

I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Draft Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Assessment

Public Meeting/Hearing

June 6, 2024

6 – 8 p.m.



SCH: 2020060297

EA: 04-0Q3100

EFIS: 0418000070

District 4 – CC – 680 (PM R10.7/23.1)

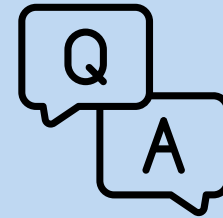
Meeting Details



English,
Spanish, and
Chinese
(Mandarin)
Interpretation



Includes Closed
Captioning



Technical
Support
Use Q&A

Welcome



Lindy Johnson
CCTA PIO/Facilitator



Wahida Rashid
Caltrans
Environmental



Sam Woldesemayat
Caltrans Project
Manager



Stephanie Hu
CCTA Director of
Projects



Garrett Kaya
Consultant Project
Manager



George Gorman
Consultant
Environmental Lead



Tonight's Agenda

- 6:00-6:10 Welcome & Meeting Details
- 6:15-7:00 Project Presentation
- 7:05-8:00 Questions & Answers
 - Formal comments submittal May 8 through June 24, 2024
 - Comment card
 - Website
 - Email
 - Hotline

This meeting is being recorded



- **Caltrans and Contra Costa Transportation Authority do not condone hate speech in any form.** We continually strive to make life better for all members of our community and create an atmosphere where everyone feels a sense of safety and belonging.
- Anyone who wishes to speak, please do so with **civility, respect, and kindness** for others.
- Speakers are limited to **1 minute during the Question-and-Answer period**. We request you to state your name and organization, but this information is voluntary.



Non-Discrimination Policy Statement

The California Department of Transportation, under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, ensures “No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

Caltrans will make every effort to ensure nondiscrimination in all of its services, programs and activities, whether they are federally funded or not, and that services and benefits are fairly distributed to all people, regardless of race, color, or national origin. In addition, Caltrans will facilitate meaningful participation in the transportation planning process in a non-discriminatory manner.

Related federal statutes, remedies, and state law further those protections to include sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, and age.

For information or guidance on how to file a complaint, or obtain more information regarding Title VI, please contact the Title VI Branch Manager at (916) 639-6392 or visit the following web page: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/civil-rights/title-vi>.

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille or in a language other than English, please contact the California Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, at PO Box 942874, MS-79, Sacramento, CA 94274-0001; (916) 879-6768 (TTY 711); or at Title.VI@dot.ca.gov.



Environmental Review & Comments

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in partnership with CCTA is presenting the Draft Environmental Document in compliance with CEQA and NEPA. CCTA is the Sponsor and Caltrans is CEQA and NEPA Lead Agency.

Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA)

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- Inform decision makers and the public about potential project impacts
- Prevent significant, avoidable impacts
- Identify mitigation strategies to reduce significant impacts
- Disclose how and why decisions about a project were made

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Requires a detailed statement for proposed major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment
- Significance of the project as a whole



PROPOSED PROJECT



Project Stakeholder



CONTRA COSTA
transportation
authority









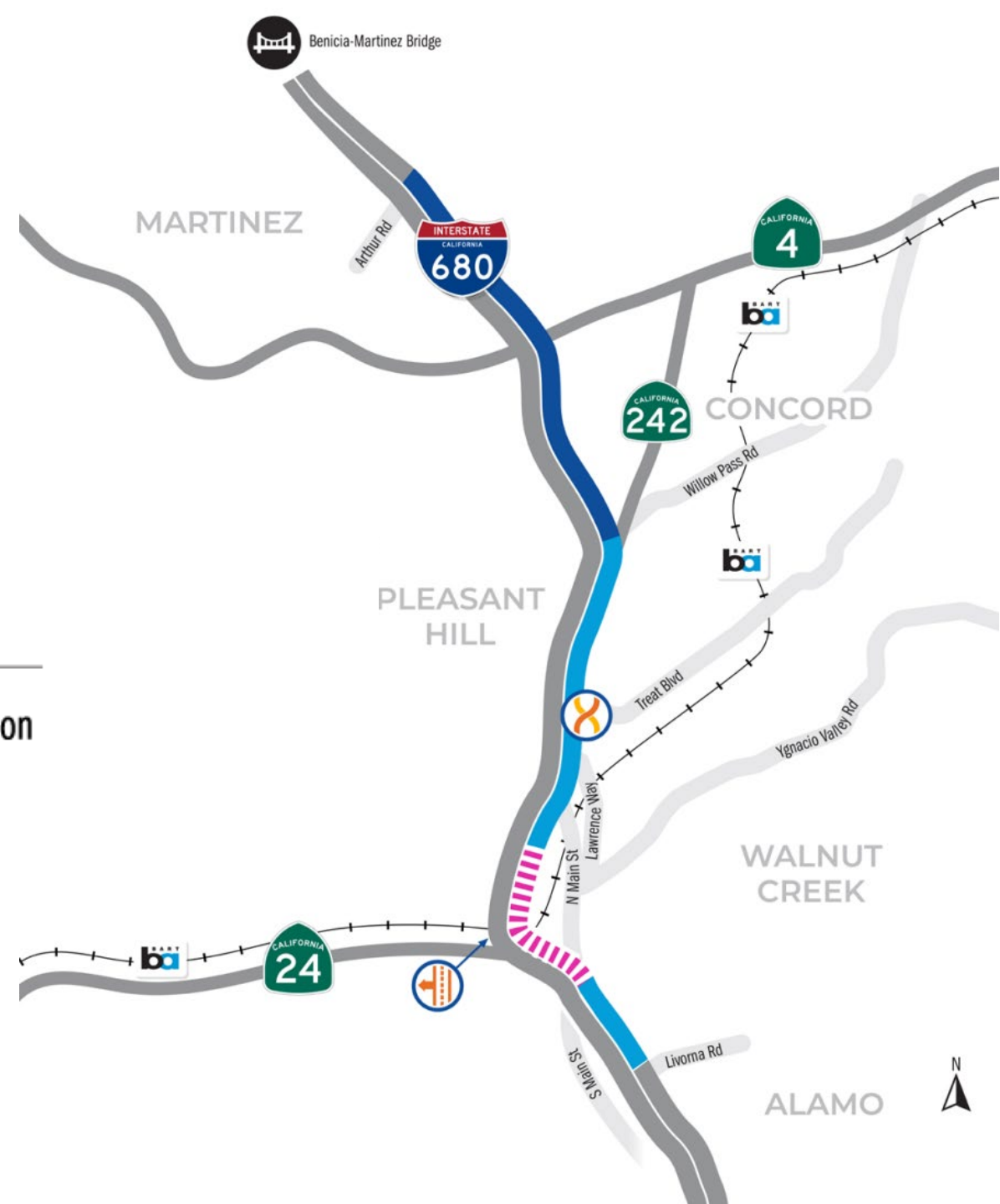
I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project

Project Description:

- Close or reduce existing express lane gap on NB I-680 from Livorna Road in Walnut Creek to South of Benicia Martinez Bridge (at Arthur Road).

LEGEND

- | | |
|---|--|
|  New NB express lane through HOV lane conversion |  Braided ramp construction (Alt 2, 3 & 5) |
|  New NB express lane through lane addition or general purpose lane conversion |  SB I-680 realignment (Alt 1C & 3) |
|  New NB express lane through lane addition and SB I-680 realignment (Alt 1C & 3) |  |



Purpose & Need

The **purpose** of this project is to:



Reduce peak-period congestion and delay on northbound I-680



Encourage the use of high occupancy vehicles and transit services.



Offer non-carpool eligible drivers a reliable travel time option.



Optimize use of the existing HOV lane capacity in the I-680 corridor



Reduce travel time and improve travel time reliability for travelers in the corridor.

The **need** of this project is to:



Congestion

Northbound I-680 general-purpose (GP) lanes within the Project Study Limits experience substantial congestion – over 30 minutes (min) of delay – during peak hours.



