

## Introduction

- Alameda CTC has been managing express lanes (HOT lanes) since 2010.
- This presentation will discuss:
  - How we came to decide on express lanes
  - Multitude of steps for implementation
  - Benefits we have observed

### I-680 Needs Identification: 1990s

- Thousands of jobs created in Silicon Valley
- Bay Area commute patterns changed
- I-680 over the Sunol Grade identified as top congested corridor
- 1998: Solutions on Sunol Coalition formed to identify solutions
  - Tasked with identifying funding
  - Goal to quickly implement southbound HOV lane to increase capacity and encourage carpooling
  - Express Lane identified as desired tool for managing congestion

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# **Express Lane Implementation Steps**

- Funding
  - Alameda County Sales Tax Measure in 2000
  - Other state and federal funding identified
- JPA
  - Sunol JPA established in 2003 = ACTIA + ACCMA + VTA
- Legislation
  - AB 2032 passed in 2004 authorizing I-680 Sunol Grade express lane and second corridor in Alameda County
- Building Consensus
  - Public opinion polls
  - MTC, Caltrans, CHP, FHWA, affected cities



# Political/Policy Issues

- Tolling Policy
  - Access: limited vs continuous
  - Hours of Operation: peak period vs all day
  - Tolling and Enforcement (SOV, HOV2, HOV3+, CAV)
  - Performance Requirements
- Interagency Agreements
  - Caltrans construction
  - Caltrans maintenance
  - CHP enforcement
  - BATA revenue collection services

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# 1990 1992 1994 1996 1998 2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2010 1990's Thousands of Jobs Created in Silicon Valley 2000 Measure B ½ Cent Sales Tax approved 2002 HdV Lane Opens 2004 Legislation Authorizing Express Lane Approved 2008 Construction of Express Lane Begins September 2010 Express Lane Opens



- First operating express lane in Northern California
- 14-mile stretch over the Sunol Grade
- Three entry points, three exit points
- · Dynamic pricing

Toll System Cost: \$ 41 million

NEXT UP: NB Express Lane!



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### I-580 Needs Identification: 2000s

- Major goods movement and commute corridor
  - Tri-Valley to Bay Area; Port of Oakland
- 2005: Identified by ACCMA as potential express lanes corridor
- 2012: Eastbound HOV lane opened
- 2014: Express lane construction commenced
- February 2016: Express Lanes opened for use
  - Two EB lanes
  - One WB lane
  - Continuous Access





### **Lessons Learned**

- Enforcement Matters
  - License Plate Capture Technology reduces cheating
- Access Control Matters
  - SB I-680 converting to continuous access in 2019
- Outreach Matters
  - Video of how express lanes work (website, You-Tube)
  - Direct mail, community event booths
  - Media tours
- Consolidate HOV + Express Lane construction for time and cost savings

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# **Benefits to Alameda County**

### **I-680 Express Lane Corridor**

- Reduced travel times in both express and general purpose lanes
- Increased vehicle and person throughput
- Reduced queues at key points of congestion
- January August 2016 trip/revenue stats:
  - Average 78,000 toll trips per month
  - Average \$190,000 gross revenue per month
- Operating in the black since FY 2014/15

# **Benefits to Alameda County**

### I-580 Express Lane Corridor

- Average speed differential up to 25 mph (express vs GP)
- February August 2016 trip/revenue stats:
  - Average 700,000 total trip (280,000 toll trip) per month and growing
  - Average \$780,000 gross revenue per month
  - ~ 32% toll free use
  - ~ 56% toll users
  - ~ 12% violation (no FasTrak)
- Still in ramp-up period
- Outreach ongoing to increase FasTrak usage

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