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To: cacsecretary@smcta.com; board@smcta.com; [Mima Crume](#)
Subject: SMDJ article on whether 101 widening has improved or worsened congestion
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Attachments: [image.png](#)
[Questions over express lane congestion impact](#) [Local News](#) [smdailyjournal.com.pdf](#)

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Dear SMCTA Board, CAC, and C/CAG Board,

Thank you for your service to the transportation needs of SM County residents.

I wanted to share [the attached article from today's SMDJ](#). It covers the recent C/CAG meeting where multiple Board and community members asked why the JPA was not sharing data on whether the recently completed 101 Widening and Express Lane project in the southern part of the County had achieved its stated goal of reducing congestion. The SMCTA CAC has asked for answers to this question multiple times over the past year but has been told that such a study needs to come at the request of the JPA (despite the CAC acting as a liaison between the public and the SMCTA Board).

In this meeting, Board Members Stacy Jimenez shared her constituents' skepticism that the almost \$600M project had improved congestion for those unable to pay for the Express Lanes:

“The main comment that I get from my residents is, ‘I’m stuck, and it feels like it’s slower now unless I use the express lane,’” said Stacy Jimenez, C/CAG board member and Foster City councilmember.

In addition, C/CAG Board Member and Hillsborough Mayor Christine Krolik urged the JPA to respond to the public's questions on whether congestion had worsened since the widening of 101, despite promises to the contrary.

I hope that going forward the public will have access to congestion data so that it will know whether taxpayer dollars were well spent and whether future widenings will benefit all SM County residents, instead of just those who are able to afford the Express Lanes.

Thanks,

Mike Swire
Appointee, SMCTA Citizen Advisory Committee
Chair, C/CAG Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee
(writing as an individual)