



## Citizens' Oversight Committee

## Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Annual Report

Published June 2007



# ***Making the Most of Marin County Transportation Dollars***

**To: Marin County Residents**  
**From: Citizens' Oversight Committee**  
**Transportation Authority of Marin**  
**Subject: Fiscal Year 2005-2006 ending June 30, 2006**  
**Annual Report**

## **The Transportation Authority of Marin**

The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) was created to administer the half-cent Marin County Transportation Sales Tax, approved by Marin voters in November 2004 as Measure A. TAM has also been designated as the Marin County Congestion Management Agency (CMA). The agency is responsible for transportation programs and projects in Marin County. The TAM Board includes elected officials from each city and town, plus the five members of the Marin County Board of Supervisors.

## **History of Measure A**

To address funding needed to support local transit, safe access to schools, Highway 101, and local infrastructure, Marin voters approved the half-cent transportation sales tax by a 71.2% margin on the November 2, 2004 Ballot. The actual collection of sales tax revenue started on April 1, 2005, and the first check was received from the State Board of Equalization in June 2005.

## **The Citizens' Oversight Committee**

The Measure A Expenditure Plan mandates the formation of a Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC). The purpose of the COC is to provide an independent review that Measure A expenditures are spent in accordance with the Expenditure Plan. COC reports its findings annually to the public. This document is the second of these reports.

## **FY2005-2006 Measure A Financial Highlights**

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.

In 2006, TAM adopted its first Strategic Plan. The 2006 Measure A Strategic Plan provides the best understanding at the time of when revenue will be available and how that revenue will be spent. The assignment of dollars to programs and projects is a commitment to sponsors that funds will be available. Commitments to individual projects and programs are then secured through actual allocation actions by the TAM Board. Even though TAM is not required to allocate the exact percentage to each strategy each year, over the 20-year life of the sales tax, each strategy should receive its share as stated in the Expenditure Plan.

Table 1 illustrates the revenues that were distributed to each strategy per the percentage defined by the Expenditure Plan, after taking the required “off-the-top” reduction, such as 5% for administration and program management cost, and 5% reserve, for FY2005-2006. Due to immediate funding needs and the short project life of Strategy 2, funding assigned to this strategy will occur early in the program and will include debt financing costs that will enable borrowing against future sales tax revenues.

**Table 1: FY2005-2006 Measure A Cash Revenue Received**

Implementation Strategy	% Of Measure A Funds	20-Year Measure A Revenue	FY2005-06 Revenue
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	9,578,346
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	1,958,333
3. Maintain, improve, and manage Marin County’s local transportation infrastructure, including roads, bikeways, sidewalks, and pathways.	26.5%	87,870,000	4,615,021
4. Reduce school related congestion and provide safer access to schools.	11.0%	36,480,000	1,915,669
TOTAL	100%	\$331,600,000	\$18,067,369

Table 2 shows a summary of the actual Audited Revenue and Expenditures for Measure A activities for FY2005-2006. Revenue includes Measure A revenue for FY2005-2006 on modified accrual basis as well as interest income from unspent Measure A funds. “Reserves” is the 5% reserve TAM set aside to prepare for unforeseen economic downturns or funding cuts.

The “Administration—Salaries & Benefits” category reflects all staff costs assigned for daily Measure A administration, financial, and program management activities. The “Administration—Other” category includes other administration needs besides staff costs, such as office lease, office supplies, printing, web hosting, etc. The “Professional Service—Program Management” category reflects the consultant services for Measure A program management. “Other Professional Services” including consultant services such as IT support, Human Resources support, Legal Counsel, etc. All the above categories are supported by the 1% administration and 4% program management revenues.

“Measure A Project Management” is the work performed by TAM staff and consultants to plan and manage specific Measure A projects for each strategy. This includes financial planning as well as direct design management, construction management oversight, or program management such as managing our Crossing Guards.

No expenditures occurred in FY2005-2006 for the Major Roads Substrategy because time was needed to complete initial screening and planning for these major capital projects. The Local Roads Substrategy also had no costs in FY2005-2006 since all cities and the County agreed to postpone allocations until one full year of sales taxes were collected.

Strategy 4, Safe Routes to School, expenditures were lower than expected because of the time it took screening candidate locations and implementing the program. Expenditures for Safe Pathways Substrategy were lower than expected because of the up-front planning time required to develop travel plans around school sites.

Time needed to plan, design and construct projects results in a mismatch between revenues and expenditures for the year. As a result, TAM has a total balance of \$9.7 Million in its Measure A account as of June 30, 2006. However, all those funds are committed to various vital transportation programs and projects in the county. It’s expected the cash balance will be significantly reduced once projects start to ramp up.

