Citizens' Oversight Committee

Transportation Authority of Marin

Fourteenth Annual Report Fiscal Year 2017 – 2018

July 1, 2017

—

June 30, 2018

Making the Most of Marin County Transportation Dollars

TAM

about

TAM & the Citizens' Oversight Committee

The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) is a joint powers authority comprised of Marin's 11 cities and towns and the County of Marin. The TAM Board of Commissioners includes the five members of the County Board of Supervisors and a council member from each city and town. TAM administers the expenditure plans for both Measure A, the 20-year ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax, and Measure B, the $10 Vehicle Registration Fee. Both revenue sources were approved by Marin voters and are dedicated to transportation projects and programs in Marin. TAM also serves as Marin's Congestion Management Agency (CMA) and is responsible for coordinating funding for many of the transportation projects and programs in the County.

The Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) was originally established by the Measure A Expenditure Plan in 2004 to oversee the usage of the Measure A funds. The COC's responsibility was expanded to include Measure B funds in 2011. It includes 12-member seats representing geographic areas and interest groups in Marin County. Committee members provide a wide variety of skills in finance, business, public policy, community outreach, and transportation management. Membership consists of both recent appointees who bring fresh ideas to the group and long-standing members who provide continuity to our efforts.

Members/Alternates	Representing
Peter Pelham (Chairperson)	Major Marin Employers
Charley Vogt/ Veda Florez	North Marin Planning Area
Robert Burton(Vice-Chairperson)/ Jayni Allsep	Southern Marin Planning Area
Joy Dahlgren/ Jeffrey Olson	Central Marin Planning Area
Allan Bortel/ Rocky Birdsey	Marin County Paratransit Coordinating Council
Kevin Hagerty/ Kay Noguchi	League of Women Voters Marin County
Kate Powers/ Nancy Okada	Environmental Organizations
Vince O'Brien	Bicyclists and Pedestrians Groups
Paul Premo	Taxpayer Groups
Paul Roye	Ross Valley Planning Area
Scott Tye	West Marin Planning Area
Zack Macdonald	School Districts

message from the

COC Chairperson

We are proud of our role in the COC to oversee TAM's management of funds from the Measure A ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax and the Measure B $10 Vehicle Registration Fee to ensure fiscal responsibility. The COC is happy to report that, for the 14th year in a row, financial records are in order and key projects and programs have been funded in accordance with the expenditure plans approved by Marin County voters. This annual report provides an overview of the financial reports and progress made on transportation projects and programs in Marin this year.

What a great year for transportation funding! The hard work of the 24-member Expenditure Plan Advisory Committee (EPAC), including all COC members, to develop by consensus on Expenditure Plan to renew the transportation sales tax culminated in the approval of ballot Measure AA. With the approval of Measure AA, the ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax will be renewed for 30 years, providing a reliable stream of funding for future transportation initiatives in Marin.

We look forward to working with TAM, the County and community members under both the Measure A and Measure AA Expenditure Plans to maintain this critical local funding source, attract additional state and federal funding and continue Marin's transportation successes. The COC will continue to be a key part of this effort and will be reaching out to the community for input.

I want to thank the COC members, the TAM board, and staff for their dedication and focus on the continued improvement of our community and Marin's transportation network.

Sincerely,

Peter Pelham

How will **Measure AA** sales tax funds be distributed?

Thanks to a YES vote from 76.7% of Marin voters, we now have the local ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax secured 30-years into the future. Measure AA, the extension of Measure A, will go into effect as of April 1, 2019. This critical local funding source is projected to generate approximately $27 million each year to support local priorities that are defined in the revised expenditure plan that will take effect in April 2019. The new expenditure plan builds on the success of the original expenditure plan approved in 2004 and identifies new spending categories to address current and future transportation needs by:

- **Providing** a reliable funding stream for Marin County road repair projects
- **Continuing** to attract millions of dollars in federal, state, and regional funding
- **Saving** the countywide Crossing Guard program and INCREASING the number of guards from 58 to 97 on critical school-area intersections

