



# 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition

2015 Annual Report  
Solano Transportation Authority



# 2015 STA Board

# Message from the STA Executive Director



**Elizabeth Patterson,**  
Chair  
Mayor,  
City of Benicia



**Norman Richardson,**  
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Mayor,  
City of Vallejo



**Jim Spering,**  
Supervisor,  
District 3  
Solano County

**To: Solano County Residents, the Business Community  
and our Partner Agencies and Representatives**

Transportation improvements in Solano County provide a better quality of life for our residents, improve movement of goods and services for local businesses, and create local jobs that help vitalize and build the local economy.

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) achieved many successes in 2015, highlighted by the many partnerships we have forged in Solano County with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA), the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA), the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, California Highway Patrol, seven member cities, County of Solano, and our school districts.

The STA is dedicated to addressing Solano County's most urgent transportation needs by providing funding for highway and safety improvements, providing mobility options for seniors and people with disabilities, expanding travel options for commuters, and supporting local projects such as road safety and maintenance, transit facilities and Safe Routes to School.

Despite state and federal cutbacks in transportation funding, STA has been able to ensure continued progress on our top priority projects, such as the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange, Jepson Parkway, Fairfield/Vacaville Train Station, and State Route (SR) 12 safety projects. STA is working with Caltrans, MTC, the California Transportation Commission (CTC), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and our state and federal representatives to obtain the maximum amount of regional, state and federal funds for Solano County's transportation projects.

We look forward to future successes as we collaborate with our partners to bring critically needed transportation improvements to Solano County residents.

Daryl K. Halls  
Executive Director,  
Solano Transportation Authority



## Our Mission...

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

The landscape of our county, country, and world has changed greatly in 25 years. New and improved roads, bridges and highways, rail, ferry and bus services have allowed the residents of Solano County to become better connected to both the Bay Area and the surrounding regions. For a quarter century, the STA has continually sought out ways to make Solano County safer and more efficient for our residents to move about.

# — 1990 — ◆ — 2015 —

## Major World Events

First webserver built leading to the creation of the World Wide Web. Demolition of the Berlin wall begins. Hubble Telescope is launched. San Francisco 49ers beat Denver Broncos 55-10 in Super Bowl XXIV. The Simpsons make their TV debut. Home Alone is highest grossing movie with \$286M in ticket sales.

3D printers popularized. Worldwide Climate Change Deal. Hubble Telescope discovers multiple moons orbiting Pluto. Golden State Warriors beat Cleveland Cavaliers 4-2 to win NBA Championship. David Letterman retires after 33 years on "The Late Show." Star Wars: The Force Awakens shatters box office ticket records with \$529M in ticket sales.



**President**  
George H. W. Bush    Barack Obama

**Governor**  
George Deukmejian    Jerry Brown Jr.

**World Population**  
5,263,593,000    7,336,435,000



## Major Events in Transportation

Last major section of the Interstate Highway System, I-10 from Jacksonville, Florida to Santa Monica, California, is completed. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 is passed by Congress to protect against discrimination based on any disability.

Congress passes Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) and Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform (STRR) Acts. States began passing laws to allow for the safe operation of autonomous cars on public roads.

In Solano County	
<b>Population</b>	
340,421	429,552
<b>Employment</b>	
164,900 average labor force	205,700 average labor force
<b>Total Lane Miles</b>	
2886	3724
<b>Pavement Condition Index (PCI)</b>	
73	65

## Our Commitment..

*The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) was created in 1990 through a Joint Powers Agreement between the cities of Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, Vallejo and the County of Solano to serve as the Congestion Management Agency for Solano. The STA partners with various transportation and planning agencies, such as the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Caltrans District 4, to ensure continued success of our mission.*

# 2015 Highlights



## Safe Routes to School

256 activities - 7 school districts  
17,000 students participating



## Alternative Fuels

Awarded \$300k grant for Solano Electric Vehicle Transition Program



## Taxi Scrip

12,825 Passenger Trips



## SolanoExpress

Ridership increased 1.3% to 1.03 million



## Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program

4,099 vehicles abated



## Solano Mobility

1,276 completed ADA Assessments



## Emergency Ride Home

Increased registrants by 30%



## Solano Napa Commuter Info

168 vanpools begin or end in Solano County (31% of all Bay Area vanpools)



## Capital Corridor Partnership

Suisun City station ridership increased 3%, averaging 445 passengers per day



## Local Preference Policy

69% increase in local purchases



## Solano Mobility Call Center

4,771 phone customers served  
217 walk-in customers served

- ▶ 2015 marked the start of STA's 25th anniversary year since the STA Joint Powers Authority established the agency in 1990.
- ▶ SR 12 Jameson Canyon project earned Engineering Excellence Merit Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies.
- ▶ SR 12 Jameson Canyon Widening Project awarded "Project of the Year over \$75 million" by Northern California Chapter of American Public Works Association.
- ▶ Adopted the Solano Rail Facilities Plan.
- ▶ The Solano Regional Transportation Impact Fee (RTIF) Program marked its 1st anniversary year and passed the \$1 million milestone.
- ▶ Approved build alternative for Redwood Parkway-Fairgrounds Drive Improvement Project, and Certification of Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
- ▶ Public Process for the Transit Corridor Study Phase 2/Route Reconfiguration included 5 public workshops. Input helped develop key issues to be considered for final changes to SolanoExpress intercity bus service.
- ▶ Hosted 25th Anniversary STA Awards Ceremony at the historic Clock Tower in Benicia.
- ▶ STA's FY 2014-15 budget received an unqualified audit report (no findings) for the 10th year in a row.

