



Measure A

Road Repair | Congestion Relief | Transportation Safety

2011 Annual Report



FALL 2011



Welcome to the New Era of Transportation in Santa Barbara County!

Dear citizens of Santa Barbara County,

In November 2008, voters in Santa Barbara County overwhelmingly approved with 79% support a ballot measure to extend a one-half percent sales tax for transportation that was set to expire in 2010. The Road Repair, Traffic Relief and Transportation Safety Measure, referred to by its ballot designation "Measure A" will implement needed transportation improvement projects and programs in Santa Barbara County from 2010 to 2040. It will generate approximately \$1.050 billion over its life and will help leverage and match an estimated \$0.5 billion in state and federal funds. Measure A went into effect and revenues began to be collected in April 2010. The first full fiscal year of the new measure was recently completed in June 2011.

Administration of Measure A is the responsibility of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), as the Local Transportation Authority for the county. SBCAG is governed by a 13 member board of elected officials. All five county supervisors are members of the board, as are a city councilmember or mayor from each of the eight incorporated cities in the county, selected by their respective city councils. The board is served by a professional staff of 20 that implements board policies, provides the board with recommendations on the effective use of Measure A funding, and is responsible for the day to day operations of Measure A.

As you peruse this, our first Measure A annual report, we hope that it is abundantly clear that we are using the funds you have entrusted us with to faithfully implement Measure A according to the same principles that guided its development:

- *Reducing traffic congestion and improving safety on U.S. 101 is the highest priority.*
- *Revenues should be shared fairly throughout the county.*
- *Local control of revenues and citizen accountability is paramount.*

Our commitment to you and these principles will continue in the next fiscal year!

To learn more about the Measure A Program, please visit www.measurea.net.

Joe Armendariz, 2011 Chairman | Councilman, City of Carpinteria

Jim Kemp, Executive Director | SBCAG

Measure A Gets to Work!

The Clean Air Express annually carries 200,000 passengers from North County cities to the South Coast and eliminates 12 million vehicle miles traveled.

Shortly after Measure A went into effect, SBCAG placed a \$1.8 million order for new commuter coaches for the Clean Air Express commuter bus service. New buses were badly needed to replace vehicles that are nearly 15 years old and were experiencing increasing maintenance and reliability issues. The new buses, with their hallmark white clouds on blue sky design, were delivered in early October 2011 and bring a new level of service quality to the Clean Air Express, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2010.

The Clean Air Express carries 200,000 passengers annually from Lompoc, Santa Maria, and the Santa Ynez Valley to their jobs in Goleta and Santa Barbara in comfortable charter-style coaches with free on-board Wi-Fi. The service eliminates over 12 million vehicle miles travelled annually from U.S .101 and other Santa Barbara County roads. Over 80% of the service's

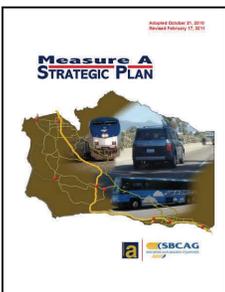
operating cost is paid for through passenger fares, one of the highest in the nation.

The service is operated by Santa Maria Area Transit (SMAT) through a cooperative agreement with SBCAG. Interregional transit is a key component of the Measure A Ordinance and Investment Plan, and helps reduce traffic congestion and improve safety on U.S. 101.



Strategic Plan Adopted to Guide Delivery of Measure A

The Measure A Strategic Plan and additional documents can be accessed at www.measurea.net



The Measure A ordinance required that SBCAG adopt a Strategic Plan by November 1, 2010 to serve as the master document for delivery of the projects and programs in the voter approved Investment Plan.

The Strategic Plan was adopted by the SBCAG Board of Directors on October 21, 2010 after 18 months of development. It is a significant accomplishment which shows that all of the projects promised to voters in the investment plan can be delivered with Measure A and state and federal matching funds, despite decreased revenues due to the current economic recession. The six elements of the strategy adopted by the board are:

1. Deliver the U,S, 101 Widening project from Santa Barbara to Carpinteria as soon as it is ready to proceed, it being the highest priority project in the Investment Plan.
2. Allow highway and circulation projects not needing state and federal matching funds allocated to the 101 widening project to advance ahead of the widening project.
3. Accumulate matching funds for the 101 widening project in a reserve to be used only if efforts to secure funding from outside the county are not successful.
4. Implement the other Measure A highway and circulation projects after the 101 is

widened, and in a sequence that has them delivered as soon as possible based on project prioritization criteria identified in the Strategic Plan.

