

2019 *Annual Report*



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Message from the Executive Director

Thanks to the assistance from multiple partnerships, the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) Board and Staff were able to make significant progress in 2019 on expanding mobility options and projects.

STA continued to focus on project delivery in 2019 and continued to partner with Caltrans District IV to deliver future improvements to the Interstate 80 corridor. The design, right of way, and construction phases for the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange Phase 2 project was funded by a competitive Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Trade Corridor Enhancement Fund (TCEF) grant obtained by STA in partnership with Caltrans. The design phase has been initiated through a Construction Management General Contractor project delivery method with construction scheduled to begin in summer of 2020. STA will be submitting the Solano I-80 Management Lanes project for the next round of competitive SB 1 funds, which if funded, will add ten miles of new lanes on I-80 between Air Base Parkway (Fairfield) and I-505 (Vacaville).

Working with Solano County's transit operators, SolanoExpress completed a series of service changes and expansions with the implementation of the SolanoExpress Red Line operated by Solano County Transit (SolTrans) with connections from the Suisun-Fairfield Amtrak Station and Fairfield Transportation Center to Six Flags, Solano Community College, the SF Bay Ferry in Vallejo and El Cerrito Del Norte BART Station. This completed the two step SolanoExpress service changes originated in 2018 with the roll out of the Blue Line and Green Express by Fairfield and Suisun Transit (FAST), and the Yellow Line by SolTrans.

STA's Solano Mobility Programs added a new GoGoGrandparent concierge service for Older Adults, completed the implementation of the Intercity Taxi Card Program countywide for persons with disabilities, and initiated a new Vehicle Share Program in partnership with eight Solano County based non-profits, with funding provided by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Tribe in partnership with the County of Solano.

For the second year in a row, a lawsuit filed against Regional Measure 3 (RM3) delayed the implementation of various projects and transit services set to receive RM 3 funds in Solano County and throughout the region. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) were focused on developing its most recent Regional Transportation Plan, called Plan Bay Area 2050. Concurrently, STA has been updating its Countywide Transportation Plan for Solano County with a keen focus on new chapters for Equity and Land Use. The Equity Chapter has been guided by an Equity Working Group formed by the STA Board which developed guiding principles, modified the STA's Mission Statement, and drafted the Equity Chapter.

In 2019, a key topic of conversation at the regional and state level was focused on the production of housing, and more specifically, affordable housing. This was highlighted at a Solano County Housing Summit co-hosted by STA and the County of Solano in coordination with the City County Coordinating Council. At the direction of the STA Board, STA expanded its historic focus on integrating both land use and transportation planning and implementation, to proactively tracking state legislation pertaining to new and expanded housing requirements, and to support each city's effort to identify infrastructure funding to support the production of affordable housing. The focus of efforts is on potential affordable housing projects located in priority development areas (PDAs) identified by the seven cities with access to regional ferry, rail and express bus service. These efforts are being piloted through the Solano Housing Investment Partnership (SolHIP) formed by the STA with participation from all seven cities and the County.

Thanks to the leadership, foresight, and support of the STA Board, the STA's overall work program contains over 40 plans, projects, and programs in various stages of implementation. I also want to thank the dedicated, innovative, and hard-working staff of the STA whose efforts continue to achieve multiple milestones. Contained within the STA's 2019 Annual Report are some highlights and milestones from the 2019 calendar year.

Our Mission ...

"To improve the quality of life in Solano County by delivering transportation projects to ensure mobility, travel safety, and economic vitality for all."



