Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority

Notice of Public Hearing

The Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority (BAIFA) proposes to adopt an amended and restated Toll Facility Ordinance for high-occupancy vehicle (carpool) lanes in Alameda County, Contra Costa County, and Solano County that will be operated by BAIFA as express lanes (BAIFA toll facilities).

Express lanes are high-occupancy vehicle (carpool) lanes that also allow any driver to choose to pay a toll to use the lanes during high-occupancy vehicle (carpool) hours of operation, subject to toll facility rules. BAIFA’s express lanes on I-680 between Walnut Creek and San Ramon opened to the public in October 2017. BAIFA’s express lanes on I-880 between Oakland and Milpitas are currently in the toll system testing phase and are expected to begin operations in fall 2020. BAIFA’s express lane extension on I-680 between Martinez and Walnut Creek in the southbound direction is currently under construction and is expected to open to toll-paying traffic in early 2021. Additional express lanes will be constructed and operated by BAIFA in Alameda County, Contra Costa County, and Solano County in the future.

The purpose of the Toll Facility Ordinance, as amended and restated, is to establish tolls and a toll collection process for the BAIFA toll facilities, to establish civil penalties for the evasion of those tolls or noncompliance with other policies set forth in the ordinance, to establish a program that addresses how motorists can enroll and participate in BAIFA’s toll facility program, and to add BAIFA’s express lane extension on I-680 between Martinez and Walnut Creek in the southbound direction.

BAIFA is a joint powers authority of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA). BAIFA is authorized by California Streets and Highways Code Section 149.7 and California Vehicle Code Section 40250 et seq. to adopt the ordinance and construct and operate the express lanes.

BAIFA will hold one public hearing to receive oral testimony and written comments about the amended and restated ordinance. Copies of the amended and restated Toll Facility Ordinance, together with certain statutes, rules or regulations incorporated therein by reference, being considered for adoption are on file with the Secretary of the Board of BAIFA and open to public inspection at (https://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/events/public-hearings). Should you require a hard copy of the amended and restated ordinance, please submit your request to info@bayareametro.gov or call 415-778-6757 and one will be mailed to you.

The public hearing will be held during BAIFA’s regular meeting on:

**Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 9:05 a.m. (Remotely)**

Bay Area Metro Center
Board Room, 1st Floor
375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

In light of Governor Newsom’s State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and in accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020 and the Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health, the meeting will be conducted via webcast, teleconference, and Zoom for all participants.
Detailed instructions on participating via Zoom are available at: https://mtc.ca.gov/how-provide-public-comment-board-meeting-zoom. The meeting Zoom link and accessibility instructions will be posted to: https://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/events/public-hearings no less than 72 hours prior to the hearing.

In addition, the public can learn about and comment on the proposed amended and restated Toll Facility Ordinance through MTC’s website. More detail will be posted on MTC’s website (www.mtc.ca.gov/express-lanes under ‘Policies’) on or before August 9, 2020.

Written comments will be accepted until September 9, 2020 and may be submitted to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s (MTC) Public Information Office at 375 Beale St, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94105 or sent via e-mail to expresslanes@bayareametro.gov. Please include “BAIFA Toll Ordinance” in the subject line. Written comments are due by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. For more information, call MTC’s Public Information Office at 415-778-6757. Oral testimony will be received until the close of the public hearing on September 23, 2020.

After receipt and review of public comments and testimony, BAIFA will consider the adoption of the amended and restated Toll Facility Ordinance at its September 23, 2020 meeting. The amended and restated Toll Facility Ordinance will be effective 30 days after its adoption. For more information, call the MTC Public Information Office at 415-778-6757.

Do you need an interpreter or any other assistance to participate? Please call 415-778-6757. We require at least three working days’ notice to accommodate interpreter requests. For TDD or hearing impaired, call 711, California Relay Service, or 1-800-735-2929 (TTY), 1-800-735-2922 (voice) and ask to be relayed to 415-778-6700.

¿Necesita un intérprete o otra asistencia para participar? Por favor llámenos con tres días de anticipación al 415-778-6757. Para telecomunicaciones para Personas Sordas y Discapacitadas (DDTP), favor de llamar 711, el Servicio de Retransmisión de California (CRS) para TTY/VCO/HCO a Voz y también Voz a TTY/VCO/HCO al 1-800-855-3000 o pedir que lo retrasmitan al 415-778-6700.


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