



August 24, 2017

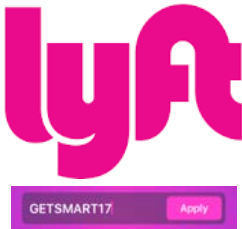
TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director

RE: Executive Director's Report – Agenda Item 6 (Discussion)

## **Local**

### **TAM's Lyft Pilot Program "GETSMART17" Launch Date**



TAM is pleased to announce start of "GETSMART17" Lyft pilot program on September 12. The TAM board has authorized a Lyft Partnership to provide a \$5 off coupon code entered into the Lyft Mobile App. The coupon code is eligible for Lyft's shared ride service, Lyft Line, to increase vehicle occupancy at SMART stations. All Lyft Line rides within Marin's service area that start or end at a SMART station are eligible for the \$5 off discount by downloading the lyft app, registering for an account and entering the code 'GETSMART17' under the promo section of the lyft app.

In order to make sure this 6-month pilot program is accessible to all users starting day one of this pilot, TAM is also partnering with Whistlestop to provide wheel chair accessible vehicles, and dispatch Lyft rides for non-smart phone users, through its call in center at (415) 454-0998. Riders who call in to Whistlestop's phone center will either be scheduled into a lyft vehicle or a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle will be dispatched. Whistlestop can schedule rides in advance, and advanced scheduling is requested for these rides. More information will be made available as this program launches.

### **Getting Around Marin: a Strategic Vision Plan – Comment Period Open until September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

In July TAM released Getting around Marin, a Strategic Vision Plan for public and agency review. The review and comment period is open until September 22<sup>nd</sup>. TAM staff intends to review comments and present the draft and comments to the TAM board in October 2017.

### **TAM is MarinMap's Newest Agency Partner**



In August, TAM staff entered into agreement with MarinMap, a JPA of the cities and towns of Marin, administered by Marin's General Services Authority (GSA), to become the newest agency enrolled in MarinMap. This agreement allows for TAM data resources, including expanded traffic count information and new origin and destination data to be converted into Geographic Information Systems (GIS) databases for easy access and visualizations from local agencies and the general public. TAM will be

working with the Marin GSA about the potential to embed these services into TAM's new website, to further enhance the value of our expanded data collection efforts.

### **National Drive Electric Week Ride & Drive Event at Bon Air Shopping Center – September 9<sup>th</sup>**



Leveraging past years' successes, TAM is partnering again with the Golden Gate Electric Vehicle Association (GGEVA) to co-sponsor this year National Drive Electric Week Ride & Drive event on September 9<sup>th</sup> at the Bon Air Shopping Center in Greenbrae. With TAM's financial support, GGEVA is working with auto dealers, EV owners,

and related businesses to present a vibrant showcase event that will educate and provide attendees test rides and drives in the EVs from Nissan, Mercedes Benz, BMW, Kia, Volkswagen and others.

GGEVA estimates that about 600 visitors attended the event last year, including Commissioners Eric Lucan, Damon Connolly and Stephanie Moulton-Peters. Please help to spread the word. TAM is targeting a second Ride & Drive event in spring 2018 and is coordinating with MCE and the City of San Rafael.

### **Central Marin Ferry Connector Multi-Use Path Wins Award**

We recently received an announcement that the Central Marin Ferry Connector is being acknowledged by the Engineering News-Record (ENR), California Region, in the Landscape / Urban Development Category. The project will be listed in the October 9<sup>th</sup> issue of the ENR. ENR reports on the top design firms, both architects and engineers, and top construction companies as well as projects in the United States and around the world. The ENR is a widely distributed weekly magazine and well respected in our industry. We will get a copy of this issue and will have it available at the TAM office for review.



### **Tam Junction Bicycle Lane Project**



Construction has started on the TAM Junction Bicycle Lane Project. This safety project will help bicyclists, many of which are school age, to better transverse the congested Tam Junction area. Bicycle lanes will be added from Coyote Creek along Shoreline Avenue to Flamingo Road. Also bicycle lanes will be added along Almonte Boulevard from Shoreline to Helen Avenue. Sidewalk improvements will also occur along the North side of Almonte and Shoreline from Helen Avenue to the existing bus stop on Shoreline. Minor drainage improvements address some of the flooding that routinely occurs at Shoreline Hwy and Almonte Blvd.