System Continuity

There is a 7.5-mile gap in the existing northbound I-680 managed lane system between Livorna Road and SR-242; system continuity is lacking through this area, diminishing the effectiveness of the managed lane system and increasing travel time for all users.



Traffic Operations

The weaving movement between Lawrence Way and Treat Boulevard creates a bottleneck on I-680 and a traffic queue as far back as Livorna Road during the afternoon peak traffic period. The situation is compounded by the gap in the managed lane system.



PROJECT DESIGN ELEMENTS



Design Elements



HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (HOV) LANE CONVERSION

Convert existing HOV lane to an express lane providing access to HOV vehicles and toll-paying drivers.



REALIGN SOUTHBOUND I-680

To make room for new northbound express lane.



BRAIDED RAMPS

To separate the Treat Blvd off-ramp from the North Main Street/Lawerence way on-ramp to make merging efficient and safer.



LANE ADDITION

Add an express lane by widening northbound I-680.

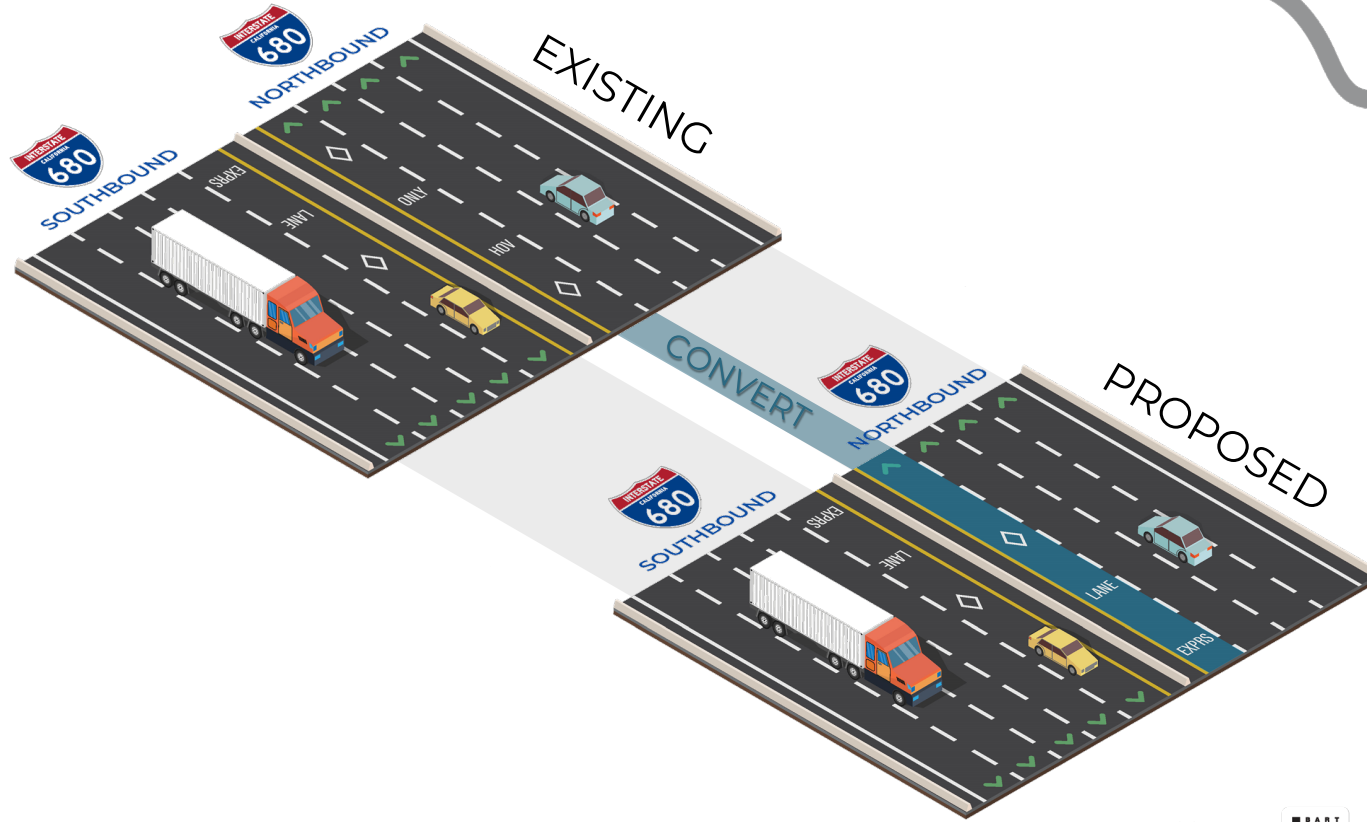


GENERAL PURPOSE (GP) LANE CONVERSION

Convert existing inside lane to an express lane without widening.



HOV LANE CONVERSION



The map shows the Interstate 680 corridor through Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Walnut Creek. Key features include:

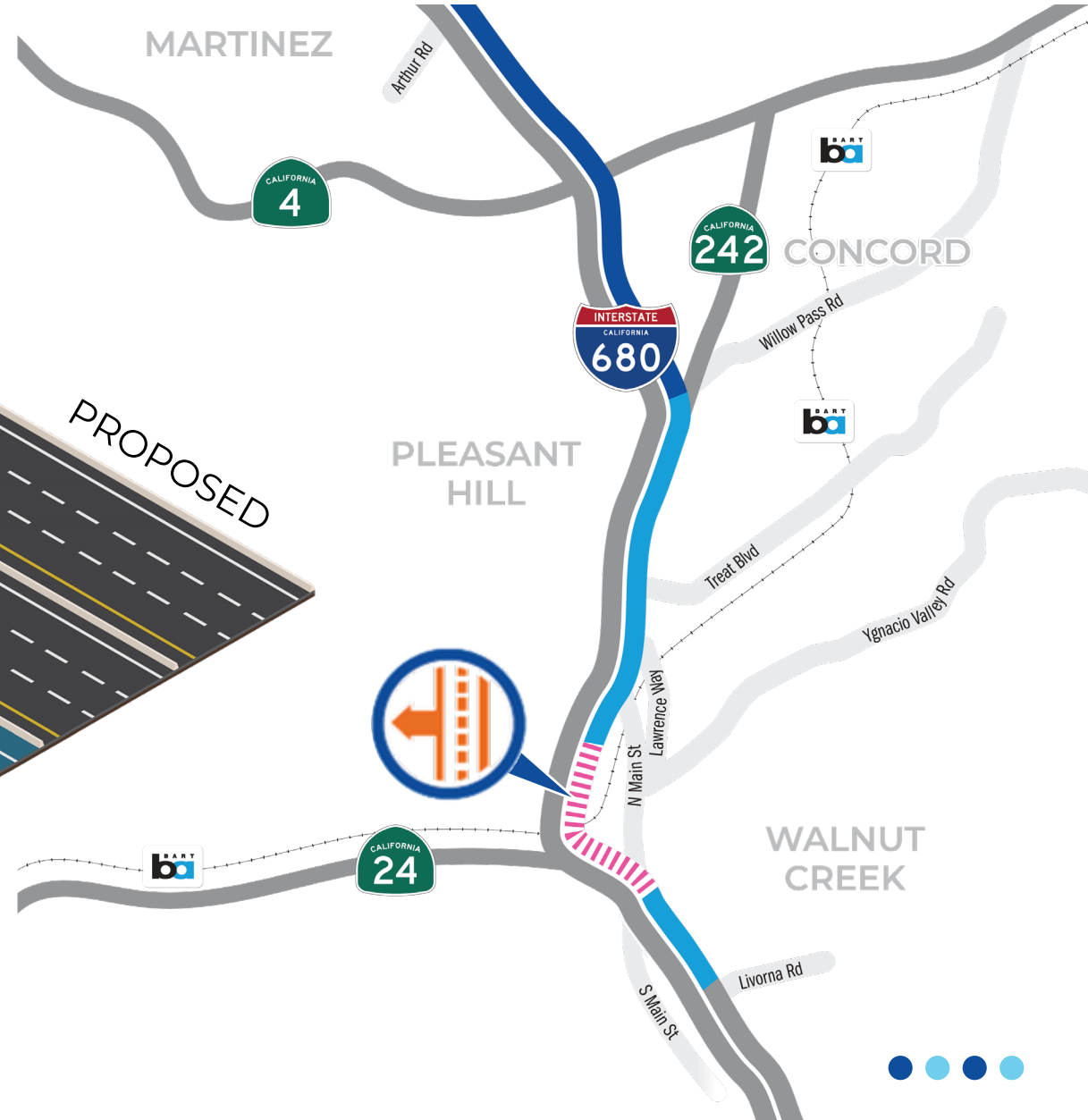
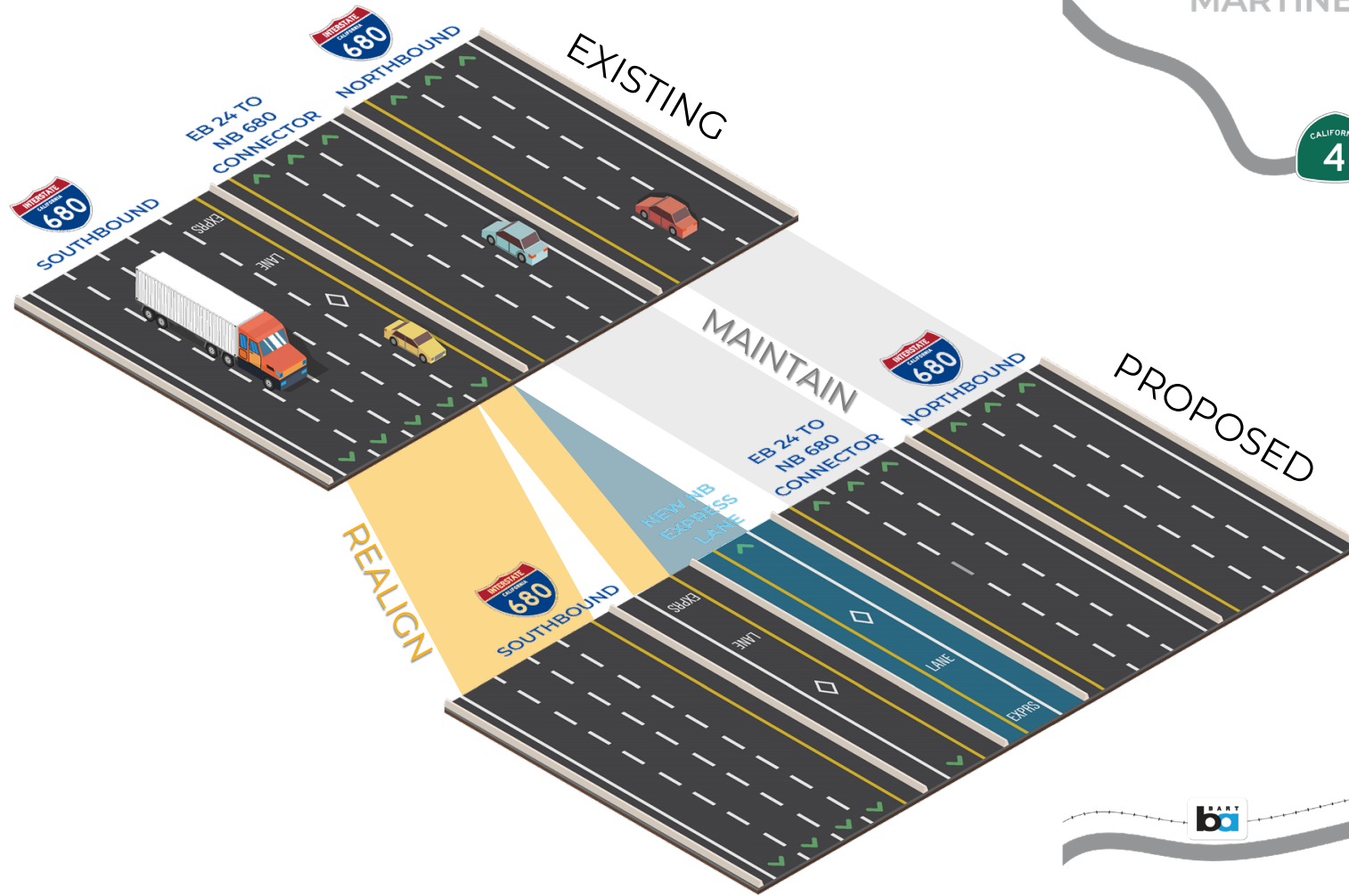
- MARTINEZ:** Benicia-Martinez Bridge, Arthur Rd, California State Route 4.
- PLEASANT HILL:** Interstate 680, Willow Pass Rd, Treat Blvd, Lawrence Welb, N Main St.
- CONCORD:** California State Route 242, Willow Pass Rd, Ygnacio Valley Rd.
- WALNUT CREEK:** California State Route 24, S Main St, Livorna Rd.

A blue line with a white border highlights the I-680 corridor, and a blue callout bubble with the 'HOV to EXP' logo is positioned near the Benicia-Martinez Bridge. A red and white striped section on the map indicates the proposed conversion area near Walnut Creek.

