

# Citizens' Oversight Committee

## *Transportation Authority of Marin*



***Fiscal Year 2010-2011***  
***July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011***  
***Seventh Annual Report***

# Message from the COC Chairperson



*The Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) of the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) is charged with reviewing financial procedures and expenditure of funds generated by Measure A (the 20-year, half-cent sales tax) and Measure B (the \$10 vehicle registration fee). The committee*

*consists of volunteers representing geographic areas and interest groups in Marin County. Committee members bring to bear a wide variety of skills in finance, public policy, and transportation management. Committee membership consists of both recent appointees who bring fresh ideas to the group and long standing members with six years of membership who provide continuity to our efforts.*

*During this past fiscal year, the COC reviewed TAM's Measure A related expenditures, making sure that they are in accordance with the requirements of the Measure A Expenditure Plan. The COC helped the TAM Board develop and adopt the Measure A Compliance Audit Policy. This Compliance Audit Policy verifies that recipients of Measure A funds manage these expenditures properly. The COC also helped formulate the Measure B Expenditure Plan. The TAM Board asked the COC to take on the oversight role for the \$10 vehicle registration fee revenue as well.*

*The COC has also been asked by the TAM Board and staff to provide its input into the longer-term Regional Transportation Plan for the Bay Area, the funding allocation to SMART (Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit), the High Occupancy Toll lane study along the Highway 101 corridor, and various other important transportation projects. The COC welcomes the opportunity to be a voice for the public in Marin's important, transportation-related discussions and decisions.*

*The COC has been meeting regularly since August 2005. All meetings are open to the public, and meeting agendas and materials are posted on TAM's website: [www.tam.ca.gov](http://www.tam.ca.gov). The COC welcomes new members to join this committee. If you would like to serve on the COC, please call (415) 226-0815 for more information.*

*Lastly, I want to thank committee members for their time and effort in helping TAM to achieve the goals set out by the voters of Marin.*

***Mr. Don Wilhelm, a resident of Novato, representing environmental organizations, has been serving as the COC Chairperson since 2007.***

# Passage of Measure B, COC’s New Role

Peter Pelham, Executive Vice President of the Bank of Marin and COC’s representative for Major Marin Employers, was the Business Representative on the Expenditure Plan Advisory Committee for Measure B. The knowledge and understanding of the transportation projects/programs Mr. Pelham obtained while serving on the COC made him a key contributor to the Measure B Expenditure Plan development and approval process. With strong support for the much needed transportation projects/programs around the County, Measure B, the \$10 vehicle registration fee increase, passed successfully with a 63% approval rate in November 2010.

*“At Bank of Marin, we have a responsibility to the community, our customers, and our employees. We believe active participation in transportation issues is critical and plays an important role in attracting talented employees to our company. We are open to collaborating with other Marin employers on transportation options, such as van pooling.”*



**Carpool to Work**

Roughly \$2 million is expected from the Measure B Vehicle Registration Fee annually. Revenue collected from Measure B will be distributed to the following critical transportation projects/ programs by the formula specified in the Measure B Expenditure Plan.

## Measure B Funding Distribution Table

Element	Description of Element	Distribution %
Element 1a	Maintain Marin County’s local streets for all users	35%
Element 1b	Maintain Class I bicycle and pedestrian pathways	5%
Element 2	Improve transit for seniors and people with disabilities	35%
Element 3	Reduce congestion and pollution	25%

# Measure A Strategy Highlights

## Strategy 1: Local Bus Transit System

Throughout the years, public transit has been the preferred local travel alternative in Marin. Voters reaffirmed their support for transit by allocating more than half of the sales tax revenue from Measure A to Marin Transit, the local transit provider. Marin Transit manages five contracts that provide local fixed-route bus and shuttle services, rural transit services (the West Marin Stage), the Muir Woods Shuttle, Dial-A-Ride in Novato, and special needs transportation services. Special needs services include paratransit for disabled residents under the Americans with Disabilities Act, travel training for seniors and developmentally disabled adults, and ensuring the availability of accessible taxis. Dedicated local funding through the sales tax allows Marin Transit to leverage more state and federal funds for its riders. TAM allocated \$9.2 million in transportation sales tax revenue to Marin Transit in FY2010-11 to support local transit operations and capital programs. For more information about the services Marin Transit provides and to plan your trip, please visit: [www.marintransit.org](http://www.marintransit.org).



