

2023



STA ANNUAL AWARDS

Solano Transportation Authority
26th Annual Awards
November 8, 2023



Benicia Clock Tower
City of Benicia



26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



STA Board Members

Steve Young, Chair
Mayor, City of Benicia

Ron Kott, Vice-Chair
Mayor, City of Rio Vista

Mitch Mashburn
Supervisor, Solano County

Alma Hernandez
Mayor, City of Suisun City

Catherine Moy
Mayor, City of Fairfield

Steve Bird
Mayor, City of Dixon

John Carli
Mayor, City of Vacaville

Robert McConnell
Mayor, City of Vallejo

STA Board Alternates

Terry Scott, City of Vallejo

Walt Stanish, City of Rio Vista

Wanda Williams, Solano County

Princess Washington, City of Suisun City

K. Patrice Williams, City of Fairfield

Jim Ernest, City of Dixon

Jeanette Wylie, City of Vacaville

Peter Bregenzer, City of Vallejo

Welcome

Steve Young

Mayor, City of Benicia

2023 Chair, STA Board of Directors



Solano Transportation Authority
... working for you!



Awards Program

Welcome

STA Board Chair, Mayor Steve Young

1. Advisory Committee Member of the Year

- Gwen Owens, Safe Routes to School (SR2S)
- Dr. Diane Dooley, Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Nancy Lund, Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)
- Cynthia Tanksley, Paratransit Coordinating Committee (PCC)

Presented by Board Member, Mayor Steve Bird

2. Transit Employee of the Year

- Edith Winnett, Dixon Redit-Ride
- Charlie Kronschnabel, Vacaville City Coach
- Tony Cabral, Rio Vista Delta Breeze

Presented by Board Alternate, Vice-Mayor Jeanette Wylie

3. Safe Routes to School (SR2S)

- Eugene Padan Elementary School, City of Vacaville
- Mary Farmer Elementary School, City of Benicia
- Lincoln Elementary School, City of Vallejo

Presented by Board Member, Mayor Robert McConnell

4. Transportation for Sustainable Communities

- Farm to Market 3, Solano County
- McCoy Creek Trail Phase 2, City of Suisun City
- Bay Trail/Vine Trail, City of Vallejo

Presented by Board Member, Mayor Alma Hernandez

5. Safety Project of the Year

- Winters Road Paving Project, Solano County
- HSIP Projects, City of Vacaville
- Sacramento Street Road Diet Phase 1, City of Vallejo
- Pedestrian Crossing Improvements, City of Benicia

Presented by Board Chair, Mayor Steve Young

6. Project of the Year

- Sacramento Street Bridge Replacement Project, City of Vallejo
- 80/680/12 Interchange Project Phase 2A, Caltrans

Presented by Board Member, Supervisor Mitch Mashburn

7. Project Delivery

- Solano County
- City of Vallejo
- City of Suisun City
- City of Vacaville

Presented by Board Member, Mayor Robert McConnell

8. State/Federal Elected Official of the Year

- *To be announced*

Presented by Vice-Chair, Mayor Ron Kott

9. Partner of the Year

- San Francisco Bay Ferry / WETA
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission
- California Transportation Commission

Presented by Board Chair, Mayor Steve Young

10. Agency of the Year

- City of Suisun City
- City of Vacaville
- City of Fairfield
- City of Vallejo

Presented by Board Member, Mayor Catherine Moy

11. Special Awards

- *To be announced*

Presented by Board Alternate, Vice-Mayor Jeanette Wylie, and MTC Commissioner Jim Spering

26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



I. Advisory Committee Member of the Year

Gwen Owens, Safe Routes to School (SR2S)

Gwen Owens has been the Chair of the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee. Gwen is an accomplished engineer for the City of Vacaville. Her background in project delivery has uniquely positioned them to contribute valuable insights and perspectives to the Advisory Committee. Gwen has consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to enhancing the safety and accessibility of Safe Routes to School for children of all ages as well as the people within the community.

Dr. Diane Dooley, Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)

Dr. Diane Dooley has been a member of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) since 2018 as the representative for the City of Benicia and has been serving as the vice-chair since 2022. Dr. Dooley has been an active participant in the PAC, rarely misses a meeting, and keeps apprised of pedestrian issues that enable her to provide valuable insight to the committee. She continuously provides input and suggestions with equity at the forefront, advocating for ways to increase access to active transportation for all ages and abilities and to meet the needs of underserved populations. Dr. Dooley continues to be an active resident of her community, including previously serving as a school board trustee for over a decade and serving as the PAC representative on the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee.