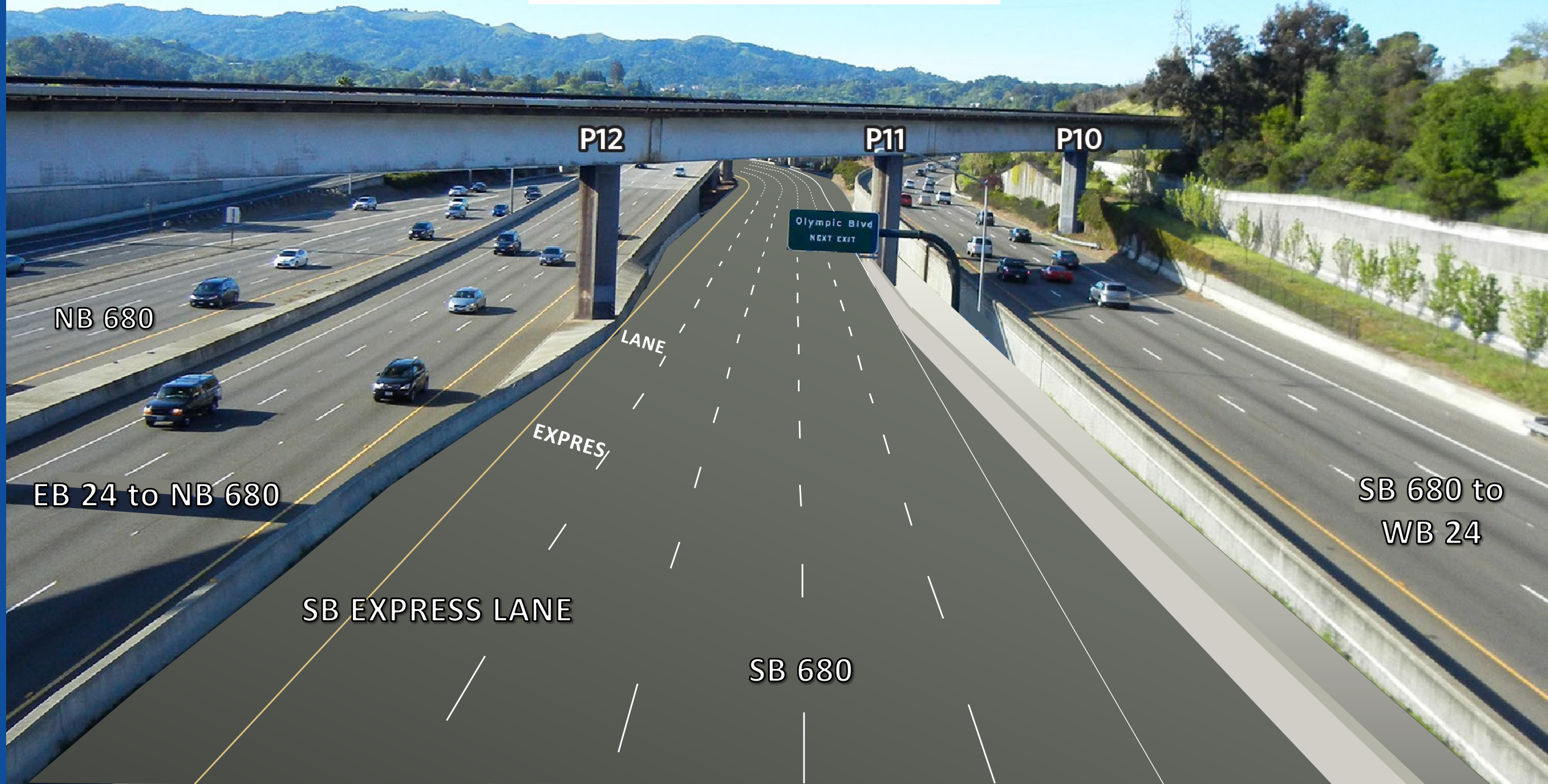




REALIGN SOUTHBOUND I-680



Existing Condition



NB 680

EB 24 to NB 680

SB EXPRESS LANE

SB 680

P12

P11

P10

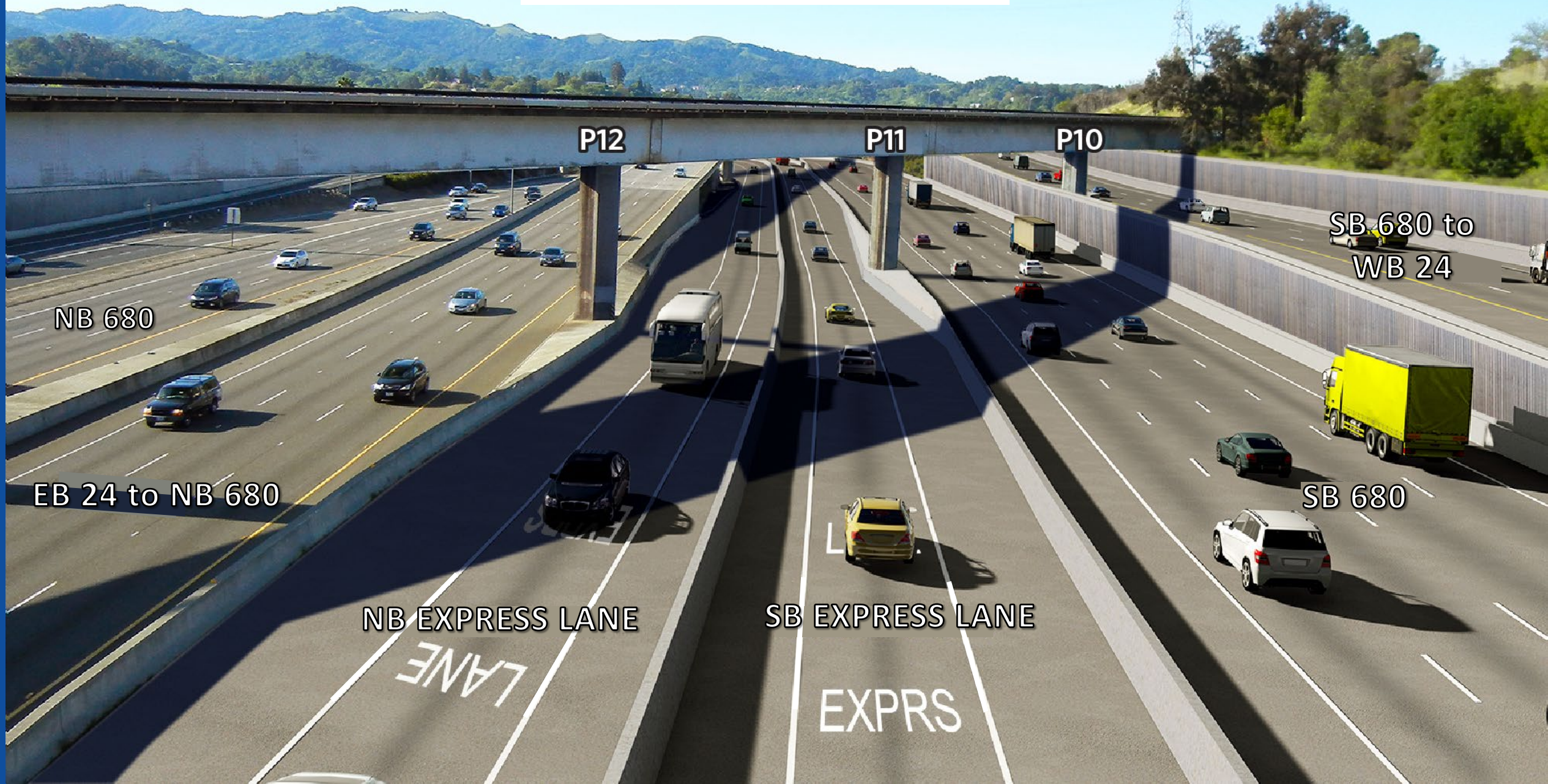
Olympic Blvd
NEXT EXIT

LANE

EXPRES

SB 680 to
WB 24

Realigned SB I-680



NB 680

EB 24 to NB 680

NB EXPRESS LANE

LANE

SB EXPRESS LANE

EXPRS

P12

P11

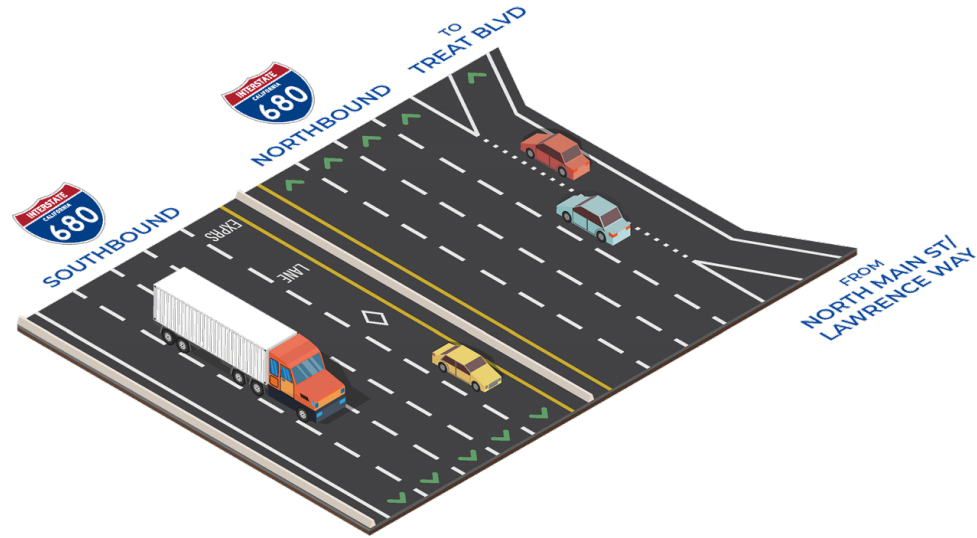
