

**MTC Express Lanes Quarterly Report: Annual Year First Quarter
(January – March 2022)**

Subject:

A report on operational performance of MTC’s I-680 Contra Costa and I-880 Alameda Express Lanes.

Express Lanes Operations:

The year-over-year project performance statistics for BAIFA’s I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes and I-880 Express Lanes are shown in Table 1.

- I-680 Contra Costa – Express lane usage, tolls and revenue were up compared to the first quarter of 2021 due to the 12-mile extension of the southbound express lane that opened for tolling on August 20, 2021 as well as continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Express lane trips increased 69% from Q1 2021 to 2.1 million trips while toll revenue increased 150% to \$2.5 million. The increase in revenue reflects a 60% increase in paid trips and a 73% increase in the average toll paid. 13% of trips were violations (users with neither a FasTrak® account nor a toll tag), up from 11% a year ago. CHP enforcement hours were up 56% from a year ago.
- I-880 Express Lanes – Express lane usage, tolls and revenue were up compared to the first quarter of 2021 due to continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Express lane trips increased 42% from Q1 2021 to 3.7 million trips while toll revenue increased 93% to \$8.7 million. The increase in revenue reflects a 23% increase in paid trips and an 85% increase in the average toll paid. 14% of trips were violations, a 3% lower share than Q1 2021. The share of toll-free (HOV 3+) trips was 36%, continuing the steady rise seen each quarter since the lanes opened. This could be due to drivers setting their tags incorrectly, and MTC is working with CHP to increase enforcement hours, pursuing automated enforcement pilot projects, and messaging the lane requirements.

Table 1: BAIFA Express Lanes Operations First Quarter (Q1) Calendar Year 2022 Year-Over-Year Performance Statistics

Statistic	I-680 Q1 2021	I-680 Q1 2022	I-680 Change	I-880 Q1 2021	I-880 Q1 2022	I-880 Change
Total trips	1.2M	2.1M	69%	2.6M	3.7M	42%
Toll-free trips share ¹	37%	38%	1%	24%	36%	12%
Paid trips share ²	52%	49%	-3%	59%	50%	-9%
Violation trips	11%	13%	2%	17%	14%	-3%
Average toll paid	\$1.10	\$1.90	73%	\$2.00	\$3.70	85%
Toll revenue ³	\$1.0M	\$2.5M	150%	\$4.5M	\$8.7M	93%
CHP contacts	723	1,131	56%	1,832	2,060	12%

Quarter-over-quarter trends (Q1 2022 vs. Q4 2021), differ from the year-over-year trends.

Express lane data consistently shows a seasonal decline from the fourth quarter of the prior year to the first quarter of the new year. In addition, the Omicron surge of COVID-19 occurred in Q1 2022. The quarter-over-quarter trends are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: BAIFA Express Lanes Operations First Quarter (Q1) Calendar Year 2022 Quarter-Over-Quarter Performance Statistics

Statistic	I-680 Q4 2021	I-680 Q1 2022	I-680 Change	I-880 Q4 2021	I-880 Q1 2022	I-880 Change
Total trips	2.2M	2.1M	-5%	3.9M	3.7M	-5%
Toll-free trips share ¹	37%	38%	1%	33%	36%	3%
Paid trips share ²	51%	49%	-2%	53%	50%	-3%

¹ On I-680, HOV2 and HOV3+ vehicles travel toll free. On I-880, HOV3+ vehicles travel toll free.

² On I-680, paid trips are SOV trips and half-toll SOV Clean Air Vehicle trips. On I-880, paid trips are SOV trips and half-toll SOV Clean Air Vehicle trips and half-toll HOV 2 trips.

Statistic	I-680 Q4 2021	I-680 Q1 2022	I-680 Change	I-880 Q4 2021	I-880 Q1 2022	I-880 Change
Violation trips	12%	13%	1%	14%	14%	0%
Average toll paid	\$2.50	\$1.90	-24%	\$4.20	\$3.70	-12%
Toll revenue ³	\$3.5M	\$2.5M	-22%	\$11.2M	\$8.7M	-22%
CHP contacts	1,013	1,131	12%	2,377	2,060	-13%

Issues:

None.

Recommendations:

This item is provided for information only.

Attachments:

- MTC Express Lanes Quarterly Report: First Quarter, January - March 2022



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³ Toll revenue excludes violation penalties.