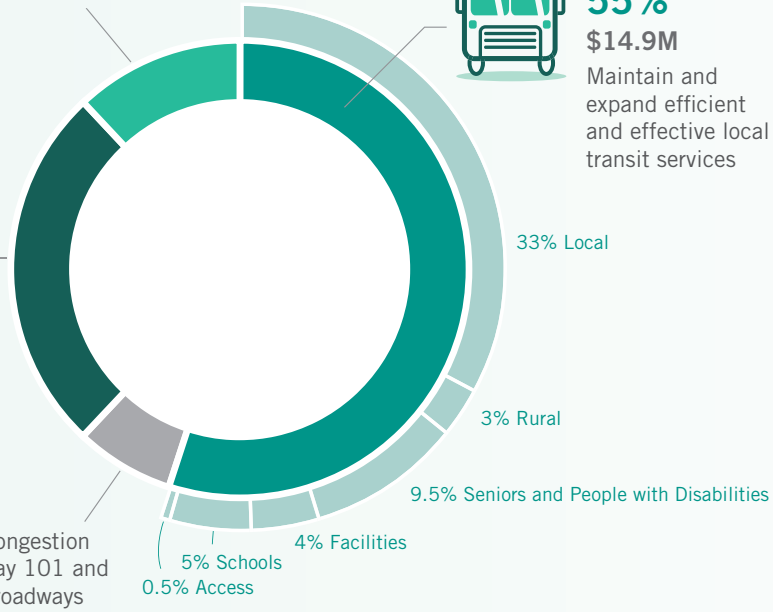
76.7% YES on AA

11.5%
$3.1M
Reduce school-related congestion and provide safer access to schools

26.5%
$7.2M
Maintain, improve, and manage local roads and related infrastructure

7%
$1.9M
Reduce congestion on Highway 101 and adjacent roadways

55%
$14.9M
Maintain and expand efficient and effective local transit services



- **Protecting and expanding** the award-winning Safe Routes to Schools Program (now a national program that was started here in Marin County)
- **Increasing** funding for transit programs for seniors and people with disabilities
- **Providing** dedicated funds for school bus services (to significantly reduce school-time congestion)
- **Helping** to complete significant projects such as the Marin-Sonoma Narrows and building a direct connector between Northbound 101 and Eastbound 580
- **Providing** continuous funding commitments for local transit
- **Expanding** a commitment to fund clean air vehicle infrastructure for alternative fuel vehicles
- **Creating** new seed funding sources to support projects that address sea-level rise and support operational improvements through innovative technology

KEEP MARIN MOVING

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

MEASURE A

Strategy 1: Local Bus Transit System

Major programs funded under this sub strategy include local fixed-route bus and community shuttle services, rural transit services including the West Marin Stage, the seasonal Muir Woods Shuttle, the Novato Dial-A-Ride Program, supplemental school services, and transportation programs and services for Marin's senior and disabled residents.

More than 3.2 million trips were taken on Marin Transit in FY 2017-18. This was the second year of Marin Transit's nearly 20 percent expansion of regular fixed-route service, implemented in June 2016. The expansion increased service frequency, added new express routes, and provided more direct connections for local transit riders.

Marin Transit is responsible for local transit service within Marin County. It delivers services through contract operators, including Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District (GGBHTD), Marin Airporter, MV Transportation, Whistlestop, and Michael's Transportation. Its primary service and financial planning document is the Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP), that includes ten years of financial projections for operations and capital programs. Marin Transit's Board uses the SRTP to guide the expenditures of funds, including Measure A funds.

Marin Transit expended $16.7 million in Transportation Sales Tax revenue to support local transit operations and capital programs in FY 2017-18.

For more information please visit Marin Transit's newly redesigned website at www.marintransit.org

marin transit

Highlights of 2017-18 Marin Transit Activities

- Initiated a pilot on-demand micro-transit service, Marin Transit Connect, in a defined service area in northern San Rafael.
- Continued the third year of the College of Marin (COM) Card partnership that provides free local transit to all COM students.
- Continued weekday seasonal service on the Muir Woods Shuttle and initiated year-round weekend and holiday service.
- Continued to provide shopper shuttle services for the rural communities of Point Reyes Station, Tomales, and Dillon Beach.
- Worked with local school districts to expand yellow bus school services.
- Placed an order for two all-electric buses for delivery in FY 2018-19 and placed 10 new 40-ft hybrid buses into service on local bus routes.
- Completed construction of the new Downtown Novato Bus Facility.
- Developed conceptual plans for improvements at 25 stops.
- Funded a successful Marin Access Innovation Incubator project that teaches seniors computer and internet skills.
- Completed a cost benefit evaluation and Title VI analysis for locating a Marin Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility.