P10

SB 680 to
WB 24

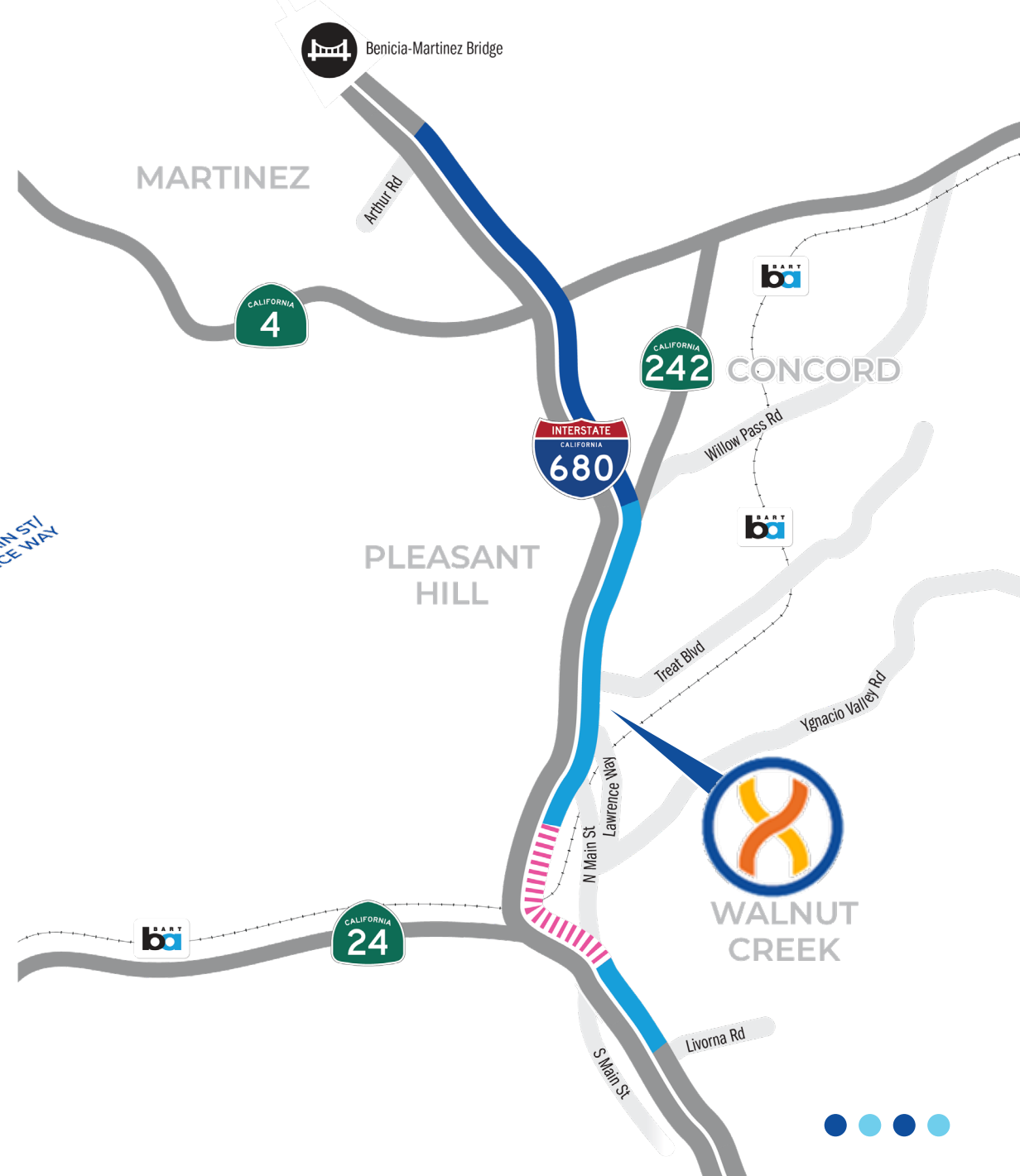
SB 680



BRAIDED RAMPS

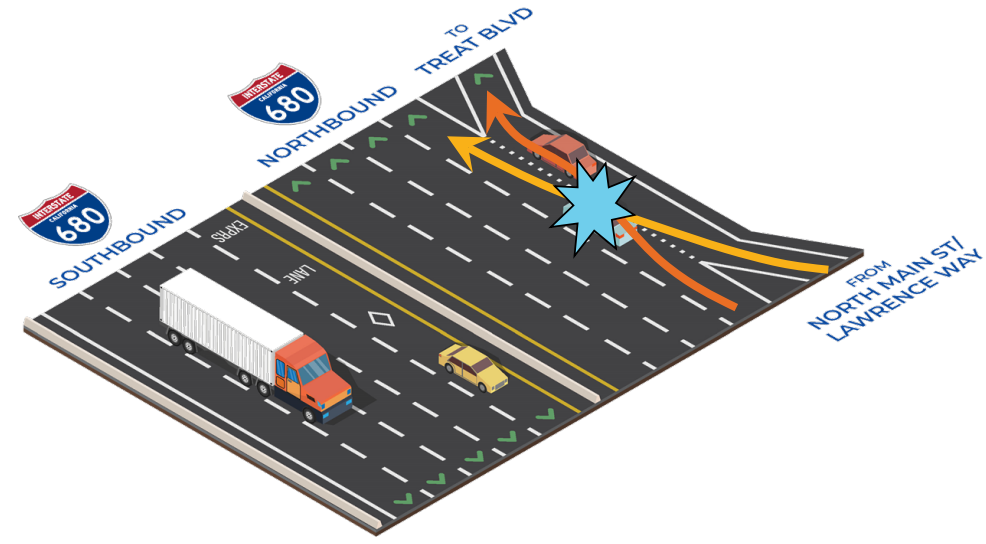


Existing Condition



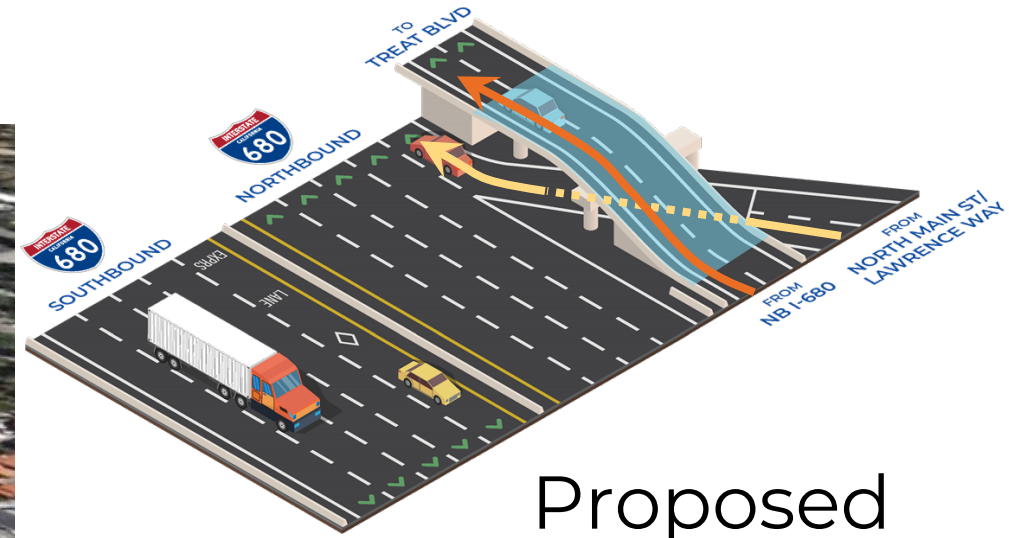


BRAIDED RAMPS





BRAIDED RAMPS

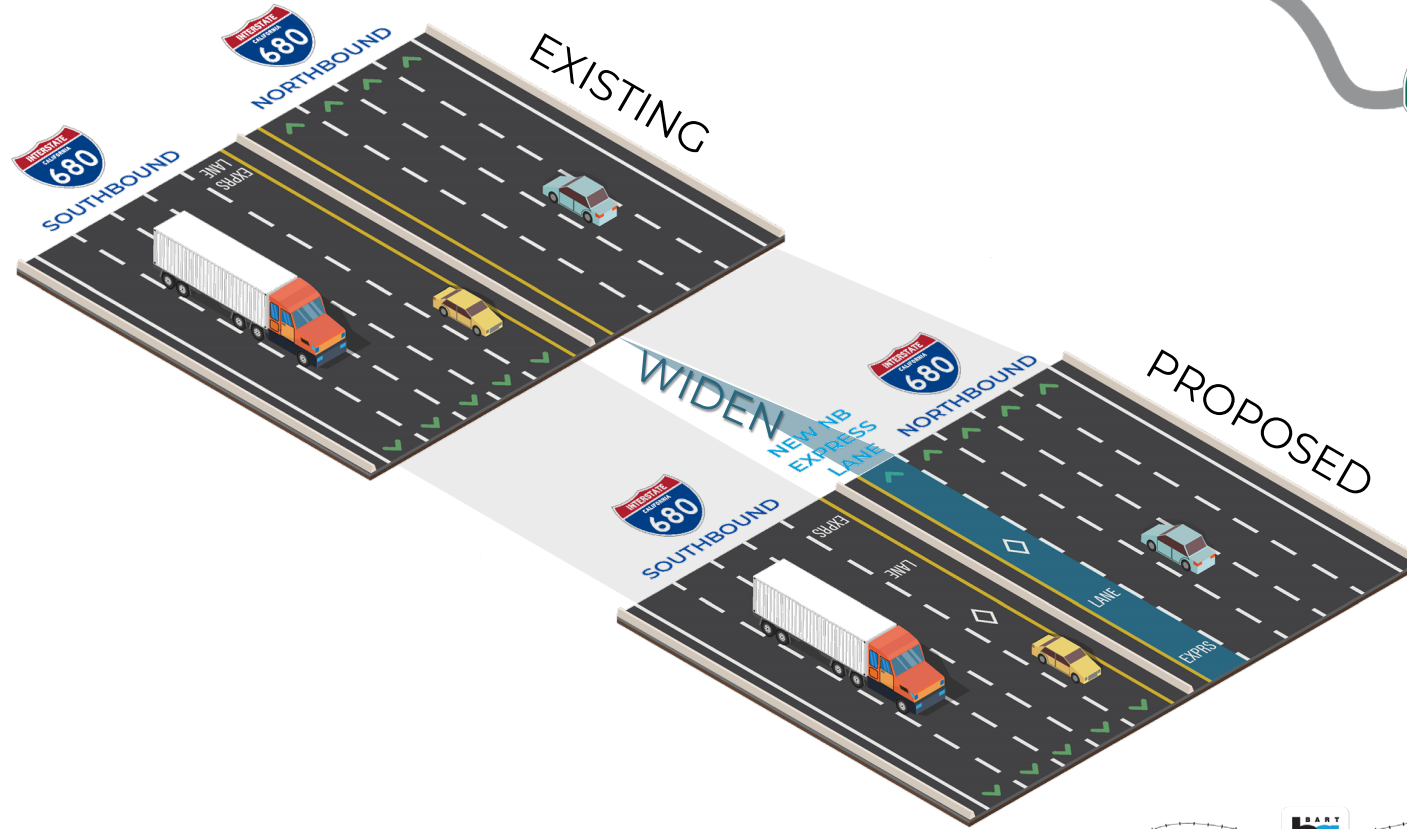


Proposed Condition



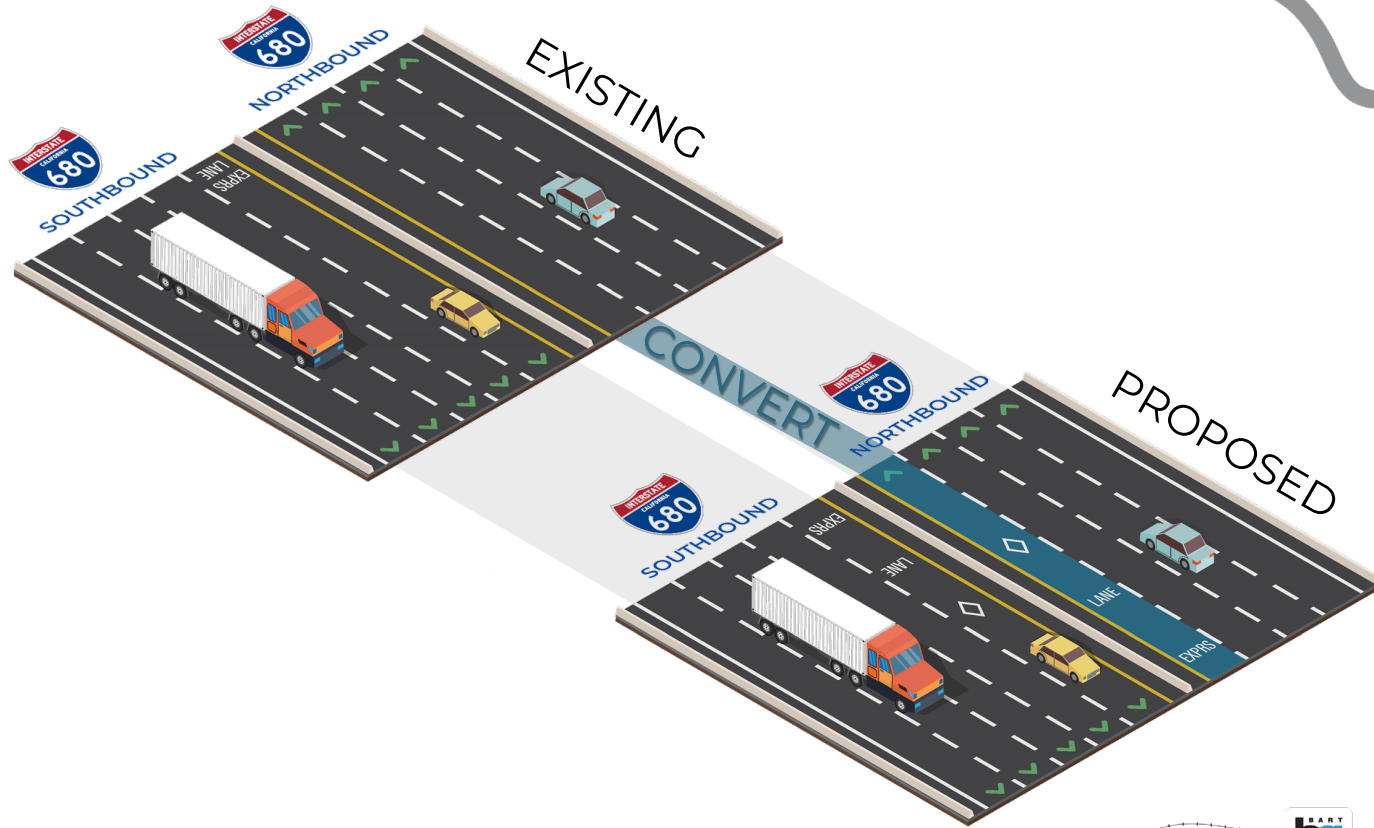


LANE ADDITION





GENERAL PURPOSE (GP) LANE CONVERSION



ALTERNATIVES



NO-BUILD ALTERNATIVE

Northbound I-680 would remain in its current configuration and no improvements would be implemented. The gap in the northbound managed lane would remain.



ALTERNATIVE 1C



Closes the express lane gap through lane addition & southbound I-680 realignment, and converts the existing HOV lane to an express lane.



