



Capital Area Regional Tolling Authority Board January-March Recap

Receive and File

Author: Kathleen Hanley

Attachments: No

Referring Committee: Transportation

Issue:

This item recaps the actions of the Capital Area Regional Tolling Authority (CARTA) between January and March 2025.

Request:

Receive & File

Recommendation for Board:

None; this item is for information only.

Recommendation for Committee:

None; this item is for information only.

Background:

Although CARTA is an independent agency, the information it receives and the actions it takes directly impact SACOG's current and future work. Staff have developed this quarterly report to keep SACOG Directors informed of CARTA's activities. More information on CARTA, including board meeting agendas, minutes, and recordings, is available at www.captollauthority.org.

Discussion/Analysis:

The CARTA board held two meetings in the first quarter of calendar year 2025: on February 19, 2025, and on March 10, 2025. The February meeting included six substantive items:

- The CARTA board re-elected Supervisor Oscar Villegas as its Chair and Councilmember Dawnte Early as its vice chair. They will serve a two year term with new board leadership elected for 2027.
- The CARTA board adopted a revised meeting schedule increasing its meeting frequency from bi-monthly to monthly.
- The CARTA board approved a staffing structure that maintains SACOG's services for administrative functions but phases out SACOG project management staffing. This work is replaced by hiring an Executive Director, anticipated to start in summer 2026, and contract staffing through tolling

consultants. This transition reflects CARTA's independence and the shift in its work from policy to implementation and toll operations.

- The CARTA board directed staff to pursue an interagency partnership with an existing tolling authority to provide back office and customer service center functions for CARTA. This model, also used by San Bernardino County Transportation Authority, lowers CARTA's overhead costs and reduces risk to the Yolo 80 schedule.
- The CARTA board received a "Tolling 101" presentation that provided a high-level overview of the structure and function of a toll system and the core policy issues CARTA will consider over the remainder of 2025.
- The CARTA board received a presentation from Yolo Transportation District's consulting team on the tradeoffs of having an open access toll lane on Yolo 80. Open access lanes allow drivers to enter and exit the lane anywhere, compared to closed access lanes which use barriers, pylons, or striping to restrict where drivers can enter and exit the lane.

The March meeting included three substantive items:

- The CARTA board received a presentation on a Draft Mission, Vision, and Values statement for the new agency. The document outlines CARTA's role in the region and establishes areas of focus for policy decision-making.
- The CARTA board received a presentation on the process staff will use to bring toll policies through the board for discussion and approval. Toll policy topics are grouped, brought first as information items for discussion and return as action items for policy decision. This will occur on a rolling basis throughout 2025. Ultimately, the toll policy decisions will be collected and memorialized in a resolution before the CARTA board at the end of 2025.
- The CARTA board received its first policy workshop presentation which focused on the tradeoffs between having a timed window of operations vs. operating 24/7, and requiring FasTrak® transponders vs. allowing customers to "Pay-By-Plate".

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Costs associated with SACOG staffing CARTA are included in the adopted Overall Work Program/Budget and are paid by CARTA on a reimbursement basis.

List of Attachments:

Not applicable