The contractor began work this past Sunday. The sidewalk improvements are the first order of work along with a small retaining wall near the Almonte/Shoreline intersection. Due to the daily traffic congestion in the area, the majority of the work will take place at night. Construction is

expected to take place for approximately two months. The Project is being managed by TAM utilizing Safe pathways funding along with other funding sources. See attached Construction Advisory.

### **Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Starts Service Friday, August 25**



The Sonoma-Marine Area Rail Transit (SMART) District announced that it has received the green light from the Federal Railroad Administration to begin full passenger train service. Service will begin on August 25. SMART train service will be free of charge on opening day. In celebration of the start of service, SMART will host a community grand opening event at 9 a.m. at its Santa Rosa Downtown Station, at 7 Fourth Street at Historic Railroad Square, and will begin running the full-service schedule at 12:49 p.m.

After opening day, SMART fares for everyone will be 50 percent off the regular price through Labor Day, September 4.

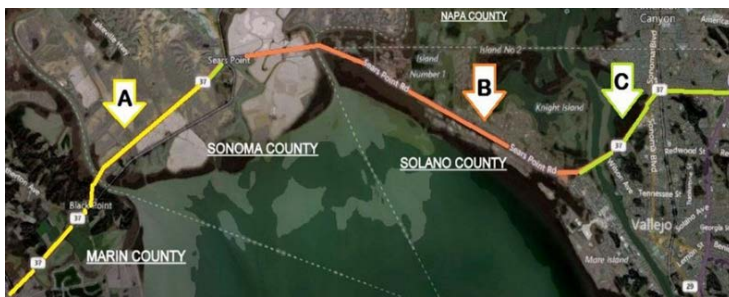
Regular fares will be in place on September 5.

## **Regional**

### **MTC Announces IDEA Grants to further Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Deployment**

In July, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) announced a new grant program under a new regional initiative called the Innovative Deployments to Enhance Arterials (IDEA). This program is geared towards advancing innovation to help improve the operations of local arterials, and enhance the readiness of the Bay Area for connected and automated vehicle technologies. The program contains two categories with off the shelf innovations like Adaptive Signal Technology and transit signal priority as part of the \$13M available in Category 1, and category 2 projects using connected vehicles/autonomous vehicles. Category 1 has \$13M available in federal funding and applications are due September 29<sup>th</sup>. TAM is meeting with local agencies to determine if there is a suitable candidate project in Marin. Category 2 projects require a private partner and are due on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Caltrans State Route 37 Corridor Improvement Planning Open House – September 20<sup>th</sup>**



Over the past six years, Highway 37 has been the subject of a variety of long-range planning studies and public outreach efforts, including ones conducted by UC Davis (UCD) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Earlier this year, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) partnered with the SR-37 Policy Committee to conduct a more in-depth

transportation corridor study, called the Design Alternative Assessment (DAA).

In anticipation of the release of preliminary information from the DAA, Caltrans has hired MIG as a communications consultant to carry out several public outreach tasks; first of which will be outreach “open houses” that will take place starting in September. In Marin County, one such open house to present the draft Corridor Plan is scheduled on September 20<sup>th</sup>, from 6pm-8pm, in the Key Room at the Next Key

Center (385 N. Hamilton Parkway, Novato, CA). More detailed information will be released this winter followed by another public workshop, an online survey, focus groups and a telephone town hall. See attached flyer.

TAM staff have presented information and activity on State Route 37 to a number of interested organizations in Marin and will continue to do so upon request. These include the following: Novato Rotary, Ignacio Rotary, Rotary Club of San Rafael, Novato Breakfast Club, Marin Conservation League, North Bay Leadership Council, and the Women's Council of Realtors.

### **Northbound US101 Ramp Metering - Phase 1**

The California Transportation Commission recently allocated funding to Caltrans to re-start the Phase 1 Ramp Metering Project at its August meeting. The allocation will fund the design phase for the Phase 1 ramp metering project on US101 from the Golden Gate Bridge to north of Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Staff was notified that Caltrans had made the funding request and we are pleased to see the CTC take this action. The design is expected to take approximately eleven months to complete.

### **MTC Bike Share Capital Grant Program Update**

On April 19, MTC released a Call for Applications for the Bike Share Capital Grant Program. Applications were requested from five public agency sponsors who submitted letters of interest in 2016, including the Transportation Authority of Marin/Sonoma County Transportation Authority in response to a letter of interest for a bike share system coordinated around SMART stations.

