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Contact: Art Dao
Executive Director
T: 510.267.6104
F: 510.893/6489
E: adao@actia2022.com
W: www.AlamedaCTC.com

Tess Lengyel
Mgr. of Programs & Public Affairs
T: 510.267.6111
F: 510.893.6489
E: tlengyel@actia2022.com
W: www.AlamedaCTC.com

New Alameda County Transportation Commission Names First Executive Director

Alameda County – California. On August 9, 2010, the Alameda County Transportation Commission appointed its first Executive Director, Arthur Dao, to lead the newly-formed countywide transportation agency. The announcement came after a decision during a special meeting of the full Commission, and comes more than one month ahead of the anticipated schedule, which aimed to have the new Executive Director in place by late September 2010.

Dao's appointment follows a broad national search to fill the new position, and will allow the Commission, formed earlier in the year by a Joint Powers Agreement between the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) and the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA), to move forward with plans for the consolidation of the two agencies.

Alameda CTC Chairman and Union City Mayor, Mark Green, said after he made the announcement, "Art has a wealth of technical skills, expertise, experience, and strong advocacy ability with public officials, having worked with City, County, and agency staff for so long. He is highly regarded, his learning curve will be minimal, and he has a strong desire and proven record of getting things accomplished." Support for Dao's appointment is also noted by outgoing longtime ACTIA Executive Director, Christine Monsen, who said, "The Commission couldn't have picked a better Executive Director than Art Dao. He is ready, enthusiastic, and smart, and he has all the skill to make things work."

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Dao transitions into the Commission's Executive Director position from his previous function with ACTIA, where he was appointed in June 2001 to serve as the Deputy Director. In that capacity, Dao was responsible for the delivery of the Measure B -funded Capital Program, and is credited with developing and overseeing the early delivery of nearly all Measure B capital infrastructure projects. Alameda County residents may anticipate similar momentum and accountability under Dao's leadership at the Commission.

Formation of Alameda County Transportation Commission

To date, the process of forming the Alameda CTC has involved many prior steps, beginning in January 2009 with a consolidation analysis outlining the benefits of combining ACTIA and ACCMA. In January 2010, the Boards of ACTIA and ACCMA expressed joint support of a merger, and in February 2010, the joint Boards approved a draft Joint Powers Agreement, which received approval of the Board of Supervisors, the City Councils of all 14 cities in the County, and the Boards of AC Transit and BART.

On June 24th, 2010, the Alameda County Transportation Authority (ACTA – originally created in 1986 to implement the first transportation sales tax measure in the County) was terminated and the Agency's assets and liabilities were transferred to ACTIA. On July 22nd the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA), Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA) and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) held its first joint board meeting, electing the Chair, Mayor Mark Green of Union City, and Vice Chair, Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, for all three Boards.

Under Dao's direction, final steps will include formally transitioning and integrating current ACTIA and ACCMA operations to the new Commission in the coming months. Dao brings over 24 years of transportation engineering and management experience to the Commission. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree from the University of California at Davis and is a registered engineer.

For more information about the Alameda County Transportation Commission, visit the Commission's website at www.AlamedaCTC.org.

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ACTIA: ACTIA administers Measure B, the half-cent transportation sales tax in Alameda County, which was approved by 81.5% of the voters. ACTIA delivers transportation improvements and services to keep Alameda County moving, including mass transit projects and programs, transit villages, bicycle and pedestrian corridors, and key highway projects to eliminate bottlenecks and improve local connectivity.

ACCMA: In 1990 California voters passed Proposition 111 that increased the statewide fuel tax to fund transportation projects and required urban counties to designate an agency to plan and implement congestion management projects and programs with these funds. In 1991, Alameda County, its 14 cities and local transit operators created the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA). The ACCMA works to improve how residents, workers, visitors and goods move in and through Alameda County. By properly channeling information, expertise and scarce transportation dollars, ACCMA ensures that tax dollars are spent wisely to improve transportation countywide.

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