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CONTACT: Kathryn Hughes
Phone: (510) 238-6493

New Bicycle Lanes Open on Market Street **Funding provided by the Transportation Fund for Clean Air**

Oakland, CA – The City of Oakland’s Public Works Agency continues to construct bicycle lanes, building a network of bicycle facilities that will eventually criss-cross the entire City. The newest addition is the first section of the planned Market Street Bikeway, striped and signed this past January from MacArthur Boulevard to 57th Street. The project was funded by the Transportation Fund for Clean Air, awarded by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, a City partner on many clean-air projects.

The project, known as a road diet, reduced the number of travel lanes from four (two in each direction) to three (one in each direction with a center turn lane). The new configuration will encourage bicycle commuting, an environmentally friendly way to travel. The project has pedestrian benefits as well, slowing vehicle traffic, reducing speeding, and diminishing conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians.

“This was a highly successful project resulting from a broad community consensus to improve bicycling and walking environment on upper Market in North Oakland,” said Oakland City Councilmember Jane Brunner. “I am pleased that we were able to put in the bike lanes in conjunction with a scheduled resurfacing project, which is the most cost-efficient way to do it.”

“It is remarkable how the Market Street bike lanes upgrade the neighborhood; the street looks more welcoming and people-friendly,” said Kathryn Hughes, the City’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager.

The City of Oakland has recently applied for additional funding to extend the bikeway from MacArthur Blvd. to 3rd Street in West Oakland. If this funding is awarded, the City will be able to complete the Market Street Bikeway, providing a major, regional connector for cyclists, and improving the safety and appearance of the Market Street corridor.