5. Issue bonds to allow for annual allocations of funding to local streets and roads programs, transit, bicycle, pedestrian, safe routes to school, that are uninterrupted and at the highest amount possible while still adhering to the 101 widening project as the highest priority.
6. Aggressively pursue outside funding to advance the 101 widening, other highway and circulation projects and free-up matching funds.

This strategy was recommended to the board by the Citizens Oversight and Technical Advisory Committees established to assist SBCAG in the administration of the Investment Plan and Ordinance.

The Strategic Plan is required to be updated at least every five years to address changes in revenue estimates, project costs, and the availability of matching funds. The next update of the Strategic Plan is anticipated in 2012.

Project Updates for Fiscal Year 2010/11

U.S. 101 Widening from Santa Barbara to Carpinteria

The number one priority in the Measure A program is widening U.S. 101 from 4 to 6 lanes to add high occupancy vehicle lanes (carpool lanes) between Carpinteria and Santa Barbara. This 10 mile segment represents the final phase of a four phase strategy to eliminate a 16 mile, four lane bottleneck on the South Coast. The phases on the diagram below are being implemented by SBCAG and Caltrans with the assistance of Ventura County.

Measure A dedicates 13.4 % of all revenues collected, or an estimated \$140 million, to Phase 4, widening between Carpinteria and Santa Barbara. This will match or leverage an additional \$285 million in State and federal funding needed to complete this \$425 million project.

Phase 1 has been under construction in downtown Santa Barbara between the Milpas and Cabrillo\Hot Springs interchanges for three years using funding from Measure A's predecessor, Measure D. Completion of Phase 1 is expected by early 2012.

Construction will begin on **Phase 2** between Mussel Shoals in Ventura County and Carpinteria in 2012 and will take three years to complete using \$100 million in State Proposition 1B funding.

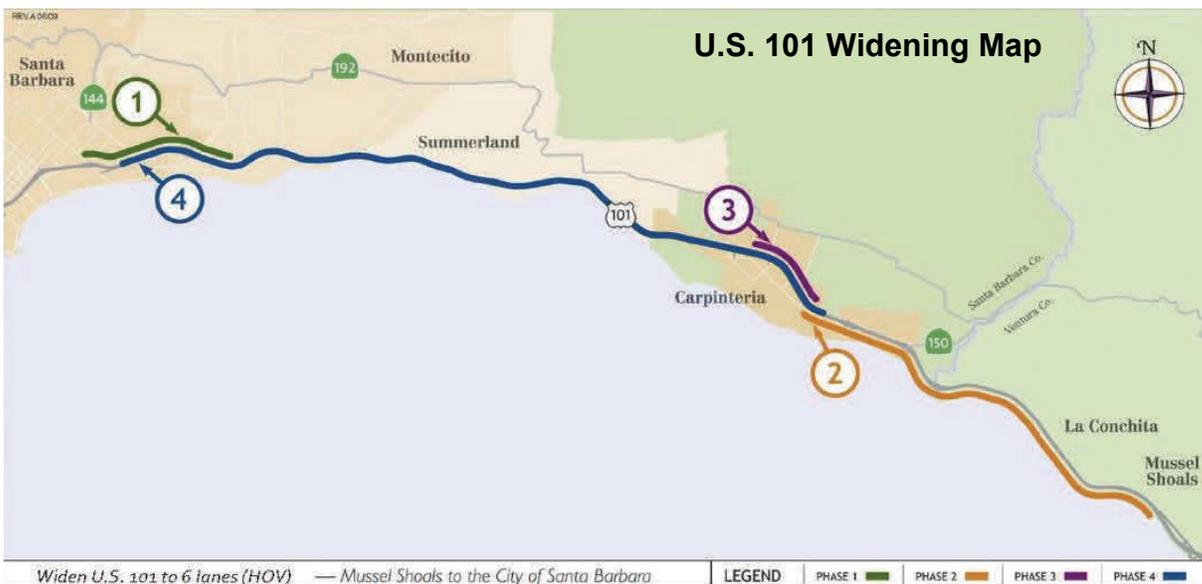
Environmental studies for **Phase 3**, the reconstruction of interchanges in Carpinteria at Linden Avenue and Casitas Pass Road, have been completed and the coastal permitting process has begun. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2014/15 using Santa Barbara County's share of state gas taxes and other state and federal funding. Phase 3 will allow the six lane widening to be extended through Carpinteria as part of Phase 4.

