

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: December 19, 2011
Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Alameda Countywide Transportation Plan, Transportation Expenditure Plan and Proposed Extension of Measure B.

REPORT BY: **Jeff Bond, Community Development Director,
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Provide feedback to the Alameda County Transportation Commission on the Draft Alameda Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP), Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP), and proposed extension and augmentation of Measure B.

BACKGROUND

The CTP is a planning document that identifies and prioritizes transportation projects and programs in the county, guides transportation investments, and establishes eligibility for regional funding within a 25-year horizon. The CTP is updated every four years and the projects and programs included in the CTP could be funded by different sources.

Measure B, which is collected from the ½-cent sales tax, is the major funding stream for transportation projects and programs in Alameda County. The TEP specifies how Measure B revenues are going to be spent. It was initially passed by voters in 1986 and re-authorized in the year 2000 by 81% of the vote. The year 2000 reauthorization of Measure B projected revenues of \$2.9 billion through the year 2022. The downturn of the economy, however, has decreased revenues considerably and new estimates project an \$800 million gap.

DISCUSSION

In the spring of 2010, the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) started work on the update of the CTP and TEP. In conjunction with the new plan, the proposed Measure B extension and increase in sales tax is anticipated to be on the November 2012 ballot. If approved by voters, the proposed measure is expected to bring in approximately, \$7.8 billion in new funding.

The TEP goal is to allow local funding to fill in the gaps in transportation funding created by the downturn of the economy. The proposal is to allocate funds as follows:

- 45% to transit;
- 10% to Commute Corridor component of “Local Streets and Roads”;
- 20% to Local Street component of “Local Streets and Roads”;
- 9% to Highway Efficiency and Freight;
- 8% to Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure and Safety;
- 7% to Sustainable Land Use and Transportation; and
- 1% to Technology, Innovation, and Development.

Development of the CTP and the TEP has been overseen by a Steering Committee, a Community Advisory Working Group and a Technical Advisory Working Group. Several outreach efforts have taken place since the spring of 2010, including community workshops, online and paper surveys, stakeholder presentations, etc. All this resulted in a draft that is being finalized for presentation at the Alameda CTC Board Retreat in Newark on December 16, 2011 with the goal of beginning to seek jurisdictions approval in February, 2012.

In anticipation to the approval schedule, City Councils across Alameda County have begun providing feedback on the TEP and CWTP. Other cities have expressed concerns about equity in the distribution of funding to planning areas and individual cities, transparency in the process, and a proposed policy of replacing discontinued transit service before investing in new transit projects.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Inclusion of projects and programs in the CWTP and TEP means that those projects and programs are eligible for funding. Albany-related projects in the draft CWTP are estimated at \$20.7 million and include:

- Bike-Pedestrian improvements on San Pablo, Solano, Cleveland, Key Route, & Pierce Street;
- Streetscape improvements to San Pablo & Solano Avenues;
- Safety improvements to Marin Avenue; and
- Resurfacing improvements to Solano, Cleveland, and the Buchanan overcrossing.

A decision about funding the implementation of these projects will be determined by the ACTC as part of their two-year budget process.

Attachments

Draft Alameda County Transportation Expenditure Plan
 Draft Alameda Countywide Transportation Plan
 Tom Bates, Mayor of Berkeley Letter to Alameda County Transportation Commission
 Luis Freitas, Comments to Alameda County Transportation Commission