**Marin Transit's New Route 222**  
(Serves Marin City/Transit hub, Strawberry/  
Safeway, and Greenbrae/Marin General Hospital)

# Measure A Strategy Highlights

## *Marin Transit FY2010-2011 Highlights*

- Carried 3.31 million passengers in 2010.
- Conducted a complete ridership count of all of its fixed-route services (local service operated by Golden Gate Transit, Marin Transit shuttles, and the West Marin Stage) to obtain accurate ridership data for service planning analyses.
- Conducted on-board passenger surveys on all fixed-route services in Novato and the Novato Dial-A-Ride for the Novato Needs Assessment.
- Increased issuance of Youth Passes by 50% from 2008/09 to 2009/10 school years, with approximately 88% of the passes going to students who qualify for the free and reduced price school lunch programs.
- Created a Mobility Management Center and continued to cultivate partnerships to effectively address transportation issues of older adults, the disabled, and low-income residents.
- Continued to operate the Muir Woods Shuttle under a three-year funding agreement with the U.S. National Park Service for service from the first weekend in May through the end of September, and carried 47,572 riders in the 2011 season.
- Completed two technology projects: vehicle-based mobile data terminals that improve scheduling and dispatch of paratransit services and a data management system for monitoring operations, grants, and administration.
- Received a Federal State of Good Repair grant with Measure A matching funds, which will enable the agency to upgrade passenger information signage and amenities at bus stops throughout the county over the next two years.



# Measure A Strategy Highlights

*"It is not just a highway project. It's a highway project; it's a rail project; it's a bicycle project; it's a pedestrian project; and it's a community improvement project for those who lived and endured the noise of this freeway before these new specialized soundwall treatments were put in here."*

— **Steve Kinsey, Marin County Board of Supervisors**

*"This was such a refreshing project because it was really a high performing team. Nothing kept this team from coming together and looking at the ways of overcoming the challenges, keeping the project moving..."*

— **Mike Ghilotti, Ghilotti Brothers Construction**

*"It's a great honor to be here. It's also a great honor to be heard. We don't hear the white noise, the beach anymore, due to the number of different applications that the State and County implemented. It has quieted the area significantly and we thank you all for that!"*

— **Patrick Murphy, Lincoln-San Rafael Hill Neighborhood Association**

*"The opening of the continuous carpool lane on Highway 101 saved me more than 15 minutes every morning on my commute. My friend and I can zip through Marin by using the carpool lane on our way to the City..."*

— **Eric Wang, Novato Resident**



**Highway 101 Gap Closure Segment 4 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, March 11, 2011**

# Measure A Strategy Highlights

## Strategy 2: Highway 101 Gap Closure Carpool Lane Project



**Highway 101 Gap Closure Segment 4 Groundbreaking Ceremony, September 12, 2007**

The continuous carpool lane in Marin County along the 101 corridor was made possible through the dedication of more than \$25 million of Measure A transportation sales tax revenue. The construction of Segment 4 over Puerto Suello Hill (San Rafael) was completed in December 2010 with the ribbon cutting ceremony taking place on March 11, 2011, marking the completion of the Highway 101 Gap Closure Project. The eight-year project closed the gap between the existing carpool lanes by building two 4.5-mile carpool lanes, one northbound and one southbound.

Other features of the project included:

- an overlay of the entire 4.5-mile segment
- a new ramp structure connecting southbound US 101 to eastbound I-580
- a soundwall built using new techniques that were the first in the Bay Area
- a 1.3 mile exemplary Class 1 bicycle/ pedestrian multi-use path

Now, everyone traveling in and through Marin County using this vital corridor enjoys a reduction in congestion and travel time. The beautiful multi-use path also makes biking and walking in the neighborhood a more attractive travel option.

# Measure A Strategy Highlights

## Strategy 3: Local Transportation

Strategy 3 is dedicated to the ongoing needs of our local road system, which are critical to Marin County navigation. Funding continues to be committed to major and local infrastructure projects that accommodate vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic needs.