Daryl K. Halls

Daryl K. Halls
Executive Director

2019 STA Board



Harry Price,
Chair,
Mayor,
City of Fairfield



Thom Bogue,
Vice Chair
Mayor,
City of Dixon



Ron Rowlett,
Mayor,
City of Vacaville



Bob Sampayan,
Mayor,
City of Vallejo



Elizabeth
Patterson,
Mayor,
City of Benicia



Ronald Kott,
Mayor,
City of Rio Vista



Jim Spring,
Supervisor,
District 3
Solano County



Lori Wilson,
Mayor,
City of Suisun City

2019 Highlights

FIRST QUARTER

Mayor Harry Price and Mayor Thom Bogue were sworn-in for the 2019 term as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively; City of Benicia Council Member Lionel Largaespada, City of Rio Vista Vice Mayor Donald Roos, and City of Suisun City Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Segala were sworn-in as Board Alternates

Solano Mobility Launches Capitol Corridor + Lyft \$20 for 10 promotional campaign to encourage new ridership among Solano County residents and employees

STA Board establishes Equity Working Group to guide the STA's first ever Transportation Equity Chapter of the Solano Comprehensive Transportation Plan

The Intercity Taxi Card Program for ADA certified ambulatory and non-ambulatory riders expands to the Cities of Dixon and Rio Vista

STA Board Members met with state legislators and agency directors in Sacramento to identify funding sources for Solano County transportation priorities

SECOND QUARTER

The Intercity Taxi Card Program expands to the Cities of Fairfield and Suisun City

Construction of new bus stops at SR 37/Fairgrounds Interchange adjacent to Six Flags to support new Solano Express Red Line

Associated Students of Solano College vote to extend free transit rides on SolanoExpress, Solano County Transit (SolTrans), Fairfield and Suisun Transit (FAST and Vacaville City Coach for ten years

Celebrated National Bike to School Day with 28 schools and more than 1,650 participating students throughout Solano County's 7 cities and 7 school districts

Celebrated the 25th Annual Regional Bike to Work Day, hosting 11 energizer stations with 275 bicyclist participants

Launched Solano Older Adults Medical Trip Concierge Program in partnership with GoGoGrandparent

STA Board Members met with federal legislators and agency directors in Washington DC to identify funding opportunities for Solano County and advocacy for priority transportation projects

THIRD QUARTER

Launched SolanoExpress Red Line completing Phase II of the system wide consolidation to simplify and improve service

The Intercity Taxi Card Program expands to the City of Vacaville, completing a countywide transition from old Taxi Scripts to the PEX Card system

More than 600 people visited the SR2S and Solano Mobility booth at the Fairfield Tomato Festival

Unveiled two new wheelchair accessible vans, donated by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, to be used for the Solano Mobility Vehicle Share Program

SR2S Program hosted countywide pedestrian safety meeting "Let's Keep Solano Kids Street Safe" and launched Pedestrian Safety Month outreach campaign

Celebrated official opening of the Benicia Bus Hub, which supports the SolanoExpress Blue Line

Partnered with Solano County and the Cities of Fairfield and Vacaville for the Fairfield-Vacaville Hannigan Station Dedication Ceremony in honor of Assembly Member Tom Hannigan

Celebrated the official opening of the Benicia Industrial Park Bus Hub with a ribbon-cutting ceremony

Appointed Steve Olry to the Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Reappointed Mike Segala to the Bicycle Advisory Committee for three (3) years

FOURTH QUARTER

Celebrated International Walk to School Day in Solano County with 48 schools and over 9,000 walkers

Launched the new Intercity Taxi (ITX) Card Program for ambulatory and non-ambulatory riders in Benicia and Vallejo

Hosted 22nd Annual STA Awards Ceremony at Rancho Solano Clubhouse in Fairfield along with STA Board Chair, Mayor Harry Price

STA Equity Principles adopted and draft Equity Chapter for Comprehensive Transportation Plan released

Construction of SR-12/SR-113 Roundabout in Rio Vista completed

For the 14th consecutive year, STA received an unqualified audit report (no findings) for FY 2018-19

2019 Quick Facts and Figures

Safe Routes to School (SR2S)

National Bike to School Day (May)

28 schools and 1,656 students participated

International Walk to School Day (October)