Caltrans has made significant progress on the draft environmental document for **Phase 4**, which is scheduled for release to the public in early 2012. This phase will include two major interchange reconstructions at Cabrillo-Hot Springs and Sheffield Road. SBCAG and Caltrans have initiated early public outreach with various community and stakeholder groups along the corridor in preparation of the release of the environmental document.

When completed, the HOV lane will be the first of its kind on the Central Coast of California and will greatly improve the efficiency of carpools, vanpools and interregional commuter bus services between Santa Barbara and Ventura. When combined with the Measure A funded commuter rail service under development, county residents should see significant reductions in congestion and improvements in safety in the corridor.



The draft environmental document for the Measure A U.S. 101 South Coast HOV Widening project is scheduled for release to the public in early 2012.



Project Updates continued



U.S. 101/Santa Maria River Bridge

A \$10 million investment in Measure A funding has successfully leveraged \$22 million in state Proposition 1B funding and San Luis Obispo County funding to widen the U.S. 101 bridges across the Santa Maria River from 4 to 6 lanes.

The \$32 million project will be constructed over three years, starting in September 2011, with completion scheduled for 2014. The widening of the bridge will provide much needed capacity improvements to accommodate a projected increase in traffic from 64,000 vehicles per day currently to over 100,000 by 2030 at this critical juncture. The project is designed to address rear-end and weaving related crashes caused by current merging configurations. The accident rate is twice the statewide average for a similar type bridge facility with comparable traffic volumes. The project will include a Class I bikeway along the southbound lanes of the bridge to link both counties' bike networks and provide pedestrian access across the bridge. The project also includes providing ample shoulder widths for vehicles and will incorporate Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) elements such as a closed circuit television cameras.

Highway 246 Passing Lanes

Measure A includes \$20 million to construct passing lanes on Highway 246 between the cities of Lompoc and Buellton, a distance of 9 miles.

Environmental studies for the corridor were completed in June 2010. The Measure A Strategic Plan schedules the construction of the project in two phases, due to the limited availability of state and federal matching funds that are dedicated at this time to the U.S. 101 HOV project. In 2013/14, Phase 1 will be constructed using \$20 million in Measure A.

Phase 2 is scheduled for construction in 2030/31 using state and federal funding. SBCAG is aggressively seeking funding from state and federal discretionary funding programs to accelerate the construction of Phase 2.

In addition to adding passing lanes, the project will improve sight distance and reduce the length of the uphill grade near the intersection of Tularosa Road and Highway 246, and reduce conflicts at five intersections in the corridor.

The highway includes an existing 8-foot-wide paved shoulder, which is an important element for bicyclists. The shoulder width would remain a minimum of 8 feet wide when the project is completed. A 4-foot soft median barrier will be constructed throughout the project limits with breaks for public road connections to allow left-turn channelization. Also included in the project are innovative features to protect the habitat of the California Tiger Salamander, an endangered species.

Highway 166 Safety and Operational Improvements

The Measure A investment plan includes \$3 million to improve safety on Highway 166 from Guadalupe to the Kern County line. Improvements eligible for funding include adding passing lanes, turnouts, wider shoulders and enhanced enforcement. The timeline for development of this project is currently identified as 2010 to 2016 to complete project scoping, environmental evaluation, detailed design and construction.

