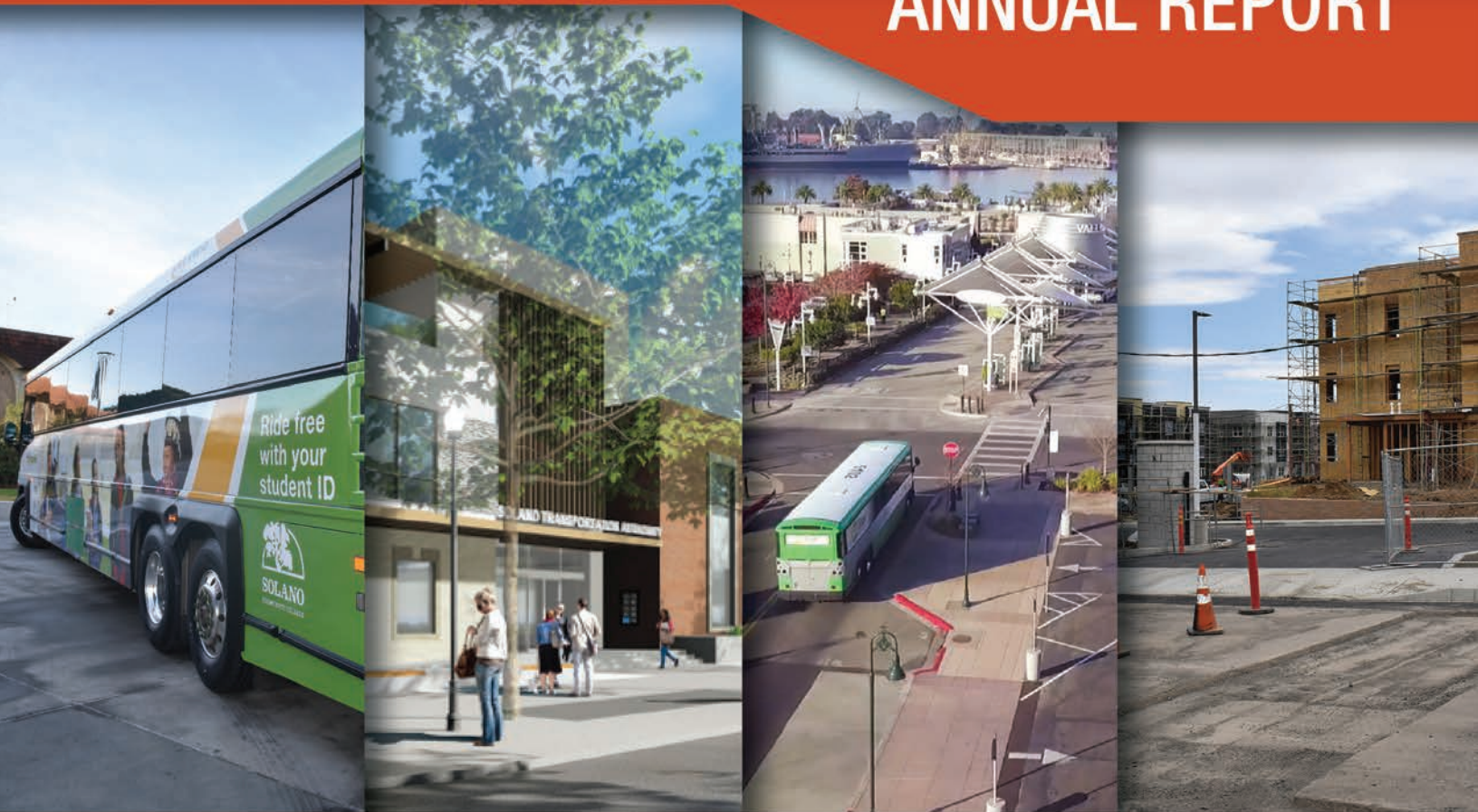


2020

ANNUAL REPORT



Solano Transportation Authority
One Harbor Center, Suite 130
Suisun City, CA 94585

sta.ca.gov
(707) 424-6075
info@sta.ca.gov



Message from the Executive Director

The year 2020 was one of the most challenging in recent memory with the onset of the COVID 19 pandemic and stay at home orders going into effect in March. This had a significant impact on the revenues and ridership on the various transit services at the local, county, and regional level. Thanks to the leadership, support, and teamwork of the STA Board, STA staff and our local, regional, and state partner agencies, STA was able to effectively continue to plan for, fund, and deliver priority projects and provide for a range of mobility programs in support of all aspects of Solano County's residents and employees. This 2020 STA Annual Report identifies many of these successful projects and programs.