48 schools and 9,098 students participated

5 Solano County Pedestrian Safety Meetings held



Solano Mobility Call Center

Served 7,840 phone customers and 4,120 walk-in customers



Solano Intercity Taxi Card Program

3,602 ADA passenger trips provided



Solano Mobility In-Person American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assessments

935 in-person ADA assessments completed. The new Automatic Renewal Process allowed a program savings of \$24,018

Travel Training

308 participants in the Solano County Travel Training program completed trips to local events, shopping centers and points of interest via transit



Emergency Ride Home

40 registered employers with 11 of their employees registered



Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program

9,141 vehicles abated countywide in 2019



Local Preference Policy

\$2.81 million in **local** purchases in 2019 totaling over \$16.2 million since the 2010 inception of Local Preference Policy



Legislation and Transportation



During his first budget announcement, newly sworn-in California Governor Gavin Newsom stated that cities not meeting their affordable housing targets would have their Senate Bill 1 (SB1: the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017) funding withheld. This announcement followed the release of the CASA Compact by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments. These 10 Compact Elements were designed as policy guidelines to address the Bay Area's housing shortage.

Housing became the most prominent policy issue at the state level, meanwhile, the I-80 Managed Lanes Project remained the top focus of the STA at the federal level. STA Board Members and staff visited Solano County's Congressional Representatives and staff from federal agencies administering the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) and the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grants. The I-80 Managed Lanes Project will continue to be the top priority for the STA in 2020.



Representative Mike Thompson meets with STA Board Members and SolTrans Executive Director



Representative John Garamendi meets with STA Board Members



FTA Acting Director meets with STA Board Members and SolTrans and STA Executive Director



Office of Senator Diane Feinstein meeting with STA Board Members, SolTrans and STA Executive Director

Planning for Solano County's Future Transportation Needs

STA Cosponsors Solano County Housing Summit

On February 25th, the City County Coordinating Council (4Cs) co-hosted a Housing Summit with the STA that was attended by 168 local elected officials, planning commissioners, local agency staff, and members of the public. The five local transit operators provided shuttle service to and from the event. The Summit attendees heard presentations regarding pending state housing legislation, the regional CASA Compact Proposal, and a local agency panel discussing obstacles and opportunities for the production of housing and providing affordable housing.



Solano Housing Investment Partnership (SolHIP) Established



In order to provide technical assistance, planning resources, and assistance with the development of funding and implementation strategies for member agencies, the STA established the Solano Housing Investment Partnership (SolHIP). All eight STA member agencies opted-in for the partnership which will create an inventory of housing sites; examine policy options available for member agencies that want to provide for more housing options and meet their Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) targets; identify and examine public and private funding sources; identify catalyst housing sites within Priority Development Areas (PDAs); and develop strategies to move these projects towards development.

Equity Principles Adopted and Equity Chapter Drafted

In January, the STA Board established an Equity Working Group to draft the Equity Chapter for STA's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The purpose of this effort is to address transportation challenges faced by Solano County's vulnerable communities and define equity as it relates to transportation. Part of the process in developing the Equity Chapter for the CTP was the creation of the Transportation Equity Guiding Principles, adopted by the STA Board in October. The Guiding Principles created the framework for the CTP's Equity Chapter Draft, which was released in December. Both the Equity Chapter, and the Land Use Chapter of the CTP are expected to be finalized and adopted in 2020 along with the entire, completed 2040 Solano County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.



Regional Transportation Plan Submitted to MTC



The Solano Transportation Authority is responsible for coordinating with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Caltrans to develop the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for the Bay Area every four years. This process began in 2019 and included several outreach events and discussions on important transportation projects for Solano County. A complete list of STA RTP Project Submittals for the first phase of the RTP project submittals can be found online at: https://sta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/STA-Board-Packet_06-12-19.pdf. STA priority projects such as the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange, SR 37 Corridor, I-80 Managed Lanes and the westbound I-80 Truck Scales are recommended for inclusion among other important transportation projects. The development of the RTP will carry over into 2020 as part of the second phase of project submittals.

