

**Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority  
Network and Operations Committee**

**December 13, 2024**

**Agenda Item 5a**

**Interstate 80 (I-80) Solano Express Lanes:**

**i. Upcoming Activities; and**

**ii. Contract Approval – Express Lane Enforcement: California Highway Patrol  
(\$7,140,000)**

---

**Subject:**

i. Update on the remaining milestones leading up to the opening of the new Solano I-80 Express Lanes including a proposal to pilot weekend operations; and ii. Approval of Express Lane enforcement contract with California Highway Patrol (CHP) for an amount not to exceed \$7,140,000.

**Background:**

The Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA), the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) are partnering to deliver express lanes on I-80 in Solano County. STA is the sponsoring agency for civil project delivery, Caltrans is delivering the civil construction project, and BAIFA is the lead agency to deliver the toll system and backhaul communications network. The project converts existing high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes to express lanes in the eastbound and westbound directions between Red Top Road and Air Base Parkway and builds express lanes in the eastbound and westbound directions between Air Base Parkway and Interstate 505 for a total of 20 express lane miles in each direction. The project started construction in April 2022 and is expected to open to tolling in Fall 2025.

The new express lane will be toll free for vehicles with three or more occupants (HOV3+) to match the carpool occupancy requirement in the rest of the I-80 corridor, and offer discounted tolls to vehicles with 2 occupants (HOV2) like the I-880, US 101 and State Route 237 express lanes. Single Occupant Vehicles (SOVs) will pay full toll rates. The minimum toll amount and violation penalty rates will be the same as established on other BAIFA express lanes. The lanes will operate from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. In addition to operating Monday through Friday, staff is proposing a three-year pilot to toll on Saturdays and Sundays. While the additional lane in the

east segment is expected to reduce traffic congestion, there may still be congestion on the weekends, which are some of the most heavily travelled days in the corridor. The goal of the weekend operations pilot is to introduce pricing to address weekend congestion, understand the impacts of weekend operations, plan for future traffic growth and align with potential future weekend express lane operations on I-80 in Yolo County. STA, Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) have expressed interest and support for a weekend pilot.

Caltrans anticipates that roadway construction will be complete in January 2025. At that time the new HOV lane in the east segment can be opened to traffic while the toll equipment is installed and tested through the Fall 2025. Caltrans recommends opening the lane for safety reasons and to anticipate public perception of a completed lane that is not open for use. Caltrans, STA and BAIFA are planning for the east segment HOV lane to open as HOV2+ with the same hours of operation as the existing west segment HOV lane from 5-10 a.m. and 3-7 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Enforcement of Express Lanes:

Once the new express lanes open, enforcement of BAIFA's operating policies, including occupancy requirements for discounted or free tolls, will be crucial to maintain lane performance and public trust. As with other express lanes in the region, BAIFA will rely on a combination of automated toll enforcement and manual enforcement by CHP. Automated toll enforcement uses cameras and license plate recognition to identify vehicles without a FasTrak® account, while manual enforcement involves visual inspections of HOV2 and HOV3+ vehicles by CHP. CHP also enforces other violations such as vehicles without license plates. BAIFA reimburses CHP for manual enforcement costs as required by California law.

**Upcoming Activities:**

Over the next several months staff will plan and implement activities in preparation for the opening of the interim HOV lane, the start of tolling and the weekend pilot. Staff are working with STA and Caltrans to prepare public outreach and communications plans for all three. At the start of the interim HOV operations in January 2025, staff will start communicating to the public about future tolling including the planned weekend tolling. In addition, marketing activities will occur in advance of, and through, the start of tolling.

Staff are developing an agreement to be executed with Caltrans that defines the weekend tolling pilot and the evaluation criteria. At the end of the three-year pilot, a report will be provided that analyzes the performance against the evaluation criteria and recommends whether to continue weekend tolling.

Staff anticipates bringing an update to the toll ordinance to include the I-80 express lanes to the Committee for a public hearing in April and to the Authority for final adoption in May 2025. The proposed toll ordinance amendment will also authorize BAIFA to approve pilot projects that impact hours of operation by resolution to enable the weekend pilot. The toll ordinance adoption is well in advance of the start of toll operations. Staff will also bring to the Committee contract amendments related to additional toll maintenance and operations services for weekend tolling over the coming months as those are further defined.

Contract for Enforcement of I-80 Express Lanes:

Today, Staff is requesting Committee approval to enter into an agreement with CHP for express lane enforcement services on Solano 80. Staff are seeking BAIFA authorization now to allow time for CHP to process and execute the contract, which may take as long as six months.

The I-80 Express Lanes corridor is 20 miles long in both directions, similar to the I-880 Express Lanes. Staff plan to use four CHP officers in the morning and evening, following the staffing structure of I-880. The contract amount recommended for enforcement services covers enforcement seven days a week, aligning with the proposal to pilot weekend tolling.

The contract term is proposed for 3 years (through June 2028), with a maximum total amount of \$7,140,000 and an annual value of approximately \$2,380,000. Staff will request extensions every 2 years to align with BAIFA's current enforcement contracts for I-680 and I-880, streamlining future contract amendments with CHP and eliminating the requirement for separate board approvals.

**Issues:**

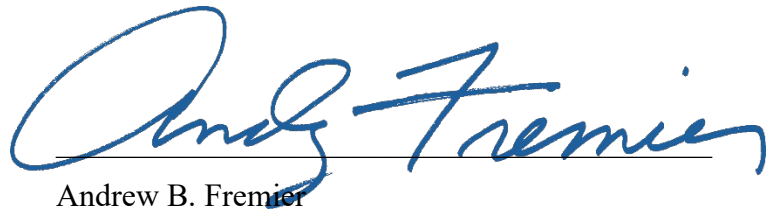
None identified.

**Recommendations:**

- i. Information
- ii. Authorize the Executive Director or designee negotiate and enter into a new agreement with CHP to provide enforcement services for the I-80 Express Lanes between Fairfield and Vacaville in an amount not to exceed \$7,140,000 subject to the adoption of future BAIFA operating budgets.

**Attachments:**

- Request for Committee Approval – Summary of Proposed Contract
- Attachment A: Presentation



Andrew B. Fremier

## Request for Committee Approval

---

### Summary of Proposed Contract

Work Item No.: 6865

Consultant: California Highway Patrol (CHP)  
Fairfield, CA

Work Project Title: Express Lanes Enforcement: I-80

Purpose of Project: To provide enforcement services for the I-80 Solano Express Lanes

Brief Scope of Work: CHP shall perform visual inspections of toll-free vehicles to confirm they meet the occupancy requirement or have the appropriate clean air decal and issue citations as appropriate, as well as enforce other rules of the road.

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$7,140,000

Funding Source: BAIFA operating budget for FY25/26, subject to adoption: \$2,030,000  
BAIFA operating budget for FY26/27, subject to adoption: \$2,520,000  
BAIFA operating budget for FY27/28, subject to adoption: \$2,590,000

Fiscal Impact: BAIFA Express Lanes Program Operating Budget for FY2025-26 through FY 2027-28, subject to future budget approvals.

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with CHP for enforcement of express lanes as described above and in the Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority Network and Operations Committee Summary Sheet dated December 13, 2024 and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside \$7,140,000 for such contract subject to future budget approvals.

BAIFA Network and  
Operations Committee:

---

Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Vice Chair

Approved: December 13, 2024