**Miller Avenue in Mill Valley:** The Design Advisory Committee (DAC), consisting of local community leaders in the fields of landscape architecture, urban planning, construction, and real estate, is nearing completion of the Miller Avenue Streetscape Plan, which is anticipated to be finalized in 2012. Detailed preliminary engineering and bid documents will be developed after approval of the Streetscape Plan. It is anticipated that construction will be phased in for the two-mile project area over a two–three year period.

**Novato Boulevard in Novato:** The City of Novato continues its work on Novato Boulevard, which includes three segments of improvements. The environmental phase for Segment 1 (Diablo Avenue to Grant Avenue) continues to move forward, with a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) anticipated in 2011. Segment 2 (Grant Avenue to Eucalyptus Avenue) is near completion.

**Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in Marin County:** The County of Marin is moving forward in a broad and complex technical effort to improve Sir Francis Drake Boulevard through Samuel P. Taylor Park. The final EIR was reviewed and certified by the Board of Supervisors in May 2011 and construction is scheduled to start in July 2012.



*Measure A Road Project in Action*



# Measure A Strategy Highlights

*Completed Major Roads Projects: The City of San Rafael's 4th Street/West End Village Revitalization Project (2009); Novato Boulevard Segment 3 – Eucalyptus Avenue to San Marin Drive (2009)*

For the local roads category, Measure A sales tax funds are distributed on an annual basis to each city, town, and the county, calculated from a formula based on a 50/50 split derived by population and miles of roads maintained. Funds from this category can be used for local street and road projects, local transit projects, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

## Local Transportation Infrastructure – Local Roads

	FY2010-11 Allocation	Total to Date
Belvedere	\$21,354	\$153,951
Corte Madera	\$73,457	\$493,416
Fairfax	\$58,296	\$422,702
Larkspur	\$0	\$602,170
Mill Valley	\$118,940	\$865,415
Novato	\$385,007	\$2,628,522
Ross	\$0	\$224,354
San Anselmo	\$94,170	\$687,926
San Rafael	\$414,048	\$2,984,825
Sausalito	\$59,150	\$419,963
Tiburon	\$71,962	\$506,708
Marin County	\$733,713	\$5,181,357
Total	\$2,030,097	\$15,171,309

# Measure A Strategy Highlights



## Crossing Guards

Measure A continues to provide funding for trained school crossing guards at over 75 locations throughout Marin County. The program continued summer school service in 2010 to over 15 locations. All existing sites as well as several additional locations recommended by local public works directors were evaluated during the spring of 2010. Beginning in August 2010, crossing guards were stationed at over 20 new sites.

***Meet Jeff James, a heroic crossing guard who prevented a little boy from being hit by an SUV by diving in front of the moving car! Jeff helped despite the consequences of the fall to his own body and health. "You would've done the same thing," said Jeff. He said he would do it again if it's ever needed!***



# Measure A Strategy Highlights

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

### Safe Routes to Schools

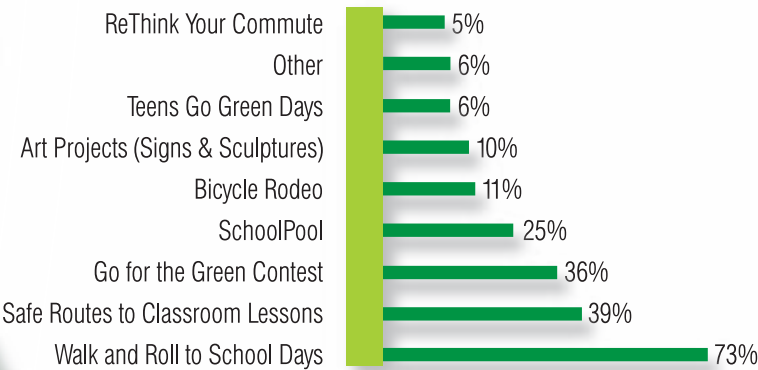
Building on the success of the Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program that started in Marin County in 2000, with the infusion of Measure A funding, TAM'S SR2S program continues to make great progress in FY2010-11.

