

TO: WCCTAC Board

DATE: April 22, 2016

FR: John Nemeth, Executive Director

RE: Monthly Update on WCCTAC Activities – April

## **San Pablo Dam Road Interchange Groundbreaking**



Local officials broke ground on the I-80/San Pablo Dam Road Interchange project at Riverside Elementary School in San Pablo on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The celebration, organized by CCTA, marked the beginning of a two-phase project aimed at alleviating congestion, improving traffic safety, enhancing bike safety, and increasing pedestrian access.

The first phase of the project includes construction of a new El Portal Drive on-ramp and a new pedestrian overcrossing over I-80 and is expected to be completed in the spring of 2017. WCCTAC Board members in attendance included Chair Sherry McCoy, Vice-Chair Janet Abelson, Director Cecilia Valdez and Director Tom Butt, as well as Alternates Rich Kinney, Federal Glover, and Eduardo Martinez.

## **Round 1: West County High Capacity Transit Study Community Workshops**



The first round of community workshops for the High Capacity Transit Study were recently held on April 12-14<sup>th</sup> in San Pablo, Pinole, and Richmond. Some attendees from the WCCTAC Board included Chair Sherry McCoy and Directors Zakhary Mallet, Cecilia Valdez and Maureen Powers.

The meetings began with an open house allowing people to learn about the eight alternatives currently being examined in the study, which include: express bus, bus rapid transit, commuter rail, and BART options. It was followed by a detailed presentation from Rebecca Kohlstrand, the project manager for the lead consultant, WSB-Parsons Brinkerhoff. Finally, attendees asked questions and made comments as part of a discussion period. Those present were asked to fill out surveys to provide some additional feedback. The study team has also been encouraging people to fill out online surveys at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7RKVYHV>

### **Draft Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP)**

On April 8, 2016, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) released a Draft Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) as approved by its Board. This follows a series of nearly-weekly special meetings on the TEP and a few earlier initial draft documents produced by CCTA staff and its consultants. CCTA is now asking for feedback, including from Regional Transportation Planning Committees (RTPCs) like WCCTAC, before the end of the day on April 22, 2016. The next WCCTAC Board meeting will be focused primarily on a review of the TEP document and its proposed funding allocations for West Contra Costa County.

## **I-80 SMART Corridor (I-80 ICM) TAC**

Local public works staff from West Contra Costa jurisdictions joined staff from western Alameda County and Caltrans in San Pablo on April 6, 2016 as a part of the I-80 Smart Corridor Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. As the I-80 Smart Corridor moves into the operations phase, the TAC will be an important forum to resolve operational issues in the corridor.



Caltrans staff and its consultants provided by update on the project, which is nearing completion. The opening of the project, once expected to be “switched on” in a single day, will now involve a phased implementation between May 9<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup> of this year. A ribbon cutting ceremony is tentatively being scheduled for July.

## **Marina Bay Parkway Grade Separation**



The railroad grade separation project on Marina Bay Parkway in Richmond (now known as the Officer Bradley A. Moody Memorial Underpass) is nearing 100% completion. It opened for through traffic in mid-2015, with a ribbon cutting ceremony held on December 17, 2015. The project is a key priority for the City of Richmond. It will improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, and the railroad, while also reducing auto delays. The art deco-inspired design has also received a great deal of praise.

## **May 12, 2016: The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual SF Bay Area Bike-to-Work Day**

Bike to Work Day is approaching, with all nine Bay Area counties preparing to participate in the celebration. On Bike to Work Day there will be energizer stations located along Bay Area commute routes where bicyclists can stop for refreshments, giveaways, and bicycling information. In West County, there will be fifteen (15) energizer stations, located in El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Hercules, Richmond and San Pablo. Visit our [interactive map](#) to find an energizer station on your route.



To build momentum for Bike to Work Day, employers, friends and neighbors can form a Bike Team. By pedaling as a team, you can win prizes, and enjoy companionship on your ride to work or school. You can participate through the website at ([www.teambikechallenge.com](http://www.teambikechallenge.com)) or via an app on your phone once the Challenge goes live on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **WestCAT – 31 Day Pass Available on Clipper**



Beginning May 1, 2016, WestCAT riders can purchase 31 Day passes on Clipper, good for unlimited rides on all WestCAT routes, including Lynx. Riders can conveniently add cash to Clipper cards and use the card on any service where Clipper is accepted.

The 31 Day WestCAT passes are available at a 25% discount when they are purchased preloaded on an Adult Clipper card.

For more information about the Pass offer, or using Clipper on WestCAT, or how to add passes or value to a Clipper card, visit the Clipper [website](#). For general information about WestCAT services, visit [westcat.org](http://westcat.org) or call (510) 724-7993.