

CCTA's 'Story Through Images' Showcases Dramatic Footage of \$1.3 billion Highway 4 Widening/BART Construction Project

The new website contains downloadable, broadcast-quality videos, photographs and more.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Friday, May 12, 2017

CONTACT:

Linsey Willis
Director of External Affairs, CCTA
925.256.4728
lwillis@ccta.net

ISSUED BY:



CONTRA COSTA
transportation
authority



Walnut Creek, CA – The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) announces today the official launch of *Story Through Images*, a web feature devoted to celebrating the recently-completed Highway 4 Widening Project and ongoing BART construction project, a \$1.3 billion investment in infrastructure in Eastern Contra Costa County.

Featuring dramatic visual imagery and video interviews, *Story Through Images* takes the viewer on a journey through the construction project with a chapter-by-chapter narrative.

This new web feature showcases high-resolution photographs depicting construction along the corridor– from dramatic “lifts” of enormous pedestrian overcrossings, to a time-lapse video showing the construction of the new Hillcrest Station in Antioch. Also included are video testimonials from CCTA officials and some of the residents and local business owners whose lives have improved because of the project.

Visit *Story Through Images* at <http://www.4eastcounty.org/stories>

Among the five photographic chapters are Loveridge Road, Somersville Road, Contra Loma Boulevard, Lone Tree Way, and Hillcrest Avenue. Combined, these five chapters of photography, videography, and written narrative demonstrate a new and visually compelling way to communicate the riveting story of this critical investment in East County's infrastructure.

“The Highway 4 Widening Project has been a vitally important investment into East County and the greater Bay Area in terms of mobility, economic revitalization, and, in the longer term, multi-modal options for 250,000 East County residents,” said CCTA Executive Director Randy Iwasaki. “Now that this project has been open to the public for several months, we are thrilled to be able to share its incredible story alongside captivating photography and videos in *Story Through Images*.”

Highway 4, an important artery spanning nearly all of Contra Costa County, was for years one of the worst commutes in the Bay Area. The Highway 4 Widening Projects include the expansion of the highway from four to eight lanes between

Pg. 1 of 2

CCTA's 'Story Through Images' Showcases Dramatic Footage of \$1.3 billion Highway 4 Widening/BART Construction Project

The new website contains downloadable, broadcast-quality videos, photographs and more.

Loveridge Road in Pittsburg to just west of State Route 160 in Antioch and from two to four lanes from Lone Tree Way to Balfour Road in Brentwood. The projects also added connector ramps at the State Route 160/Highway 4 interchange and will add a BART extension from Pittsburg to Antioch.

CCTA funded more than a quarter of the project (\$362 million) through Measure J, a half-cent sales tax reauthorized by Contra Costa voters in 2004, and through the previous Measure C. Those local sales tax dollars leveraged the remaining funding needed to complete this \$1.3 billion dollar investment.

The Highway 4 Widening Projects include a median wide enough to accommodate a 10-mile BART extension from Pittsburg to Antioch. Now that all highway segments are complete, the BART line will be installed, and the BART station at Hillcrest is expected to open in the winter of 2017/2018.

For additional information about the Highway 4 Widening Projects, please visit the website at www.4eastcounty.org.

About the Contra Costa Transportation Authority

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) is a public agency formed by Contra Costa voters in 1988 to manage the county's transportation sales tax program and oversee countywide transportation planning efforts. CCTA is responsible for planning, funding and delivering critical transportation infrastructure projects and programs that connect our communities, foster a strong economy, increase sustainability, and safely and efficiently get people where they need to go. CCTA also serves as the county's designated Congestion Management Agency, responsible for putting programs in place to keep traffic levels manageable. More information about CCTA is available at ccta.net.

About the Highway 4 Corridor Projects

The Highway 4 Corridor Projects include improvements that will help modernize eastern Contra Costa County. The projects expand Highway 4 from four to eight lanes between Loveridge Road in Pittsburg to just west of State Route 160 in Antioch and from two to four lanes from Lone Tree Way to Balfour Road in Brentwood, add missing connector ramps at the State Route 160/Highway 4 interchange and add a BART extension from Pittsburg to Antioch. This will greatly improve transit accessibility for the region, help reduce traffic congestion and enhance the quality of life for the more than 250,000 residents of eastern Contra Costa County. The projects have been carefully staged to keep 130,000 vehicles per day moving as major construction and demolition work continue. These projects, plus previously constructed projects in the region, will bring the total investment in East County to \$1.3 billion, including State, Federal, Contra Costa Transportation Authority Measures C and J, regional bridge tolls and other funds.

###