ALTERNATIVE 2



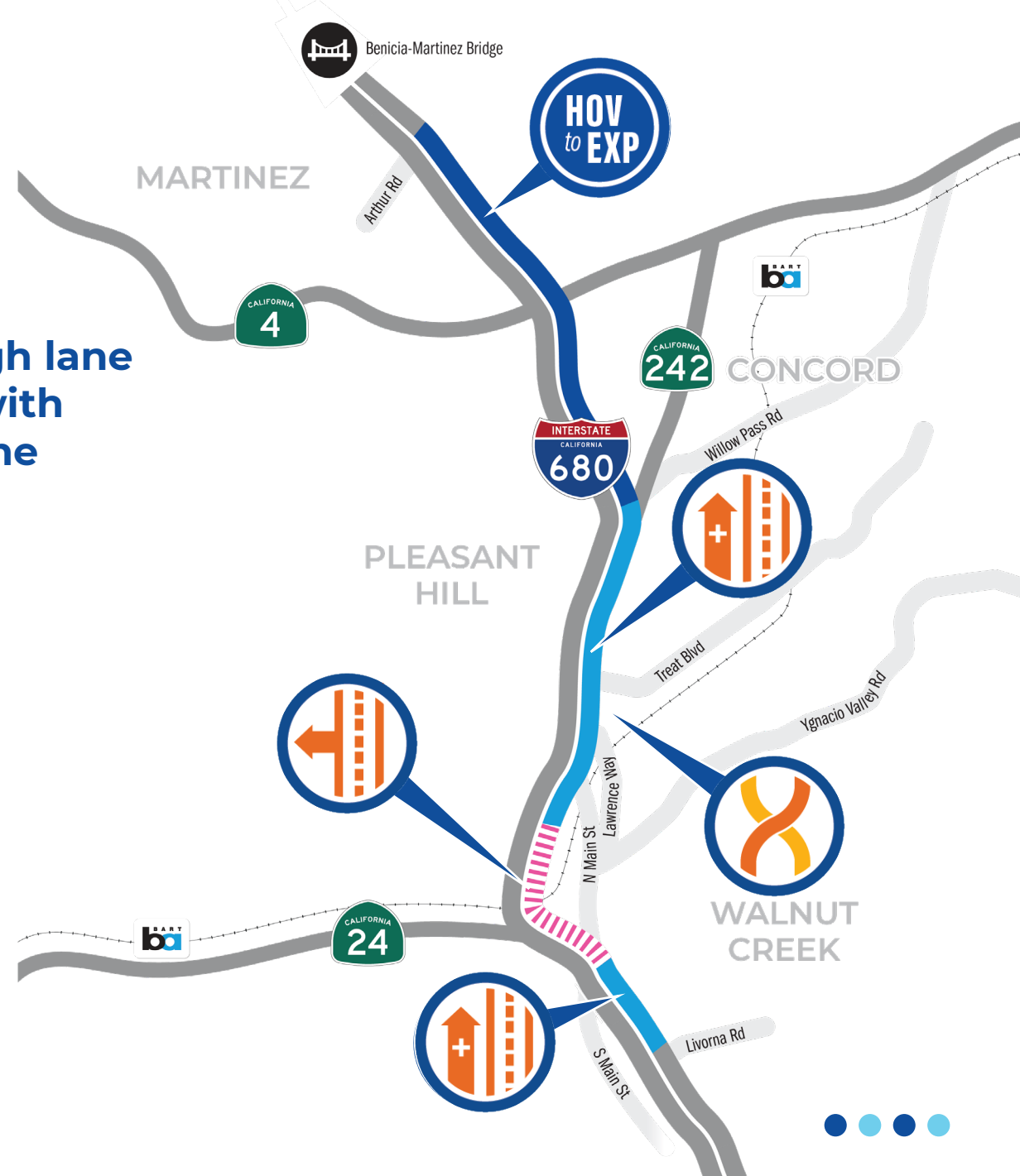
Reduces the northbound express lane gap through lane addition with construction of braided ramps, and converts the existing HOV lane to an express lane.



ALTERNATIVE 3



Close the northbound express lane gap through lane addition and southbound I-680 realignment, with construction of braided ramps, and converts the existing HOV lane to an express lane.



ALTERNATIVE 5



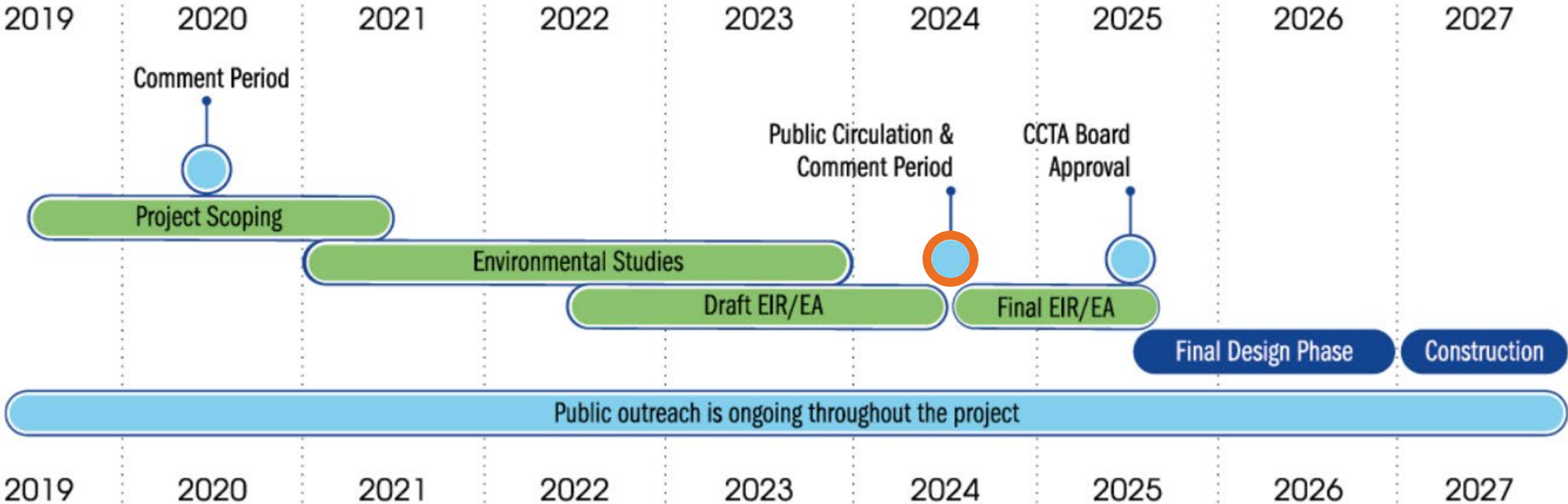
Reduces the northbound express lane gap by general purpose lane conversion with constructing braided ramps, and converts the existing HOV lane to an express lane.



Project Capital Costs and Schedule

Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Estimated Capital Cost*	\$226M	\$172M	\$282M	\$91M

* Based on 2024 Cost



DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

I-680 Northbound Express Lane Completion Project



Potential Impacts to Resources



RECREATION

CEQA Findings
Less than Significant Impact



AIR QUALITY

CEQA Findings
Less than Significant Impact



NOISE

CEQA Findings
Less than Significant Impact



TRAFFIC/VMT

CEQA Findings
Significant Impact



NATURAL COMMUNITIES

CEQA Findings
Less than Significant Impact
with Mitigation



VISUAL & AESTHETICS

CEQA Findings
Less than Significant Impact



WETLANDS AND OTHER WATERS

CEQA Findings
Less than Significant Impact
with Mitigation

Transportation - VMT



What is VMT?

VMT = Vehicle Miles Traveled

A California law, Senate Bill 743, changes how public agencies, like CCTA, measure transportation project impacts and how agencies decide what projects to build. The law requires using VMT to determine transportation impacts under CEQA. VMT measures how many new vehicle miles of travel residents, visitors, shoppers, and employees will produce within the project area.