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

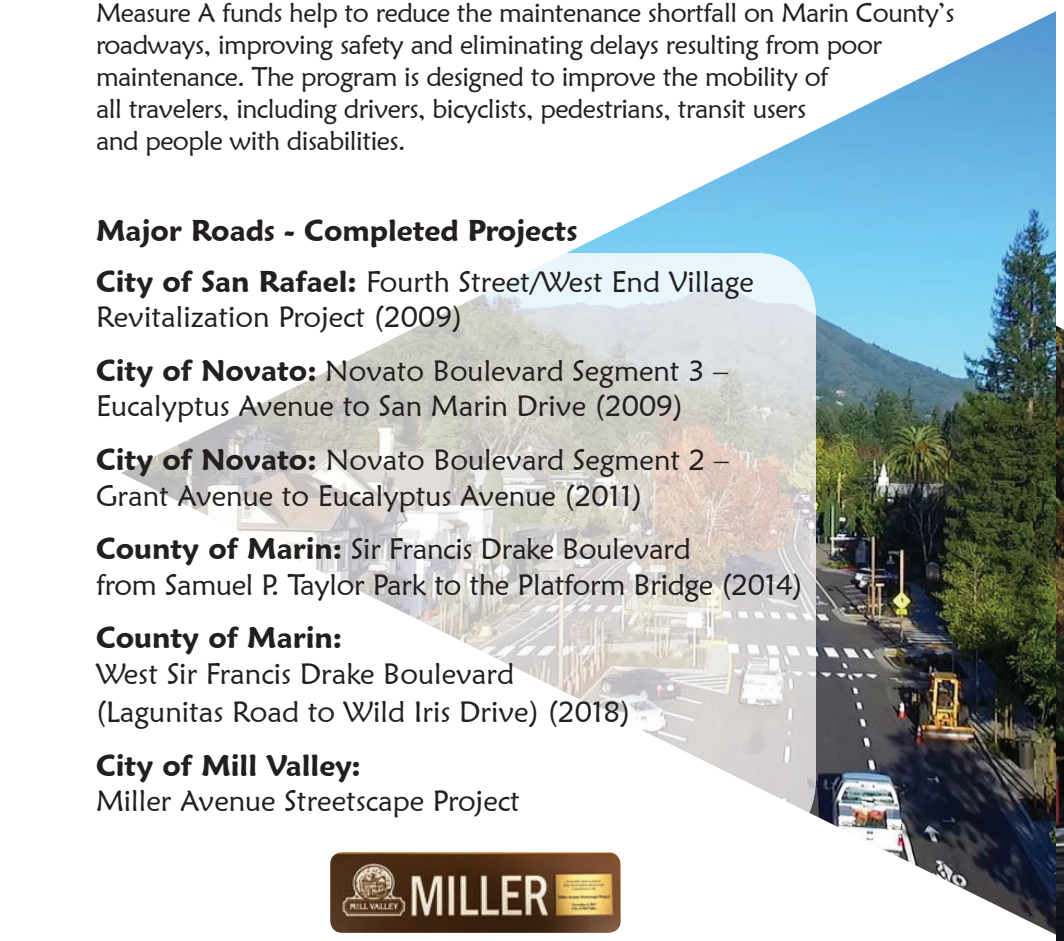
MEASURE A

Strategy 2: The Highway 101 Gap Closure Carpool Lane Project was successfully completed in December 2010.

Strategy 3:

Local Transportation Infrastructure

Local roads are the largest single public investment in the County. Without a well-designed and maintained roadway system, there are limited opportunities to provide adequate bus service or to connect bikeways and pedestrian pathways. Measure A funds help to reduce the maintenance shortfall on Marin County's roadways, improving safety and eliminating delays resulting from poor maintenance. The program is designed to improve the mobility of all travelers, including drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, transit users and people with disabilities.



Major Roads - Completed Projects

City of San Rafael: Fourth Street/West End Village Revitalization Project (2009)

City of Novato: Novato Boulevard Segment 3 – Eucalyptus Avenue to San Marin Drive (2009)

City of Novato: Novato Boulevard Segment 2 – Grant Avenue to Eucalyptus Avenue (2011)

County of Marin: Sir Francis Drake Boulevard from Samuel P. Taylor Park to the Platform Bridge (2014)

County of Marin:
West Sir Francis Drake Boulevard (Lagunitas Road to Wild Iris Drive) (2018)

City of Mill Valley:
Miller Avenue Streetscape Project

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

Major Roads Projects Underway

Sir Francis Drake Boulevard (Highway 101 to Ross Town Limit):

Sir Francis Drake Boulevard is one of the busiest corridors in Marin County. The Sir Francis Drake Rehabilitation Project will improve 2.5 miles of the roadway from Highway 101 to the Ross Town limit. The project is being managed by the County of Marin and is the top priority project for the Ross Valley Planning Area.

The goal of the project is to reduce traffic congestion, improve pavement condition, and enhance safety for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users. Additionally, the project will upgrade the public water main operated by Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) along Sir Francis Drake Boulevard.

The County Board of Supervisors approved the project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on May 8, 2018. Final design is underway, and the project team is coordinating with all stakeholders through a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprised of various agency staff, and a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) including interested and affected community members. Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2020 and is planned over a 2 year period, commencing in the spring and ending in late summer to minimize traffic impacts.

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

MEASURE A

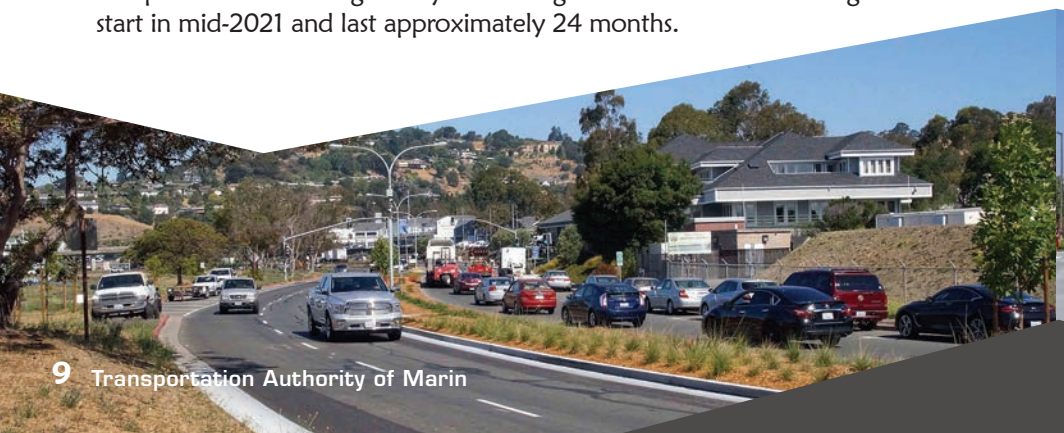
Novato Boulevard Segment 1
(Diablo Avenue to Grant Avenue)

Segment 1 of the Novato Boulevard Rehabilitation Project includes the following components:

- Reconstruction of the existing 2-lane street to a 3-and 4-lane configuration, including a continuous center-turn lane between Diablo Avenue and Grant Avenue.
- Signal improvements at the intersections of Grant and Novato Boulevard, Seventh Street and Novato Boulevard, and at Diablo Avenue and Novato Boulevard.
- Installation of continuous curb, gutter and sidewalk along both sides of Novato Boulevard.
- Accessibility upgrades to current standards including curb ramps, cross-slope corrections, and accessible pedestrian signals at crosswalks.
- Continuous class II bike lanes in both directions.
- Undergrounding of existing overhead electric and communications utilities between Diablo Avenue and Boulevard Terrace.