As reported to the TAM Executive Committee at its June 12 meeting, TAM and SCTA submitted an application for a system to be implemented through two phases starting out with 50 bikes in Marin and 50 bikes in Sonoma to then expand to 100 bikes in each of the respective counties. In August, MTC contacted TAM and SCTA staff to discuss initial questions, to enhance the application, and provide an update on the grant selection timeline. Among the



comments from the MTC panel, was advice that TAM/SCTA update the application to implement the entire 200-bike system initially rather than over multiple phases. While this updated approach would require more up-front planning, staff agreed that a larger system initially could also have the ability to attract broader interest potentially from prospective riders and sponsors.

In October MTC will provide additional information regarding the funding available for a Marin/Sonoma bike share system focused around SMART. The two agencies will then develop a strategy to launch a program and staff will bring information back to the TAM Board regarding any local funding commitments required. In June staff reported the funding needed as a match for the capital program is in the range of \$50,000 per county. By the end of 2017, TAM staff anticipates receiving an official response from MTC as to an award for funding the capital equipment and launch of a bike share program.

## State

### SB 1 – Local Streets and Roads (LSR) Program



On August 16, 2017, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the final guidelines for the LSR Program from SB 1. The intent of the LSR Program is to address deferred maintenance on the local streets and roads system through the prioritization and delivery of basic road maintenance and rehabilitation projects as well as critical safety projects. According to MTC's estimates provided in April 2017, Marin jurisdictions can expect to receive nearly \$8 million in LSR funds from SB 1 in the first year of availability.

The adopted final LSR Program Guidelines require a city or county to submit to the CTC a list of projects proposed to be funded with these LSR funds. All projects proposed to receive funding must be included in a city or county budget that is adopted by the applicable city council or county board of supervisors at a regular public meeting.

The proposed lists of projects are due to the CTC on October 16, 2017. The CTC is scheduled to adopt the proposed lists on December 6, 2017 with the apportionments of funds in mid-January 2018.

TAM staff has informed Marin Public Works Directors to go to their respective governing board in September or early October to approve proposed project(s) for submittal to the LSR Program by October 16, 2017.

### Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 3 Augmentation



ATP taps both state and federal funds to provide a total of about \$120 million each year for bike and pedestrian projects across California. The program allows cities, counties, transit agencies and other public agencies to compete for grants to build bicycle/pedestrian paths, install bike racks, and other projects or programs that make walking or biking easier, safer and more convenient.

Cycle 3 of ATP concluded earlier this year with allocations of both State and Regional funds. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) administered the State funds and MTC administered the Regional funds, which San Rafael was the recipient of \$4.025 million for the Francisco Boulevard East Project. Cycle 4 of ATP is scheduled to commence with a Call for Projects in February 2018.

However, Senate Bill (SB) 1, signed by the Governor on April 28, 2017, directed an additional \$100 million annually from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account to the ATP beginning in FY 2017-18. Instead of combining these additional funds with Cycle 4, the CTC issued a Call for Projects called ATP Cycle 3 Augmentation in June 2017.

The caveat is that only applications that applied for Cycle 3 and did not get funding can apply for ATP Cycle 3 Augmentation. The deadline for submittal was August 1, 2017. The following applications for projects in Marin were submitted:

- Corte Madera's Central Marin Regional Pathways Gap Closure Project for \$2.626 million
- SMART's SMART Pathway - San Rafael (McInnis to Smith Ranch) for \$2.05 million

SMART also applied for a project in Sonoma County:

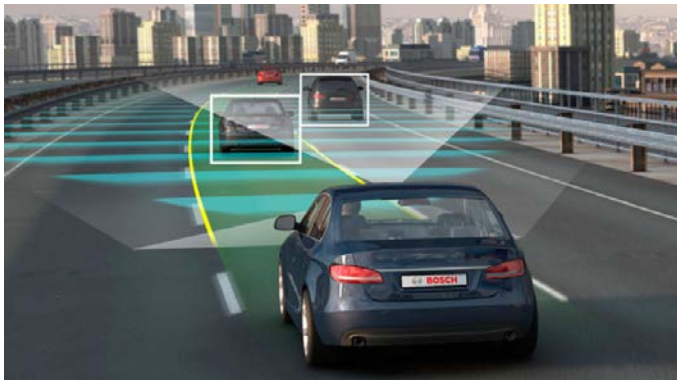
- SMART Pathway - Petaluma (Payran to Southpoint) for \$1.46 million

Staff will keep the TAM Board informed on pertinent developments with the ATP Cycle 3 Augmentation, particularly with the following program milestones.

