021, Oakland

Other News

City of Fremont's Bridge and Plaza Project



Rendering of the City of Fremont Warm Springs BART West Access Bridge and Plaza project.

Alameda CTC is proud to be a part of the Warm Springs BART West Access Bridge and Plaza project that invests in transit, pedestrian and bicycle access, and infrastructure to deliver multimodal transportation solutions that enhance the traveling experience for local residents, commuters and businesses. This City of Fremont project received \$30 million in Measure BB sales tax funding to construct bicycle and pedestrian connections to enhance multimodal connectivity between the Warm Springs BART station and the properties west of the BART station. The project is in its final stages and is expected to open late spring 2021.

The Warm Springs BART West Access Bridge is a pedestrian/bicycle bridge that will connect the west side of the new Warm Springs/South Fremont BART station to a ground level entry plaza. The bridge has two connected spans: an approximately 147-foot long truss span connected to the station concourse level over the existing UPRR mainline tracks, and an approximately 102-foot long cable-stay span connecting from the truss span over a UPRR spur track to a one-acre entry plaza.

Committee Activities

April advisory committees

In April, the following community advisory committee met:

- April 8 – The [Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee \(ACTAC\)](#) approved the State Transit Assistance (STA) Block Grant Distribution Formula for FYs 2021-22 and 2022-23. The STA County Block Grant Program allows each county to determine how best to invest in transit operating needs, including paratransit and lifeline transit services. As per the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC's) initial FY 2021-22 STA Fund Estimate, adopted February 2021, Alameda County's estimated new revenue for the STA Block Grant is \$ 6,630,338. MTC is anticipated to release its FY 2022-23 STA Fund Estimate in February 2022. Committee members also approved the Measure B, Measure BB and Vehicle Registration Fee Programs Update and Interim Policy Updates. An update on the County's Vehicle-Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction Estimator Tool was shared with the committee. This tool is being developed as a resource to assist our member agencies with the implementation of the requirements of SB 743.



COVID-19 Rapid Response Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program project for Complete Streets, City of Fremont