



December 9, 2024

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

FROM: Anne Richman, Executive Director

RE: Executive Director's Report – Agenda Item 6 (Discussion)

Local

TAM Clean Fleet Expo Report

On September 12, 2024, TAM hosted the second annual Clean Fleet Expo at the Marin County Fairgrounds. Over 130 people in attendance were able to engage in workshop sessions, ride-alongs, and interact with vendors showcasing the latest in the alternative fuel space. Attendees were asked to complete a post-event survey and nearly 100% of responses rated each of the sessions and panels 5/5. For more information about the Clean Fleet Expo, view the [Event Report](#) on the [Alternative Fuels page](#).



Redwood Bikeshare Ribbon Cutting



TAM, SCTA & Drop Mobility hosted a ribbon cutting event at Petaluma Downtown SMART Station on November 6 to celebrate the launch of the Redwood Bikeshare program now operating in Marin and Sonoma counties. The two-year pilot program, funded by MTC, is being rolled out in phases to include a total of 300 e-bikes in 7 cities along the SMART corridor at roughly 60 hubs for pick-up & drop-off. Currently, there are 165 e-bikes at 37 hubs operating in the cities of Larkspur, San Rafael, Petaluma, Cotati and Rohnert Park, while planned hubs are to be added in Novato and Santa Rosa. Check out the Redwood Bikeshare webpage at redwoodbikeshare.com for details and download the app! The app shows the bike hubs that are ready to ride.

Bellam Boulevard Workshops



TAM and the 101-580 project team hosted another round of community workshops in cooperation with agency and community partners to receive additional community input on concepts to improve pedestrian and bike safety, transit facilities, and vehicle access along the Bellam Boulevard corridor in East San Rafael.



On October 19, TAM and Voces de Canal hosted a booth at the Canal Alliance HQ Grand Opening, “Nuestro Canal, Nuestro Futuro” at 711 Grand Avenue. The event highlighted various projects of interest including Canal Neighborhood Visioning, Canal Alliance programs and services, and Sea Level Rise. The event was attended by approximately 180 participants and festivities included community engagement, art, music, food and prizes.

On November 14, TAM hosted another workshop on Bellam Blvd. corridor concepts at the Marin Health & Wellness Connection Center in San Rafael. The event included a brief presentation followed by an open house with stations to discuss concepts including potential roundabouts and changes to intersections, driveways, turning movements, and sidewalks and bikeways. Approximately 30 residents attended the workshop and provided feedback to the project team.

Marin Commutes New Year Commute Challenge Launch



January 13 through February 23, 2025

Starting January 13, commuters traveling to and from Marin can refresh their routine and earn bonus rewards through Feb 23 while embracing sustainable commuting habits.

The New Year Commute Challenge offers extra perks on top of Marin Commutes' year-round incentives—It's the perfect time to welcome positive change and make your commute count!

Stay tuned for more details and access to our promotional toolkit for the New Year Commute Challenge at: www.marincommutes.org/rewards.

Regional

SMART Full System Closure December 14–15



SMART will temporarily suspend passenger service on December 14–15 to allow for essential Systems Testing in preparation for the opening of the new SMART Petaluma North station. During this time, the entire SMART rail line and all SMART Connect shuttles will be out of service.

The temporary system closure, with advance notice to riders, is considered the most efficient and least disruptive approach, allowing SMART to complete the necessary testing swiftly while minimizing overall service impact.

Please visit the [SMART system closure webpage](https://www.sonomarintrain.org/SystemClosure) for details about the full system closure, train horns during testing, alternate transit routes, Todd Road temporary closure, and the timeline for opening the Petaluma North Station. (<https://www.sonomarintrain.org/SystemClosure>)

Other SMART Updates:

On January 25, at 11am, SMART is hosting a Grand Opening celebration of the new bicycle and pedestrian pathway connecting McInnis Parkway & Smith Ranch Road in San Rafael.

SMART received an \$81 million award from the State of California to extend passenger rail service to Healdsburg matched by \$188 million in other secured/pending Federal, State, Regional and local funds.

State

2025 Active Transportation Program Cycle 7

The Active Transportation Program (ATP) dedicates funding for walking and biking projects to encourage active modes of transportation. ATP includes a state component and a small urban/rural, administered by the California Transportation Commission (CTC), and a regional component, administered by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the Bay Area.

In March 2024, the CTC released a Call for Projects for the 2025 ATP Cycle 7 with an expected \$568 million available for programming. However, in June, Governor Newsom introduced the Budget Act of 2024 that addressed the state budget deficit of \$47 billion by accessing reserves and reducing targeted spending, including a \$400 million reduction for ATP Cycle 7. The \$400 million reduction left only \$168 million available for programming for ATP Cycle 7.