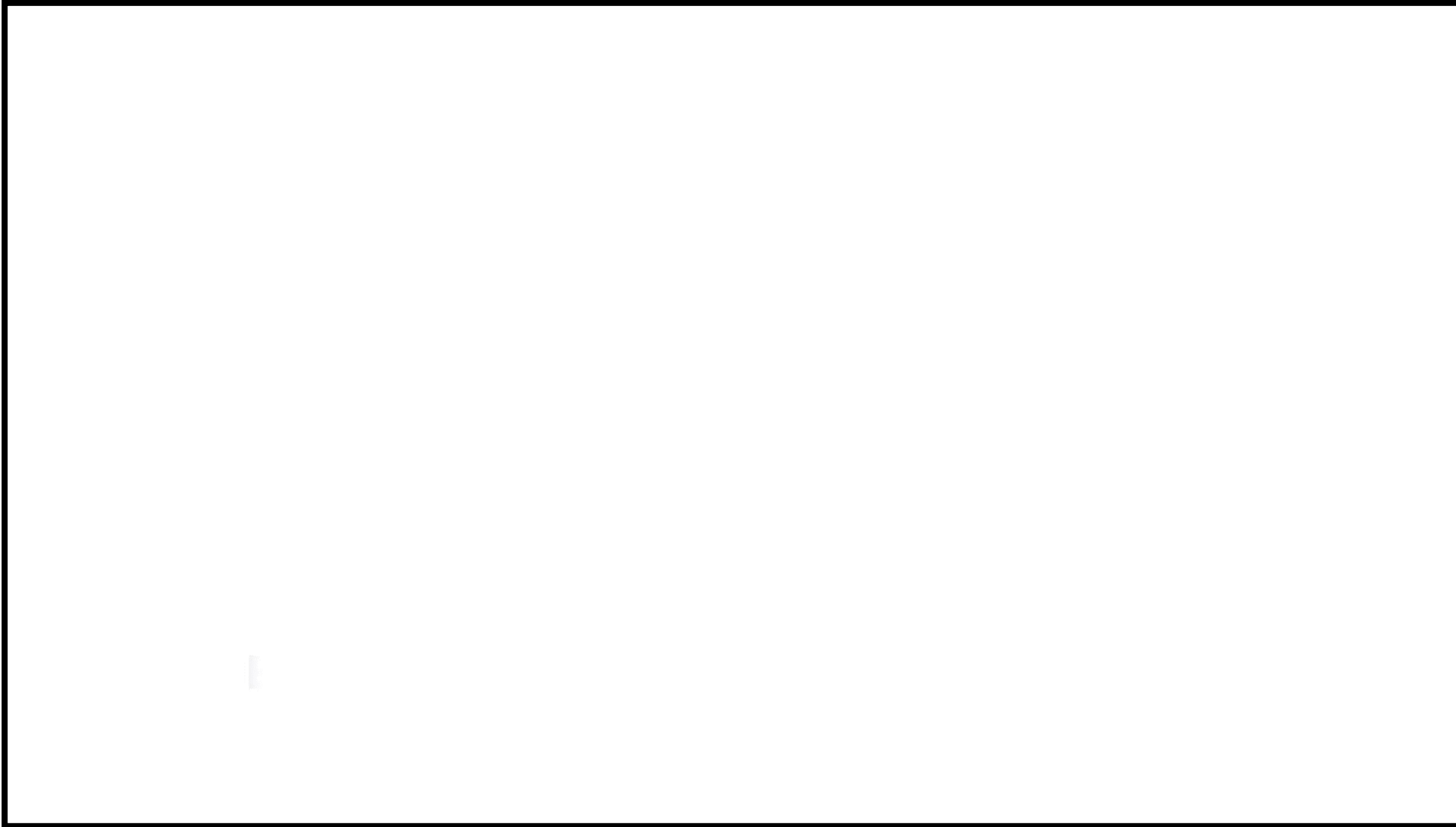
How does VMT affect this Project?



Transportation - VMT



Transportation - VMT



Transportation - VMT

Alternative	Alternative 1C	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 5
Induced Daily VMT	+99,389	+82,353	+99,986	<i>Exempt</i>
Requires VMT Mitigation	✓	✓	✓	-



I-680 Express Bus Service (TRAN-MM-1)



Shared Mobility Hubs (TRAN-MM-2)



Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program (TRAN-MM-3)

NEXT STEPS



How to Comment?

May 8 – June 24, 2024

Informal Comments:

Comments and Questions asked today are informal comments. They will not be documented in Final Environmental Document.

Questions at Podium: 1 minute limit

Formal Comments:

The comments that are submitted by Website, Mail, Email or Phone. These comments will be documented in Final Environmental Document.

Website: ccta.net/expresslane

Mail:

Caltrans, District 4
Office of Environmental Analysis
Attn: Lily Mu, Environmental Scientist
P.O. Box 23660, Mail Station 8B
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

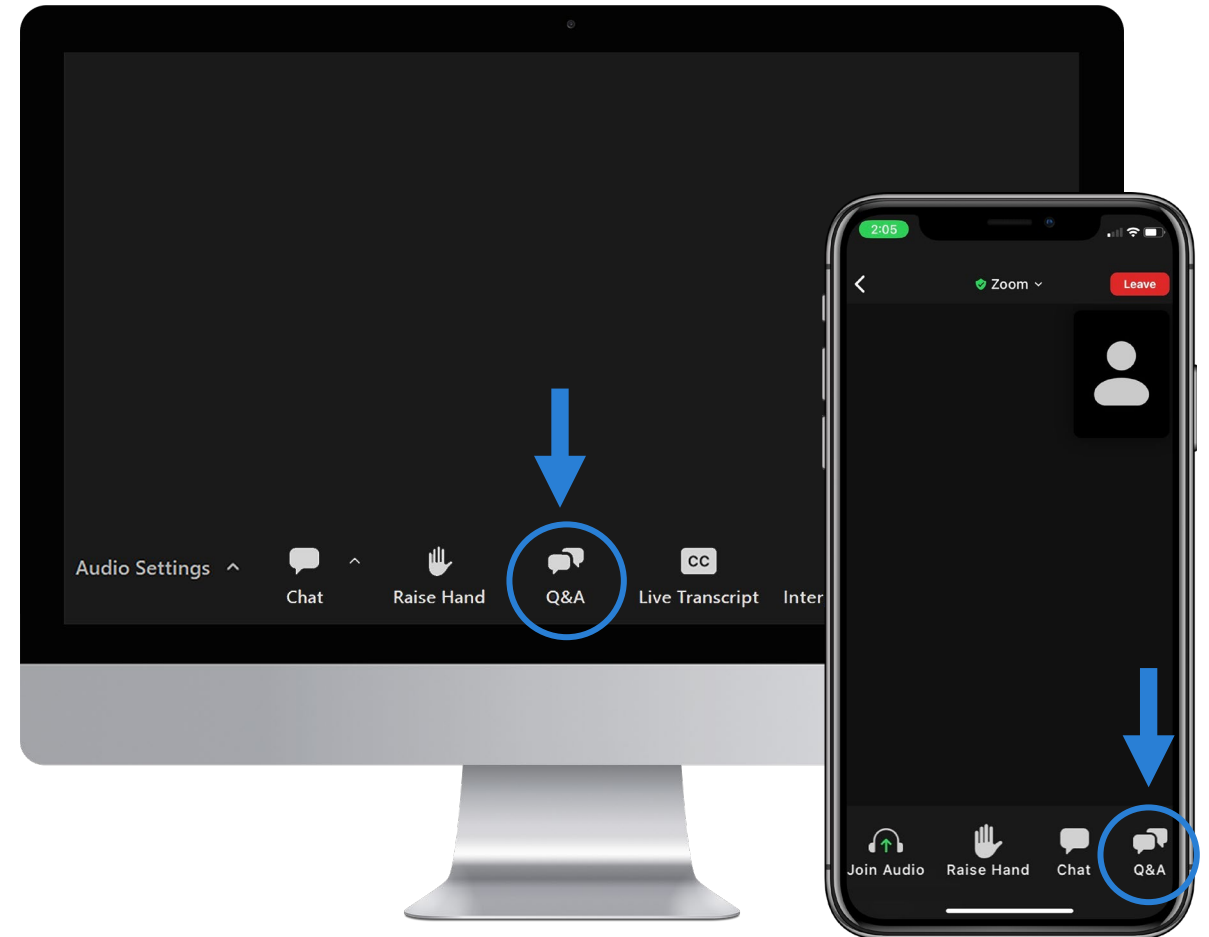
Email: info@innovate680.com

Phone: (925) 278-5978

Questions & Answers

Zoom desktop or mobile app attendees

- Press the “Q&A” button in meeting control task bar, type your question



Zoom desktop app/web browser

Zoom mobile app