Water Transit Feasibility Study Completed

The STA concluded the Water Transit Study in July. The Study's Project Development Team met with the Water Emergency Transportation Agency (WETA), Golden Gate Transit, and the Transportation Authority of Marin to discuss the potential for enhanced ferry service routes from Solano County to Contra Costa, Alameda, Marin, and San Francisco Counties. The Study also examined the possibility of private operators for lower ridership routes, which would not be feasible for a large public operator, such as WETA.



Delivering Projects to Improve Solano County's Transportation Future

SR 37 Fairgrounds Bus Stops

With funding from the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and the Regional Traffic Impact Fee (RTIF), two new bus stops (one in each direction) were added on Fairgrounds Dr. at State Route 37 (SR37) to support the newly launched SolanoExpress Red Line. These bus pullouts and bus shelters provide access to Six Flags Discovery Kingdom and North Vallejo. Construction on the new bus stops began in April 2019 and was completed in July 2019. In combination with the new Red Line route alignment, the new bus stops will save an estimated 12 minutes per trip.



Benicia Bus Hub



On August 26, the City of Benicia and the STA celebrated the official opening of the Benicia Bus Hub Park and Ride with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Located at the intersection of I-680, Park Road, and Industrial Way in the Benicia Industrial Park, the Bus Hub Park and Ride is a stop on the SolanoExpress Blue Line serving Benicia Industrial Park's workforce and commuters traveling to and from Solano and Contra Costa Counties, and BART. The project incorporates traffic circulation improvements and will help attract future grant funding to the Industrial Park. The Benicia Bus Hub Park and Ride was funded from a combination of Regional Measure 2 Funds (RM2), the Regional Traffic Impact Fee (RTIF), and the City's Water Fund.

Downtown Streetscape Project Phase 4 – City of Vallejo

The Downtown Streetscape Project Phase 4 is part of a larger effort to revitalize the downtown area of Vallejo. Phase 4 improved the intersection of Sacramento and Maine streets with amenities that include street furniture, signage, decorative paving, street lighting, pavement reconstruction, removal and replacement of curbs, gutters and sidewalks, and storm drainage modifications. The project resulted in wider sidewalks and bulb-outs to increase walkability and safety for pedestrians in the downtown area. New landscape with Bioswale/retention and an irrigation system to assist with stormwater compliance was added. Decorative lighting, pavement and tiles were installed for a more appealing appearance and to support local businesses and attract more customers to the area.



Sonoma Blvd Road Diet – City of Vallejo

The Highway Safety Improvement Program - Sonoma Boulevard Project is a road diet from Georgia St. to Florida St. in Vallejo, bisecting the downtown area and involving the reduction in travel lanes and the addition of bike lanes and designated parking areas. The results are vehicle traffic calming in both directions to increase pedestrian safety. Bike lanes were added to encourage active transportation and for bicycle safety. With the new bike lanes, a natural buffer was in place for increase safety for people entering and exiting their parked vehicles.

This segment of Sonoma Blvd. was chosen to begin the implementation of the City's Sonoma Specific Plan through data-driven safety evaluation using the Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS) and the Vallejo Police Department's Crossroads database to identify the corridor segments with higher clusters of collisions over a 5-year period (2006-2010). Primary causes for collisions in the area vary from right-of-way violations to unsafe speed and improper turning. A road diet was chosen as a countermeasure, reducing the roadway from 4-lanes to 3-lanes (1 northbound lane, 1 southbound lane, and a two-way left turn lane or raised median). The space gained provided the ability to implement an additional countermeasure by adding bike lanes. The road diet reduced the number of conflicting travel lanes for pedestrians and provided additional buffer space while crossing Sonoma Blvd. This project can also reduce sideswipe and roadside collisions by providing additional buffer space between directions of travel and reducing the number of lanes in each direction. The bike lanes provide a buffer area to assist sight distance for oncoming traffic to improve safety when entering the roadway. This project will improve traffic safety for all users and is one of the first steps to achieving Vision Zero for the City of Vallejo.