Thanks to the State of California and Solano County Board of Supervisors support of construction as essential work to the Solano County economy, STA continued to focus on project delivery in 2020 and continued to partner with Caltrans District 4 and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to fund and deliver future improvements to the Interstate 80 corridor. The construction for I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange Phase 2 project was initiated and is funded by a competitive Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Trade Corridor Enhancement Fund (TCEF) grant obtained by STA in partnership with Caltrans. Caltrans and STA successfully submitted the construction phase of the Solano I-80 Managed Lanes project (\$123 million) and the design phase of the Westbound Cordelia Truck Scales (\$24 million) for the second round of competitive SB 1 funds, both of which were approved for funding by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

With the support of Caltrans District 4 and the CTC, State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) funding has been dedicated for significant complete highway and safety projects on SR 12 in Rio Vista and SR 29 in Vallejo. STA also initiated the design phase for a new interchange at SR 37/Fairgrounds Drive that improves multi-modal access to Solano County's largest youth employer, Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, and the future Solano 360 Development project.

Working with Solano County's transit operators, STA continues to monitor and support the SolanoExpress service which has completed a series of new service changes and expansions resulting from the consolidation of seven routes into four better connected and integrated routes (Blue, Red, Yellow and Green Express). Similar to all transit service throughout the nation and Bay Area region, SolanoExpress, the Capitol Corridor Rail Service and the San Francisco Bay Ferry experienced significant drops in ridership due to mandatory stay at home orders due to COVID 19. STA developed updated service and budget plans to assist transit operators to continue operating at reduced service levels.

STA worked with MTC and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to ensure Solano County's priority projects were included in the Plan Bay Area 2050 draft. Concurrently, STA planning staff completed a major update to its Countywide Transportation Plan for Solano County with a keen focus on new chapters for Active Transportation, Equity, and Land Use.

In addition to transportation, STA continues to partner with the cities of Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, and Vallejo, and the County of Solano to coordinate transportation investments and planning for housing and jobs. At the direction of the STA Board, STA expanded its historic focus on integrating both land use and transportation planning and implementation, to proactively track state legislation pertaining to new and expanded housing requirements, and to support each city's effort to identify infrastructure funding for the production of affordable housing. The focus of these 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.

In 2020, STA initiated the construction of its own 23,000 square foot, three story office building located on Main Street in Suisun City's downtown. This location is within close walking distance to the Suisun-Fairfield Amtrak Station, with convenient access to Capitol Corridor Rail Service, the SolanoExpress Red Line and Green Express, and the Fairfield, Suisun City, and County of Solano government centers. The \$14.5 million project will provide over 80,000 hours of construction trade hours during the construction of the project, which is scheduled to be completed and open to the public during November of 2021.

STA is proud of its various partnerships with non-profits, community groups, transit operators, school districts, academic institutions, citizen advisory committees, and outside partner agencies. They are integral to STA's continued success and progress. Thanks to the leadership, foresight, and support of the STA Board, STA's overall work plan contains over 45 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 with the STA's 2020 Annual Report are highlights and milestones from the 2020 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

2020 STA Board



Ron Rowlett,
Chair,
Mayor,
City of Vacaville



Bob Sampayan,
Vice Chair
Mayor,
City of Vallejo



Elizabeth
Patterson,
Mayor,
City of Benicia



Ronald Kott,
Mayor,
City of Rio Vista



Jim Spering,
Supervisor,
District 3
Solano County



Lori Wilson,
Mayor,
City of Suisun City



Harry Price
Mayor,
City of Fairfield



Thom Bogue,
Mayor,
City of Dixon

2020 Highlights

FIRST QUARTER

Vacaville Mayor Ron Rowlett selected as the new STA Board Chair and Vallejo Mayor Bob Sampayan selected as STA Board Vice-Chair.