The SBCAG board in June 2011 hired Psomas Engineering to develop a report including a prioritized list of potential projects covering the entire corridor and a "cut line" showing the projects that could be delivered with Measure A and other leveraged State or federal funds that would yield the most benefit. Once the report is approved by the SBCAG board, scheduled for early 2012, the top projects will be delivered by SBCAG or Caltrans depending on the type of project and matching fund sources.

Preparation of the report is being conducted through a project team consisting of Caltrans and SBCAG. The Highway 166 Safety Task Force, consisting of local, state, and regional departments of transportation, police, fire and safety personnel, serves as a project advisory committee.



The Highway 246 Passing Lanes project will provide safer passing opportunities along Highway 246 between the cities of Lompoc and Buellton.

Local Agencies Receive Measure A Funding

Nearly \$18 million in Measure A funding was apportioned by SBCAG to local agencies on the South Coast and North County in Measure A's first year of implementation for projects selected by city councils and the county board of supervisors.

Funds for the two sub-regions are apportioned according to formulas that were developed by elected officials and stakeholder groups from those sub-regions and incorporated into the Measure A Investment Plan when it was approved by county voters. Projects eligible for funding by cities and the County include, but are not limited to pothole repairs, landscape maintenance, safety improvements and storm damage repairs. Measure A funds are also used by local agencies to match and leverage state and federal funding. The local agencies are required by Measure A to spend a minimum percentage of their funds on eligible alternative transportation projects according to percentages identified in the Measure A Investment Plan. Santa Barbara MTD also directly receives funding for transit operations through the South Coast apportionment formula.

<u>South Coast</u>		<u>North County</u>	
Carpinteria	\$625,868	Buellton	\$280,710
Goleta	\$1,151,795	Guadalupe	\$349,060
Santa Barbara	\$2,761,887	Lompoc	\$1,734,956
County of SB	\$2,723,531	Santa Maria	\$3,627,367
SBMTD	<u>\$1,542,644</u>	Solvang	\$307,592
Subtotal	\$8,805,725	County of SB	<u>\$2,780,379</u>
		Subtotal	\$9,080,064
TOTAL	\$17,885,789		

Projects selected for funding are required to be included in a Program of Projects, adopted by the local agency's policy board and SBCAG, after public hearings are conducted. Only projects in a "POP" are eligible for Measure A funding. The "POP" is available for viewing at www.measurea.net.

Project Updates continued

U.S. 101/Union Valley Parkway Interchange

The Union Valley Parkway, located in the City of Santa Maria and the unincorporated community of Orcutt, has been included in city and County general plans and SBCAG's regional transportation plan for 30 years. It will connect the Santa Maria Airport and the Orcutt community to U.S. 101 at a new interchange included in the Measure A program. The interchange project is being delivered by Caltrans, is at 95% final design, and at this time is fully funded based on a construction cost estimate of \$25 million. Measure A will contribute \$10 million, and the balance of funding is available from state gas taxes and Proposition 1B funding. A construction contract for

the interchange is scheduled to be put out to bid in the first quarter of 2012.

The new arterial and interchange will greatly alleviate projected congestion at the adjacent interchanges at Clark Avenue and Santa Maria Way which are two miles apart and exceed typical urbanized area interchange spacing of one mile. The project will also provide congestion relief on local streets and support existing and planned local development including future development of the Santa Maria Airport Business Park and the Orcutt community plan.



Local agencies and Santa Barbara MTD received \$18 million in funding in the first year of Measure A.



Citizens Oversight Committee Formed

The Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee helps ensure accountability to voters regarding the expenditure of funds and to assist SBCAG in ensuring all Measure A provisions are carried out.

The Measure A Ordinance required that a Citizens Oversight Committee be appointed by the SBCAG Board of Directors to assist SBCAG in the administration of the Measure A Investment Plan and Ordinance.

A committee of eleven members was appointed on October 2009; four were nominated by a North County subcommittee of the SBCAG board, four by a South Coast subcommittee of the board, and three at-large representatives were nominated by the full board.

The Committee helps ensure accountability to voters regarding the expenditure of funds and to assist SBCAG in ensuring that all provisions, requirements and voter mandates specified by Measure A are properly carried out. The committee must annually submit a letter to the SBCAG Board indicating whether or not it believes the board is abiding by the voter's wishes. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the board. It determines the frequency of its meetings. The ordinance requires that the committee be comprised on a balance of transportation users representing the

geographic, social, cultural and economic interests of the county.

The committee has advised the board on such things as the adoption of the Measure A Strategic Plan in October 2010, amendments that have been made to the Measure A ordinance, and policies that the SBAG board has adopted to implement the Measure A Investment Plan.

At Large Members - Three Members

Hamid Bahadori - Chair
Phillip Greene
David Lawrence

North County Members - Four Members

Andrew Caldwell
Mark Cheli - Vice-Chair
Robin Hayhurst
Linda Jackson

South Coast Members - Four Members

Mark Bradley
Michael Chiacos
Alissa Hummer
Pat Saley

Safe Routes to School, Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs Initiated



The guidelines for the Measure A Bicycle & Pedestrian and Safe Routes to School discretionary programs were adopted by the SBCAG Board in May 2011. The purpose of the programs is to expand and improve the regional bicycle and pedestrian facilities network and increase pedestrian and bicycle safety to, from and near schools throughout the county. Per the Measure A Ordinance, the funds will be awarded

through a competitive grant process.

The guidelines were developed with the assistance of stakeholder groups and local agency staff to establish a process for allocating over \$2.3 million that is available countywide in the first call for projects cycle. The first round of projects will be selected for funding in January 2012.

South Coast Commuter and Passenger Rail Service



Measure A Rail Program funds have for the first time enabled SBCAG to develop plans for commuter rail service from Ventura to Santa Barbara and Goleta. Although Measure rail funds are modest at \$25 million over 30 years, the presence of an independent regional source of funding for rail has allowed SBCAG to enter into negotiations with the railroad owner, Union Pacific, to allow service on their rail line and created the opportunity for SBCAG to request a proposal from Metrolink to operate the service.

Measure A funds have also proved indispensable in enhancing the competitiveness of SBCAG's successful federal applications for \$2.4 million for preliminary engineering and environmental work on two siding projects that are vital for increasing rail service between Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

Santa Barbara County Local Transportation Authority
REVENUES and EXPENDITURES | July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 (unaudited)

REVENUES

Sales Tax	\$29,176,970
Earnings on Interest	\$36,178
TOTAL REVENUES	\$29,213,148

EXPENDITURES

County Auditor & State Board of Equalization	\$333,810
SBCAG Administration 1%	\$291,030
Strategic Planning	\$567,338

Highway 101 Widening Subprogram \$34,390**North County Subprogram**

Local Street and Transportation Improvement	\$9,080,064
Hwy 101/Union Valley Parkway Interchange	\$2,341
Hwy 101/Santa Maria River Bridge	\$0
Hwy 101/135 (Broadway) Interchange	\$2,341
Hwy 101/Betteravia Interchange	\$468
Hwy 101/McCoy Interchange	\$2,341
Hwy 246 Passing Lanes	\$4,683
Hwy 246 Santa Ynez River Bridge	\$1,873
Hwy 166 Safety Improvements	\$702
Solvang Circulation Improvements	\$0
Buellton Circulation Improvements	\$0
Guadalupe Circulation Improvements	\$0
Specialized Transit, Seniors-Disabled	\$121,174
Safe Routes to School, Bicycle & Pedestrian Program	\$0
Carpool & Vanpool Program	\$67,589
Interregional Transit	\$128,347

South Coast Subprogram

Local Street and Transportation Improvement	\$8,805,726
Safe Routes to School Program	\$0
Bicycle & Pedestrian Program	\$0
South Coast Transit Capital Program	\$0
Interregional Transit	\$331,580
Specialized Transit, Seniors-Disabled	\$159,829
Carpool & Vanpool Program	\$143,578
Commuter/Passenger Rail	\$41,589
Carpinteria Circulation Improvements	\$0
Goleta Overpass Improvements	\$1,639

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$20,122,432**FUND BALANCE, END OF PERIOD** \$9,090,716

The first year of the Measure A program has ended with a \$9 M positive balance.

This balance will be applied to the construction of the U.S. 101 Santa Maria River Bridge and U.S. 101 Union Valley Parkway interchange, among other projects, in the upcoming year.

Project Schedules/Major Milestones for the Upcoming Fiscal Year (July 1, 2011 — June 30, 2012)

U.S. 101 Santa Maria River Bridge

Construction Fall 2011

North County Interregional Transit**Clean Air Express**

3 New Buses Fall 2011

Buellton Circulation Improvements

Construction Spring 2012

U.S. 101 Union Valley Pkwy Interchange

Construction Spring 2012

U.S. 101 South Coast HOV Project

Draft Environmental Document Spring 2012

Hwy 166 Safety Project

Allocate Project Funding Spring 2012

North County Bicycle, Pedestrian & Safe Routes to School Program

Allocate Project Funding Spring 2012

South Coast Bicycle & Pedestrian & Safe Routes to School Programs

Allocate Project Funding Spring 2012

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City of Carpinteria

Director Joni Gray, Vice-Chair
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Santa Barbara County, 1st District

Director Janet Wolf
Santa Barbara County, 2nd District

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Director Steve Lavagnino
Santa Barbara County, 5th District

Director Holly Sierra
City of Buellton

Director Roger Aceves
City of Goleta

Director Lupe Alvarez
City of Guadalupe

Director John Linn
City of Lompoc

Director Helene Schneider
City of Santa Barbara

Director Larry Lavagnino
City of Santa Maria

Director Jim Richardson
City of Solvang

Ex-Officio Member

Rich Krumholz
Director, Caltrans District 5

Executive Director

Jim Kemp

Agency Counsel \ County Counsel

Steve Underwood

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Record Ridership for Growing Interregional Transit

Measure A provides a total of \$47.85 million over 30 years for interregional transit service within Santa Barbara County and to provide connections to adjacent counties. The funds are administered through two subprograms, one for the North County and one for the South Coast, each oriented towards the interregional needs of the residents, commuters and employers in their respective regions.

In 2010/11 Measure A funds were used to continue to fund the VISTA commuter bus service, which is expected to serve over 300,000 passengers in 2011. VISTA primarily serves customers from Ventura County commuting to Carpinteria, Santa Barbara, Goleta, and UCSB, and ridership continues to set new records each year. SBCAG and the Ventura County Transportation Commission share equally in the net cost of the service, and SBCAG worked throughout 2010 and early 2011 with VCTC to find ways for VCTC to match SBCAG's commitment to expand VISTA service to meet current and future demand.

Secure long term funding for commuter bus service under Measure A has allowed SBCAG to begin developing plans to significantly increase service over the next several years to help reduce traffic congestion in the 101 corridor. Additional commuter bus service will be especially important over the next decade as the 101 HOV project is under construction.

The Measure A North County Interregional Transit Program has allowed the highly successful Clean Air Express commuter bus service to continue operating and celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2010. The Clean Air

Express serves residents of Lompoc, Santa Maria, and the Santa Ynez Valley with thirteen daily commute-hour round trips and enjoys a farebox return that ranks among the highest in the nation. Over 80% of the operating costs of the Clean Air Express are paid for by passenger fares, which allows Measure A funds to be stretched further and enables significant capital expenditures that maintain a high quality level of service for the customer.

Vanpool Program Assists Commuters, Employers

Measure A includes funding to promote carpooling and vanpooling in Santa Barbara County. The funds are used by SBCAG's Traffic Solutions division to provide countywide vanpool/carpool matching services and incentives, commuter information via the 963-SAVE commuter hotline and Traffic Solutions website, bike map distribution, and employer rideshare consulting. Traffic Solutions also coordinates alternative transportation campaigns such as Commuter and Bike-to-Work Challenges.

During 2010 and 2011, Measure A funds were used to support 36 vanpools in operation throughout the county, enroll over 1,000 new persons in Traffic Solutions programs, and conduct outreach to 26 employers to promote alternative commuting options that can assist with recruitment and retention of employees.

To learn more about Traffic Solutions online, please visit www.trafficsolutions.info.

To learn more about Measure A, visit www.measurea.net.

For questions about this report, contact Gregg Hart, Public Information Officer by telephone at (805) 961-8905 or by email ghart@sbcag.org.