Thank You To Our Sponsor



Kiewit

Nancy Lund, Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Nancy Lund has been the Chair of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) for the past two years and has been the Benicia representative since 2010. She has been a proactive participant of the BAC who rarely misses a meeting and keeps apprised of bicycle issues in her community, which enables her to provide valuable insight to the committee. She is an active member of the bicycle community in Benicia and continually looks for ways to promote bicycling among Solano residents. For example, as part of May 2023 Bike Month, she played a key role in hosting a Maintenance and Skill Clinic event with the Benicia Bike Club. The event was open to all Solano residents, and it allowed bike riders of all levels to meet and get comfortable with riding a bike around cars, traffic, and intersections all while learning essential skills that would maximize their safety while biking.

Cynthia Tanksley, Paratransit Coordinating Committee (PCC)

Cynthia Tanksley has been a member of the Paratransit Coordinating Council since 2012. As a paratransit user, she consistently provides valuable insight into potential improvements for this important service. From Cynthia's perspective, she can share safety concerns, general coordination, or customer service concerns and is a true advocate for the population utilizing paratransit services. Cynthia now serves as vice-chair and engages the committee members, staff, and guests by asking questions.

Thank You To Our Sponsor

Mare Island Co.

26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



2. Transit Employee of the Year

Edith Winnett, Dixon Read-Ride

Edith (“Dee”) has been instrumental in training new drivers and assisting them in the correct procedures needed to obtain their licenses. She has been driving for over 10 years and has taken on more responsibilities in the supervisor role, taking on the responsibilities when her supervisor is out. Dixon Read-Ride staff can rely on Dee for her opinion on the daily routines. She has worked hard in her position and is always up for a challenge and gets along with both the riders and drivers.

Charlie Kronschnabel, Vacaville City Coach

Charlie’s unwavering kindness, generosity, and dedication to his job and passengers are commendable. He has worked tirelessly, putting in nearly 800 hours of overtime in the past year to assist with staffing shortages. He has personally accompanied a passenger to their connecting bus to ensure a smooth transfer and has even gone as far as purchasing a monthly bus pass for a student who could not afford one. He is the epitome of what a bus operator should be.

Tony Cabral, Rio Vista Delta Breeze

The Rio Vista Delta Breeze would like to nominate bus driver Tony Cabral for his dedicated service. When short-staffed, Tony is always willing to come in, even on his scheduled days off, to ensure that essential workers make their trip. The Rio Vista Delta Breeze implemented microtransit in early 2022, and Tony demonstrated leadership by working with his peers to ensure they were able to adapt to the new software. Tony’s dedication to constructing an unfractured transportation network is evident to the people he works with as well as the residents of Solano County. When there were no other bus drivers available, Tony volunteered to assist Congressman Thompson and his staff for a tour of Solano County and Rio Vista.

3. Safe Routes to School (SR2S)

Eugene Padan Elementary School, City of Vacaville

The leadership and staff of Eugene Padan Elementary School were dedicated to fostering pedestrian and wheeled transportation safety for their students year-round. They distributed weekly charms as part of their “Walk or Wheel Wednesdays” initiative and took an active role in both October’s “Walk to School Day” and May’s “Bike and Roll to School” week. Moreover, students attending Saturday school had the opportunity to acquire valuable bike and pedestrian safety knowledge through their participation in the Safe Moves Bike Rodeo event.

This was all made possible by a dedicated team, including Kristie Banowetz, serving as the assistant principal; Jennie Rae Hiemke, overseeing Saturday administration; and Karen Hiemke, managing office operations. Their primary mission was to enhance pedestrian and cycling safety for the young students of Padan.

Mary Farmer Elementary School, City of Benicia

Mary Farmer Elementary School has consistently demonstrated an exceptional dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of its students during their daily commute to school. One particular initiative that stands out is the implementation of Walk or Wheel Days. The impact of Walk or Wheel Days is evident in the increased number of students and families choosing to participate in these activities.

Lincoln Elementary School, City of Vallejo

One of the standout initiatives that Lincoln Elementary School organized was its inaugural Bike Rodeo event. This event was a resounding success, bringing together students and parents to promote safe cycling practices. The Bike Rodeo featured interactive workshops on bike safety, helmet fittings, and hands-on bicycle skills courses. It also incorporated safety checks for bikes and equipment to ensure that students were riding safely to and from school.

In addition to the Bike Rodeo, Lincoln Elementary School has been proactive in developing alternative options for Walk to School Day. They have recognized that not all students have the same commuting options, and they’ve taken steps to ensure that everyone can participate. This inclusivity is a hallmark of their commitment to the Safe Routes to School program.