Rio Vista's Hope Cohn and Vacaville's Raymond Beaty sworn in as STA Board Alternates

STA Board visits Washington D.C. to communicate agency's priorities to several federal agencies and Solano County's two congressional representatives.

Based on recommendation from the Equity Task Force, STA amends Mission Statement to include "... for all."

STA Board unanimously approves construction funds for future home of the STA Office

SolTrans, STA and Solano Community College unveil new bus wrap

SolanoExpress expands program for Solano Community College students to cover free rides within and outside Solano County.

STA Board dedicates \$1M for State Route 12 Rio Vista Downtown Complete Street Project

Co-hosted York St Project Groundbreaking with SolTrans at the Vallejo Transit Center

STA Board awards Safe Routes to School Micro-Grants

SECOND QUARTER

Solano Mobility expands First/Last Mile Program in Response to COVID-19

STA approves \$1.9 million of Suburban Housing Incentive Pilot (SubHIP) Program funds for 99 affordable unit housing development adjacent to the Vacaville Transportation Center, Allison Drive Priority Development Area (PDA)

STA Board approves Active Transportation Plan element of the STA's Comprehensive Transportation Plan

STA Board allocates \$2.1 million of SubHIP funds for 190 affordable unit housing development in the Fairfield-Vacaville Hannigan Train Station PDA

Hosted Transit Workshop to discuss the future of transit service in Solano County

Co-sponsored the "Recent Impacts on Solano Economy and Opportunities for Recovery" webinar with Solano Economic Development Corporation and Dr. Robert Eyer

Adopted the Land Use Element of the STA's Comprehensive Transportation Plan

THIRD QUARTER

Allocated Air District Funds for seven local projects

California Transportation Commission (CTC) funds Package 2A of the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange Project

Solano Mobility expands First/Last Mile Program in Suisun City

SolTrans' Subsidized Lyft Program continues providing essential rides to Benicia residents

Caltrans begins construction of the I-80 Six Bridges Projects in Vallejo

Solano County provides \$150,000 of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to Solano Mobility to expand the Medical Trip Concierge Program

Organized Bike to Wherever Days during the entire month of September

FOURTH QUARTER

Co-hosted Virtual Groundbreaking Ceremony with Caltrans District 4 for the I-80/I680/SR 12 Package 2A Project

STA Finance Staff Receives 4th Consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for STA's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

2020 Solano Mobility Study for Older Adults and People with Disabilities Update adopted by STA Board based on recommendation from the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) and Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) advisory committees

Six projects prioritized by Vallejo community during the Vallejo Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) with the Participatory Budgeting process

STA Board recognizes departing Board Members, Mayor of Benicia Elizabeth Patterson, Mayor of Dixon Thom Bogue, and Mayor of Vallejo Bob Sampayan and welcomes new members, Mayors-elect Steve Young, City of Benicia; Steven Bird, City of Dixon; and Robert McConnell, City of Vallejo

Hosted STA 23rd Annual and 1st ever Virtual Annual Awards

STA awarded \$146 million of SB 1 Funding for the construction of the I-80 Managed Lanes Project and the design of the I-80 Westbound Truck Scales Project

Celebrated the Virtual Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the York Street Expansion of the Vallejo Transit Center

2020 Quick Facts and Figures

Safe Routes to School (SR2S)

Bike Safety Assemblies: Bike City Theatre provided theatrical productions of “Light the Way: a Bike Safety Musical” at 6 schools reaching 1,509 students prior to school closures in March 2020.

Free Bike Repair Events: Held at 2 schools and repaired 50 bikes for students, providing helmets and bike safety information.

SR2S City-Community Task Force Meetings held: 8



Solano Mobility Call Center

Served 6,208 phone customers and 730 walk-in customers



Solano Intercity Taxi Card Program

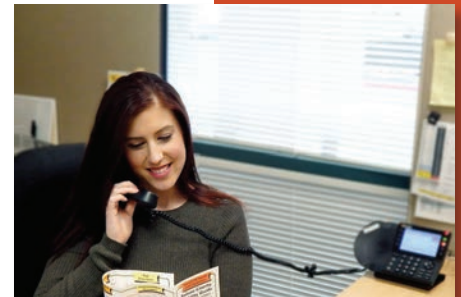
3,664 ADA passenger trips provided



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

505 ADA assessments completed.

146 Automatic Renewal Process allowed a program savings of \$19,710



Travel Training

202 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 county wide 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

