



MADERA

Publication of the Madera County Transportation Commission

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Measure "T" Leverages \$48.4 Million for Madera County

Measure T, the half-cent transportation sales tax measure passed by Madera County voters last November, has already begun to deliver money for vital transportation projects in the County. On March 15, the California Transportation Commission (CTC)

not begin to accumulate until April 1, 2007, passage of the measure was instrumental in leveraging the bond money. The CTC provides special consideration to projects in counties with transportation sales tax measures.



"We owe the citizens of Madera County who voted for Measure T a debt of gratitude," said Patricia Taylor, Executive Director of the Madera County Transportation Commission

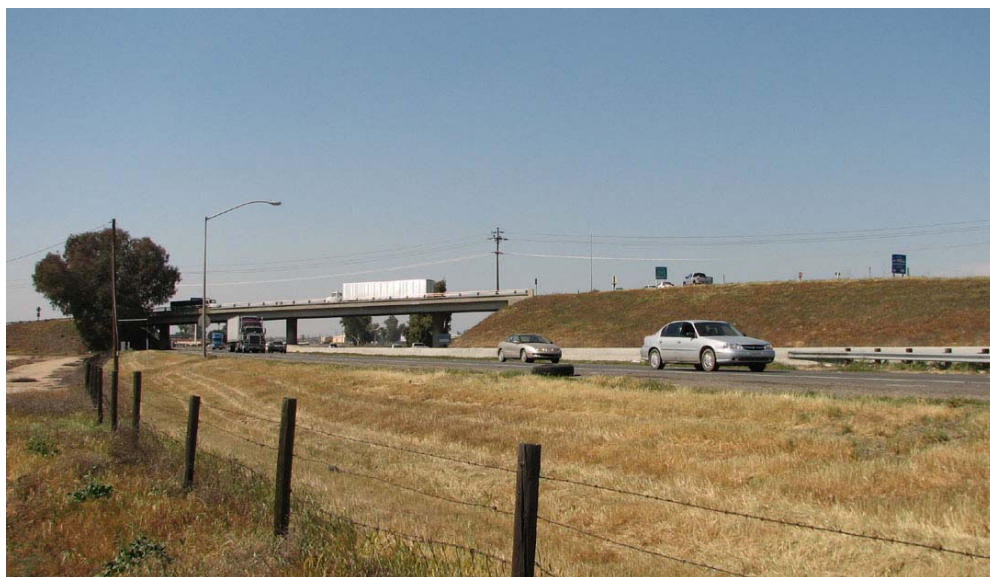
approved \$1 billion in Route 99 bond projects, including \$48.4 million to reconstruct the congested Avenue 12/ Highway 99 interchange south of the City of Madera.

(MCTC), "Without their support this project would not have been deliverable."

Measure T was approved by voters in November 2006, garnering 73.1% of the

Although Measure T tax dollars will

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The Avenue 12/State Route 99 interchange as it stands today. The overpass will be reconstructed using a combination of state and local funds.

MADERA COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
1816 Howard Road, Suite 8
Madera, California 93637
Phone: 559-675-0721
Fax: 559-675-9328
Web site: www.maderactc.org

San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning the Future of Madera County

The San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process is a chance to plan for the future of transportation and land use in the San Joaquin Valley to the Year 2050. Planning issues do not exist in a vacuum. Transportation and land use are intertwined and these issues also affect housing, employment centers, and air quality.

The San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process will enable the region to better understand that what we do locally affects the entire region. Public involvement is an integral part of this process, and to that end the Madera County Transportation Commission has sought the input of citizens through a series of planning workshops.

The Madera Blueprint Vision and Values Workshops, held during the last week of February, were a great opportunity for the community to discuss relevant issues pertaining to future growth and development in Madera County. All three workshops were well attended to the tune of 44 participants in Oakhurst, 35 in Madera and 26 in Chowchilla.

Using state of the art interactive polling technology, workshop participants were invited to express their preferences among 11 “community values”. The following values registered as the most important to workshop attendees:



Chowchilla Workshop



Oakhurst Workshop

- Environmental Sustainability
- Public Safety
- Vibrant Economy
- Healthy Environment



Madera Workshop

The polling results will form the basis for the development of a Vision Statement for the Madera County 2050 Blueprint. The statement reads as follows:

Proposed Madera Blueprint Vision Statement

Madera County will be composed of unique cities, communities and a diverse population that is supported by a vibrant economy, a healthy and sustainable environment and public safety, accomplished through a land use and transportation system that supports livable communities and interregional coordination and connectivity, while preserving agricultural and natural resources.

Additional public workshops are tentatively scheduled for June.

For more information on the Blueprint Process including a draft summary of the Vision and Values Workshop polling results and a brief video presentation on the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint, please visit our Blueprint website:

<http://www.maderactc.org/blueprint.htm>

Proposition 1B Provides Additional Funding

Madera County receives a \$17.8 million augmentation

On November 7, 2006, California voters had the opportunity to support the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan for California by approving the authorization of General Obligation Bonds for Infrastructure. One of the ballot measures included in the plan was Proposition 1B – The Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, & Port Security Bond Act of 2006.