August 31, 2017	CTC staff recommendation on State funds
September 8, 2017	MTC staff recommendation on Regional funds
October 18, 2017	CTC adopts projects for State funds
December 6, 2017	MTC adopts projects for Regional funds

## **Federal**

### **Updated Self-Driving Car Guidance**

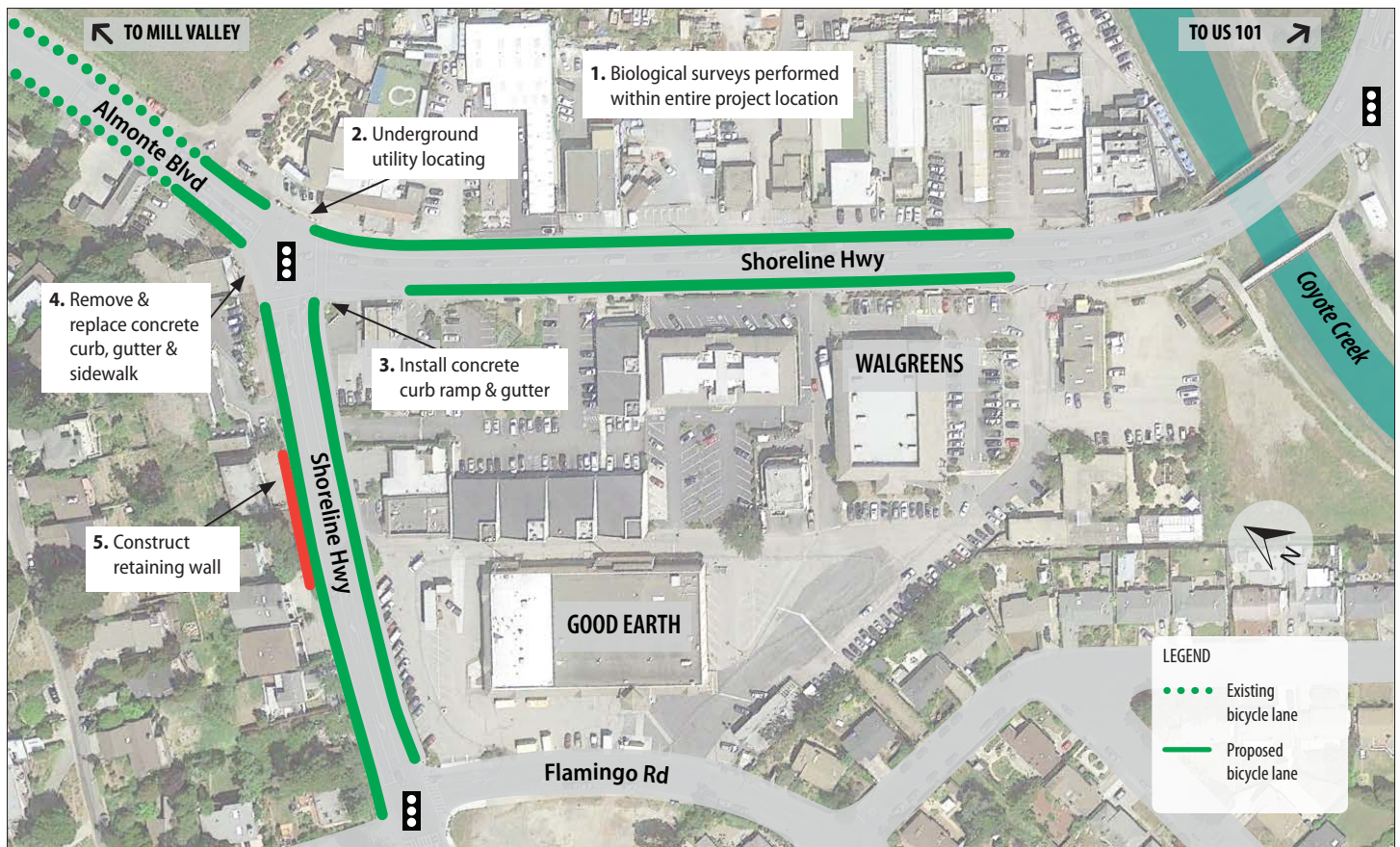


The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) updated guidance on self-driving cars is nearing public release. The agency has recently turned over the voluntary recommendations to the Office of Management and Budget for interagency review. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao has said that the reworked guidelines would be coming as soon as September, a year after President Barack Obama's DOT rolled out the federal government's first-ever guidance on the technology. While under interagency review,

