



# Regional Transportation Plan/ Sustainable Communities Strategy

March 2011

## **What is the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)?**

Every four years, our regional transportation planning agency, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), solicits input from counties on what transportation related projects they want included in the regional plan. These projects include items such as improvements to existing bus transit service, highway widening projects, railroad projects, creation of bicycle and pedestrian-friendly communities, and local street and roadway repairs. Only projects in the Regional Transportation Plan are eligible for federal, state, and regional transportation dollars when those funds become available.

Our county transportation agency, Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), is the coordinating body that will compile Marin County's list of priority projects to submit to MTC for the RTP 2013. TAM must submit all project ideas to MTC by April 29<sup>th</sup> so community members must communicate their project ideas in a timely fashion.

Opportunities for participation include the Board Workshop on Thursday March 24, 2011 at 7 pm, the Community Workshop on Saturday March 26, 2011 at 12-3pm, and an online survey. For more information, please review our website at <http://www.maringrassroots.org/transportationequity.html>.

For the first time in California history, Regional Transportation Plans will be required to include a "Sustainable Communities Strategy" as part of the plan. This is a requirement that is mandated by state law.

## **What is the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)?**

An SCS presents a vision for how the region will link transportation investments and land-use planning in a way that significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Transportation projects that help the region achieve the goals of the SCS will be given first priority when it comes to MTC's decision on what projects to include in the Regional Transportation Plan.

The regional SCS is still a work in progress so it may be difficult to anticipate what types of projects will be prioritized. However, projects that incorporate some or all of the SCS goals and priorities (climate protection, adequate housing, healthy and safe communities, open space and agricultural preservation, equitable access, economic vitality, and transportation system effectiveness) will have a better chance of being included in the Regional Transportation Plan. So keep these priorities in mind as you think of project ideas.