

**TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO  
STAFF REPORT  
June 3, 2010**

For the meeting of June 8, 2010

TO: Town Council  
FROM: Debra Stutsman, Town Manager  
SUBJECT: Transportation Authority of Marin

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive the oral report from Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director of the Transportation Authority of Marin, regarding a possible Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) measure for TAM projects and program goals.

Respectfully Submitted,



Debra Stutsman  
Town Manager

Attachment: Our Seniors, Our Streets, Our Schools – Transportation Listening Tour 2010

# Our Seniors, Our Streets, Our Schools

## Transportation Listening Tour 2010

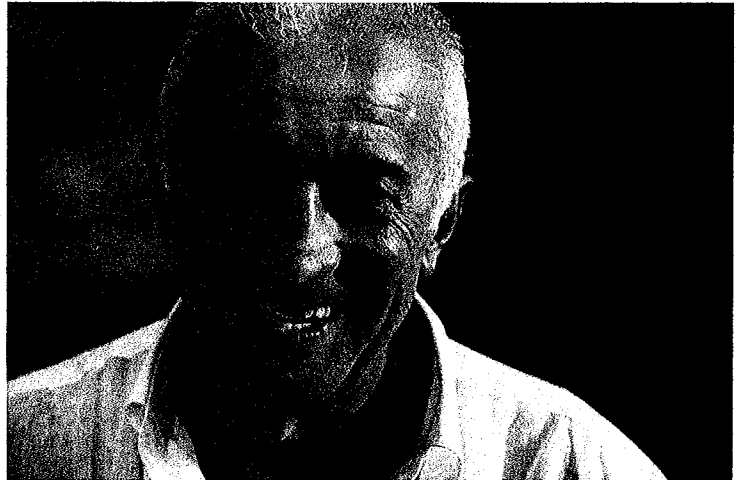
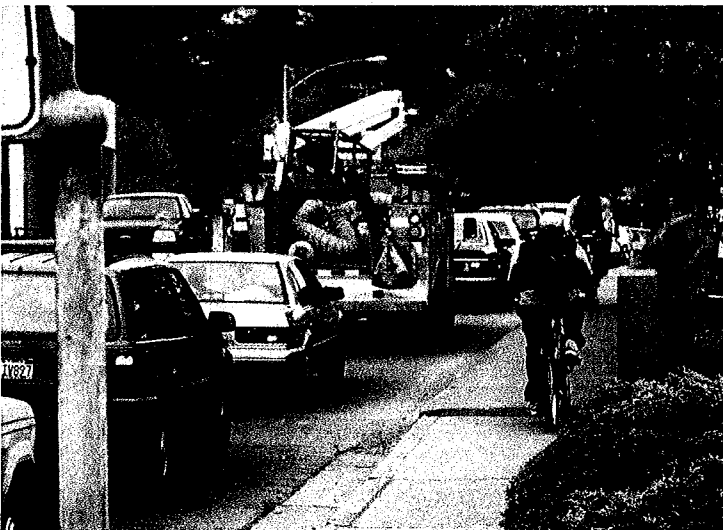
### WHAT IS A VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE (VRF)?

The Vehicle Registration Fee is an annual fee paid to the State based on the age and value of each vehicle you own. Vehicle Registration Fees in California were substantially reduced in 2003, reducing the amount of revenue available to local jurisdictions for transportation improvements.

### WHAT IS SENATE BILL 83?

Senate Bill 83 (Hancock) was signed into law by the Governor on October 11, 2009. SB 83 authorizes a countywide transportation planning agency (TAM in Marin County), to propose an additional annual VRF of up to \$10 on motor vehicles registered within the county. The revenue generated by the new VRF would be returned to the county to spend on specified transportation programs and projects. SB 83 also sets a number of conditions upon the new fee:

- Limits administrative costs to not more than 5 percent of fees.
- Fees may only be used to pay for programs and projects that bear a relationship or benefit to the owners of motor vehicles paying the fee and are consistent with a regional transportation plan.
- The countywide transportation planning agency must adopt a specified VRF expenditure plan.



### WHAT ARE TAM'S GOALS FOR VRF EXPENDITURES?

In order to guide the development of the VRF expenditure plan, the TAM Board approved a set of goals that each program or project funded by the VRF should meet. These project/program goals include:

- Enables TAM and other agencies to leverage additional transportation funds.
- Benefits of the project should be easily measurable and quantifiable.
- Project is part of an approved plan and has a strong history of community input.
- Improves mobility options and reduces congestion.
- Is locally beneficial.
- Is cost effective.
- Reduction of greenhouse gases and vehicle miles traveled, while supporting healthy living.
- Satisfies SB 83's requirement that the fee benefits the rate payer.

### WHAT IS THE VOTER THRESHOLD FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW VRF?

Fifty percent plus one, or a simple majority.

### HOW MUCH REVENUE COULD A NEW FEE GENERATE?

Based upon the current number of registered vehicles in Marin County, and subtracting out administrative costs, it is estimated that a \$10 fee would generate approximately \$2 million per year for Marin County.

### WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

The TAM website ([www.tam.ca.gov](http://www.tam.ca.gov)) is the most up-to-date source for information on the VRF. Or call Trudy Totty, TAM Public Information Coordinator at 415/ 226-0825.

