



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Senate Bill 1-funded Interstate 80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement Project Breaks Ground Today in Berkeley

Project Adds Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing and Two Roundabouts

ALAMEDA COUNTY – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) announced today the official groundbreaking of the Interstate 80 (I-80)/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement project in Berkeley, funded in part by Senate Bill (SB) 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017.

The \$70 million project is supported by more than \$4 million from SB 1 and other state, federal and local funds that will enhance safety and accessibility for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. Improvements include a bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing and two roundabouts at the Gilman Street interchange on I-80 in west Berkeley near the Albany city limits.

The two roundabouts will replace left turns and reduce turning concerns. The project will also close the Bay Trail gap at the west end of Gilman Street and create a dedicated bike lane from the west end of Gilman to Fourth Street.

"We're excited to begin another major SB 1 project that will continue our vital efforts to expand access to safe walkways and bikeways throughout the state and improving travel for all Californians," said Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin. "Through SB 1 we are making essential investments in California's transportation network. This project will significantly enhance multimodal transportation for the Berkeley community."



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“These improvements will enhance safety for everyone traveling in the area by expanding access to walkways and bikeways while also improving the commute for thousands of motorists who rely on this stretch of I-80,” said Caltrans Bay Area District Four Director Dina El-Tawansy.

“The I-80/Gilman Street Interchange project will enhance safety and is one of the many projects that Alameda CTC is working on to improve multimodal transportation for bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists,” said, Tess Lengyel, Executive Director of Alameda CTC. “This project will connect the community to the Bay Trail, recreation facilities and local neighborhoods to create a sustainable and more equitable future. Alameda County voters asked for more safety and greater accessibility, and we listened, and we delivered.”

“We are excited that this long-awaited project is breaking ground. The new interchange will prioritize safe mobility for people of all modes of transportation. New roundabouts and improved crossings will address traffic safety issues, and a new elevated pedestrian/bike bridge will provide a safe connection to the San Francisco Bay Trail. Thank you to Caltrans and Alameda CTC for their partnership in delivering this critical project,” said Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin.

“I want to congratulate Caltrans and everyone who had a hand in putting together this important project,” said Commissioner, Bob Alvarado of the California Transportation Commission. “This project will be a boon to motorists, cyclists, walkers and everyone who negotiates this interchange.”

“East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) will install 2,500 feet of recycled water pipe at the Gilman Street interchange. This will allow us to connect future recycled water customers in Berkeley and Albany,” said EBMUD Board Director Andy Katz. “Recycled water helps us adapt to climate change by providing a way for us to re-use our precious water supplies.”

The project will take place in two phases beginning this month with the construction of the bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing south of Gilman Street, similar to the crossing over I-80 at University Avenue. It will involve ramp closures on I-80, street closures and brief overnight closures of I-80 in one direction at a time.

The second phase will begin in November and will feature a pair of roundabouts at Gilman Street intersections on both sides of I-80. Both phases are scheduled to be completed by 2023.

Every effort will be made to minimize disruption to local businesses, residents, motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. Caltrans will alert the public of closures and detours and



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provided the latest information on changeable message signs on I-80 near the project. The California Highway Patrol will be onsite during ramp and freeway closures to guide motorists.

For more information about the project, visit the Caltrans I-80/Gilman Street Interchange Improvement project website at <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4-projects/d4-alameda-80-gilman-interchange-improvement-project> or the Alameda CTC website at <https://www.alamedactc.org/programs-projects/highway-improvement/i80gilman/>.