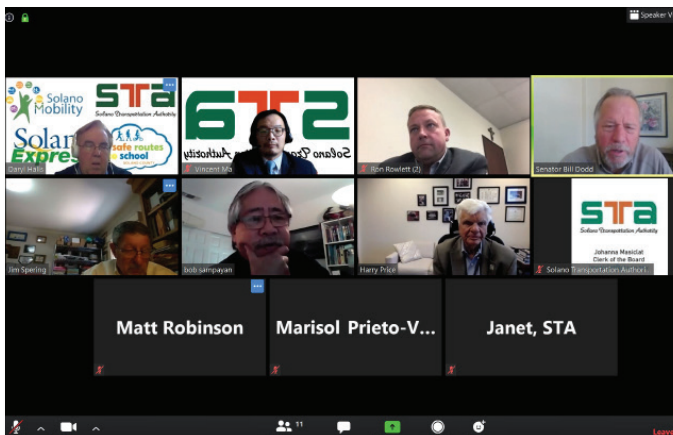
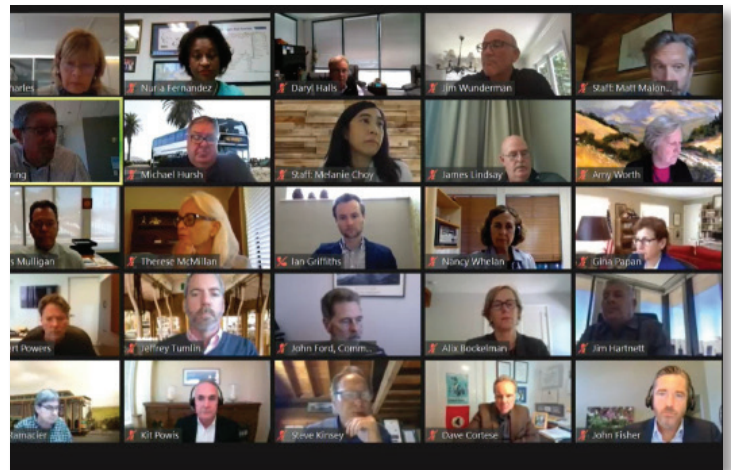


Legislation and Transportation



Despite the challenges of a Global Pandemic, the Solano Transportation Authority Board continued to advocate on behalf of local residents for their transportation needs. Thanks to Solano County Board of Supervisor’s allocation of Federal CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act) Funding, the Solano Mobility program was able to expand the First/Last Mile Program to fill transit gaps and provide mobility options for essential trips and front-line workers.

Via Zoom, STA Board and staff members met with members of the California Legislature, California Transportation Commission (CTC), and California State Transportation Authority (CalSTA) to reiterate the importance of STA’s top priority, the I-80 Managed Lanes Project. In December 2020, the CTC awarded \$147 million of Senate Bill 1 (SB1: the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017) funds for two STA Projects – the I-80 Managed Lanes Project and the Westbound Truck Scales Project: Design Phase.



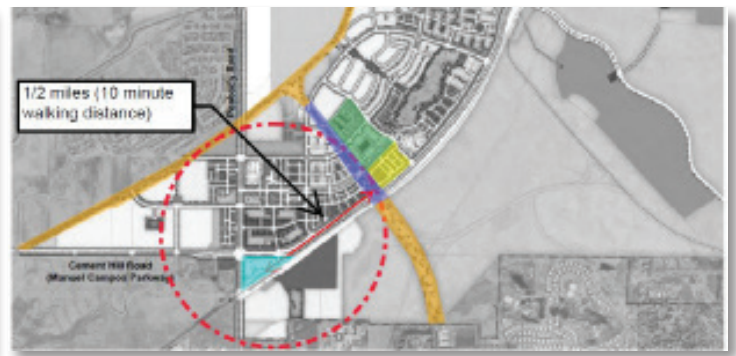
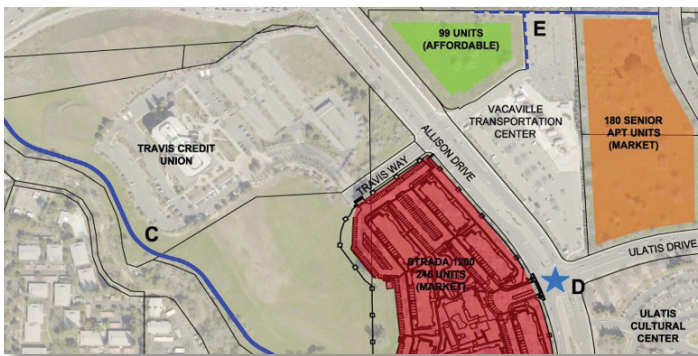
Planning for Solano County's Future Transportation Needs

