



COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

Roads Commission

FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 WORK PLAN

AND

CALENDAR YEAR 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Roads Commission is to give advice and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on matters generally relating to the planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation and funding of the County's expressways, highways and roads and such other matters as directed by the Board. This includes pedestrian and bicycle uses of County expressways and roads as well as efforts to promote city-county cooperation on traffic issues.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

After the dissolution of the Transportation Commission, which included an advisory role on Road Fund issues, the Board of Supervisors in April of 1995 passed an ordinance establishing the Roads Commission to advise the Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to the County's expressways, highways and roads. County owned roads have generally been considered as being in one of three groups: expressways, rural commuter and intra-county connectors, and county roads. The Roads Commission has been concerned with establishing visions, plans, and funding for these facilities that will serve the public's needs both now and into the future.

To address the Roads Commission's most immediate concerns over effectiveness of our expressway system, the Roads Commission lobbied to initiate, then participated in a *Comprehensive Expressway Study* guided by a Policy Advisory Board. The study's findings and recommendations were approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2003. A fifth year update of this expressway study was completed in 2008. The Roads Commission continues to monitor progress and investigate funding sources to implement these recommendations.

Currently, development patterns and specific new community plans within Santa Clara County and in neighboring counties are of particular interest to the Roads Commission because of their potential to impact the funding and effectiveness of our expressway system and rural commuter and intra-county connectors.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 WORK PLAN

GOAL/OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	PRIORITY RANKING	TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION
<p>1. Encourage, evaluate, and make recommendations on measures that provide renewed emphasis on and funding sources for streets and roads capital, maintenance, and operating needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote increased streets and roads funding that more accurately reflects existing user choices and business needs. • Monitor and make recommendations on tax measures and other revenue sources being considered or proposed by county, regional, state, and federal entities or by the private sector. • Review and make recommendations on the effectiveness of plans by VTA and MTC in achieving this goal. 	<p>1</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>2 Monitor and make recommendations on ways and means to enhance the County Expressway System and to implement Expressway Study Recommendations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with VTA to expedite implementation of the \$150-million of Tier 1A Study projects in VTP2035 and to develop funding mechanisms for the \$18.6-million of annual maintenance and operating tasks specified in the Study recommendations. • Perform an annual review of and make recommendations on progress toward implementation. 	<p>2</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>3. Develop a set of Roads Commission Goals & Objectives, then review our Mission Statement and committee structure to ensure consistency and to maximize our Commission's effectiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Goals & Objectives. • Review Mission Statement. • Review committee structure. 	<p>3</p>	<p>2009</p>
<p>4. Monitor progress and make recommendations that result in timely implementation of traffic plans for South County.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and provide recommendations on: A. Southern Gateway Study B. South County Circulation Study • Monitor and participate in planning for Coyote Valley development. 	<p>4</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>5. Conduct an in-depth review of planned improvement needs for County commuter routes and rural roads.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold Roads Commission workshops to explore in-depth the needs for each of these categories of County roads. • Coordinate with County General Plan update. 	<p>5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2009 • 2009

6. Monitor status of on-going projects and respond to issues as may be assigned by the Board of Supervisors or may arise from the public or staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study and respond as appropriate 	To Be Determined (TBD)	As needed
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PRIOR YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2008 GOAL/OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING GOAL	STATUS
<p>1. Evaluate various tax and revenue plans that might provide new funding sources for Roads capital, maintenance, and operating needs.</p>	<p>During 2008 the Roads Commission reviewed and whenever appropriate made recommendations on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads and Airports Department Fiscal Year 2009 Recommended Budget and Calendar Year 2008 Master Capital Projects Plan • Roads and Airports Department Five Year Strategic Expenditure Plan • Congestion Management Agency regional roads funding • Invited various transportation agency representatives to present and inform the Commission on planning and funding opportunities potentially affecting County Roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete • Complete • Complete • Ongoing
<p>2. Review Commission goals and objectives.</p>	<p>Deferred until 2009.</p>	<p>Incomplete</p>
<p>3. Monitor and make recommendations on ways and means to enhance our Expressway System and to implement Expressway Study Recommendations.</p>	<p>During 2008 the Roads Commission reviewed and when appropriate made recommendations on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive County Expressway Planning Study 2008 Update • Tier 1A and 1B Capacity and Operational Project Lists for inclusion in VTP 2035 • Operation and performance of High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on County expressways • Calendar Year 2007 Congestion Management Program Traffic Level of Service (LOS) Monitoring • Montague Expressway and North First Street controller upgrade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete • Complete • Pending further review • Complete • Complete
<p>4. Participate in the development of South County traffic plans and objectives.</p>	<p>The Roads Commission reviewed and made recommendations on the South County Circulation Study long-term policies and strategies.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>5. Conduct an in-depth review of commuter routes and county roads.</p>	<p>Deferred until 2009.</p>	<p>Incomplete</p>
<p>6. Monitor status of on-going projects, and respond to issues as may be assigned by the Board of Supervisors or may arise</p>	<p>During 2008 the Roads Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and made recommendations on the FY 2009 	

<p>from the public or staff.</p>	<p>Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Project Priorities and Annual Grant Applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and made recommendations on a Board referral regarding a proposal to rename Capitol Expressway. • Appointed a commission liaison member to attend and report on the County/VTA Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete • Complete • Ongoing
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ONGOING PROJECTS

PROJECT	ACTIVITIES
<p>1. Review and make recommendations on the Five-Year Strategic Expenditure Plan (SEP).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is an annual task and is a key tool to help in the evaluation of the current and future health of the expressway and roads system. The differences between constrained and unconstrained plans help quantify the impact of present and future budget levels. • Link performance measurements and forecasted budgets so as to highlight the impact of projected budgets on future conditions; i.e., "Getting better", "Getting Worse", etc. • Develop a formal linkage between the 5-Year SEP and the Roads Department's Annual Budget.
<p>2. Review the Department's Annual Budget</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and make recommendations as appropriate. • Advocate for reinstatement of Commission recommended funding for district-specific discretionary projects and special safety projects as soon as it is financially feasible.
<p>3. Annual Pavement Plan Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and make recommendations as appropriate. • Provide publicly available comparisons between plans and performance measurements for districts and urban pockets within our county. • Review the high and low range of measurements as well as averages.
<p>4. Annual Expressway Level Of Service report</p>	<p>Review and make recommendations and/or alert Board to concerns and suggest actions as may be appropriate.</p>
<p>5. Review Annual Transportation Development Act (TDA-3) program for Bicycle/Pedestrian Priorities</p>	<p>Review and make recommendations as appropriate.</p>
<p>6. Review plans of other organizations (cities, VTA, MTC, state, and federal) that could impact the County's streets and roads.</p>	<p>Review and make recommendations as appropriate.</p>
<p>7. Develop Work Plans and reports as requested by Board</p>	<p>Prepare and submit as directed.</p>
<p>8. Maintain our required relationship with the County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a liaison representative at every BPAC meeting. • Review BPAC reports and make recommendations as appropriate.