

Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA)

October 28, 2020

Agenda Item 4a - 20-1478

I-880 Express Lanes

Subject: A report on the initial operations of I-880 Express Lanes, which opened on October 2, 2020.

Background: The I-880 Express Lanes began operation on October 2, 2020. The project converted existing high-occupancy vehicle lanes to express lanes in Alameda County from Hegenberger Road to Dixon Landing Road in the southbound direction and from Dixon Landing Road to Lewelling Boulevard in the northbound direction. (See the map in Attachment A.)

The operating rules, which are similar to other Bay Area Express Lanes in most respects, are:

- Operating hours: 5 AM to 8 PM
- FasTrak® is required for all vehicles
- Buses and eligible carpools are toll free
- Carpools with 3 or more persons are toll free on both the I-880 and connecting SR-237 Express Lanes. Carpools with 2 persons and clean air vehicles pay half-price tolls as of October 2, 2020.


Information on how to use the lanes is available on MTC's website and on 511. The attached newsletter, distributed in September, also presents key information about how to use the lanes. (See Attachment B.)

At your October 28, 2020 meeting, staff will give a brief report based on observations from the initial several weeks of operations. Typically, it takes four to six months for new express lane operations to reach a "steady state" and could take longer given lighter traffic in the COVID-19 environment. Staff plans to present regular metrics (e.g., travel volumes, speeds, toll rates, and enforcement activity) within four or five months and more in-depth answers to performance questions Commissioners posed at the January 2020 meeting within seven or eight months. Because the I-880 express lanes introduce new carpool occupancy requirements and discounted tolls for clean air vehicles, staff is planning to collect additional data after the start of daylight savings time when more daylight will allow more accurate counts of clean air vehicles and carpool occupancy.

Issues: None

Recommendation: This item is presented for information only.

Attachments: Attachment A: I-880 Express Lanes Map
Attachment B: I-880 Opening Newsletter


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