Transportation and Land Use Priorities

Established in 2019, the Suburban Housing Investment Program (SubHIP) funded two affordable housing projects this year. The Allison Drive/Vacaville Transportation Center Priority Development Area (PDA) was awarded \$1.9 million to build 99 affordable housing units, and the Fairfield-Vacaville Hannigan Train Station PDA was awarded \$2.1 million of SubHIP funds to build the 190 all affordable unit One Lake Apartments.

STA created the Housing Element Joint Partnership with the Cities of Benicia, Dixon, Rio Vista, Suisun City, and Vallejo to coordinate SB 2 planning grants and update each city's Housing Element in preparation for compliance with the updated sixth Regional Housing Needs Assessment Allocation (RNHA) cycle.

Additionally, STA worked with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and STA Member Agencies to submit thirteen new PDA's and nine new Priority Production Areas.



Introduction of the State Route 37 (SR 37) Public Access Plan

Working in conjunction with the County of Solano, City of Vallejo, the Solano Land Trust, and community stakeholders, eight recommendations were identified as Public Access Opportunities located near the SR 37 Corridor and Mare Island. The draft public access memo has been submitted to the MTC and Caltrans staff for preliminary review and will be presented to the SR 37 Policy Committee in early 2021. This Plan was submitted for consideration as part of the environmental phase of the SR 37 Interim Congestion Relief Project.



2020 TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) ARTICLE 3 FUNDED PROJECTS

TDA Article 3 funding is available annually for active transportation projects. With assistance from the STA Bicycle Advisory Committee and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the STA Board approved \$435,006 for six programs and projects.

2020 Clean Air Program Funded Projects

The STA administers the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) 40% Program Manager Funds and assists the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) with allocating Clean Air funds annually. In 2020, BAAQMD awarded \$404,251 for seven projects and partial funding of the Solano Mobility Program, and YSAQMD award \$340,000 for five projects.

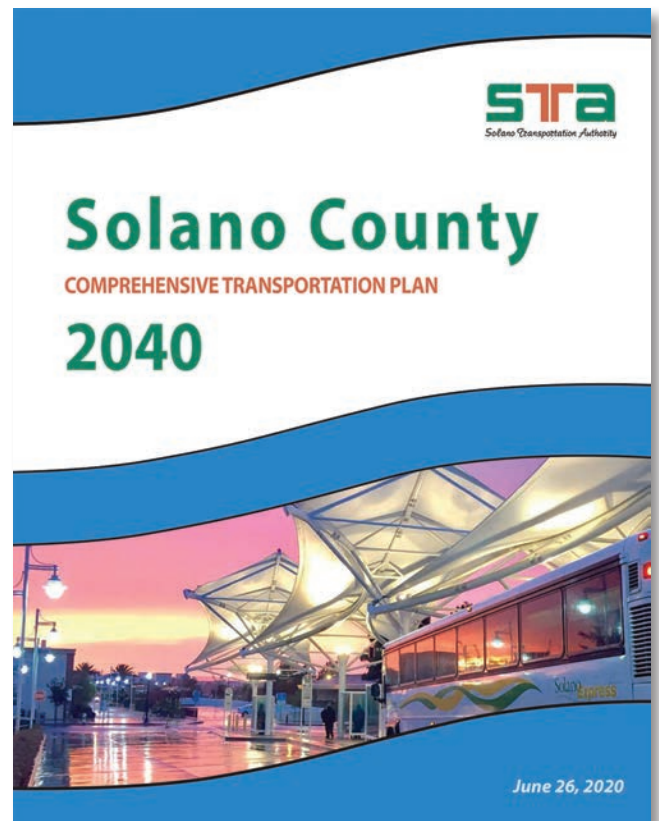
For more information on these programs please contact STA Planning Assistants Brent Rosenwald and Kathrina Gregana

