

TO: WCCTAC Board

DATE: May 27, 2016

FR: John Nemeth, Executive Director

RE: Monthly Update on WCCTAC Activities – May

I-80/San Pablo Dam Road Interchange Reconstruction Update



Occasional closures of I-80 at San Pablo Dam Road are required to support the construction of the new Riverside Avenue Pedestrian Overcrossing. The first full closure occurred at night on May 14-15, with the highway closing at 11:00 p.m. and reopening at 6:30 a.m., 30 minutes ahead of schedule. Traffic was diverted onto San Pablo Avenue.

The next overnight freeway closure is planned for mid-June. The exact date will be released in the near future, and CCTA will inform local communities and the media.

Final Draft Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP)

On April 22, 2016 the WCCTAC Board provided feedback to CCTA on the Draft Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP). The CCTA Board then met on May 4th, 11th and 18th to finalize the TEP language and policy details. On May 18, 2016 the CCTA authorized the release of a Final TEP for circulation to the County Board of Supervisors and local city/town councils.

Over the next few weeks, the TEP will be considered by all 19 cities and towns in Contra Costa County, along with the County itself. In order to obtain final approval from CCTA, the TEP must be approved by a majority of cities that also represent a majority of the population. Concurrent with local consideration of the TEP, the Authority is planning to poll the public in June to determine the level of support for a potential ballot measure in November.

Redefining Mobility Summit



The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) held an all day summit in Concord on April 21, 2016 that was focused on innovation and technology in transportation. The presenters came from both industry and government and represented transportation agencies, cities, transit operators, auto manufacturers, tech start-ups, and consulting firms.

Some topics included: the latest information about autonomous and connected vehicles, the use of connectivity to make city infrastructure smarter, and first and last mile solutions for transit. The elected attendees from WCCTAC included Directors McCoy, Abelson and Pimplé.

Rolling Activation to Begin on I-80 SMART Corridor (ICM) Project



Starting in June, Caltrans will be gradually activating elements of the I-80 SMART Corridor (ICM) project to allow motorists time to adjust to the new system. The most familiar elements will be introduced first, leading up to full activation of the system in mid-2016.

The I-80 Smart Corridor website has been updated to provide information about the phased activation and explanations of how the system works and what motorists can expect when it is fully activated. Caltrans and its partners have also developed new social media graphics and public information continues to be distributed by email, as well. Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) public service announcements (PSAs) are lined up to start when the activation begins.

A press conference and bus tour of the corridor is planned for May 26, 2016 and a formal ribbon cutting is tentatively planned for mid-2016.

Subregional Transportation Mitigation Program (STMP)

At the March 2016 meeting, the WCCTAC Board approved an allocation of STMP funds for three regionally-beneficial projects in Richmond, Hercules and El Cerrito. Staff is now working with the three cities to develop cooperative funding agreements. When approved by the Board, the agreements will allow the cities to invoice WCCTAC for these projects.

Staff also met with a subcommittee of the TAC to discuss STMP administrative issues and how to streamline the fee submittal and tracking process. Based on this input, WCCTAC staff will develop a revised submittal form for the TAC to review at an upcoming meeting.

Bike to Work Day 2016



On May 12, 2016, thousands of Bay Area residents pedaled to work in celebration of the 22nd annual Bay Area Bike to Work Day. With excellent weather, West County had a total of 1,290 cyclists stopping by and/or passing by an energizer station.

West County hosted fourteen (14) energizer stations in El Cerrito, El Sobrante, San Pablo, Richmond and Hercules. Pictured above left is the James Morehouse Project at El Cerrito High School hosting their annual energizer station, and pictured above right, are bicycle commuters stopping by the Ohlone Greenway at the El Cerrito Plaza Bart energizer station hosted by the City of El Cerrito.

To support bicycle commuting, WCCTAC Director and Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, rode from his home in Marina Bay to the Rich City Rides energizer station at Richmond Greenway and Harbor Way – then to his office in El Cerrito. Way to go West County!

If you have interest in hosting an energizer station for BTWD 2017, please contact Danelle Carey, TDM Program Manager, at 510-210-5936 or dcarey@wcctac.org.



WestCAT Summer Youth Bus Pass

Discounted summer youth passes will be made available by WestCAT beginning May 16, 2016. The specially priced passes are available to anyone 17 years old and under and will be sold for \$50.00 each. They are good for 3 months of unlimited rides (June 1-August 31, 2016). The passes themselves take the form of a fun and colorful waterproof wristband. Support for the program is being provided by WCCTAC/511 Contra Costa, CCTA, and the Bay Area Air Quality Transportation Fund for Clean Air.



More information about the promotion is available by visiting www.westcat.org or by calling WestCAT at (510) 724-3331

Bike Commuter of the Year (BCOY), Karineh Samkian



Karineh Samkian, a resident of El Cerrito, works as an Environmental Analyst for the City of San Pablo. Karineh bikes to work every day from El Cerrito along the Ohlone Greenway and the I-80 Bikeway. She has grown into a bike champion for San Pablo and encourages her co-workers to bike as well.

In addition to being a bike commuter, Karineh has partnered with WCCTAC's TDM program to install bike racks at Café Soleil in El Sobrante. Karineh continuously conducts outreach to engage businesses in the community to install bike racks to encourage an active lifestyle.