

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 21-22, 2024

From: TANISHA TAYLOR, Executive Director

Reference Number: 4.36, Information

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Published Date: March 8, 2024

Subject: Innovations in Transportation: Autonomous Public Transportation

Summary:

Blake Barber, Chief Technology Officer of Glydways, will provide an overview of Glydways, an on-demand and autonomous public transportation system. Mr. Barber will highlight the benefits of the technology, as well as regional projects.

Background:

Glydways is an automated transit network that provides on-demand, high-capacity service moving riders in autonomous vehicles on narrow fixed guideways. Glydways provides direct-to-destination trips for single party or small group rides (up to four people) to attract more ridership out of cars and onto transit. Glydways can safely and reliably move thousands of people per hour in their fleet of small battery electric autonomous vehicles by creating an interconnected and intelligent system of infrastructure monitoring systems and communications systems that work with the vehicles to create a highly controlled operational environment. This approach provides sustainable mobility solutions when rail is not feasible or cost prohibitive.

Currently, Glydways has a complete prototype system operating at their research and development facility in Concord, California at the GoMentum Station, the federally funded autonomous vehicle testing site operated by the Contra Costa Transit Authority and the American Automobile Association. Glydways, as part of a consortium of project partners, has also been awarded two commercial projects in California, both of which provide extensions and augmentations of existing transit service:

- The 4.5-mile San Jose Airport Connector will connect San Jose's airport destinations with the city's primary public transit hub, Diridon Station, and other nearby destinations. This project will connect the San Jose Airport to various transit services, including CalTrain, Valley Transit Authority buses and light rail, Amtrak Capitol Corridor, and future Bay Area Rapid Transit and California High-Speed Rail service.

- A 28-mile system in east Contra Costa County, which will provide better connectivity to regional transit for the quickly growing cities of Brentwood, Oakley, Antioch, and Pittsburg. The system will connect with the Bay Area Rapid Transit system in three locations, as well as Tri Delta Transit buses, and the Amtrak San Joaquins service.

More information on Glydways is available here: <https://www.glydways.com/>.