Proposition 1B, as approved by voters, authorizes the California Legislature to sell \$19.925 billion of General Obligation Bonds and allocates this revenue to numerous transportation-related programs. One of the main programs funded by this bond is the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Augmentation. \$2 billion was allocated to the STIP Augmentation program, of which Madera County was allocated \$17.758 million in regional discretionary transportation dollars to be programmed for fiscal years (FY) 2007-2011.

Working with local government agencies, the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) proposed in its

Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) how these augmentation funds should be spent in Madera County. MCTC proposed 5 new projects to add to the existing projects in the RTIP. These new projects include:

1. SR99/SR145 – Widening of SR145 bridge from 2 to 4 through lanes and dual left turn lanes. Widening of approach on SR145 and modification of SR99 on and off ramps.
STIP funds: \$6.4 million
Construction scheduled for 2007/08
2. Ellis Street, SR 99 – Construction of new 4-lane overcrossing spanning SR99, connecting Ellis Street with Avenue 16.
STIP funds: \$8.5 million
Construction scheduled for 2008/09

(Continued on page 5)



Traffic congestion and delay at the intersection of Cleveland Avenue and Gateway Drive will be alleviated by construction of the Ellis overcrossing.

Air Quality

Tired of breathing dirty air? You can help reduce air pollution.

Drive Less

In California, about half the air pollution comes from cars and trucks. Two simple ways to reduce air pollution are to drive less, even a little less, and to drive smart. Fewer trips in your car or truck will help cut air pollution. And how you drive can reduce your car's air pollution contribution. Driving less doesn't mean you have to stay home. Try combining driving with other ways of getting where you want to go:

1. Carpool.
2. Walk or ride a bike.
3. Shop by Internet, phone or mail.
4. Ride public transit.
5. Telecommute.



Drive Smart

Driving smart keeps pollution at a minimum:

6. Accelerate gradually.
7. Use cruise control on the highway.
8. Obey the speed limit.
9. Combine your errands into one trip.
10. Keep your car tuned and support the Smog Check Program.
11. Don't top off at the gas pump.
12. Replace your car's air filter.
13. Keep your tires properly inflated.
14. Report smoking vehicles.
Call #SMOG on your cellular phone.
Call your local air pollution control district or 1 (800) END-SMOG

That's not all. When shopping for your next car...

15. Look for the most efficient, lowest polluting model or even a zero-polluting electric car. (Check out the ARB's *Guide to Cleaner Cars* at www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/ccvl/ccvl.htm.)
16. Drive your newest car. Newer cars generally pollute less than older models.

Measure T: Dangerous intersection will receive upgrade

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vote. In addition to any leveraged funds that may become available, the measure will generate \$213 million for local transportation over the next 20 years.

The Avenue 12/Highway 99 interchange has been subject to numerous high profile traffic

accidents over the years, including a 2006 crash that resulted in five deaths. The proposed project will widen the interchange from two to four lanes at a total cost of \$68 million.

Construction is slated to begin in 2012.

STIP Augmentation: Delayed projects receive additional funding

(Continued from page 3)

3. SR 99, Ave 12 – Avenue 12 interchange will be reconstructed to accommodate 4 through lanes and a left hand turn lane.

STIP funds: \$6 million


Construction scheduled for 2012

4. 4th Street, 'K' Street to Lake Street – 4th Street will be reconstructed and widened to accommodate 4 lanes and traffic signals will be modified.

STIP funds: \$2.1 million
Construction scheduled for 2008/09

5. 4th Street, SR 99 – Widening of 4th Street bridge to 4 through lanes and a left hand turn lane. Northbound off ramp widened to 2 lanes.

STIP funds: \$2.1 million
Construction scheduled for 2009/10



MEASURE T
Madera County Transportation Authority
Citizens' Oversight Committee

Concerned about the future of Madera?

The Measure T Citizens' Oversight Committee will provide citizen perspective, participation and involvement in Madera County's \$213 million transportation sales tax, making sure that Measure T funds are spent as promised to the public.

We need your help!

The NEW deadline for application submittal is:
Thursday, May 31, 2007.

For a copy of the COC application package, please contact Richard Poythress at (559) 675-0721 or richard@maderactc.org. You may also download the application package at <http://www.maderactc.org>.

News Briefs

Measure A funds Gateway interchange project; Road widening continues north of Madera; Madera County Transportation Commission celebrates its

Measure A Funds Gateway Interchange Project

Construction is now underway on a \$6.4 million project to improve access to the Madera Community Hospital on Highway 99. Funded through a mixture of Measure "A" dollars and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), this project will improve access from Madera Community Hospital to eastern Madera via Gateway Drive and establish a freeway offramp on the southbound side of State Route 99. An additional lane will be added to the Gateway Drive freeway overpass for northbound traffic, relieving pressure on the frequently congested Madera Avenue route. Construction began in November 2006 and is scheduled to be completed December 2008.