Jepson Parkway – City of Vacaville

Jepson Parkway Phase 1A was Vacaville's first component of a multi-package infrastructure project to widen and realign Leisure Town Road from Vanden Road to Commerce Place, north of Elmira Road. This Project completed a key 2-1/2 mile long segment of Jepson Parkway, which extends from Highway 12 and Walters Road in Suisun, to I-80 at Leisure Town Road in Vacaville. This \$42 million project laid the foundation for future improvements that will alleviate congestion from the I-80 corridor and improve inter-county mobility.

The Project is a multi-modal transportation success, incorporating elements such as a high speed roundabout at Leisure Town and Vanden, which allows for continuous movement and the elimination of traffic signal related delays; a Class I bike path along the entire 2 1/2 mile segment; wide and well-lit pedestrian walkways adjacent to inviting linear park spaces; a 20 space bicycle staging lot to serve the train station; and turn-outs to accommodate protected bus stops in anticipation of future bus service along the corridor.



Programs to Improve Mobility Options for Solano County



Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation Donates Vans to Launch Vehicle Share Program

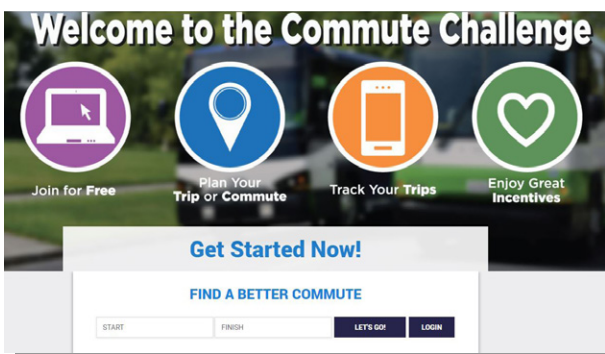
Thanks to the generous contribution from the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, and in partnership with the County of Solano, the Solano Transportation Authority purchased two wheelchair accessible vans for the New Vehicle Share Program. This program allows these vehicles to be shared among multiple local non-profit organizations which provide services for older adults and people with disabilities in Solano County. This program is one of many that Solano Mobility provides to support the needs of older adults and people with disabilities.

Launch of SolanoExpress Red Line Expands System-wide Integration

On July 1st, SolanoExpress launched the Red Line, operated by Solano County Transit (SolTrans), which combined Routes 80 and 85. The Red Line provides service from the Suisun-Fairfield Amtrak Station to the El Cerrito del Norte BART Station, with stops along the way including the Fairfield Transportation Center, Solano Community College, Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, and the Vallejo Transit Center, with connections to the San Francisco Bay Ferry. The Red Line joins the Blue, Yellow, and Green Lines to complete Phase II of SolanoExpress consolidation to simplify service, reduce duplication, and offer more frequent and efficient services to better connect Solano County Cities to regional transit.



Solano Mobility Plans Launch of New Rewards Program for Commuters



In December, Solano Mobility designed a new Solano Commute Challenge which switches from the previous raffle format to a new progressive reward program. With this program, rewards are simplified and expanded. Instead of creating separate programs with promotions and incentives for different travel modes, participants can travel by any mode and earn tangible, incremental rewards—all through one program. Full details of the program will be available when the program fully launches in January 2020.

Fairfield-Vacaville Station Dedicated to Assembly Member Tom Hannigan



On September 27th, the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA), County of Solano, Cities of Fairfield and Vacaville, and the STA celebrated the life, leadership, and vision of former California State Legislator and lifelong Solano County advocate, Tom Hannigan, with the dedication of the Fairfield Vacaville Hannigan Station. Over 120 people attended, including members of the Hannigan Family, current and former state and local elected officials, and staff members from all agencies.