By the deadline of June 17, 2024, the CTC received 277 project applications requesting \$2.5 billion in funds for ATP Cycle 7, which is about 15 times more than the available amount of \$168.7 million.

Marin jurisdictions submitted three applications, including:

Agency	Project Name	Requested	Score
Larkspur	Redwood Highway Westside Active Transportation, Last Mile, & Gap Closure Project	\$3.499 m	82.5
Mill Valley	Safe Routes to Schools/Safe Routes for Seniors Active Transportation Gap Closure Project	\$3.499 m	77.5
San Rafael	Downtown San Rafael North - South Greenway Gap Closure Project	\$4.355 m	87

On November 1, 2024, CTC staff released its recommendations that fund only nine (9) projects for \$84.35 million from the state component and four (4) projects for \$16.87 million from the small urban/rural component. The lowest score among the recommended projects was 96 points. San Rafael’s project received the highest score of 87 among Marin jurisdictions, which was not funded in ATP 7 but would have been highly competitive in previous cycles without the state budget deficit.

The three Marin applications are now being reviewed by MTC for the regional component. MTC has \$14.5 million available for programming in the regional component. Under a normal cycle without the state budget deficit, MTC would have approximately \$50 million for programming. MTC staff’s recommended projects for ATP Cycle 7 will be released on January 2, 2025.

Sustainable, Climate-Resilient Transportation Project Planning Grants



On October 24, 2024, Caltrans announced a planning grant for sustainable, climate-resilient transportation projects that will reduce planet warming pollution, facilitate transit use and help underserved communities better withstand effects of climate change. The grant, called Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants (STPG), will award approximately \$34 million in annual funding to support regional sustainable communities’ strategies and

ultimately achieve the state’s greenhouse gas reduction targets, while enhancing safety and transit across California’s transportation network.

The application deadline is January 22, 2025 with awards announced in the summer of 2025.

Application guide and application materials may be found at:

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/transportation-planning/division-of-transportation-planning/regional-and-community-planning/sustainable-transportation-planning-grants>

California Launches Its First Statewide E-Bike Voucher Project



California is launching a new incentive on December 18 that will provide income-eligible Californians up to \$2,000 toward the purchase of a new e-bike. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) designed the e-bike project in collaboration with interested parties through an extensive public process.

The program will start to [accept applications](#) on the website at 6 p.m. on December 18 and will be processed in the order received until vouchers are exhausted. Eligible applicants will be notified of the receipt of the voucher, which can then be used at [participating retailers](#).

Federal

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)



Three years into the five-year plan of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), a significant portion of its funding remains untapped, raising questions about the future of President Biden's signature infrastructure initiative. With a new administration preparing to take office, the scramble is on to allocate and spend the remaining billions before the clock runs out.

Despite significant progress, a recent White House fact sheet revealed that \$568 billion, representing 47% of the IIJA's total funding, has yet to be announced for specific projects. This revelation comes amidst concerns that the incoming administration may seek to dismantle or redirect funds away from key priorities outlined in the IIJA. While the IIJA enjoyed bipartisan support during its passage, experts suggest that funding for public transportation, Amtrak, high-speed rail, and electric vehicles could be at risk under the new administration. However, scaling back IIJA funding entirely may prove politically challenging, given that many Republican-leaning states and districts have benefited from the law's investments.

The \$1.2 trillion IIJA, hailed as a generational investment in the nation's infrastructure, has already made significant strides in advancing over 66,000 construction projects across the country. From roads and bridges to airports and waterways, the IIJA has touched nearly every aspect of the nation's infrastructure landscape.

The Biden administration is working to finalize grant agreements, obligate dollars, and ensure that projects are well underway. Whether the incoming administration will continue to build upon this progress or chart a new course remains a question that will shape the nation's infrastructure landscape for years to come. (*source: contractornews.com*)

TAM in the Community

Date	Meeting	Topic
9.12.2024	Clean Fleet Expo	Alternative Fuels
9.17.2024	Novato Health and Wellness Fair	Marin Commutes/General
9.18.2024	San Rafael Health and Wellness Fair	Marin Commutes/General
9.18.2024	Novato Leadership Institute	General
9.19.2024	Marin 101-580 Community Working Group	Marin 101-580
9.25.2024	North Bay Leadership Council	General
10.1.2024	Marin 101-580 Scoping Meeting	Marin 101-580
10.19.2024	Canal Alliance HQ Grand Opening Community Celebration	Marin 101-580/SLR/General
11.14.2024	Bellam Blvd. Workshop	Marin 101-580/Bellam
11.19.2024	San Rafael Chamber of Commerce	Marin 101-580/Bellam/Bikeshare
12.12.2024	San Rafael Leadership Institute	General/Marin Commutes