

# Citizens' Oversight Committee

## Fiscal Year 2004/2005 Annual Report



May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Dear Marin County Residents,

The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) manages Marin's transportation improvement projects made possible by the passage of Measure A sales tax. The TAM Board includes representatives from each city and town in Marin County, plus the five members of the Marin County Board of Supervisors.

### History of Measure A

Funding was needed to complete much needed transportation projects. To improve transportation in Marin, hundreds of Marin residents, including elected officials, planners and the public met in public forums to decide how to address a wide range of transportation needs. In 2003, participants created a "Transportation Vision" that could be funded by a ½-cent sales tax. A detailed Expenditure Plan was also created to guide exactly how the money was to be spent.

Measure A was approved by a 71.2% margin on the November 2, 2004 ballot. Collection of the ½-cent sales tax began on April 1, 2005, and the first payment of \$1,140,961 was received by TAM in June 2005.

### The Citizens' Oversight Committee

The Measure A Expenditure Plan mandated the formation of the Citizens' Oversight Committee. The purpose of the Citizens' Oversight Committee is to provide an independent review that TAM's Measure A expenditures were in accordance with the Expenditure Plan. The Oversight Committee is to report their findings annually to the public. This document is the first of these reports.

Measure A funds have been designated to implement four Strategies. The goal of these Strategies is to improve mobility and reduce local congestion for everyone who lives or works in Marin County by providing a variety of high quality transportation options designed to meet local needs.

The four Strategies, the proportion of the Measure A funds to be expended for each, and the revenue allocation for Fiscal Year 2004/2005 are laid out in Table 1 below:

Table 1

Implementation Strategy	Proportion of Measure A Funds*	Total Measure A Allocation	FY 04/05 Revenue Allocation
1. Develop a seamless local bus transit system that improves mobility and serves community needs, including special transit for seniors and the disabled (paratransit services).	55.0%	\$182,380,000	\$566,300
2. Fully fund and ensure the accelerated completion of the Highway 101 Carpool Lane Gap Closure Project through San Rafael.	7.5%	\$24,870,000	\$77,200
3. Maintain, improve, and manage Marin County's local transportation infrastructure, including roads, bikeways, sidewalks, and pathways.	26.5%	\$87,870,000	\$272,900
4. Reduce school related congestion and provide safer access to schools.	11.0%	\$36,480,000	\$113,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$331,600,000</b>	<b>\$1,029,700</b>

\*After required "off-the-top" deductions, such as administrative costs (no more than 5%) and debt service reserve.

**Table 2. Fiscal Year 2004/2005 Measure A Revenue and Expenditures at a Glance**

	Debt Expense	Reserve	Admin: Sal/Ben	Admin: Other	Strategy 1	Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4	TOTAL
Revenue	\$3,500,000	\$57,048	\$10,839	\$43,357	\$566,345	\$77,229	\$272,876	\$113,269	\$4,640,961
Expense	-	-	-	-	\$3,462,000	-	-	-	\$3,462,000

**Validation of the TAM Revenue and Expenditures**

The members of the Citizens’ Oversight Committee reviewed the *TAM Basic Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2004/2005 (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)* and the *Measure A Revenue and Expenditure Summary – FY2004/2005*. The Committee verified that all Measure A funds had been properly administered in accordance with the terms of Measure A Expenditure Plan for the reporting period. Measure A funds transactions were limited to a \$3,500,000 loan from the County of Marin and receipt of the first sales tax revenue of \$1,140,961. The only expenditures were for maintaining current operations for Strategy 1; Local Bus transit, Rural Bus transit, and Special Transit for Seniors and Disabled. The loan was needed in order to keep the contract bus operations going while awaiting the initial sales tax revenue payment. Fund allocations and expenditures are shown in Table 2.

Because spending for Measure A had not begun until late Fiscal Year 2004/2005, the Citizens’ Oversight Committee determined that a letter format was appropriate to report the limited expenditure activity during Fiscal Year 2004/2005. Subsequent annual reports will include more expenditure details as the implementation of Measure A Strategies gains momentum in future years.

**Current Members of the Citizens’ Oversight Committee**

Representing	Member	Alternate
Northern Marin Planning Area	Vacant	Vacant
Central Marin Planning Area	Barbara George	Vacant
Ross Valley Planning Area	Lori Lopin	William Petrocelli
Southern Marin Planning Area	Robert Burton	Walter Strakosch
West Marin Planning Area	Timothy Stanton	Scott Tye
Advocacy Group Representing Bicyclists & Pedestrians	Patrick Seidler	Susie Weaver
Environmental Organizations	Don Wilhelm	Vacant
School Districts	Gina Palmo Feiner	Annan Paterson
Taxpayer Group	Ray Hirsch	Mike Cunningham
League of Women Voters	Ann Batman	Sue Beittel
Marin County Paratransit Coordinating Council	Allan Bortel	Jane Scurich
Major Marin Employers	Vacant	Vacant
Business Organizations	Vacant	Vacant

If you would be interested in serving on the Citizens’ Oversight Committee, please visit the TAM website listed below.

**Find Out More About TAM**

More information about TAM and its transportation projects and programs, including the Basic Financial Statements, can be found on the TAM website: [www.tam.ca.gov](http://www.tam.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

The Members of the Citizens’ Oversight Committee