Safe Routes to Schools Program coordinators teamed up with students at over 50 elementary, middle, and high schools. Pedestrian and bicycle safety courses were taught in concert with the the local police departments in various

schools. Several middle and high schools formed "Teens Go Green" clubs, which focus on the environmental benefits associated with the program.

Marin's Safe Routes to Schools Program won the 2010 Grand Award for Excellence in Motion from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, for "its excellent school education program that promotes walking and bicycling to schools in Marin"!

#### Did you or your child(ren) participate in any of these programs during the past school year?



NOTE: The majority of respondents (75%) were parents of elementary-age children. This likely explains the low response rate for the Teens Go Green Days.

Source: 2011 Parent Survey, Question #6.

# Measure A Strategy Highlights

## *Safe Pathways to School Projects*

Safety is the major concern of parents when their children walk or bike to school. Measure A funds are making it possible for the students in Marin who choose to walk/bike to schools to have a safe and pleasant experience. In FY2010-11, \$2.04 million in Measure A funds were allocated to different school locations to further improve the safe access to schools.

<b>SCHOOLS</b>	<b>FY2010-11</b>
Hill Middle	\$250,000
Ross, Wade T., Branson and St. Anselm's	\$250,000
Strawberry Point	\$62,000
Various School Locations in Mill Valley	\$41,000
Venetia Valley	\$50,000
Edna McGuire	\$250,000
Tomaes Elementary and Tomaes High	\$250,000
Bayside Elementary & Willow Creek	\$52,000
Wade Thomas Elementary School	\$150,000
Marin and New Village Schools	\$42,000
Lagunitas & San Geronimo	\$158,000
Marin Country Day, Marin Montessori and La Perouse	\$244,000
Miller Creek School	\$245,000
<b>Total Awarded</b>	<b>\$2,044,000</b>

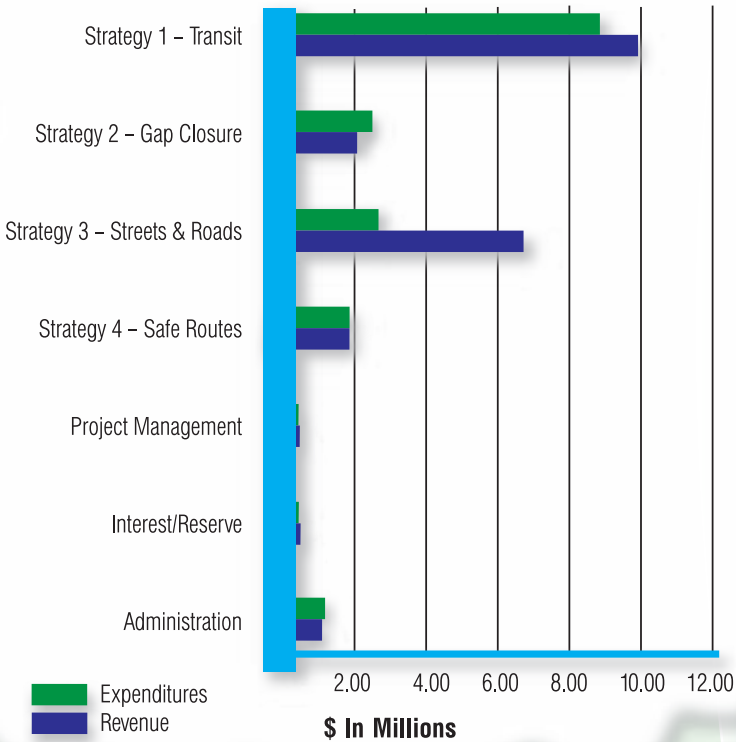




# Measure A Strategy Highlights

## *FY2010-11 Audit Result and COC Review*

### FY2010-11 Measure A Revenue and Expenditures



TAM's financial statements for FY2010-11, covering the period from July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011, were audited by the independent audit firm, Moss, Levy & Hartzheim, LLP. For another year, TAM received an unqualified opinion, also known as a clean opinion, meaning that the financial statements appear to be presented fairly with no problems. The COC has reviewed the audited FY2010-11 Financial Statements and verified that Measure A funds had been properly administered in accordance with the terms of the Measure A Expenditure Plan and the Strategic Plan for the reporting period. The audit also confirmed that TAM has been in compliance with the 5% administration cap policy.