Looking north at a new section of Gateway Drive

Road Widening Continues North of Madera

Measure "T" has superseded Measure "A" as Madera County's half-cent transportation sales tax, but projects funded by Measure "A" still continue under construction. Avenue 17 from Road 26 to Highway 99 and Road 26 from Avenue 17 to Avenue 18 are currently being widened at a total cost of \$4.1 million.

The Avenue 17 side of the project will result in an upgrade from 2 to 5 lanes,

including a turn lane to divide the four travel lanes. Road 26 will improve from 2 to 3 lanes with a continuous center turn lane providing easier and safer access to businesses, homes and churches.



Construction zone northbound on Road 26

Madera County Transportation Commission Celebrates Its 35th Anniversary

2007 is a momentous year for the MCTC as we celebrate our 35th year serving the citizens of Madera County. The MCTC was established on June 13, 1972 by the Madera County Board of Supervisors as the Local Transportation Commission (LTC) for Madera County.

Since then, the roles and responsibilities of the MCTC have grown to include administration of the half-cent sales tax measures ("A" and "T") under the auspices of the Madera County Transportation Authority. With the results of the 2000 census, the MCTC was designated a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Madera area. MCTC staff look forward to serving Madera County for the next 35 years and beyond.



Unmet Transit Needs Hearing: We Need Your Input!

The MCTC is beginning the annual “Unmet Transit Needs” process for 2007 and needs your input. Each year, the Unmet Transit Needs process is held to ensure that public transportation needs are being “reasonably met”. If you have any comments or suggestions for improvement of Madera’s public transportation system, now is a great opportunity to be involved in the transportation planning process. There will be a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at 3:00pm in the City Council Chambers at 205 West 4th Street, Madera, California, 93637

A Spanish-language interpreter will be available for those who wish to make their public comments in Spanish. Those who would like to participate, but cannot attend the Public Hearing, are encouraged to submit their comments in writing to MCTC, 1816 Howard Road, Suite 8, Madera, California, 93637 or email them to richard@maderactc.org. Anonymous suggestions are also accepted. The deadline to receive written comments is April 18, 2007. For more information on how to participate, please contact Richard Poythress at 559-675-0721 or richard@maderactc.org.

MCTC Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing

MCTC Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing
Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at 3:00pm
Madera City Hall
City Council Chambers
205 West 4th Street
Madera, California 93637
Contact: Richard at 559-675-0721 or richard@maderactc.org

Madera County Transit System Schedules

CITY OF CHOWCHILLA Chowchilla Area Transit Express (CATX)

Demand-response system:
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Fare: \$1.00 (Zone 1)
\$1.50 (Zone 2)
Reservations: 559-665-8655

CITY OF MADERA Madera Dial-A-Ride (DAR)

Demand-response system:
Weekdays: 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Fare: \$2.00 (General public)
Fare (city area): \$1.00 (Seniors/Disabled)
Fare (county area): \$2.00 (Seniors/Disabled)
Reservations: 559-661-7433

Madera Area Express (MAX)

Fixed-route system:
Weekdays: 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Fare: \$0.75
Information: 559-661-7433

COUNTY OF MADERA Madera County Connection (MCC)

Intercity fixed-route system:
Fare: \$2.00
Children (0-5) Free
Information: 559-661-7435
Eastern Madera County-Madera Route
North Fork, Bass Lake, Oakhurst,
Coarsegold, Yosemite Lakes Park,
Ranchos, Children’s Hospital
Weekdays: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Chowchilla/Fairmead-Madera Route
Weekdays: 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
*Eastin Arcola/Ripperdan/La Vina-
Madera Route*
Wed. & Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Eastern Madera County Senior Bus

Demand-response:
Oakhurst, Coarsegold, Bass Lake,
Ahwahnee
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Fare: \$1.50 (Seniors/Disabled)
Reservations: 559-658-5555

COUNTY OF MADERA— CONTINUED Eastern Madera County Escort Service

Medical trips to Madera, Fresno,
Clovis
Volunteer demand-response:
North Fork, Bass Lake, Oakhurst,
Coarsegold, Ahwahnee Areas
Tues. & Thurs. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Fare: \$10.00
Reservations: 559-658-5555
Madera Ranchos Area
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Fare: \$5.00
Reservations: 559-673-9173

Schedules Also Available Online At:

<http://maderactc.org/pubtrans.html>





MADERA CTC
Madera County Transportation Commission

1816 Howard Road, Suite 8, Madera, California 93637

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- Transportation Planner
Troy McNeil
- Transportation Planner
Richard Poythress
- Administrative Assistant
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Madera County Transportation Authority & Madera County Transportation Commission

2007 Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held in the Madera County Government Center Board of Supervisor's Chambers at 209 West Yosemite Avenue, Madera, California. Authority commences at 2:30 p.m. Commission commences at 3:00 p.m.

January	17	July	18
February	21	August	22
March	21	September	19
April	18	October	17
May	23	November	28
June	20	December	(No meeting)