Solano County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Completed

The Solano County Comprehensive Transportation Plan contains the Equity and Land Use Chapters as well as three elements: Transit and Rideshare, Arterials, Highways, and Freeways, and Active Transportation. These chapters and elements were finished and adopted by the STA Board throughout the year and caps the completion of entire CTP. The Land Use Element incorporates the Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Priority Production Areas (PPAs), and Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) and were updated by the seven cities and the County of Solano.

The Active Transportation Plan (ATP) focuses on the bike and pedestrian network in Solano County. The ATP builds upon previous active transportation planning efforts, establishes county wide priorities, and outlines project lists and program guidance which STA and local jurisdictions can use to help people of all ages and abilities feel comfortable walking and bicycling. The priorities identified in this element will also help guide the many grant opportunities that STA planning staff administer for years to come.

Following the creation of the Equity Principles, the Equity Chapter was adopted and approved by the STA Board for inclusion in the CTP. This is first time that the CTP will have an Equity Chapter. Additionally, the Equity Chapter Task Force recommended an update to STA's Mission Statement and the STA Board approved the addition of the words "... for all."



SMART Rail Feasibility Study Completed, Advancement of the Solano Rail Hub Project Begins



The SMART Rail Feasibility Study was completed this year, which confirmed the feasibility of expanding the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) system to connect with the existing Capitol Corridor rail system, and identified the current Suisun-Fairfield Amtrak Station as the recommended location for the Solano Rail Hub. Identified in the 2018 State Rail Plan, the Solano Rail Hub would provide a centralized location for multi-modal transit options for all Solano County residents who travel for work or leisure.

The Project presents an important development opportunity for the City of Suisun City, the City of Fairfield, and the County of Solano. The Solano Rail Hub is also in line with the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA) Vision Implementation Plan; could influence the upcoming 2022 California State Rail Plan update; and could help inform the development of the Link21 Project, the new crossing for regional trains connecting SF/Peninsula to East Bay/Sacramento.

The STA, in partnership with the City of Suisun City, the City of Fairfield, and the County of Solano, is moving forward with next steps to advance the Solano Rail Hub Project.

Delivering Projects to Improve Solano County's Transportation Future



I-80 Managed Lanes Project Awarded \$123 million from SB1

On December 2, 2020, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved \$123 million in Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) – Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) funds for the construction of the I-80 Managed Lanes Project, which will add 10 miles of new lanes in both directions between Airbase Parkway in Fairfield and I-505 in Vacaville. This Project will connect to the existing 8 miles of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes between Red Top Road and Airbase Parkway. Once completed, the 18 mile stretch of Managed Lanes will greatly improve the reliability and dependability of the SolanoExpress Regional Bus service and provide much needed congestion relief to all traveling along I-80. The Project is scheduled to begin construction in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 and completed within three years.



Westbound Truck Scales Awarded \$24 million

The CTC approved a second award of \$24 million for the I-80 Westbound Truck Scales Project to design a new state-of-the-art inspection center, replacing the current outdated facility. By increasing inspections throughput, reducing traffic collision, and decreasing congestion, this Project will benefit all Northern California consumers and businesses as freight traffic between the Port of Oakland and Sacramento continues to grow. Design work on the Truck Scales is scheduled to begin in 2021.

80/680/12 Interchange Construction Begins

After the CTC approved the allocation of \$69.96 million of Multi-Funded SB 1 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP)/State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Funds and Regional Bridge funds for Package 2A of the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange, the Project officially broke ground on October 29th. This Project will greatly improve safety and ease congestion along one of the busiest freight and commuter corridors in the Northern California Region. Construction will replace the existing single lane Eastbound SR 12 connector to Eastbound I-80 with a new two-lane connector and add direct on and off ramps from I-80 to Green Valley Road to help reduce the frequency of vehicle accidents. The Project is scheduled to be completed and open to traffic in two years.