**Table 2: Summary of FY2005-2006 Measure A  
Audited Revenue and Expenditures**

REVENUE	
Sales Tax	20,062,713
Interest	145,218
Total Revenue	\$20,207,931
EXPENDITURES	
Reserves	1,003,136
Administration - Salaries & Benefits	468,473
Administration – Other	75,305
Professional Service - Program Management	427,965
Other Professional Services	50,633
Measure A Project Management	697,211
Allocation to Strategies	
Strategy 1 - Transit	5,976,000
Strategy 2 - Gap Closure	1,350,000
Strategy 3 - Streets & Roads	0
Strategy 4 - Safe Routes	412,280
Total Expenditures	\$10,461,003

## Focus on the Future



The \$19.9 billion Transportation Infrastructure Bond promises tremendous benefits for the Bay Area. TAM, together with Sonoma County Transportation Authority received \$258 million in commitments from the California Transportation Commission when they adopted the first element of funding, the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account, or CMIA, on February 28, 2007. Marin will

benefit from \$20 million in funds for widening the westbound 580 to the northbound 101 connector and beginning the carpool lane extension and the safety improvements in the Marin/Sonoma Narrows. The fact that Marin is a self-help county, with its own half-cent sales tax supporting transportation needs, definitely helped TAM staff successfully leverage this new state fund source.

### **Key Measure A Supported Project Activities in 2007:**

- The Highway 101 Gap Closure: The last one plus mile phase of Highway 101 carpool lane over Puerto Suello Hill will begin construction in Summer 2007. The project includes a Class I bike/pedestrian path from the top of Puerto Suello Hill down to Mission Avenue in San Rafael and sound-absorbing soundwalls. It's expected to be complete in early 2009.
- Major Road Projects: Various major Strategy 3 capital projects will ramp up in the coming year, including project work on the West End of 4th Street in San Rafael, and paving work on Novato Boulevard in Novato.
- Safe Routes to School (SR2S):The SR2S program will continue to use contests and promotional materials to educate students on alternative ways of getting to school safely other than driving or be driven.
- Crossing Guard Program: This program is a valuable local safety effort and among the first in the Bay Area. The goal of this program is to promote biking and walking and reduce the need for students to be driven to school.
- Safe Pathways to School: Safe Pathways is the capital improvement element of the SR2S program. It provides Measure A funds for projects identified in the Safe Routes Plans developed. With enough plans in place and funds reserved, a call for project will be issued in early 2007.
- Transit service will continue to be strongly supported by local sales tax.

## Validation of Measure A Revenues and Expenditures

The members of the COC reviewed the TAM Basic Financial Statements for FY2005-2006 (July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006). The Committee 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.

## Acknowledgement

Members of the COC wish to thank TAM Staff members for their efforts and cooperation in helping to produce this Annual Report and their efforts to effectively manage and administer Measure A funds in an appropriate and cost-effective fashion.

## Further Information

The complete Expenditure Plan, Strategic Plan, the COC FY2005-06 Annual Report and TAM's FY2005-06 Basic Financial Statements are available on TAM's website, [www.tam.ca.gov](http://www.tam.ca.gov). Copies of TAM's 2006 Annual Report, are also available at the TAM Office at 70 San Pablo Ave, San Rafael, CA 94901, telephone (415)507-2680.



# FY2005-2006 COC Member and TAM Staff List

Members	Representing
Vacant	Northern Marin Planning Area
Barbara George	Central Marin Planning Area
Lori Lopin	Ross Valley Planning Area
Robert Burton	Southern Marin Planning Area
Patrick Seidler	Bicyclists & Pedestrians Group
Don Wilhelm	Environmental Organizations
Gina Palmo Feiner	School Districts
Ray Hirsch	Taxpayer Groups
Ann Batman	League of Women Voters
Timothy Stanton	West Marin Planning Area
Allan Bortel	Marin County Paratransit Coordinating Council
Vacant	Major Marin Employers

Alternates	Representing
Bernard Meyers	Northern Marin Planning Area
Vacant	Central Marin Planning Area
William Petrocelli	Ross Valley Planning Area
Walter Strakosch	Southern Marin Planning Area
Susie Weaver	Bicyclists & Pedestrians Group
Raphael Durr	Environmental Organizations
Annan Paterson	School Districts
Mike Cunningham	Taxpayer Groups
Sue Beittel	League of Women Voters
Scott Tye	West Marin Planning Area
Jane Scurich	Marin County Paratransit Coordinating Council
Vacant	Major Marin Employers

TAM Staff	Title
Dianne Steinhauser	Executive Director
Denise Merleno	Executive Assistant
David Chan	Manager of Programming and Legislation
Li Zhang	Manager of Finance and Administration
Eric Schatmeier	Manager of Planning
Bill Gamlen	Manager of Project Delivery
Bill Whitney	Senior Civil Engineer
Carey Lando	Senior Transportation Planner
Tho Do	Associate Civil Engineer