During the spring of 2018, the City of Novato conducted public workshops to examine potential new configurations of Novato Boulevard that would improve traffic operations during peak hours while reducing potential environmental and right-of-way impacts. With strong public support, Novato City Council approved the proposed 3-and 4-lane preferred alternative on June 12, 2018. The City has completed an internal administrative review of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the new preferred alternative.

Conceptual plans are being developed to determine the revised cost estimate, confirm right-of-way needs, and identify regulatory permit requirements. Public circulation of the DEIR is anticipated in summer 2019 following completion of a drainage study for the segment. Construction is targeted to start in mid-2021 and last approximately 24 months.



Local Roads Category

To date, the Measure A ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax Program has provided more than $32.7 million in funds to the local jurisdictions in Marin County for local street and road projects, local transit projects, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

	FY 2017-18 Allocation	Total To Date Since FY2006-07
Belvedere	$33,875	$325,830
Corte Madera	$121,808	$1,111,690
Fairfax	$95,217	$912,916
Larkspur	$135,814	$1,303,516
Mill Valley	$196,883	$1,863,923
Novato	$628,811	$5,845,486
Ross	$35,259	$341,799
San Anselmo	$153,447	$1,465,935
San Rafael	$678,233	$6,422,191
Sausalito	$91,668	$891,803
Tiburon	$119,493	$1,110,660
County	$1,165,910	$11,124,628
Total	**$3,456,418**	**$32,720,378**

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

MEASURE A

Strategy 4: Reduce School Related Congestion and Provide Safer Access to Schools

Established in 2000, Marin County's Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) is an award-winning program designed to reduce congestion around schools while instilling healthy habits in children and creating a safer and cleaner environment for all. The program includes classroom education, special events, infrastructure improvements, and other strategies that aim to increase the number of non-motorized (walk and bicycle) and higher vehicle occupancy (carpool and transit) trips to and from schools.

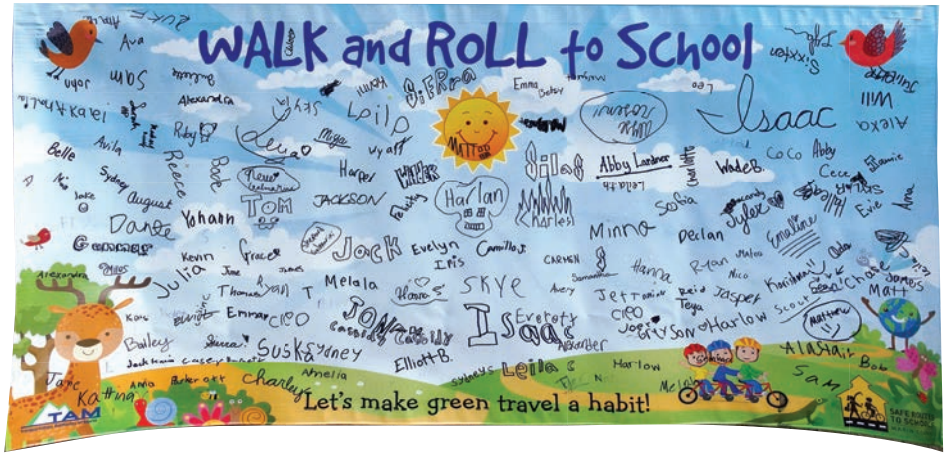
- Safe Routes to Schools has extended its reach into every public middle school and five of seven public high schools.
- Since 2000, over 150 infrastructure projects aimed at increasing safety and encouraging children to walk or bicycle to school have been planned or built.
- Since 2011, the county has maintained an average 50 percent green trip rate to and from schools, even while the enrollment and number of schools in the program continue to increase.
- Since 2008, the Mill Valley, Kentfield, and Ross Valley school districts have increased their number of green trips by 7, 10, and 9 percent, respectively.
- In the 2017-18 school year, SR2S provided education to over 13,000 students.

Safe Routes to Schools

Safer Access to Schools

School route maps illustrating suggested routes to school are created in collaboration with public works staff, school administration personnel, and parent volunteers who are familiar with the conditions of the various routes to school. Teachers and students may get involved in the process as well.

Reed School District parents assisted in the development of comprehensive suggested route maps for Bel Aire Elementary and Del Mar Middle School. Other schools that have maps in process include the Ross Valley School District, Mill Valley Middle School, Old Mill School, Edna Maguire School, Strawberry School, Park School, Davidson Middle School, and San Rafael High School.



STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

MEASURE A

Crossing Guard Program

TAM's Crossing Guard Program, one of the most comprehensive in the Bay Area, deployed trained school crossing guards at ninety locations throughout Marin County in the 2017-18 school year. Out of the 90 locations, 67 were funded by the Measure A ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax, 15 by Measure B, the $10 Vehicle Registration Fee, and 8 paid for by various school districts.

With the passage of Measure AA and the increase in funding for the Crossing Guard Program, from 4.2% to 7.0%, TAM funded locations will increase from 82 to 97 beginning in 2019. Without this funding increase, TAM would be forced to cut the locations from 82 to 58 in the upcoming year. Thanks to the voters in Marin for making this significant commitment to make school trips safer and support walking, biking, and scooting to school.

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

Crossing Guard of the Year

Ronald Laubach

Ronald Laubach was recognized as the 2017-18 Crossing Guard of the Year for his dedication to the safety of children making their way to and from Miller Creek Middle School in Lucas Valley/Marinwood. Each weekday morning and afternoon Ron can be found at the intersection of Las Gallinas Avenue and Elvia Court wearing his yellow vest and holding his red stop sign, helping students cross the road safely to school.