See additional 2015 accomplishments on the following pages.

June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1990 - Joint powers agreement establishes the STA. Fairfield Mayor Gary Falati worked with Jim Spering (first Board Chair) and John Gray (first Executive Director).



1995 - STA separates from Solano County to become an independent agency.

1996 - Marty Tuttle hired as Executive Director



1999 - Daryl K. Halls hired as Executive Director.

First countywide Bike Plan approved to provide improved bike options for residents.



# Benicia Industrial Bus Hub



In August, the STA and the City of Benicia broke ground for the Benicia Industrial Bus Hub. The transit hub will provide parking for up to 45 cars, sidewalk upgrades, and bike storage, as well as improvements to existing on-street bus stops, and transit shelters for riders using SolanoExpress Route 40. The hub will be a convenient stop for residents looking to connect to BART and the rest of Solano County. Construction is expected to be completed by fall 2016.

## SR 12 East Safety Improvements

Caltrans provided rehabilitation and widening of the highway, roadway profile correction, and drainage improvements. Safety on SR 12 continues to be one of STA's highest priorities. Working closely with law enforcement agencies and Caltrans, STA has continued to develop and implement a multi-faceted strategy for improving safety and mobility on this interregional highway.



## I-680 Rehabilitation and Repaving

As a part of the State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP), work began by Caltrans in June to rehabilitate and repave the 13-mile stretch of I-680 between the I-80 interchange in Fairfield and the Benicia-Martinez Bridge. The work improved the existing median, resurfacing of the roadway, and improved lighting.



# Curtola Park and Ride Hub

The SolTrans Curtola Park and Ride Hub, located on I-80 in Vallejo, reopened to residents and commuters in December. The facility expanded the parking available to 590 spaces, added weather protection for passengers, convenient amenities such as electric vehicle charging stations and commercial vendor facilities while allowing easy access for local and Express Bus transit services.



2000 - Solano Commuter Information (SCI) becomes part of STA. Later expanded to include Napa County, renamed SNCI.



Jepsen Parkway Concept Plan created.

2003 - Al Zampa/Carquinez Bridge improvements and new span completed.

2005 - Countywide Pedestrian Plan approved to provide safer streets and roads for residents.

SR 37 Freeway Widening and Interchange Project and Fairfield Transportation Center (FTC) completed.



2007 - SolanoLinks formed. Later becoming SolanoExpress.

Vacaville Downtown Transit Center and Benicia-Martinez Bridge retrofit and new span completed.

# Fairfield/Vacaville Train Station



In May, the Cities of Fairfield and Vacaville and the Capitol Corridor broke ground on this regional project, with funding secured by STA. The future facility will be a convenient stop for residents using the Capitol Corridor train from Sacramento to the Bay Area. In addition, this project is part of Jepson Parkway, a larger complete streets corridor concept project designed as a multi-modal transportation and land use integrated project. Construction is expected to be completed in spring of 2017.

# I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange Phase 1

Construction began on Phase 1 in summer 2014. In partnership with Caltrans and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), STA secured funding for this multi-year, multi-phase project will improve safety and travel times for motorists on I-80, I-680, Highway 12 and adjacent city streets. Construction is projected to be completed on Phase 1 in fall 2016.



# Rio Vista Waterfront Promenade Phase II

Phase 2 of the Rio Vista Waterfront Promenade opened in October, with funding provided by STA. The project is a multi-modal facility allowing pedestrian, bicycle and boating access to residents of Rio Vista and visitors to the community. This new extension provides an additional 900 foot long connection to the previously completed Phase I project.



2008 - Solano Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program established to encourage children to walk or bike to school and to produce programs to increase safety for these activities.



2009 - I-80 Pavement Rehabilitation Project and I-80 High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes Project completed, adding over 8 miles of HOV lanes both directions from Red Top Road to Airbase Parkway.

2010 - SR 12 Safety improvements and North Connector Project completed. McGary Road reopened with safety improvements including Class 2 bike lanes, dedicated into Bay Area Ridge Trail.



2011 - I-80 Eastbound Cordelia Truck Scales Project completed.



## Solano Safe Routes to School Program

The Solano Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program received a \$3 million Active Transportation grant by MTC for 7 Benicia and Vallejo school infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects, and for education and outreach to 26 schools in Benicia, Rio Vista and Vallejo. The SR2S Program reached 100% participation (7 cities, 7 school districts) this year in its program activities.



