The Problem

- **Traffic jams**: The amount of traffic exceeds the existing capacity of the freeway during long peak periods, which causes unreliable travel times, abrupt stop-and-go conditions, and severe congestion during commute hours. This also results in cars avoiding or diverting from the freeway and using local streets, adding to congestion in surrounding communities.
- **Accidents**: Traffic congestion contributes to accidents on the freeway.
- **Delays in emergency response**: The combined effect of incidents and congestion hinders the ability of emergency service personnel to reach accidents quickly.
- **Less reliable travel time**: Congestion and incidents impact the reliability of travel times through the corridor. Inadequate traveler information further affects drivers’ ability to predict travel time.

The Solution

**Intelligent Transportation System Technologies**

ITS technologies have been used around the San Francisco Bay Area for several years. Electronic message signs that provide travel time information are an example most people experience every day. This project would bring these and other technologies together as a comprehensive system along the I-80 corridor that would provide the following benefits:

- Improved travel times
- Improved safety for motorists and other roadway users
- Reduced traffic congestion
- Improved travel time reliability

Interstate 80 (I-80) is an integral part of the San Francisco Bay Area transportation network. The freeway is a major route for commuters and transit services and is crucial for the transport of goods into and out of the region. The I-80 corridor is one of the most congested corridors in the San Francisco Bay Area, with traffic volumes reaching about 290,000 vehicles per day. This project focuses on the I-80 Corridor from San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Toll Plaza to the Carquinez Bridge.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with ten municipalities, two transit agencies and four regional agencies (MTC, Alameda CTC, CCTA and WCCTAC) is studying ways to reduce congestion and improve safety through the use of intelligent transportation system (ITS) technologies. ITS is a combination of computer and communication technologies that make transportation systems operate more efficiently and safely. By giving drivers accurate, real-time information, along with managing traffic entering the freeway, the efficiency of the existing transportation system can be improved to move vehicles and people in a safer and more efficient manner, without requiring construction of new roads or the widening of existing ones.

For more information on how these ITS technologies work in unison, view the project video on the Alameda CTC I-80 ICM Project page at [http://www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/1700](http://www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/1700) and/or visit the Caltrans project page at [http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects/80icm/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects/80icm/).

Follow us on Twitter @AlamedaCTC and/or @CaltransD4.
Total project cost is estimated at $80 million and is being implemented by the Alameda CTC in partnership with Caltrans, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and financed through federal, state (including Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funds) and local funds.