York Street Expansion of VTC

Started and completed in 2020, the expansion of the Vallejo Transit Center (VTC) along York Street represents the success of Solano County Transit (SolTrans), City of Vallejo, and STA in providing local and regional transit. The Project added five bus bays at VTC to accommodate the SolanoExpress Red and Yellow Lines, local SolTrans service, Flix Bus, Napa Vine, and other regional transit providers. The Project is a part of the coordinated effort to better integrate and connect regional and local transit services, and provide improved pedestrian access and safety.



Future Home of the STA

Construction on the future home of the STA began on July 30th and is expected to be completed in late 2021. When finished, the building will be more accessible to the public for board meetings, staff-based technical committee meetings, citizen-based committee meetings, and other public engagement events. 83,100 total construction hours were created to help revitalize and boost the local economy, and a local artist will be commissioned to create a welcoming and inviting atmosphere to the STA Building and the entrance to Suisun City's Main Street and Waterfront District.

Programs to Improve Mobility Options for Solano County

Solano Mobility Expands First/Last Mile Program in Response to COVID-19

In order to support the mobility requirements of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers (such as healthcare workers and public safety employees) and to provide residents with transportation for essential tasks, the Solano Mobility Program expanded the First/Last Mile Program to provide coverage for reduced transit services by Fairfield and Suisun Transit (FAST) in response to the COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders issued by California Governor Gavin Newsom and the Solano County Office of Public Health.

In addition to the existing transit hubs, the First/Last Mile Program also added major supermarkets and hospitals to the list of locations eligible for the 80% subsidy. Solano Mobility also expanded the First/Last Mile Program to include all Suisun City residents during the year.



Micro-Transit Pilots Initiated in Cities of Benicia and Rio Vista

In partnership with the cities of Benicia and Rio Vista and their transit operators, Solano County Transit (SolTrans) and Delta Breeze, Solano Mobility began piloting Micro-Transit Programs to better meet the transit and mobility needs of residents. The Pilot Program will be operated in coordination with Transportation Network Companies (e.g. Lyft and Uber) and will be an “on-demand” system, which will improve operating efficiencies, lower overall costs, and provide a better rider experience. If successful, Solano Mobility will begin expanding the Micro-Transit Program to other cities in Solano County in 2021.

Solano Older Adult Medical Trip Concierge Pilot Program Expanded

Thanks to the Solano County Board of Supervisors' approval of Federal CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act) allocation of \$150,000 to STA, the Solano Mobility Program was able to expand the Solano Older Adult Medical Trip Concierge Program to assist with the essential mobility needs for older adults and people with disabilities.

The Program expanded to include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Eligible Solano County residents, and the number of eligible rides increased from 10 to 20 rides per month.

The Medical Trip Concierge Program is operated by GoGo Grandparent and serves Solano County Older Adult residents (60+) by providing subsidized Uber and Lyft rides to and from medical appointments. This Program, which began in April 2019 remains a popular mode of transportation for the older adult community.

The program expansion provides ambulatory residents with access to additional rides to medical trips, including pharmacies and other essential trips, which were limited due to taxi availability.

Vallejo Community Selects Transportation Improvements Based on Participatory Budgeting Process

The Vallejo Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) with Participatory Budgeting process began in May 2019 to identify transportation gaps and challenges and provide suggested solutions for communities of concern within Vallejo. At the Transportation Expo, held between October and November, members of the public were invited to prioritize the 16 identified projects within the Participatory Budgeting Process.

From the final prioritized list of 16, six projects were selected and reviewed by the project Steering Committee and a three-member STA Board CBTP Ad Hoc Review Committee. The Review Committee studied the community selection process, reviewed the list of priority projects and funding allocations, and provided a recommendation to the STA Board. The STA Board approved the recommendations and project initiation is currently underway.