26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



4. Transportation for Sustainable Communities

Farm to Market 3, Solano County

Farm to Market 3 was a large-scale project to widen Suisun Valley Road, Abernathy Road, Rockville Road, and Mankas Corner Road. These Farm to Market investments enhance access to agri-tourism areas in the Suisun Valley farming community, allowing the patrons that frequent those farms to purchase produce and other locally sourced products. With the many wineries, olive oil farms, and Larry's Produce, Suisun Valley has seen significant growth in produce consumption. County staff worked on design and construction.

McCoy Creek Trail Phase 2, City of Suisun City

The design and construction of the McCoy Creek Trail Phase 2 Project is funded by an Active Transportation Program (ATP) allocation of \$4.137M. It is a scenic Class I pedestrian/bike trail more than 3/4 miles in length and has been constructed on the banks of McCoy Creek and Laurel Creek. The project meets the following goals: 1) SR2S, 2) connections to various key destinations, 3) safe recreation, and 4) public health and improved air quality.

Thank You To Our Sponsor



MARK THOMAS

Bay Trail/Vine Trail, City of Vallejo

The Bay Trail/Vine Trail Project will construct almost 5 miles of bike and pedestrian trail facilities in the north end of Vallejo to ultimately connect the Vallejo Ferry Terminal to the jurisdictional boundary with American Canyon. The project will build sections of Class I multi-use trail and sections of Classes II and IV bike lanes along Wilson Avenue, Sacramento Street, Enterprise Drive, Lewis Brown Drive, Broadway Street, Sonoma Boulevard, Meadows Drive, and Catalina Way. The project includes enhancements such as wayfinding, shelters, interpretive panels, and mileposts. The project addresses accessibility along all the segments and will produce a safe and inviting facility for bike and pedestrian travel in northern Vallejo.

This project is unique in that several agencies partnered with Vallejo and granted funds toward the design and construction.

Thank You To Our Sponsors

AkinSM





5. Safety Project of the Year

Winters Road Paving Project, Solano County

The Winters Road paving project was 1.26 miles long and included a small portion of Putah Creek Road from Winters Road to .14 miles east of Winters Road. Approximately 2,200 vehicles travel on Winters Road daily, and it is a popular bicycle route. The project consisted of intersection improvements that widened the interfaces and the installation of an all-way stop at Putah Creek Road. Various County staff worked on the design and construction of the project.

HSIP Projects, City of Vacaville

In October 2020, the City of Vacaville submitted, with the help of STA's consultant, two applications for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant funding. The first application was for enhanced pedestrian improvements at various locations.

The enhanced crosswalks consisted of high visibility crosswalk striping, more signage, and rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB). City staff designed the project, and it was installed by Bear Electric Solutions, Inc., in Summer 2023. The installation of high visibility crosswalks, RRFBs, and more pedestrian crossing signage will increase safety for pedestrians by providing higher visibility when in crosswalks.

The second application was to replace faded edge lines and centerlines on segments of the various roadways:

Edgelines and centerlines are proven safety features to provide road users with additional guidance. Edgelines help drivers judge the alignment of the road ahead and can reduce run-off-road crashes. Additionally, if no bicycle lanes exist, edgelines provide an area for bikers to utilize. Centerlines help oncoming vehicles to avoid collisions and are used to discourage overtaking or accidental 'drifting' from the lane. City staff designed the project, and it was installed by Central Striping Service, Inc., in Summer 2023. The installation of edge lines and centerlines will increase safety for drivers and bicyclists.

Sacramento Street Road Diet Phase 1, City of Vallejo

The Sacramento Street Road Diet Phase I Project, between Tennessee and Capitol Streets, reduced a 4-lane segment of roadway to 2 travel lanes, a shared turning lane, parking lanes, and buffered bike lanes. Other improvements included pavement resurfacing, upgraded signage and striping, and ADA-compliant curb ramp upgrades.

This project lies within one of Vallejo's designated Priority Development Areas; covers residential, park, and school segments of Sacramento Street from Tennessee Street to Capitol Street; and provides bicycle and pedestrian connection to the existing Downtown Streetscape in Downtown Vallejo and the SolTrans Vallejo Transit Center (VTC). The project was funded by \$681,000 in One Bay Area Grant Cycle 2 (OBAG2) funds, \$126,323 in local Transportation Impact Mitigation Fees (TIMF), \$60,633 in local City General Funds, and \$73,093 in Transportation Development Act Article 3 (TDA 3) funds from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

Pedestrian Crossing Improvements, City of Benicia

The Pedestrian Crossing Improvements at Military West & West 5th Street and Hastings Drive & London Drive provided an opportunity not only to install ADA-compliant curb ramps and calm traffic at heavily traveled intersections, but also to increase pedestrian and bicycle safety by installing high visibility crosswalks, solar-powered rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs), ADA-compliant curb ramps, pedestrian refuge island, Class II bike lanes and implementing traffic-calming measures by reducing travel lane widths.

