

Attachment C – Outreach Activities

Staff informed the public about the proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes in multiple ways:

- Announcement of public webinar and/or public hearing posted to MTC’s website October 23, November 1, 12, and 19, 2024.
- News Items were posted on MTC’s website October 23 and November 1, 12, 19, and 20, 2024, and a press release was sent to local media on October 23 and November 19, 2024.
- Email blasts were sent to MTC/BATA email distribution list on October 23, November 1, 8, 12, and 19 and posted on social media.
- Public legal notices announcing the proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes were posted in newspapers in multiple languages. The publications include the Contra Costa Times, East Bay Times, La Opinion de la Bahia, Marin Independent Journal, Mercury News, Napa Valley Register, San Francisco Chronicle, San Mateo County Times, Sing Tao (SF), The Daily Republic, and The Press Democrat.
- Staff held a public webinar with a total of 42 public attendees on November 13, 2024 to provide an overview of the proposed toll schedule changes followed by questions and answers. Attendees were instructed to submit comments on the proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes at the November 20, 2024 public hearing, via email to info@bayareametro.gov, or by mail to the MTC/BATA Public Information Office at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco. Attendees asked 40 questions that primarily sought clarification on BATA’s financials, how toll revenue is used, and availability of alternatives for funding bridge preservation. Other questions inquired about future plans for a carpool lane on the Bay Bridge, ways to replace an old FasTrak tag, whether FasTrak works outside of California, how the Toll Roads in Southern California differ from Bay Area tolling, and whether toll booths can be removed. Attendees also submitted two comments which are included in the summary of public comment in the Economic Burden and Government Accountability sections in the main part of this memo. The webinar and transcript are available at <https://mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/authorities/bay-area-toll-authority/proposed-2026-toll-increase-high-occupancy-vehicle-hov-policy-updates>.

- BATA held a public hearing on November 20, 2024 to receive public testimony on the proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes. Public meetings where the proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes have been on the agenda for information are summarized below.
- Staff presented to the Bay Area County Transportation Agencies Executive Roundtable, Bay Area Council, California Trucking Association, Federal Highway Administration, and to the Bay Area Transit General Managers.

Public Meetings

Date	Meeting	Discussion/Action
April 5, 2024	Commission Workshop	Information on bridge stewardship and investments
July 10, 2024	BATA Oversight Committee Meeting	Toll bridge stewardship presentation highlighting bridge funding needs
September 11, 2024	BATA Oversight Committee Meeting	Information item on potential toll increase
October 9, 2024	BATA Oversight Committee Meeting	Information item on proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes
October 22, 2024	MTC Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee	Information item on proposed toll increase
October 23, 2024	BATA Meeting	Information item on proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes
November 13, 2024	Public Webinar	Presentation and question and answer session on proposed toll increase and HOV policy changes
November 20, 2024	Public Hearing BATA Meeting	Public comment on proposed toll schedule
December 11, 2024	BATA Oversight Committee Meeting	Staff presented a summary of public comments received by 5 p.m. on December 3, 2024; Public comment provided on the item by 5 p.m. on December 10 was also shared with the Committee and in-person comments were made at the Committee. The Committee referred the proposal to the Authority for approval.
December 18, 2024	BATA Meeting	Authority action on toll increase and HOV policy changes