The New Safe Routes to School Microgrant Program Initiated 14 School Safety Projects Countywide

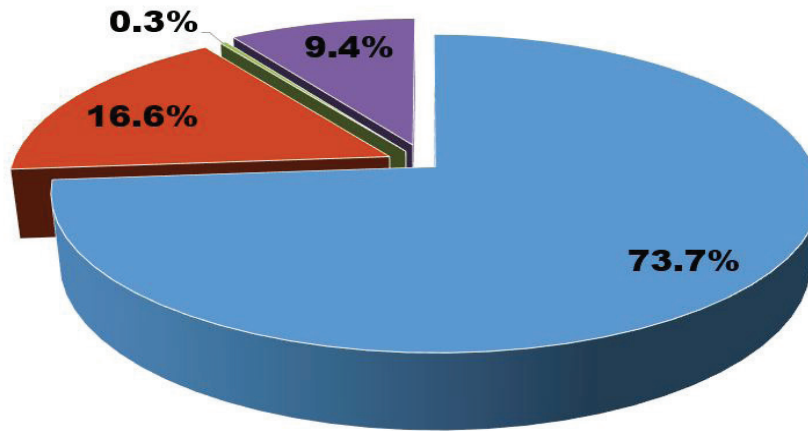
The STA Board awarded 14 projects out of 16 total applicants for the Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Pilot Micro-Grant Program. Due to the strong interest from Solano County for these smaller SR2S projects, the SR2S Program is planning to continue this Program in the next fiscal year. The 14 awarded projects are:

- City of Vacaville: Radar Feedback Signs
- City of Vallejo: Radar Feedback Signs
- Browns Valley Elementary-Vacaville: Scooter Racks
- Dan Mini Elementary-Vallejo: Safety Signage and equipment, walk/bike incentives
- Dixon Montessori Charter School-Dixon: Safety Signage and equipment, and walk/bike incentives
- Everest Academy-Vallejo: Safety equipment
- Joe Henderson Elementary - Benicia: High visibility crosswalk improvements
- Kairos Public Schools-Vacaville: Safety Signage and equipment, and walk/bike incentives
- Knight Middle School-Dixon: Bike Racks
- Mary Farmer Elementary - Benicia: Safety Signage and equipment
- Riverview Middle School-Rio Vista: Bike corral fencing and scooter storage
- Sierra Vista K-8-Vacaville: Incentives promoting physical activity events
- Solano-Widenmann K-8-Vallejo: Walk/bike incentives
- Vaca Pena Middle School-Vacaville: Scooter Racks and Bicycle Air Pump station



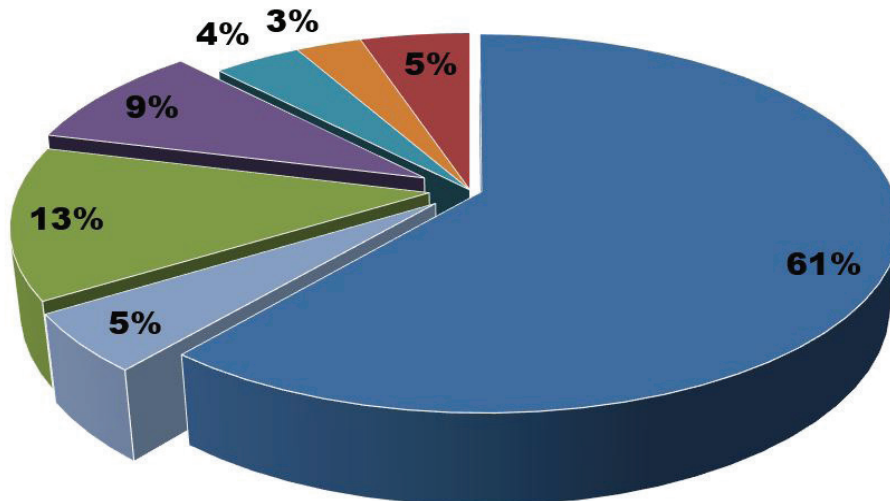
The Solano Transportation Authority budget consists of capital programs, operations and administration, STA programs, Solano Mobility programs, local agency projects, transit programs, strategic planning, and project development. Based on the results of the independent audit for FY 2019-20, the STA received its 15th consecutive unqualified audit with no findings.

Solano County State & Federal Programming FY 2019-2020 \$101,861



- Highway 73.7%
- Transit Activities 16.6%
- Local Streets & Roads 0.3%
- Active Transportation 9.4%

STA Budget FY 2019-20 Revenues by Source \$19,749,065



- Capital Programs 61%
- Mobility Programs 13%
- Project Development 4%
- Strategic Planning 5%
- Local Agency Projects 5%
- Operations and Administration 9%
- STA Programs 3%