The project improves pedestrian safety on Military West through the installation of a refuge island based on the roadway width and the installation of three RRFBs across Military West. Class II bike lanes have been added along Military West with green MMA (Methyl Methacrylate line-striping) that will enhance bicycle safety across this heavily trafficked intersection. Adding and enhancing pedestrian crossings at locations with high pedestrian activity can improve safety by alerting drivers about the potential presence of pedestrians. The implementation of RRFB signs adds visual warning to drivers when pedestrians are actively crossing. Consequently, the frequency and severity of crashes are expected to be reduced considerably.

(continued)

26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



5. Safety Project of the Year (continued)

The project began construction on July 5, 2023, and was completed on September 29, 2023. Funding was subsidized by a \$250,000 federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Grant for both the design and construction phases. Benicia contributed Capital Improvement funds including Gas Tax – Infrastructure funds to fully cover the total project cost of \$440,000.

Thank You To Our Sponsor

wmH
C o r p o r a t i o n

6. Project of the Year

Sacramento Street Bridge Replacement Project, City of Vallejo

The Sacramento Street Bridge over the Mare Island Railroad was originally built in 1913 and widened in the 1930s. The Sacramento Street Bridge Replacement project was constructed on Sacramento Street between Farragut Avenue, Yolo Avenue, and Illinois Street over the existing railroad. The improvements include a new concrete bridge over the railroad tracks with clearance as required by railroad standards; upgraded sidewalks; raised concrete wall and secure fence above and around the railroad tracks; reconstructed road approaches along Sacramento Street and adjacent Farragut Avenue, Yolo Avenue, and Illinois Street; reconstructed private driveway, sidewalk, stairs, retaining walls and fences to accommodate the raised road grades; installation of new street lights and bridge lighting; replaced wet and dry utilities; and other appurtenances. The replacement bridge was placed on the same horizontal alignment as the existing structure but was raised slightly to accommodate standard California Public Utility Commission railroad clearance requirements.

80/680/12 Interchange Project Phase 2A, Caltrans

Caltrans completed construction of Package 2A of the Interstate 80/Interstate 680/State Route 12 Interchange (I-80/I-680/SR-12) with the official ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 20, 2022. Funding for the two-year, \$93.7-million project included \$53.2 million in funding from the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, Senate Bill (SB) 1. The completion of Package 2A of the I-80/I-680/SR-12 Project improved the flow of traffic through the reconfiguration of the three major freeway movements at this interchange. Motorists using this augmented interchange now enjoy improved travel times and enhanced safety and operational efficiency while residents benefit from reduced cut-through traffic on local streets.

26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



7. Project Delivery

Solano County

Solano County delivered three roadway enhancement projects totaling 10 miles of improvements. Farm To Market Phase 3, STP Overlay Midway Road, and Winters Road Safety Improvement Projects were all completed within the timelines required for the funding milestones associated with all three projects. Each of the projects had environmental constraints that required avoidance, mitigation, and value engineering to meet delivery goals. Various County staff worked on the survey, design, and construction.

City of Vallejo

The City of Vallejo delivered capital improvements that strengthened roadway safety. These include Phase I of the Sacramento Road Diet and Rehab from Tennessee Street to Capitol Street, which installed new designated Class II bike lanes with the corresponding pavement signage and striping. This project also upgraded curb ramps to meet ADA standards and implemented a road diet to reduce speed. Other safety projects that the City delivered include the installation of High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) beacons at multiple locations and the Porter Street Crossing Improvements. The City also completed the Sacramento Street Bridge Project, which replaced the old bridge identified to have seismic vulnerabilities relative to current standards.

Thank You To Our Sponsor



City of Suisun City

The City of Suisun City delivered the New Railroad Avenue Pavement Rehab Project from Sunset Avenue to Birchwood Court. This project involved full-depth asphalt repairs, upgrading curb ramps to meet ADA standards, replacing damaged curbs, as well as restriping existing Class II bike lanes on both sides of the street. The City also started construction Phase 2 of the McCoy Trail Project.

City of Vacaville

The City of Vacaville delivered capital projects that enhanced roadway safety and reliability. The City completed roadway pavement preservation and resurfacing on segments of Merchant Street, Alamo Drive, West Monte Vista Avenue, and Fruitvale Road. Part of this project also involved ADA improvements in these segments. Additionally, the City completed Highway Safety Improvement Program projects – the first one involves pedestrian crossing enhancements at various locations and the second project is related to edge lines and centerline improvements.