Vallejo Community Based Transportation Plan Updates in Progress

The STA partnered with SolTrans and the City of Vallejo to conduct an updated Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) for Vallejo. The objective of the Community Based Planning Process is to develop a plan through a collaborative process that identifies transportation gaps, then proposes and prioritizes projects to address the gaps. This process ensures that the low-income population directly affected by the transportation plan is guiding the process. As a result of this planning process, potential transportation improvements specific to low-income communities will be identified and cost-estimates will be developed to implement these improvements.

Solano Safe Routes to School Celebrates 10th Year

The Solano Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program, celebrated its 10th year and continued to see an increase in participation by schools and students with 70 schools participating in 2019. The yearly events (Bike to School Day-May and Walk to School Day-October) were once again successful county wide celebrations. Several schools expanded these one day events into week long challenges for their students.

In 2019, with funding from the CA Office of Traffic Safety the SR2S program held 5 workshops to address Ped Safety for Solano County youth. At each of these events in varying cities, SR2S engaged the community around pedestrian safety education, distracted walking, distracted driving and addressed student travel safety for nearby schools. A main takeaway from these workshops was the need for additional education for students, drivers, and the public on safe walking and driving practices around schools and in neighborhoods. SR2S staff developed and launched a "September is Pedestrian Safety Month" education and outreach toolkit, which was used by local law enforcement agencies, school districts and schools.

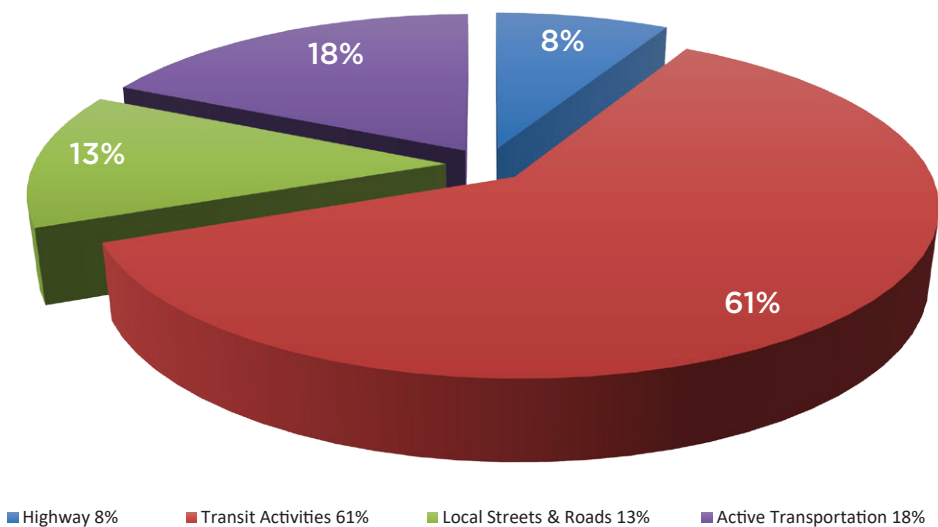


Solano Older Adult Medical Trip Concierge Pilot Program

Launched in April 2019, the pilot program has provided over 3,800 discounted rides. The program was designed to help low-income Solano County residents aged 60 and over who do not currently receive transportation benefits through Medi-Cal. In partnership with GoGoGrandparent, the Solano Older Adult Medical Trip Concierge Program provides 10 discounted trips per month to and from medical appointments within Solano County. Eligible participants can sign up by calling the Solano Mobility Call Center at 800-535-6883.

The Solano Transportation Authority budget consists of capital programs, operations and administration, STA programs, Solano Mobility programs, local agency projects, transit programs, strategic planning, and project development. Based on the results of the independent audit for FY 2018-19, the STA received its 14th consecutive unqualified audit with no findings.

**Solano County State & Federal Programming
FY 2018-19 \$37.5 Million**



**STA Budget FY 2018 19
Revenues by Source \$12.4 Million**