Mr. Laubach has been a friendly and reliable crossing guard at Miller Creek Middle for 5 years. He has lived in the neighborhood for 30 years and enjoys his 10-minute walk to and from the school each morning and afternoon. He found that being a crossing guard has been a perfect way to get involved in his community. "I realized that being a crossing guard would be a perfect way to give back to my neighborhood," Laubach said and added, "An obvious bonus is that kids are so much fun, you just never know what they are going to say." When he's not on duty shepherding students across Las Gallinas Avenue, it is likely he can be found gardening and engaged in other improvement projects around his home.

Thanks Ron, for your dedication to your community and the safety of Miller Creek Middle School students.

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS MEASURE A

Safe Pathways to School Projects

Large and Small Projects Have a Positive Community Impact

The Safe Pathways to Schools program is the capital improvement element of Safe Routes to Schools. The program funds engineering, environmental clearance and construction of projects that make the trip to school safer. Safe Pathways projects continue to be built throughout Marin with funding allocated in 2015 for the third cycle of the Safe Pathway Call for Projects, including $367,500 for 15 "small" projects (up to $25,000) and $3,830,000 for 12 "large" projects (up to $350,000). The "small" Safe Pathway funding program is a community favorite and has been dedicated to projects that can be completed quickly to provide immediate benefits to the communities. All small projects have been completed and approximately 40% of the large projects are still in progress.

To date, Measure A has funded 53 projects with Safe Pathway funds through 3 cycles of Call for Projects that total more than $7.38 million. Projects funded from the first and second cycles of Call for Projects have been completed.

TAM anticipates issuing the fourth cycle Safe Pathway Call for Projects in May 2019.

ELEMENT HIGHLIGHTS MEASURE B

In 2010, Marin voters approved Measure B, a $10 Vehicle Registration Fee for local transportation initiatives. The passage of Measure B provides approximately $2.3 million annually and confirms that transportation continues to be a top priority in the County.

Element 1: Maintain Local Streets and Pathways

This element has provided about $700,000 annually for much-needed maintenance of local streets. Funds for local streets are distributed every 3 years to the 11 cities/towns and the County using the same distribution formula as the Measure A program, based 50% on the local population and 50% on the number of lane miles within each jurisdiction. More than $100,000 annually is also reserved for the routine maintenance of various multi-use pathways in the County.

ELEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

MEASURE B

Element 2: Improve Transit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Measure B dedicates 35 percent of annual revenue towards enabling Marin Transit to expand transportation service options for Marin's seniors and persons with disabilities, under the Marin Access umbrella.

In FY 2017-18, Marin Transit selected a project for their Marin Access Innovation Incubator effort. Through the Incubator, Marin Transit funded and assisted in the development of the "Tech Tips for Transportation" class that teaches older adults how to use technology to get around.

Measure B funds support Marin Transit's suite of Marin Access Mobility Management Programs

Local Paratransit ADA paratransit service within a ¾-mile radius of active Marin Transit bus routes

Volunteer Drivers Mileage reimbursement for drivers who volunteer to transport seniors and ADA eligible riders

Low-Income Scholarships Fare subsidies for low-income ADA paratransit riders

Travel Navigators Dedicated customer service staff to help riders select the appropriate transportation program and determine eligibility

Catch a Ride Subsidies for eligible riders to receive a discount on taxi rides

For more information about Marin Transit services, please visit **www.marintransit.org**

Element 3: Reduce Congestion and Pollution

School Safety and Congestion Reduction

Under the Crossing Guard program, in the 2017-18 school year, due to rising costs and to prevent service disruption in several locations, Measure B provided an additional one-time gap funding to bring the total Measure B funded guards to 15.

Under the Street Smart's Program, banners were deployed in various locations in May 2018 to raise the awareness of safe driving in the community.

Local Marin County Commute Alternatives

TAM continued the expansion of Commute Alternative and Trip Reduction programs and promoted multimodal transportation.

Launched TAM's Lyft Pilot Program "GETSMART17" TAM offers a $5 coupon code eligible for Lyft's shared-ride service, Lyft Line, to increase vehicle occupancy at SMART stations. The program also includes a partnership with Whistlestop to provide wheelchair accessible vehicles, and dispatch Lyft rides for non-smart phone users through its call center.

Launched a New Carshare Site Located at the downtown San Rafael SMART Station through a public-private partnership with Zipcar and Whistlestop.

ELEMENT HIGHLIGHTS MEASURE B

Local Marin County Commute Alternatives (cont.)

Marin Emergency Ride Home Program Offers a ride home for employees on days they use transit and other green commute alternatives including carpooling, vanpooling, walking or biking to get to work but need to get home quickly in the event of an emergency.

Continued outreach to promote TAM's Vanpool Incentive Program Offers $3,600 for new vanpools in Marin. TAM and MTC's 511 vanpool consultants actively promote vanpools which can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, especially for long-haul commuters.

Developed TAM's Marin Commutes Program Provides an online platform for trip planning and information about transportation options in Marin for employers and employees while offering incentives and campaigns to encourage transportation alternatives in Marin County.

Received a grant from MTC's Bike Share Capital Grant Program In partnership with the Sonoma County Transportation Authority the grant provided $826,000 to bring a bike share program to Marin and Sonoma for connections to SMART stations. TAM looks forward to launching the bike share program in 2019.

Sponsored Marin Bike to Work Day TAM had a booth near Larkspur Ferry in front of the Marin Ferry Connection Multi-Use Pathway where TAM staff promoted a full range of programs and activities.

ELEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Alternative Fuels Infrastructure and Promotion

EV Public Charging Infrastructure TAM launched its EV Charging Station Grant Rebate program in FY2015-16 and has re-authorized the program every year since then. To date, TAM has approved the installation of 178 EV charging heads under this program with 115 charging heads already installed and operational. Additionally, the County of Marin recently installed 41 charging heads at the Civic Center with a festive grand opening in October 2018. The County has applied to install another 24 heads at their Los Gamos campus.

TAM partnered with the San Rafael School District to help fund and install 32 charging stations at nine school campuses over a multi-year period. TAM has also approved funding to install 36 heads at the College of Marin.

Marin Clean Energy/Marin Transit/TAM Electric Bus Pilot Program Based on the pilot program study initiated in 2014, TAM is pleased to report that two new electric buses were delivered to Marin Transit this past summer. TAM committed $75,000 of Measure B matching funds to support this exciting endeavor and will look forward to opportunities to support similar projects.

ELEMENT HIGHLIGHTS MEASURE B

EV Outreach and Education In May 2018, TAM conducted its inaugural EV Ride and Drive event at the San Rafael May Madness Car Festival. Key partners in these events include the City of San Rafael Downtown Business Improvement District and
Marin Clean Energy.

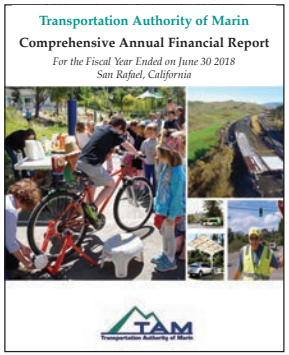
In September 2018, TAM co-sponsored a Ride and Drive Event with the Golden Gate Electric Vehicle Association in Greenbrae. Over 400 people attended to learn about and drive EVs.

TAM partnered with Cool the Earth, a non-profit organization based in Marin County dedicated to finding practical ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote EV adoption, to develop and support a social media campaign to educate and promote EVs in Marin.

TAM's Public Agency EV Fleet Rebate Program TAM's EV Fleet Rebate Program currently offers an incentive, up to $5,000, to public agencies to replace internal combustion engine vehicles with electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. Fourteen EVs/Plug-in EVs have been purchased under this program since inception reducing up to 70 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year.

Financial Picture

FY2017-18 Audit Results and COC Review



TAM's primary goal is to ensure the best value for public funds entrusted to its management, including Measure A, the ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax fund, and Measure B, the $10 Vehicle Registration Fee fund. A rigorous system of checks and balances is in place to ensure that both Measure A and Measure B funds are spent efficiently and as promised. Annual independent audits are performed to ensure accountability and transparency as required by the expenditure plans.

This year the audit, conducted by Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, confirmed that TAM's FY2017-18 financial statements were presented fairly and accurately. The Citizens' Oversight Committee has reviewed the audited FY2017-18 financial statements and has verified that Measure A funds were properly administered for the reporting period in accordance with the terms of the Measure A Expenditure Plan and the Strategic Plan. The audit also confirmed that TAM continues to be in compliance with the 5 percent administration cap policy required by the Measure A Expenditure Plan.

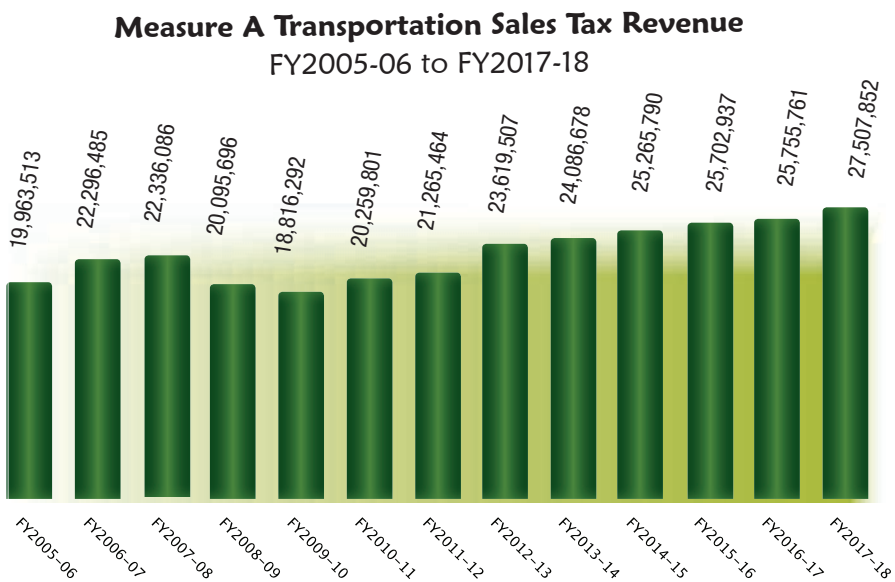
TAM also completed its eighth round of Measure A compliance audits for recipients of Measure A funds disbursed in and prior to FY2017-18. These audits confirmed that all Measure A funds were spent according to the requirements of the Measure A Expenditure Plan and the funding agreements. Results of the compliance audits, along with TAM's FY2017-18 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, are available on TAM's website, *www.tam.ca.gov.*

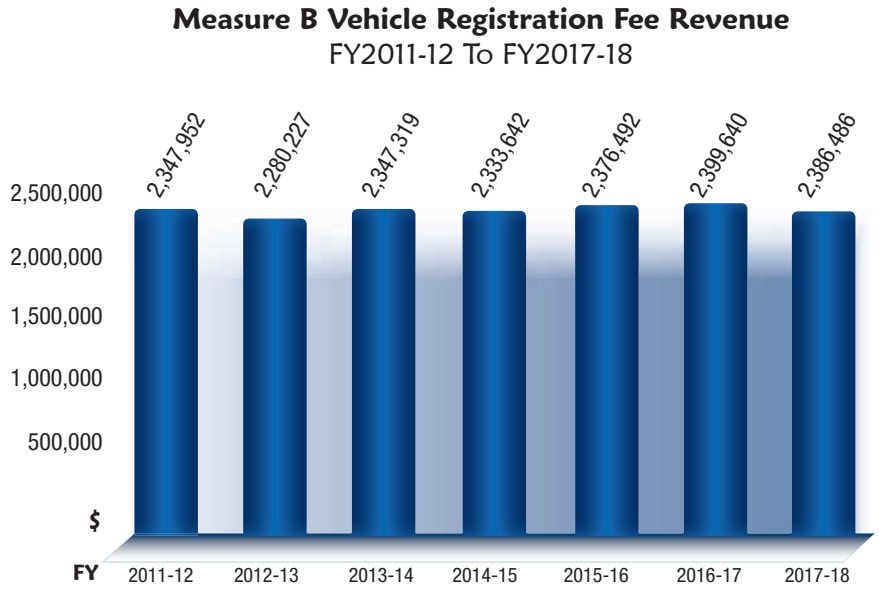
Measure A & B Allocation/ Programming

FY2017-18 Measure A Funding Allocation/Programming	
Strategy	**FY2017-18**
Interest Revenue Assigned to Multi-use Paths Maintenance	$97,000
Strategy 1 - Local Bus Transit System	$17,674,605
Strategy 2 - Highway 101 Gap Closure Project	Completed
Strategy 3 - Local Transportation Infrastructure	
3.1 Major Roads	$4,500,000
3.2 Local Roads	$ 3,349,907
Strategy 4 - Reduce School Related Congestion and Provide Safer Access to Schools	
4.1 Safe Routes to Schools	$755,000
4.2 Crossing Guard Program	$1,076,000
4.3 Safe Pathway to Schools Projects	$800,000
TOTAL	$28,252,512

FY2017-18 Measure B Funding Allocation/Programming	
Element	**FY2017-18**
Element 1 - Maintain Local Streets and Pathways	
1.1 Local Streets	
1.2 Pathways	$ 100,000
Element 2 - Improve Transit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities	$1,045,000
Element 3 - Reduce Congestion and Pollution	
3.1 School Safety and Congestion Reduction	$271,000
3.2 Local Marin County Commute Alternatives	$270,000
3.3 Alternative Fuels Infrastructure and Promotion	$240,000
TOTAL	$1,926,000

Measure A & B Revenue Trend





MEET YOUR
TAM COC Representatives

This Year's Featured Member – Paul Premo

The COC is proud to introduce Paul Premo as this year's featured committee member. The year was 1965 when, with a Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering from MIT in hand, Paul and his bride Mary left New York City as newlyweds and drove cross country to San Francisco. They made their home in Mill Valley and Paul began a very successful 27-year career at Chevron Research. While he started in its engineering division, his wide-ranging business acumen lead him to the field of financial management as well as strategic planning assignments as the Corporate Secretary and Treasurer of Chevron USA.

In 1988, Paul's work took him from the Bay Area to Houston, Texas. When he returned to Mill Valley in 1992, his expertise in the energy industry, especially in regulated utility tariff rates, made him a consultant in high demand for many big companies.

His desire to be of service to his community motivated Paul to apply for a position on the Marin County Civil Grand Jury and he served as Foreperson Pro-Tem on the County's Civil Grand Jury for the 2012-13 term. Paul gained invaluable insight on civic matters and applied the experience he gained from serving on the Grand Jury by participating in several activist groups in Marin, particularly on behalf of taxpayers "who pay the bills for government." Paul represents Taxpayer Groups on TAM's COC.

Paul and Mary have 2 grown children as well as 2 grandchildren, one a freshman at Chico State University and the other a junior at Redwood High School. Paul and Mary have traveled to all 7 continents, taken over 60 ocean cruises, and have participated in many African wildlife photo safaris. In his spare time, Paul enjoys woodworking and is an active financial investor.

How long have you been serving on the COC?
I learned in Spring 2013 that the COC had an opening for the member seat of the Taxpayer Group Position. I was nominated by the then-Marin Taxpayers Association, applied and was appointed by the TAM Board in May 2013 to the seat. I continue in that role on the Committee.

What brought you to the COC and what made you stay?

I served on the 2012-13 Marin County Civil Grand Jury as Foreperson Pro-Tem. The experience informed me that various Marin County, Cities and Special Districts were handling issues important to the pocketbooks of taxpayers but that taxpayers weren't adequately represented in the decision-making process. I wanted to address that on the COC, learn how efficiently the Measure A ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax revenue was spent, and try to ensure that it was/is spent efficiently. This remains my objective and is why I stay.

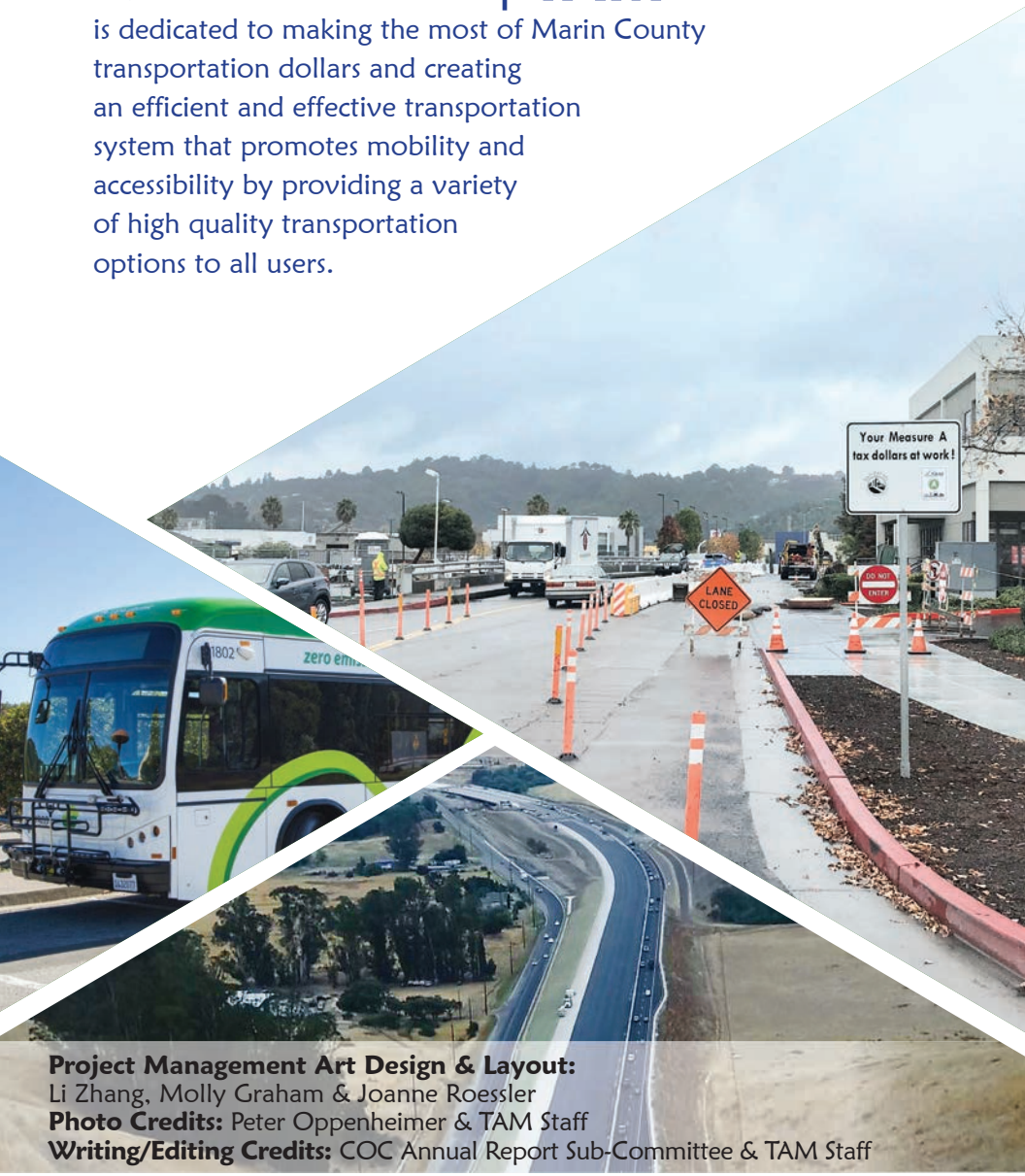
Do you think the COC has made a difference in addressing transportation issues and the transportation future in Marin?
Absolutely! The primary focus of the committee is to review and validate the usage of the Measure A ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax revenue according to the voter-approved expenditure plan. Every year, the COC rigorously reviews the information TAM staff provides supporting those expenditures, strategy by strategy. The COC challenges TAM staff to ensure that it has adequate information to verify that all expenditures are spent according to the requirement of the Measure A ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan. Moreover, the COC members served as full participants on the Measure AA Expenditure Plan Advisory Committee, to help shape the Final Measure AA ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax Renewal Expenditure Plan so it can address transportation services more consistent with changing trends and funding needs for Marin going forward.

What do you value the most about the COC?
The COC is fortunate to have some long-standing members, who have served on the committee since the implementation of Measure A and have valuable historical knowledge. We also have newly appointed members who bring fresh ideas to the table. TAM staff provides the COC with thorough presentations and analyses to confirm that all sales tax revenues are being spent per the voter-approved expenditure plan. Our meetings are congenial; there are no barriers to participation, there is solid mutual respect among members, and viewpoints represent our many constituencies.

Transportation Authority of Marin
900 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100
San Rafael, CA 94901
(415) 226-0815 | www.tam.ca.gov

Mission Statement | TAM

is dedicated to making the most of Marin County transportation dollars and creating an efficient and effective transportation system that promotes mobility and accessibility by providing a variety of high quality transportation options to all users.



Project Management Art Design & Layout:
Li Zhang, Molly Graham & Joanne Roessler
Photo Credits: Peter Oppenheimer & TAM Staff
Writing/Editing Credits: COC Annual Report Sub-Committee & TAM Staff