

## **ITE SF Bay Area Lunch Meeting October 17, 2013 Summary**

The topic of the October 17<sup>th</sup> lunch meeting was Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) with sponsorship by Iteris and Kimley-Horn and Associates. The three presentations were:

- Chester Fung, SFCTA, and Andrew Lee, SFMTA on the Geary Bus Rapid Transit Project
- David Wilkins, AC Transit. AC Transit on the East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Project
- Jody Littlehales, VTA on the BRT in Santa Clara County

### **Geary Bus Rapid Transit Project**

This project is a partnership between the SFMTA and SFCTA, with SFCTA taking the lead during the current environmental study phase. The corridor is 6.5 miles long and they are evaluating multiple alternatives for dedicated bus lanes including side and center running. The current fleet of buses will not meet the needs for BRT along Geary and the MTA is looking at a new line of buses including 5-door 60' Articulated Bus options. Each bus type needs to be evaluated for appropriate use on the corridor (as well as the Van Ness corridor), durability and ease of maintenance.

### **East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Project**

AC Transit is currently in the preliminary engineering phase for BRT to replace the 1 and 1R lines which primarily run along International Blvd through Oakland and San Leandro. The \$187M program is not only expected to enhance transit service and reliability but also have an impact to the neighborhoods along the corridor. The BRT program will bring construction jobs and enhance the overall street look and feel. New lighting along the corridor will bring greater safety to a corridor with crime and safety concerns. AC transit is evaluating the business and parking impacts as part of their initial work, and using an ombudsman for interfacing with the community.

### **BRT in Santa Clara County**

VTA has already launched the 522 Rapid and leveraging the success of that project is now in construction on Alum Rock BRT and in environmental phase for El Camino and Stevens Creek BRT. VTA is working closely with the cities to see where the largest growth and therefore larger demand will be. They are also working to connect BRT to the new BART extension to Santa Clara County. The new fleet of BRT buses will be equipped with wi-fi, diesel and hybrid technology and bike racks.