

May 25, 2023

Mitch Weiss
Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Weiss:

Re: Support - Yolo 80 Managed Lanes Trade Corridor Enhancement Program

On behalf of the Davis Chamber of Commerce, we offer support for the critically important Yolo 80 Managed Lanes project with full support from our Board of Directors.

Interstate 80 in Yolo County between the Solano and Sacramento County lines is a nationally significant passenger and trade corridor for the northern California megaregion. The highway provides the only east/west controlled-access connection between the San Francisco Bay Area and the Sacramento region, and over the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range into northern Nevada and destinations east.

If you live, work or travel through Davis on Interstate 80, traffic congestion has reached unacceptable levels in both directions, affecting travel time and reliability for all travelers. The Yolo Causeway contributes to congestion as a natural barrier limiting alternative routing. Our quality of life in Davis and that of other adjacent communities is negatively affected.

The proposed project will construct improvements consisting of tolled managed lanes with direct I-80 connectors at the I-80/US 50 separation, pedestrian/bicycle facilities, and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) elements along Interstate 80 (I-80) and the United States Route 50 (US-50) in Yolo County. This innovative project employs best practices and freeway operations and demand management principles that will result in significant, direct benefits to the economic freight vitality of the region by enhancing the operational performance for all users.

Specifically, the project:

1. **Improves throughput and reliability of 12,000-16,000 freight vehicles** that utilize this corridor daily.
2. **Improves travel time by 68% (over 60-minutes),**
3. **Enhances safety** by improving the median, shoulders, shoulder, and median rumble strips to alert errand vehicles, merge/diverge, roadside and overhead signs, and object barriers to current standards.
4. Will use first-in-the-region **congestion priced toll lanes** to help meet the SACOG region's greenhouse gas targets and implement the MTP/SCS' vision for a network of tolled lanes and expanded express bus services.

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5. **Constructs a 300-space Mobility Hub**, Transit Signal Priority (TSP), Class IV ped/bike facility, and HOT lanes to promote mode shift, **manage VMT and reduce single occupancy vehicles by 2%-12% and increase transit ridership by 5%**.

6. Save **2,658,000 annual average person-hours and 7,280 hours of daily person-hours**, including transit and freight travel improvements.

7. **Improves transit access and viability** for YoloBus, Solano Transit, Sacramento Regional Transit, and forthcoming services by investing future toll revenues toward improved transit.

8. **Constructs Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) elements** to help expedite traveler information to warn the public of changing travel conditions, enhance incident response time and reduce secondary collisions.

9. **Constructs Gross Solid Removal Devices (GRSD) for climate resiliency.**

10. Serves as an **evacuation mitigation option** in the Yolo County's California Office of Emergency Services emergency plan/hazard mitigation.

11. **Develops an Equity Analysis** to help address equity and livability by engaging with the public and obtaining feedback on what disproportionately burdened communities need such as providing transit incentives.

This project's importance is difficult to overstate and conditions will worsen if thoughtful, innovative solutions such as those proposed by this project are not implemented.

Sincerely,



Cory Koehler
Executive Director
Davis Chamber of Commerce