TAM also completed its first round of Measure A compliance audits for Measure A funds disbursed to fund recipients in and prior to FY2010-11. The purpose of the compliance audit is to confirm that all Measure A funds were spent according to the requirements of the Measure A Expenditure Plan and the fund agreements. Seven Measure A fund recipients were selected for this effort. Results of the compliance audits, along with TAM's FY2010-11 Financial Statements, are available at TAM's website: [www.tam.ca.gov](http://www.tam.ca.gov) or by calling (415) 226-0815.

# Meet Your TAM COC Representative

## *Ann Batman, resident of Greenbrae, representing the League of Women Voters*



*I came to Marin County in 1969 with my husband, Dick, and my two daughters, Dayle and Denise, and originally settled in the Glenwood area of San Rafael. We were immediately drawn into the community through school, work, and my participation in the League of Women Voters (LWV). Through the LWV I developed skills that served me well when I was appointed to several commissions in San Rafael including eight years on the San Rafael Planning*

*Commission. Now I continue to be involved with local issues such as transportation and have added the Marin History Museum to my volunteer activities.*

**Q: How long have you been serving on the COC?**

**A:** *I have been serving on the COC for more than six years and just started my third term (4-year) this June.*

**Q: What brought you to the COC and made you stay?**

**A:** *The League of Women Voters strongly supported all the campaigns for the half-cent transportation sales tax. It is our strong belief that an effective transportation system is essential if Marin expects to continue to be a strong and vital community.*

*After the passage of Measure A, the Citizens' Oversight Committee was*

*created by TAM's governing board, with the assistance of the League of Women Voters, to oversee the expenditure of the funds created by Measure A. The League is always looking for ways to strengthen public participation in government and feels such oversight committees are vital.*

*Because of the significant role we played during the campaigns, LWV was awarded a permanent seat on the COC. Sue Beittel, my alternate, and I were very pleased to be appointed to the COC in 2005. Every meeting is an adventure with great transportation related discussions among the dedicated committee members. We are pleased to serve the community on this committee.*

**Q: Do you think the COC has made a difference in addressing transportation issues of Marin and the transportation future?**

**A:** *The COC was originally created to review all expenditures of TAM related to Measure A, the half-cent transportation sales tax. After the passage of Measure B, the \$10 vehicle registration fee, oversight of these expenditures was added to the COC's responsibilities. This is the most important role of the committee. Over the years, however, the COC has also become the platform for TAM to reach out to the public on various transportation issues, such as High*

*Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes and the Regional Transportation Plan. The COC definitely plays a critical role in addressing the current and future transportation issues of the County.*

**Q: What do you value the most about the COC?**

**A:** *The dedication and support to transportation related issues in the County from all my colleagues on the COC; the very informative discussions we always have during meetings; the value the COC adds to making our government process more transparent and accessible to the public; and the wonderful work and support the TAM staff provides.*



***At a Citizens' Oversight Committee Meeting***

# Current COC Members:

## Members/Alternates

Barbara George/Joy Dahlgren  
Gilda Selchau/Paul Roye  
Robert Burton/Vacant  
V-Anne Chernock/Vacant  
Scott Tye/Doris Pareas  
Vacant/Vacant  
Don Wilhelm/Nancy Okada  
Ann Batman/Sue Beittel  
Peter Pelham/Monique Broussard  
Heather McPhail Sridharan/Vacant  
Ray Hirsch/Vacant  
Allan Bortel/Rocky Birdsey

## Representing

Central Marin Planning Area  
Ross Valley Planning Area  
Southern Marin Planning Area  
Northern Marin Planning Area  
West Marin Planning Area  
Bicyclist & Pedestrian Groups  
Environmental Organizations  
League of Women Voters  
Major Marin Employers  
School Districts  
Taxpayer Groups  
Marin County Paratransit  
Coordinating Council



Transportation Authority of Marin  
750 Lindero Street, Suite 200  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
(415) 226-0815  
[www.tam.ca.gov](http://www.tam.ca.gov)

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