those who could be affected by the guidance will be able to weigh in before NHTSA officially publishes them.

# Tam Junction Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvement Project

## Construction late August - October 2017



### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Tam Junction Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement project will construct bike lanes on both sides of Shoreline Highway from Flamingo Avenue to the Coyote Creek Bridge. Bike lanes will also be constructed along both sides of Almonte Boulevard from Tam Junction to Helen Avenue to connect to the existing bike lanes. The project also includes:

- Drainage improvements at the Almonte Boulevard and Shoreline Highway intersection to help improve periodic flooding
- Sidewalk and curb improvements at the intersection
- A new retaining wall along a portion of westbound Shoreline Highway
- Utility relocation and
- Relocation of the existing delineators at Tam Junction

### CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

**Night Work:** Shoreline Highway is a Caltrans roadway and **all work must be performed at night**, due to lane closures, heavy daily traffic volume and worker safety.

**Lane Closures:** Intermittent lane closures will occur only at night, as needed.

**Work Days and Hours:** Sunday night through Thursday night, 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., **for approximately 2.5 months**

**Parking:** Parking will be restricted at night only at locations where the contractor is working. Contractor will give 72 hours notice for parking restrictions.

**Pedestrian Access and Business Access:** Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times, and there will not be any impacts to businesses during daytime business hours.

**TARGETED PROJECT SCHEDULE:**

Week of August 14	<b>1.</b> Biologists performed pre-construction surveys within the entire project limits as a requirement of the Caltrans encroachment permit.
Week of August 21	<b>2.</b> As part of pre-construction activities, the contractor will be performing exploratory underground utility verification within the Tam Junction intersection along eastern edge of Shoreline Highway.
Week of August 28	<b>3.</b> Concrete removal and new sidewalk, curb & gutter will be installed along Almonte Avenue south of Helen Ave and along northwestern corner of the Tam Junction intersection.
	<b>4.</b> New concrete curb ramp, curb & gutter will be installed on southwest corner of Tam Junction.
Week of September 18	<b>5.</b> Construct retaining wall along the northern side of Shoreline Highway.

**Drainage Improvements - Dates TBD**

Crews will conduct exploratory underground utility verification (Item #2) in order to finalize the design for drainage improvements along the northeastern edge of Tam Junction. Drainage improvements will be followed by final roadway paving and striping.

**UPDATES & INFO**

Schedule updates will be provided as they become available. The project will have a full-time on-site Construction Manager / Inspector from 4LEAF, Inc., while the contractor is working.

**Email: [info@tam.ca.gov](mailto:info@tam.ca.gov)**

**Day Contact: (415) 226-0822 or 0829**

**Night Contact During Construction: (775) 232-4164**







# Highway 37 Improvement Plan

Join us for an **Informational Open House**  
Come to the one nearest you!

In response to impacts from **sea-level rise, flooding and increased traffic** along the corridor, the counties of Marin, Napa, Sonoma and Solano, in partnership with Caltrans and the MTC, are planning to **improve access and safety** along Highway 37.

The Open Houses will aim to:

- **Inform** residents and Highway 37 users about the status of the planning process
- Provide an opportunity for participants to share their concerns and **provide feedback**

## NOVATO - Wednesday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>

6 pm to 8 pm at The Key Room  
1385 Hamilton Parkway, Novato

## AMERICAN CANYON - Wednesday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>

6 pm to 8 pm at the American Canyon Council Chambers  
4381 Broadway Street, American Canyon

## SONOMA - Thursday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>

6 pm to 8 pm at Sonoma Veterans Memorial Building  
126 First Street West, Sonoma

## VALLEJO - Monday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>

6 pm to 8 pm at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum  
734 Marin Street, Vallejo

Project led in partnership by:

