



May 28, 2020

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

FROM: Anne Richman, Executive Director

RE: Executive Director's Report – Agenda Item 3 (Discussion)

Local

Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Rehabilitation Project to Begin in Early June

The Marin County Board of Supervisors approved the construction contract for the Sir Francis Drake Rehabilitation project, and construction is slated to begin in early June. The construction schedule is being accelerated to take advantage of lighter-than-normal traffic conditions during the pandemic. Marin County Department of Public Works will continue to monitor traffic conditions as changes unfold with shelter-in-place restrictions.



The construction costs with 10% contingency are expected to be nearly \$20 million. Approximately \$14 million in funding was allocated from the Measure A Major Roads category.

North / South Greenway – Northern Segment



TAM and Caltrans staff have finalized the construction documents in preparation for construction bidding. We have recently been informed the project will be advertised in early June and bid results will be announced in late July. We understand construction bids have recently been favorable and we look forward to moving this project into the next phase. Construction is expected to take 12-14 months.

The project will build a 12-foot-wide multiuse pathway over Corte Madera Creek to close a key gap in the local and regional bicycle and pedestrian network. The path will improve the bicycle and pedestrian connection between the Central Marin Ferry Connector Bridge over Sir Francis Drake Blvd. and the existing multi-use paths at the intersection of Old Redwood Highway and Wornum Drive. After construction over Corte Madera Creek, the next phase will continue the pathway along Old Redwood Highway to connect to the pedestrian overcrossing in Larkspur and eventually to existing pathways to the south.

Two-Way, Protected Bicycle Path Construction Underway on Sir Francis Drake Flyover

Construction is underway to build a two-way “cycle track” on the flyover off-ramp from westbound I-580 to Andersen Drive and Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. TAM allocated \$1.3 million in funding to add a barrier and improve bicycle access between Andersen Drive, Francisco Boulevard East and the new bicycle and pedestrian path on the upper deck of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. This project is being implemented in partnership with Caltrans, MTC, BATA, and City of San Rafael and is expected to be complete in late summer 2020.



101-580 Direct Connector Stakeholder Working Group



The 101-580 Direct Connector project team is preparing to host the Stakeholder Working Group as a remote meeting in late June or early July. The SWG is comprised of a variety of community interests and members will provide input during the project development process to help select a preferred alternative. Dates are being determined and we will keep the Board and the public informed as details are confirmed.

City of San Rafael Seeks Public Input on Priority Development Areas

As part of the on-going work for San Rafael's General Plan 2040, City staff has received requests for deeper planning efforts in the Canal neighborhood and around the Northgate Mall area. Planning efforts such as these require grant funding. MTC/ABAG has started developing Plan Bay Area 2050 and has asked jurisdictions for letters of interest for new Priority Development Areas (PDA). A designation would bring funding opportunities for community-driven planning efforts.



On May 18, 2020 the City Council received an informational report about an upcoming opportunity to designate priority development areas ([Watch the Meeting](#) | [Read the Staff Report](#)) Now, the City Council wants to hear from you. [Visit the City of San Rafael PDA webpage](#) to learn more, sign-up to attend a virtual meeting and submit comments.

Marin Recovers

TAM staff continue to work remotely in light of the current health order. We are beginning to consider how staff could safely return to work in the office when that time comes. At the County, the website MarinRecovers.org has been launched to provide up-to-date information and guidelines



regarding efforts to reopen economic and community activities in Marin County. TAM has been participating in the Marin Recovers Transportation Task Force as part of the Marin Industry Advisors initiative. The Industry Advisors subgroups are comprised of industry experts, business representatives, residents, public health professionals, educators and local government. The Industry Advisors are developing sector specific guidelines to facilitate a safe reopening of the economy and support businesses, community groups, employees and residents with the reopening process.



Safe Routes to Schools Distance Learning Activities and Links on the TAM Website



As part of the current, but temporary shift to distance learning, TAM has worked with Safe Routes to School (SR2S) program staff to create a SR2S web page (<http://www.tam.ca.gov/sr2s>) specifically for the current shelter-in-place order as a way to get the very latest program information and resources to engage with SR2S programs during COVID-19. The site contains:

- Ongoing planning activities such as Task Force meeting dates, Virtual Walk Audits, Mapping activities (new route maps for walking and biking), and planning for school opening
- Remote learning materials for students K through 8th grades
- Activities and contests for students in Primary, Middle and High School
- Family activities – suggested routes for walking and biking to school as well as local family-friendly rides

SR2S staff is actively contacting local schools offering support to ensure that students have access to the newly developed remote learning materials while planning for the next school year. Additionally, SR2S is proactively working with schools, school districts, administrators, and volunteers with the same goal of providing new curricula and resources with social distancing guidelines for families as they remain active, and to develop recommendations for travelling to and from school based on social distancing once schools re-open.

Marin County and Novato Electric Vehicle Updates

Congratulations to the County of Marin for the recent installation of another 22 electric vehicle charging ports at their Los Gamos campus. TAM's EV Charging Station Rebate program helped fund the project by providing nearly \$60,000 in matching grants. Marin County and its various department teams have been leaders within the county in adopting and promoting EV transportation.



We also want to celebrate the City of Novato's purchase of two new electric bikes for use by its Police Department. The decision to add two new e-bikes to the Police fleet was based on the successful experience they had with their first electric bike purchased last year in 2019. All three e-bikes purchases were assisted by TAM's EV Fleet Rebate program.

Regional

Congestion Pricing Suspended on Bay Bridge



The Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) voted on April 22, 2020 to suspend weekday congestion pricing on the Bay Bridge indefinitely during the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. Vehicle traffic has dropped significantly across all seven state-owned toll bridges in the Bay Area due to the pandemic and the resulting local and state shelter-in-place orders. Traffic on the Bay Bridge specifically has fallen by about half compared to last year since the Bay Area's shelter-in-place order took effect March 17, 2020.

Tolls for two-axle vehicles crossing the bridge will remain at \$6 all day and at all times. Previously, the bridge's congestion pricing had reduced to \$5 from midnight to 5 a.m., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to midnight and raised to \$7 during peak hours from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (*source: NBC Bay Area News*)

State

Marin Sonoma Narrows



MTC has approved the Marin Sonoma Narrows (MSN) B7 project as a regional priority to seek funding from the Senate Bill 1, Solutions for Congested Corridor program. The MSN B7 project is the final segment of the 17-mile MSN program and will construct HOV lanes from North Novato to the Sonoma County line. Letters of support for the MTC prioritization are attached from Senator McGuire and TAM. With this MTC action, the project will be jointly nominated by both MTC and Caltrans. Applications are due in July and awards will be announced in December.

California State Senate

SENATOR MIKE MCGUIRE

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



May 11, 2020

Ms. Therese McMillan, Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale St., Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

RE: Marin Sonoma Narrows Project

Dear Ms. McMillan,

I want to thank you and MTC for partnering with the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), Sonoma County Transportation Authority and Caltrans to close the last six-mile gap of the US 101 Marin Sonoma Narrows (MSN) project, and for your support for SB 1 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) funding for this remaining segment. The MSN B7 project would, once and for all, complete over 50 miles of continuous HOV lanes north of the Golden Gate Bridge through Marin and Sonoma Counties, and will have significant positive impacts for the North Bay.

While it is mentioned in the State's SB1 legislation as an example of an ideal candidate for priority funding, I would like to affirm that the US 101 MSN project addresses all the facets of a multi-modal corridor by:

- Improving mobility in the corridor by adding continuous HOV lanes,
- Improving access to the SMART rail system,
- Constructing Class II bike lanes along parallel frontage road,
- Modernizing highway geometrics to improve highway safety, and
- Leveraging local, state and federal funds to complete the project.

This project has been a priority for the entire North Bay for many years, and we are grateful for MTC's work and support of the US 101 Marin Sonoma Narrows B7 Segment project for the SB1 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program application.

Therese McMillan

May 11, 2020

Page 2

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 916-651-4002.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MIKE MCGUIRE', written in a cursive style.

MIKE MCGUIRE
Senator



May 8, 2020

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Ms. Therese McMillan
Executive Director
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Bay Area Metro Center
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Subject: Marin-Sonoma Narrows - Solutions for Congested Corridor Program
Nomination

Dear Ms. McMillan:

We want to express our gratitude to MTC for nominating the Marin Sonoma Narrows (MSN) Project for Cycle 2 of the Solutions for Congested Corridor Program (SCCP). SCCP funds are critical in completing the funding plan needed to construct the remaining gap of the MSN Project in Marin that will provide 17 miles of carpool lanes and other improvements on U.S. 101.

We understand that there are other candidates in the Bay Area worthy of nomination but we want to emphasize that the MSN Project meets many principles of the SCCP, including:

- Corridor is specifically mentioned in SB 1 Legislation
- Addresses mobility issues in a key congested corridor
- Provides HOV lanes and other multi-modal improvements
- Leverages other funds to complete a full funding plan
- Endorsed by Caltrans

For these reasons, we believe that MTC's nomination is consistent with the intent of the SCCP and would compete statewide.

Thank you again for nominating the MSN Project for SCCP funding. We look forward to working with MTC and Caltrans in developing an application for submittal to the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

Sincerely,

Judy Arnold
TAM Board Chairperson
Marin County Supervisor, Dist. 5

Damon Connolly
TAM Board and MTC Commissioner
Marin County Supervisor, Dist. 1