## Comprehensive Transportation Plan 2040

The Plan identifies and prioritizes the transportation needs and funding throughout Solano County through the year 2040. The Plan consists of three elements: Active Transportation; Arterials, Highways and Freeways; and Transit and Rideshare. STA staff made presentations to 23 community groups, reaching 442 participants and receiving 159 comments and suggestions.



## Priority Development Area (PDA) and Priority Conservation Area (PCA) Plans

STA has funded 5 PDA plans. Fairfield and Suisun City have PDA plans totaling \$1.06 million, and take advantage of the Suisun-Fairfield Capitol Corridor train station. Benicia, Dixon and Rio Vista were designated \$486,000 under the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) program. STA funded a Priority Conservation Area (PCA) Plan – the first of its kind in the Bay Area – to look at existing and potential new areas for PCA transportation investments. The PCA Plan is expected to be adopted fall of 2016.



## Bay Area Express Lanes – I-80

In partnership with MTC and Caltrans, STA is in the process of converting existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on I-80 from Red Top Road to Air Base Parkway into HOV



Express Lanes and adding new HOV Express Lanes from Air Base Parkway to I-505. The Project is part of the Bay Area Express Lanes Network, and looks to provide a continuous Express Lane system through the whole Bay Area. Design is currently underway and construction could begin as soon as Summer 2018, when funding becomes available.

## Pothole Report



The Solano Pothole Report is a comprehensive description of Solano County's local streets and roads pavement conditions and rehabilitation efforts. This report showcases the 10-year financial shortfalls and pavement conditions of each jurisdiction and the unincorporated county. With a \$240M countywide shortfall over the next 10 years, funding local streets and roads has become a top priority of STA.

## Bay Trail/Vine Trail Feasibility Study

City of Vallejo and the STA Board adopted the Bay Trail/Vine Trail Feasibility Study, a joint effort between the San Francisco Bay Trail, the Napa Valley Vine Trail, and the STA. This document set the City of Vallejo up for potential funding through grant programs such as the Active Transportation Program. The Bay Trail/Vine Trail Project was identified as a top priority by the Bicycle Advisory Committee, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and Technical Advisory Committee, and is a competitive candidate for funds in the next round of Active Transportation Program funding.



2012 - Joint Powers Agreement between Benicia, Vallejo and STA establishes SolTrans



2013 - Regional Transportation Impact Fee (RTIF) established.

Solano Mobility created to provide countywide mobility management for seniors and persons with disabilities.



2014 - Transportation Information Depot opens as a one-stop option for residents' transportation questions.

State Route 12 West Jameson Canyon widening and Dixon West B St Undercrossing projects are completed.

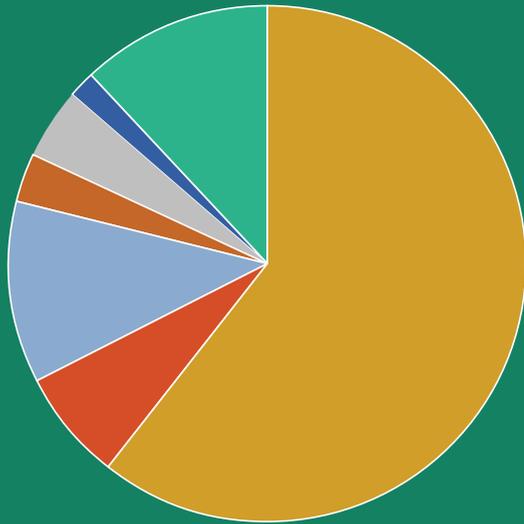


2015 - STA celebrates its 25th anniversary.



# Financial Report

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 2014-15, the STA received its 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive unqualified audit with no findings.



## STA Budget FY 2015-16

Revenues by Source: \$24.7 Million

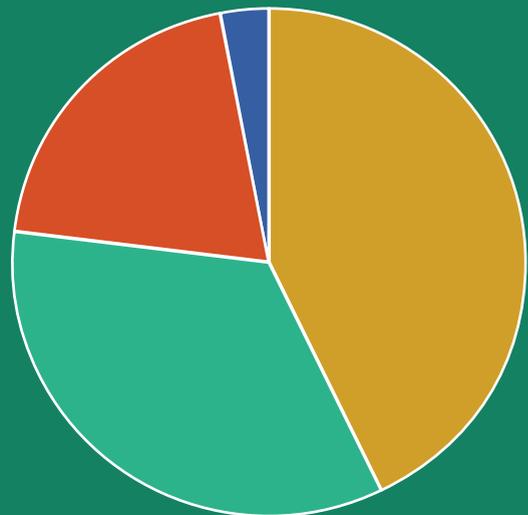
- 61% - Capital Programs
- 12% - Mobility Programs
- 11% - Local Agency Projects
- 7% - Operation and Administration
- 4% - STA Programs
- 3% - Project Development
- 2% - Strategic Planning

The Solano Transportation Authority programs State and Federal funds for projects in Solano County, including all seven cities (Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville and Vallejo) and Caltrans highway projects.

## Solano County State & Federal Programming

FY 2015-16: \$190 Million

- 43% - Transit
- 34% - Highway
- 20% - Local Streets & Roads
- 3% - Active Transportation (bicycle and pedestrian)



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