Thank You To Our Sponsors



Kimley»Horn

26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



8. State/Federal Elected Official of the Year

To Be Announced

Thank You To Our Sponsors



9. Partner of the Year

San Francisco Bay Ferry / WETA

SF Bay Ferry/Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) continued its bold vision for transit recovery in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23. By June 2023, ridership recovery had reached 75% of 2019 levels, much higher than comparable regional operators. SF Bay Ferry carried more than 2M passengers in FY23, including 650,000 on the Vallejo route. The strong recovery is fueled by decreased fares (locked in by the WETA Board in FY23), a diversified schedule, and the best passenger experience possible. A passenger survey in FY23 found 99% customer satisfaction.

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) allocated \$1.8 million of Regional Measure 3 (RM3) to support Solano Express Transit Operations, and \$500,000 of Quick Strike dollars to supplement the Connected Mobility Implementation Plan. MTC also provided \$500,000 in a Priority Production Area Grant for STA and Solano Economic Development Corporation (Solano EDC) to study aligning jobs and housing in Solano County. Additionally, over \$80 million has been allocated to multiple STA projects, including the 80/680/12 Interchange, I-80 Westbound Truck Scales, SR37 & Fairgrounds Drive, and the Suisun-Fairfield Station Pedestrian Access Project. MTC has played an important role in partnering with the California Transportation Commission (CTC), Caltrans, STA, and the other North Bay Counties to advance both the Interim and Ultimate Projects along the State Route 37 Corridor.

California Transportation Commission

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) continues to be a strong supporter of transportation projects in Solano County. During their June 2023 meeting, which was held in the STA Boardroom, the CTC awarded the STA \$129 million for the I-80 Westbound Truck Scales Project. In addition, the CTC assisted the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the North Bay transportation authorities in advancing improvements along the State Route 37 Corridor.

26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



10. Agency of the Year

City of Suisun City

The City of Suisun City has advanced mobility options for its residents by partnering with the STA on the Suisun City Mobility Hub, the Suisun City Community Based Transportation Plan, and Suisun Microtransit. Additionally, the City has worked with the STA and the Capitol Corridor JPA to advance the Solano Rail Hub Project and improve station lighting at the Train Depot. Suisun City was also awarded a Clean California Grant by Caltrans to beautify sections of Highway 12.

City of Vacaville

The City of Vacaville received Community Project Funding for its I-505/Vaca Valley Multi-Modal Improvement Project and advanced segments of the Jepson Parkway Project. They have also partnered with STA's Safe Routes to School Program (SR2S) to host several events.

City of Fairfield

In partnership with Caltrans, MTC, and the STA, the City of Fairfield helped deliver Package 2A of the 80/680/12 Interchange Improvement Project Phase 2A. They successfully received Community Project Funding for its Jepson Parkway/Canon Road Improvement Project, and they assisted the STA with an intercity fund swap to help preserve federal funding within Solano County. The City has been an invaluable partner on the I-80 Westbound Truck Scales Project, and they also received a Clean California Grant from Caltrans to beautify sections of Highway 12.

Thank You To Our Sponsor



City of Vallejo

The City of Vallejo successfully implemented projects that strengthened roadway safety for all modes of travel. The City's Highway Bridge Program grant funded the replacement of an unsafe bridge on Sacramento Street identified to have seismic vulnerabilities. Further, the City fortified pedestrian safety at multiple intersections with high automobile traffic by installing High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) beacons and rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB). These pedestrian-related projects improve the safety of transit riders who walk to transit stops, such as those located on Springs Road and Heartwood Avenue, as well as along the Broadway Street corridor. The City also upgraded curb ramps to meet ADA standards, added designated Class II bike lanes, and reduced automobile speed through the construction of Phase I of the Sacramento Road Diet Project. Finally, the City, in coordination with Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission (CTC), received approval to proceed with the construction of the Bay Trail/Vine Trail Project which will add about 5 miles of bike and pedestrian multi-use protected path (combination of Class I, II, and IV).

Thank You To Our Sponsors



26TH ANNUAL AWARDS



Solano Transportation Authority



Thank You To Our Gold Sponsors



Mare
Island
Co.



MARK THOMAS



Thank You To Our Silver Sponsors



Thank You From The STA Board



Solano Transportation Authority
... working for you!



423 Main Street
Suisun City, CA 94585
(707) 424-6075
info@sta.ca.gov
www.sta.ca.gov